



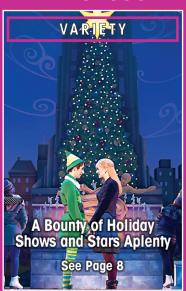


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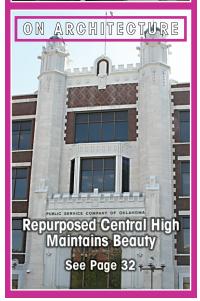
Volume 20 November 2016 www.gtrnews.com

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Wildlife **Sightings**

By ANNE BOYD Contributing Writer

Through the years, mountain lion sightings have been reported in the Owasso area, raising curiosity and questions about the animals.

Mountain lions were once very common in the state, but their population fell when settlers moved into the area. They eliminated a lot of the big cats and their main source of food: deer.

Jerrod Davis, furbearer biologist with the Oklahoma Department of Conservation, explains that their historical range covered the entire state, and they were thought to have been completely diminished.

Sightings of the animals in the state have been documented since 1852 and continue today. Davis says they "don't have evidence to show that there is an established population here in Oklahoma. All we have documented seem to be young transients moving through the area."

There are confirmed populations of mountain lions in nearby states including Texas, Colorado, New Mexico and South Dakota. It's possible that the mountain lions moving through the state are a part of these surrounding populations, he continues.

He shared that sightings can be difficult to confirm since the animals are so elusive. "Mountain lions prefer cover or rocky, rugged terrain, generally in areas of low human habitation."

Mountain lions are often on the move and tend to roam in what's known as a home range. Jerrod explains that females typically have a home range of 50 to 75 square miles, while males can roam

(Continued on page 18)

CITY INITIATIVE SEES GROWTH



VOLUNTEER SERVICE: Volunteers pose together at the April 2015 Owasso CARES Day of Service event. September marked the 13th biannual Owasso CARES event and saw 164 volunteers. Owasso CARES is one program of the Owasso Strong Neighborhood Initiative, which began in 2009.

By EMILY RAMSEY

Managing Editor

Since the formation of the Owasso Strong Neighborhood Initiative (OSNI) in 2009 with only a handful of programs, the initiative has grown to include upwards of 10 community programs, all with a focus on maintaining the quality of the city of Owasso and its neighborhoods.

"All of our programs are about having a community that we will be proud of and a community that's attractive in the future," says Jerry Fowler, OSNI coordinator.

The most recent program to be added to OSNI is Keep Owasso Clean, a monthly litter clean-up event that was created 18 months ago by an Owasso Girl Scouts troop, who were looking to get involved in a community activity.

As the city recognized the importance of Keep Owasso Clean for the community, OSNI adopted it into its catalog of offer-

"(Keep Owasso Clean) is about getting people to realize that litter takes away from our community,"

that fits well into the theme of OSNI, which is to maintain Owasso's value for the future."

The next Keep Owasso Clean event will take place on the second Saturday in November, weather cooperating.

Running along a similar theme of city beautification is Owasso CARES (Community And Residents Encourage Service), which began in 2010.

The event takes place two times a year when volunteers clean up parks, neighborhoods and green spaces. Often, the effort focuses on cleaning up brush, thus making it more easily maintainable in the future, Fowler says.

September marked the 13th biannual Owasso CARES event and saw 164 volunteers.

A portion of the volunteers came from Urban Soul-Xtreme Youth Ministries of Owasso First Assembly Church. The group has participated in all of the Owasso CARES events.

"They are a true representation of the character trait of benevolence," says Fowler.

Between 2011 and 2016, 895 says Fowler. "This is a program volunteers from the group have

logged more than 2,000 volunteer hours in community work with OSNI. Because of those efforts, Urban Soul has been named a finalist for the Volunteer Community Group Award at the Keep Oklahoma Beautiful's (KOB) Environmental Excellence Celebration to be held in November.

Also named a finalist is the City of Owasso for the Green Place award in the government program category, in recognition of its green practices during the conversion of the former First Bank of Owasso building into the new City Hall, located on Main Street. Additionally, Chris Coager, an Owasso CARES volunteer, will be recognized as an Affiliate Champion.

In 2015, Owasso CARES was named KOB Affiliate of the Year and was the winner of the ODOT Great American Clean-up Best Overall Trash-Off Effort. Also last year, Owasso CARES was named a finalist for the KOB Environmental Excellence award and Keep Owasso Clean a finalist for the KOB Youth Initiative

KUDOS OF THE MON

Up With Trees is celebrating 40 years of inquired as to the replacement of trees that were planting, preserving and promoting Tulsa's urban forest.

The nonprofit organization will celebrate on

Nov. 5 at its seventh annual Green Leaf Gala, a black tie affair. In a tree-filled pavilion, patrons will be entertained with various events, including the "Bourbon, Bubbles &

Bling," "40 Golden Trees Dinner," a live auction, games, a vodka bar, and dancing.
With the theme "Tulsa Loves Trees," the night

will be a celebration of not only Up With Trees' 40 years but the future of Tulsa's urban forest and the community.

Up With Trees officially began in 1976 after Tulsa Streets Commissioner Sid Patterson 918-610-8733 or julie@upwithtrees.org.

removed for a street widening project on 51st Street. Patterson went on to organize civic and community groups for his cause

From there, Up With Trees was born, with the mission to beautify greater Tulsa by PLANTING, PRESERVING & planting trees and creating PROMOTION URBAN UPDAY TO THE PROPERTY AWARENESS TO THE PROPERTY AWARENE urban forestry awareness through education. In the past

four decades, the organization has planted over 30,000 trees at more than 500 public sites throughout Tulsa and currently maintains more than 20,000 trees throughout the Tulsa area.

For more information about the Green Leaf Gala, visit greenleafgala.org or contact Julie Davis, associate director at Up With Trees, at



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: The Up With Trees Green Leaf Gala will be held Nov. 5. From left are Event Chairs Jessica Yoon and Rania Nasreddine and Honorary Chairs Jim and Alice Costas.





Tracy still remembers when her dad sat her down in the third grade to talk about her weight. Since then, Tracy had tried everything from counting calories to fad diets; nothing worked. Then she met the team at The Center for Bariatrics at Bailey Medical Center. Since having her surgical weight loss procedure – or her "birthday" as she likes to call it – Tracy has lost more than half her body weight. More importantly, Tracy gets to spend quality time with her children. She's even run the bases at her daughter's softball games – something she was unable to do before. Because of Bailey Medical Center, Tracy says she's finally free to be the person she was always meant to be.

To learn more about Tracy's life-changing experience at Bailey Medical Center, visit Hillcrest.com.

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THE GREATER TULSA REPORTER NEWSPAPERS

The Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers consist of the Union Boundary, the Jenks District Gazette, the Midtown Monitor, the Owasso Rambler, the Bixby Breeze, and the Broken Arrow Express. The papers target news coverage to school district areas. The papers also have common pages of information of interest to all readers in the greater Tulsa area.

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

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The 2016 Tulsa State Fair **Draws 1.2 Million Visitors**



ACROBATIC STUNTS: A performer with Ma'Ceo Circus performs acrobatic feats on top of a horse during the Tulsa State Fair. This was the first year for the European circus act to come to the Tulsa State Fair. The act performed its gypsy-themed acrobatic and equestrian stunt show daily during the fair, featuring various trick and bareback riding stunts with exotic horse breeds. The show took place in an enclosed circus tent.

The 2016 Tulsa State Fair ran from Thursday, Sept. 29 thru Sunday, Oct. 9. This year, a combination of unique attractions, wonderful weather and cheerful fair guests resulted in an estimated attendance of 1,206,000 mil-

"Our outstanding staff and stakeholders are dedicated to creating the best possible environment for the Tulsa State Fair," says Mark Andrus, president and CEO. "Every day our top priorities are to provide a safe, clean and family friendly event, where life-long memories are made."

Outstanding concerts on the Oklahoma Stage, the excitement of a new midway company and an impressive 28,086 livestock competition entries are a snapshot of the contributing factors to the increase in attendance.

"The crowds this year were phenomenal. I was amazed by the reaction from families to the new midway. The partnership with American Entertainment exceeded expectations and illustrated the importance of bringing first-class entertainment to Tulsa," says Tulsa County Commissioner John Smaligo, Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority chair.

Preliminary highlights include a four percent increase in Gate Admission, seven percent increase in Midway Ride Sales, an eight percent increase ExpoSERVE Concession Sales and a 12 percent increase in Independent Concession Sales over 2015

Chief Operating Officer Amanda Blair says, "I look towards next year's fair with a true sense of excitement. This year, we built the foundation for future success, and we will continue to improve each year. Several projects are in the planning phases, with a goal to have a significant impact on the fair experience for 2017."

Mark your calendars for "Take A Spin" at the 2017 Tulsa State Fair, which will be held Sept. 28 – Oct. 8, 2017.

POPULAR MIDWAY: North American Midway Entertainment was the new midway rides provider this year at the Tulsa State Fair. The new venue was met with glee by the thousands of riders and fun-seekers.

BILLY JOEL Win 4 tickets to the Billy Joel concert at the BOK Center, dinner at In The Raw and limo for the evening! **Enter at VIPlimo.net**

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Broken Arrow City Manager Michael Spurgeon Oversees City's Advancement

By EMILY RAMSEY Managing Editor

Editor's Note: Broken Arrow City Manager Michael Spurgeon is one of Greater Tulsa Reporter's "10 People to Watch in 2016," as announced in its January 2016 issue. GTR was the first news group in greater Tulsa to introduce People to Watch, which launched in January 2009.

This is the final article in the series that featured each of the "10 People to Watch."

In the December issue, GTR will announce its "10 People to Watch

Michael Spurgeon came to Broken Arrow in September 2015 as the city's fifth city manager in 11 years. Thus, among Spurgeon's priorities after taking the helm, was bringing stability to the job and improving transparency, he says.

Spurgeon is a Tulsa native who had previously served as city manager for the City of Miami and then director of administration for the City of St. Charles, Missouri. When he came to Broken Arrow, he took the reins of a growing city that had recently hit 100,000 citizens and was in the midst of its downtown resurgence.

"To have the opportunity to help finish up the revitalization of Broken Arrow's downtown has been great," says Spurgeon, who describes himself as "a downtown

gone from just under \$25,000 in sales tax revenue 10 years ago to \$350,000 in the previous fiscal year. The area has also seen \$12 million in public investment and \$40 million in private investment.

Although the Rose District's emergence was well underway by time Spurgeon arrived, "There's two areas that I was able to leave my thumbprint in downtown," he says: the construction of the downtown fountain, which opened in September, and the removal of the vacant Assembly of God Church at 305 N. Main St. in order to make way for redevelop-

"The fountain will raise the bar for public attractions," he says.

Over the summer, the Assembly of God Church was demolished. The building has sat vacant since 2006. Spurgeon expects that by the end of October an announcement will be made for the development of that property. But Spurgeon promises, "It will be a vertical project with multiple floors and multiple uses, including possibly retail, commercial, office and residential.'

To further address downtown residential development, a downtown residential study is currently underway regarding the future creation of an overlay design plan for downtown. "This is a unique opportunity to redevelop an area. That only comes around every 50 years or so," Spurgeon says.

There's enormous interest in res-

Downtown Broken Arrow has idential opportunities in downtown Broken Arrow," he continues. "There are people literally driving down side streets in downtown, looking for available property."

Another noteworthy development for Broken Arrow is talks that the city has entered into with its business and education communities to create an innovation district that would be located Northeastern State University's Broken Arrow campus.

The project would include hightech businesses, start-up companies, business incubators, and edupartnerships cational NSUBA, Tulsa Tech, and Broken Arrow Public Schools. "There may even be residential options, such as solar or wind homes," Spurgeon

"But the focus of this area will be to create a technology corridor to attract high-tech companies. We have to think about where we're going as a country and jobs, and STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology, Mathematics)."

Development projects, particularly retail, continue to come especially to the northern part of B.A., with further growth to come to the shopping area at 71st Street and Lynn Lane.

"Broken Arrow citizens have a lot of buying power, which is causing corporations to sit up and take

seeing residential growth with traffic needs," he says. about 4,000 homes currently in the



A FLOURISHING CITY: It has been just over one year since Michael Spurgeon took the reins as Broken Arrow's City Manager. Since then, Spurgeon has overseen the continued revitalization of the Rose District, worked to improve the city's transparency, and initiated studies to address downtown residential growth and south Broken Arrow development.

development process, Spurgeon need for water and sewer repair has initiated a study to address the need for hotel properties in south B.A. "Most of our hotel properties are located in north B.A., but our baseball and softball fields are in south B.A.'

One of those new south B.A. residents is Spurgeon and his wife, who married in May.

Additional hurdles that Spurgeon plans to overcome in the coming years include the maintenance and building of infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing city.

"We have nearly 110,000 citizens, plus the potential for thousands of new homes coming to the city, so we need to look down the While south Broken Arrow is road as to stormwater, utility and

Spurgeon expects to soon see the

and improvement projects, equaling approximately \$140 million.

Add to that a long list of road projects and his focus on improving city transparency, and Spurgeon would agree that he has his work cut out for him.

His emphasis on transparency is coming through to citizens in a number of ways, including providing video recaps on the city website of city council meetings, publishing an annual financial report, and conducting phone and social media campaigns regarding city projects.

"I want people to know what's happening at City Hall because it's their government," he says. "The more they know, the more they'll be involved.

"They just kept asking, what can we do to help?"

- Brian & Jennifer F., TTCU Members



"We had our car loan with TTCU, but we hadn't switched all of our accounts yet, when we got in a wreck. It was a rainy day. Six car pile-up. Our son was in the car, and the car was totaled."

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Tulsa History Included in Smithsonian Museum

By EMILY RAMSEY Managing Editor

As curators collected items from across the country to include in the 400,000-square-foot Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., which opened Sept. 24, the Tulsa Historical Society and Museum received a special opportunity to share items and photographs from Tulsa's past.

The Tulsa Historical Society and Museum supplied much of the photographs and items for the Smithsonian's Tulsa Race Riot exhibit, says Archivist and Curator of Collections Ian Swart. A focal point of the exhibit is a seven-foot panoramic photograph that wraps around three walls of the exhibit room. The photo was taken the day after the riot, looking west with downtown Tulsa and the Greenwood District to the south and Reservoir Hill to the north.

through the rubble," says Swart.

Because the historical society did not have equipment large enough to scan the panorama, the Smithsonian paid for a truck to transport the panorama to D.C. in order to scan it and then drive it

back to Tulsa, Swart says.

In addition to photos provided by the historical society to the museum – "Most of the photos in the exhibit came from us," says Swart – other items include a chair that came from a north Tulsa church and items that belonged to B.C. Franklin, who is the father of John Hope Franklin and the grandfather of John W. Franklin who works for the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

"B.C. was an attorney in Tulsa who provided aid to many victims after the riot," says Swart.

Before the museum opened, Swart attended a museum preview and reception. "The coolest thing was touring the galleries with people who had personal connections to the artifacts. To see their reactions was moving," Swart says.

Smithsonian paid for a truck to transport the panorama to D.C. in order to scan it and then drive it back to Tulsa, Swart says.

In addition to photos provided "I saw entire families standing around an exhibit, telling stories to their families. It appeared as if for the first time that their stories were being told."

For Swart, whose family history is intertwined with the slave trade, the museum hit particularly close to home: "I know that a lot of my ancestors were slave owners. I have to reconcile myself to that."

The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture includes items belonging to Harriet Tubman, including a lace shawl and hymnal, a Jim Crow railroad car, an original slave cabin and a statue of Thomas Jefferson that illustrates his ties to slavery.

The building was constructed with four floors underground and five above ground.

"The way they built the structure was very intentional," says Swart.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspaper

PRESERVING THE PAST: Ian Swart, Tulsa Historical Society and Museum archivist and curator of collections, holds a seven-foot panoramic photograph that was taken the day after the Tulsa Race Riot. The panorama is part of a permanent display at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

The lowest underground floor begins the history gallery of slavery. "When you start, it's cramped and dark, but as you go up through the gallery, it becomes lighter and lighter as you move through emancipation and the ris

ing above of slavery.

"The gallery ends with an exhibit of Barack Obama and his inauguration.

through the gallery, it becomes lighter and lighter as you move through emancipation and the ris- "I have been in a lot of muse- ums; this one was probably the most powerful," Swart says.

Tulsa City-County Library Reopens

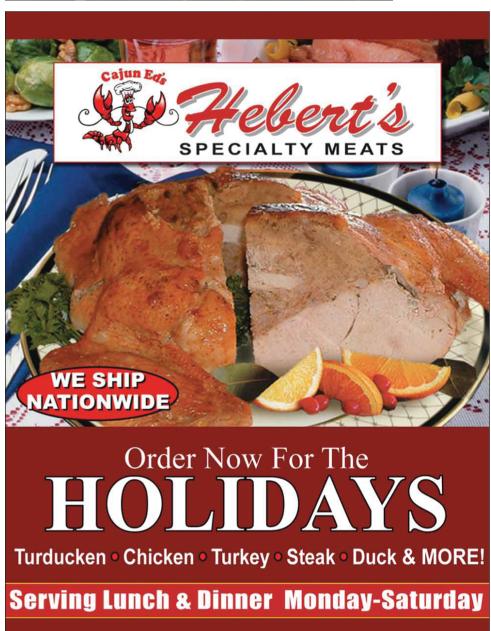
After a three-year closure to undergo a \$50-million renovation, a spectacular Central Library grand opening was held Oct. 1 at Fifth Street and Denver Avenue. Remarks from distinguished guests and Tulsa City-County Library administrators were held. A celebration with a ribbon release, daytime fireworks and confetti immediately preceded the 11 a.m. library opening.

The grand opening featured fun for the whole family throughout the day.



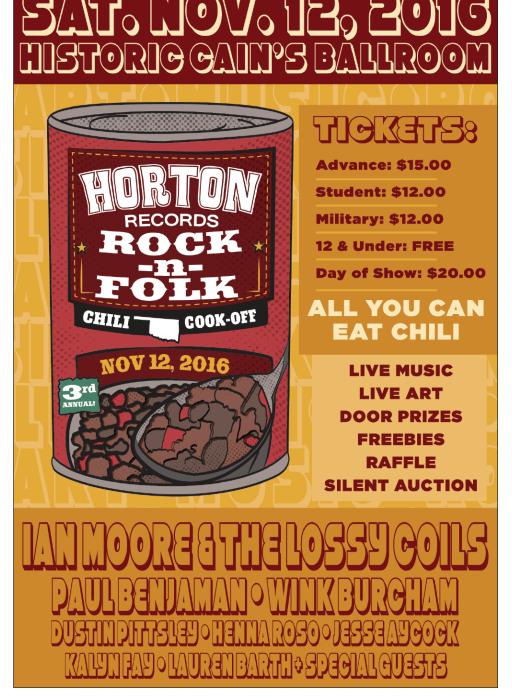
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS: Author Michael Wallis speaks from the lecturn during the opening of the new Tulsa City-County Centrel Library. Among the dignitaries participating were former Library CEO Gary Shaffer, Tulsa Mayor Dewey Bartlett, Jr., former Tulsa Mayor Robert LaFortune and writer Judy Randle.





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Commission Addresses High Rate of Incarcerated Women

COMMENTARY

By DEWEY F. BARTLETT, JR. Mayor of Tulsa

More than 200,000 women across the U.S. are living behind bars, mostly due to non-violent, drugrelated charges. Oklahoma currently ranks No. 1 for female incarceration per capita in the U.S., despite the fact that Oklahoma's crime rate is average, ranking 17th in the nation.

tion to our high ranking: Tulsa However, we must find a resolu- to navigate the criminal justice sys-County has successfully decreased female prison receptions by 24 percent due to strategic alternative programming, prioritized treat-ment instead of incarceration, collaboration within the criminal justice system, and public/private partnerships between the criminal justice and social service sectors.

For the past three years, the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women has also worked to address this social issue, which is a difficult subject matter that

Trash Talk

By BETH TURNER

Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

tion to help at-risk women with tem. They identified numerous non-violent offenses transition back into society.

This summer, members of the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women presented me with the results of a three-year examination of female incarceration, emphasizing the local and state gaps in programming. I am very proud of these dedicated women for working so diligently on this matter.

I am pleased to report this past adversely affects families, chil- Commission examined many of together as a community to provide

gaps in the process through interviews and meetings with previousincarcerated women in Öklahoma. They also interviewed volunteers at the Tulsa County jail and representatives of non profit agencies in Tulsa working on the same issue.

A top priority identified was the need for more services such as education programs and advocates who can help incarcerated women. In their report to me, the It is my hope that we can work year has seen a remarkable excep- dren, and our society as a whole. the issues faced by a woman trying women the resources necessary to reason.

not only prevent incarceration but also transition back into society.

Our next Safer, Stronger Tulsa Public Safety Summit, focusing on women at risk, will help implement crucial work of the Commission and address the gaps faced by women in our criminal justice system.

It will be a long road, but through the dedication of my office and our partners, we are now taking the next step in providing the safety and peace these families need. I am proud to call Tulsa my home and to serve as your Mayor for that very

Discarded Material Brings New Life to Tulsa Development

In our search for success, we often try to think outside the box. Local business part-tions regarding food and water quality. ners Elliot Nelson and Casey Stowe of Nelson+Stowe Development have a new the Illinois River from poultry pollution, and

downtown venture with the actual box in mind. "I saw something similar to this in London, UK, and thought it was so cool, I had to bring the idea back to Tulsa, said Stowe.

It's called Boxyard and is made from 39 upcycled shipping contain-

"Shipping containers are generally used for no more than 10 years. But as you can see, these are solid structures made of steel," said Stowe, as we stood gazing at the build site. "So, it's pretty exciting to know that these have been over many oceans, and now will retire right here in

landlocked Tulsa for an entirely new life. " Boxyard will house up to 20 shops, restaurants and hot spots, including Sole Massage,

great for runners by the way, hometown favorites such as Dwelling Spaces, and STEMcell, which I can't wait to check out! The development will also offer outdoor

roof settings for enjoying our beautiful Tulsa

"We replaced the original doors with glass and took off the lock bars, then utilized both of those discards to create the upstairs outdoor railing. It's great material for safety solid steel - and we really like how it's coming together aesthetically," said Stowe.

See the progression for yourself at the corner of 3rd Street and South Frankfort Avenue near Fassler Hall in downtown

Local Voting

The presidential race takes center stage nationally, but local races and proposals need our attention, too. One that caught my eco-eye is State Question 777. The language of the question makes you think you'd be doing farming a favor, which you would, but not necessarily to the benefit of Oklahoma.

Supporters say this proposal allows farmers to defend themselves against unjust laws. Opponents say we need reasonable regula-

Oklahomans have fought hard to clean up

the regulations now in place have given us back this beautiful landscape and weekend getaway.

To better follow this issue as well as current and future politics and policies facing Oklahomans, visit OklahomaPolicy.org. This independent, non-partisan organization's mission is to promote "adequate, fair, and fiscally-responsible funding of public services and expanded opportunity for all Oklahomans by providing timely and credible information, analysis, and

Whatever your stance is on issues, I hope you, too, revel in your right to vote. I grew up around election commissions and have

studied the hard work of our forefathers and mothers who created solidarity in our communities through empowering each of us in the voting booth. So as any good recycler, I don't waste the opportunity to provide my opinion at the polls!

Join In the Future

To get more engaged with sustainability here in our urban community, there are two great options that also give you a great excuse to enjoy some locally owned locales.

Tulsa Young Professionals, or TYPros, invites you to join them each fourth Thursday of the month. The meetings start at 6 p.m. at Elote Restaurant.

Sustainable Tulsa offers a lunch option called 1st Thursdays. The first Thursday of each month, you can enjoy Foolish Things Coffee Company. Networking starts at 11:30 a.m., and the monthly presentation runs from 12-1 p.m.

Seasonal Eco Tip

There are almost enough submissions for a roundup of the best holiday recycling ideas. So, send in your favorite recycled, upcycled, sustainable ideas and practices today! Share your thoughts at bethturner@me.com, or tweet @TrashTalkTulsa.



UPCYCLED SUCCESS: Casey Stowe with Nelson+Stowe Development stands next to his idea-come-to-life of upcycling shipping containers into retail and entertainment space for a unique downtown experience, and it's filling up fast with local business entrepreneurs such as Sole Massage and Rose Rock Microcreamery.

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A Bounty of Holiday Shows and Stars Aplenty

wrapping paper, we realize and come to respect the passing of time.

That gives us even more reason to call up a friend, engage a loved one, or strike out on our own to sample some of the events and shows that are available to us. Live entertainment is unlike any other.

November begins at the PAC with a free

noontime Brown Bag It performance on Nov. 2 featuring Vintage Voices, and then American humorist Dave Barry, presented by Tulsa Town Hall, Nov. 4. You may know Barry from his 22 years writing for the Miami Herald. His column was syndicated in more than 500 newspapers. He's won a Pulitzer and cowrote the children's novel "Peter and the Starcatcher," along with numerous other fiction and nonfiction books. He's a Town Hall favorite and for good reason. One of my favorite Dave Barry quotes: "Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.'

Theatre Tulsa's staging of the "Cabaret" continues musical through Nov. 6. TT's singers, dancers, sets, costumes and stage direction are always top-rate. Congratulations Theatre Tulsa, for being honored with a welldeserved Governor's Award this

Tulsa Symphony returns to Chapman Music Hall Nov. 5 with a pops concert centering on the music of John Williams and the film "Raiders of the Lost Ark." Conductor Ron Spigelman leads the orchestra in a performance of this most rousing, recognizable score. The film is shown in its entirety with the orchestra providing live music.

At times when we've sat around our conference table at the PAC trying to figure out what the gaps are in our programming, the conversation often circles back to comedy. And who doesn't need more laughs? On Nov. 12, Cowboy Bill

While we begin to scour our attics Martin is "raucous, rowdy and or holiday closets for perky pump- real," and Prather has a comedy kin decorations, cornucopias and style more like Will Rogers. They

Show Buzz

By NANCY HERMANN

are presented by TX Whiskey, which might say something about the suitabilityfor-kids questhough tion, these two are heavily involved off-stage with children who have cancer as part of Cowboys Who Care Foundation.

Chamber Tulsa Music welcomes back the Modigliani Quartet on Nov. Quartet members met in

Paris, became close friends and formed an ensemble in 2003. In constant demand around the world, they toured Australia, Japan, Korea, Europe and the U.S. last year, including a stop in Tulsa. Responding to popular demand, Chamber Music Tulsa chose to bring them back for its 2016-17 season, but first violinist Philippe Bernhard sustained a painful injury and will not perform. Fortunately, the group's friend and mentor Guillaume Sutre from the excellent Ysaye Quartet will join the group to play works by Beethoven, Brahms and Dvorák.

Family entertainment is a hit at holiday time, and the PAC once again hosts a big Christmasthemed Broadway show in November. Celebrity Attractions presents "Elf the Musical," Nov. 15-20. "Variety" said that "Elf' is happy enough for families, savvy enough for city kids and plenty smart for adults." This is the lighthearted story of Buddy, an orphan, who is unwittingly spirited off to the North Pole after being accidentally trapped in Santa's bag. All ends happily when Buddy finds his birth father and helps New York rediscover the true meaning of Christmas.

One of the brightest stars on Broadway over the last five years is Oklahoma's own Kelli O'Hara. She won the Tony in 2015 for "The King and I." You can hear her sing, Nov. 20, not in a cavernous concert hall but in the PAC's 430-seat Williams Theatre, presented by Choregus Productions. I've seen Kelli in a stunning "Bridges of Madison County" on Broadway, Martin and Chad Prather: Kings of and the next year in a sensitive por-Cowtown World Comedy Tour trayal of Anna in "The King and I" light – that front page, bold type – piano man himself is headed this be alive. Yes, I'm thankful.



ELF: Enjoy Broadway's Matt Kopec, Kate Hennies and the cast of "Elf The Musical," Nov. 15-20 at the PAC, presented by Celebrity Attractions.



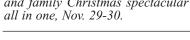
DEVOTED: Olivia Newton John comes to town on Nov. 3 to perform at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino.



PIANO MAN: Rock-n-roll icon Billy Joel performs at the BOK Center Nov. 12



CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR: Cirque Dreams Holidaze lights up the 2016 holiday season with a holiday extravaganza that is a new Cirque show, Broadway musical and family Christmas spectacular



at Lincoln Center. She's the real deal. Closing out the month at the

PAC, when everyone is welcoming an opportunity to get away from the refrigerator and football, Cirque Dreams Holidaze will dazzle you. This new family-friendly extravaganza has a holiday theme with plenty of Broadway pizzazz. Catch it Nov. 29-30, presented by Celebrity Attractions.

Star sightings abound in Tulsa in November. I suspect that Olivia Newton John can still belt out "You Are the One That I Want," and croon "I'm Hopelessly Devoted to You" with the same conviction and cuteness she had years ago. She performs at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino on Nov. 3. Then, I'm look-



DAVE BARRY: Iconic humorist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Dave Barry enlivens Chapman Music Hall on Nov. 4 as guest speaker of Tulsa Town Hall.



KELLI O'HARA: Choregus Productions showcases the talents of Tony Award-winning singer and actress Kelli O'Hara for an intimate concert Nov. 20.



MODIGLIANI QUARTET: Chamber Music Tulsa welcomes back France's world-traveling Modigliani Quartet for a concert of music by Beethoven, Brahms and Dvorák, Nov. 13.

experience when Billy Joel appears way for an electrifying sold-out in concert at the BOK Center, Nov. show.

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Chili Cook-Off, Concert to Benefit Local Musicians

Guest Writer

Tulsa is blessed with a rich musical history. Artists as diverse as Leon Russell, The Gap Band, Hanson and Garth Brooks have all called this city home at one time or another.

Fortunately for music fans, that tradition continues today.

A new generation of talent is filling this town with tunes. On Nov. 12, the Tulsa-based nonprofit Horton Records will host its 3rd Annual Rock-n-Folk Chili Cook-Off at the Cain's Ballroom to raise funds to support these homegrown troubadours, offering the chance for fans to feed their mouths and their ears while helping the local music community.

The event features music from Oklahoma musicians Paul Benjaman, Dustin Pittsley, Jesse Aycock and more, along with a performance from nationally touring act Ian Moore & the Lossy Coils. Ticket holders will be treated to chili provided by some of the ing a platform to give back to pride and inspiration. It's an essen- ing it beyond our local boundaries. tonrecords.org.

great local eateries. Door prizes, a ed admission in exchange for nonraffle and a silent auction are also

Money raised at the event will help Horton Records continue its mission of providing services to develop and support musicians in the Tulsa area. In addition to providing business and financial support to record and distribute music, the record label also hosts showcase events, conducts music workshops, and provides booking and management support for

In addition to the fundraising aspect of the event, Brian Horton, president of the organization, sees this as an opportunity to celebrate local music and raise awareness for the nonprofit.

"We want to showcase the great talent that we have in the Tulsa area," he explains. "We want to take the opportunity to partner with others in the community and once again, be inclusive.

"At the same time, we're provid-

musicians, as well as a number of those in need by offering discountperishable food donations and winter coats. To sum it up: to bring people together, to celebrate Tulsa music and to help others in the

> According to Horton, music is one of Tulsa's greatest natural resources.

> 'We believe that we should invest in that, nurture it, grow it, and have it be a catalyst for attracting and retaining creative talent, industry and tourism to our city,' he continues. "Tulsa music is an international brand and product that has its own characteristics.'

> The evening will provide Tulsans a chance to celebrate both their city and its talent.

"Tulsa is a special place that is affordable and open to ideas that allow musicians to be themselves, to be authentic, and to create from a place of integrity and purpose beyond commercial success," Horton notes. "It's part of the DNA of Tulsa. It's a source of



TULSA TALENT: Paul Benjaman, pictured at left, and Dustin Pittsley and their respective bands are among the local musicians who will perform at Horton Records' fundraiser the Rock-n-Folk Chili Cook-Off, to be held Nov. 12 at Cain's Ballroom. Discounted admission to the show will be offered in exchange for donations of non-perishable food items and winter coats.

success. It's about supporting this mission from the beginning.' talent base, raising it up, and shar-

tial part of creating community This has been Horton Records'

For more information, visit hor-

Expanded Events Planned for Will Rogers Days

Will Rogers Memorial Museum activities, as they will again this accepted as an honorary member. opened Nov. 4, 1938, three years after the death of the man who remains Oklahoma's most recognizable native. On that day, thousands of people dotted the hillside of the native limestone Memorial, streets were teeming with horses and floats for a giant parade, and there was gridlock on the highway between Tulsa and Claremore.

Will Rogers Days have been observed every year since that date except for early war years.

"Today, events surrounding Nov. 4, the date of Will's birth on an Indian Territory ranch near Oologah, remain one of the state's largest Will Rogers events," says Tad Jones, the museum's executive director.

Plans are currently underway to combine a number of events going on in Claremore and all of Rogers County during Will Rogers Days, to be held Nov. 3-6, including museum activities, that will return the celebration to the excitement of those days, he says.

From the Hammett House Chili and Bean Cook-off in Will Rogers Park, the Pumpkin Festival at Shepherd's Cross and plans for downtown Oologah and the Birthplace Ranch to the J.M Davis Arms & Historical Museum, there promises to be plenty of excitement.

Then, there will be Art on the Hill and the 19th Annual Native American Festival at Rogers State University as well as the usual Will Rogers Days festivities at the museum, which opened and was dedicated to Will Rogers on his birthday in

"Will was always about community," says Jones. "He wrote about coming home to family gatherings and feasts, visiting downtown Claremore, Oologah and Chelsea, and going to rodeos and ropings.'

Indian Women's Pocahontas Club has never missed honoring Rogers during the celebration, and horses have always played a part in the

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feature a parade down Will Rogers Boulevard, the street named for him in 1948, and the American Cowboys Rodeo Association Finals at the Claremore Expo Center. Palomino Horse Breeders Heritage Foundation, with Todd Branson riding a Palomino, will lead the Sunday

The Will Rogers Days Finale will

afternoon parade. In 1948, the same year a Will Rogers three-cent commemorative stamp was issued, more than 100 members of the Palomino Association rode in the parade onto the grounds where 69 mounted riders (in honor of Roger's 69th birthday) rode down the steps to the Rogers' family tomb and placed a wreath. Comanche, one of Will's favorite mounts, was a Palomino.

Branson will ride to the tomb at 12:30 p.m. prior to the parade and with members of the Pocahontas Club and place a wreath at the tomb.

Family members, friends of Rogers, actors, sports stars, Indian chiefs, politicians, bands, the famous and the infamous have all participated in Will Rogers Days in the past 78 years. The one constant through all of those years has been the Pocahontas Club, founded in 1899, which has annually placed a wreath at the tomb in honor of the friend and neighbor who they

Prior to the wreath-laying, Pony Express Riders from the Will Rogers Roundup Club and Stampede Rodeo, will hand over saddle bags carrying first day issue cancelled stamps dated Nov. 4, 1948 and donated by the late Ed and Melba Livermore.

Will Rogers Days special events:

• Pumpkin Festival, Shepherd's Cross, Nov. 3- 5, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

• Children's Day at Museum (Invitational), Nov. 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., featuring trick roping, magic tricks, roping, games and Cherokee storyteller

• Will Rogers Birthday Party at the Birthplace Ranch, Oologah Public Schools, Nov. 4, 10 a.m. (headlining: Kowboy Kal and Oologah elementary students)

• Art on the Hill, Rogers State University, Nov. 5, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Nov. 6, noon-4 p.m.

• American Cowboys Rodeo Association Finals, Claremore Expo Center, Nov. 4, 5, 7 -10 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 6, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

• Indian Women's Pocahontas Club, Wreath-Laying Ceremony at Museum, Nov. 5, 12:30 p.m., followed by Hats Off to Will Gala, 5p.m., Claremore Convention



ANNUAL CELEBRATION: Mary Thompson, a longtime member of the Pocahontas Club, stands with Todd Branson, who will serve as the Parade Marshal for the Will Rogers Days parade, to be held Sunday, Nov. 6.

Cook-off, Will Rogers Park, Nov. 5, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Native American Festival, Powwow, Rogers State University, Nov. 5, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

• Route 66 Cruisers Car Show, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Nov. 5, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Street Shopping, Oologah Cooweescoowee Avenue, Nov. 5, 2-9 p.m., Pop-Up Shops, Oologah Chamber

First Saturday Downtown Claremore Shopping, Nov. 5, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

• Will Rogers Hotel, Nov. 5, 2 p.m., birthday cake to celebrate Roger's a parade entry form visit will-• Hammett House Chili and Bean 137th birthday, sponsored by rogers.com.

Claremore Chamber of Commerce

· J.M. Davis Arms & Historical Museum Wild West Shootout, Nov. 5, High Noon

 Palomino Horse Breeders Association and Pocahontas Club join for wreath-laying at Will Rogers Memorial, Nov. 6, 12:30 p.m.

• Pony Express Ride, Nov. 6, arrive 1 p.m., at Will Rogers Memorial from North on Highway 88 from Sageeyah Northwest Fire Station

Will Rogers Days Parade, Nov. 6,

For details on events and to obtain



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Dwell in IDL Highlights Repurposed Residences

Contributing Writer

Foundation Architecture's (TFA) fourth annual Dwell in the IDL downtown residential tour returns Nov. 6 with over a dozen properties open for viewing within Tulsa's Inner Dispersal Loop. The tour showcases downtown living through adaptive reuse and creative new construction in the heart of Tulsa.

"Our aim with this tour is to show individuals what it is like to live downtown," says TFA Director Amanda Executive

Among the stops on the tour are the Universal Ford and Hotel Fox buildings, two of the oldest buildings in Tulsa. These buildings, located on Main Street between M.B. Brady and Cameron streets,

210 N. Main St. comprises 12 apartments located on the building's top two floors.

Once home to Tulsa's afternoon newspaper for 73 years, the Tribune Lofts in the Brady Arts District houses 35 spacious residences with an open-floor concept. The location still shows remnants of the 1924 Tribune building with exposed brick in many of the lofts.

In the center of the Greenwood District are the GreenArch Apartments, which are contemporary studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments designed by architect Brian Freese.

Tour-goers also can take in the transformation of the former downtown YMCA and Palace buildings and explore residences

ther from the truth. Contemporary

Native fashion designers are dis-

mantling and upending familiar

motifs, adopting new forms of

expression and materials, and shar-

ing their vision of Native culture and design with a global audience."

"Pathbreakers" sets the stage for the

rest of the show by highlighting pio-

neers and more recent pathbreakers,

opening

The Robinson Packer Lofts at newcomer to downtown is the Meridia, found in the Deco District at 6th Street and Boston Avenue. The Meridia, with most of its units still under construction, will feature open-air balconies in most apartments and contemporary architecture.

"This will be our biggest year yet, with the highest number of residences that we have ever had on the tour," says DeCort.

Properties will be open to tour from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Nov. 6.

"Many of the properties on the tour have been repurposed, incorporating residential with additional uses. The tour offers a fun opportunity for people to see what can be done with an older building, that it can continue to be reutilized," DeCort says.

Tickets for Dwell in the IDL are recently underwent a \$16 million in The Mayo Hotel and Philtower \$22 and can be purchased at



DOWNTOWN LIVING: Anne Pollard James, left, property manager for George Kaiser Family Foundation properties in the Brady Arts District, and Amanda DeCort, Tulsa Foundation for Architecture (TFA) executive director, sit in an apartment located in the Universal Ford Building in downtown Tulsa's Brady Arts District. More than 12 downtown residences will be open for viewing on Nov. 6 for TFA's fourth annual Dwell in the IDL tour.

NATIVE FASHION NOW: Philbrook Museum Executive Director

Scott Stulen stands with Christina Burke, coordinating curator for

Philbrook Museum's Native Fashion Now exhibition, at the opening of

cost \$25 on the day of tour. Children Edge under the age of 12 are free.

conversion into mixed-use resi- Lofts, among several other estab- dwell2016.eventbrite.com. Tickets tour passports until 3 p.m. at The more information.

Apartments, Greenwood, on the day of the tour. Participants can pick up their Visit tulsaarchitecture.com for

Philbrook Museum, Downtown Open Exhibitions

In October, Philbrook Museum of Art opened Native Fashion Now, a critically acclaimed exhibition from the Peabody Essex Museum (PEM) in Salem, Massachusetts.

The large-scale presentation of contemporary Native American fashion celebrates indigenous designers from across the United States and Canada from the 1950s up to present day and explores the exciting and complex realms where fashion meets art, cultural identity, politics and commerce.

Philbrook is the only Central United States venue for this traveling exhibition; other venues include Peabody Essex in Massachusetts, Portland Art Museum in Oregon, and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian in New York.

The exhibition runs through Jan.

Through nearly 100 works, Native Fashion Now explores the vitality of Native fashion designers and artists from pioneering Native style-makers to today's maverick designers. Native Fashion Now immerses the visitor in all aspects of contemporary Native fashion - from haute couture to street wear. The first major exhibition to celebrate the impact of Native fashion designers in contemporary culture, this show presents the work of more than 70 contemporary fashion designers, including many with Oklahoma ties, in four sections: Pathbreakers, Revisitors, Activators,



THE ALPHABET OF LILI: On Oct. 7, Philbrook Downtown opened the critically-acclaimed series The Alphabet of Lili and other works by Mike Glier. The exhibition features 36 original works and runs through April 2, 2017.

section

"Native American art and culture tured on recent episodes of the realare often perceived as a phenomena ity television series Project Runway, and Dorothy Grant (Haida) whose of the past, or just mere replicas," says Karen Kramer, PEM's curator designs crossed the red carpet of the Native American Art and 2016 Academy Awards. Culture. "But that couldn't be fur-

The "Revisitors" section reinforces and expands upon time-honored symbols and forms through work honoring the past with Native motifs and methods presented in contemporary ways. These creations reflect the designers' experiences as Native people in the 21st century.

"Activators" shines a spotlight on how contemporary Native fashion is used to express identity and political ideas. Jared Yazzie (Diné [Navajo]) declares "Native [Navajo]) declares Americans Discovered Columbus" on a T-shirt. In his work My Ancestors Tommy Joseph (Tlingit) updates traditional Northwest Coast imagery, commonly seen carved into masks and totem poles, by printing it onto a beautifully tailored

Some Native designers can be thought of as "Provocateurs," who embrace the experimental. Their one-of-a-kind clothing and accessories demonstrate remarkable craftsmanship and at the same time hurl familiar materials and concepts into a new dimension.

the exhibition in October.

Running Oct. 7-April 2, 2017 is the critically-acclaimed series The Alphabet of Lili and other works by Mike Glier presented by Philbrook Downtown, 116 E. M.B. Brady

The exhibition features 36 original works, including The Alphabet of Lili and selections from Glier's other forcefully rendered yet intimate series, The Forests of Garden Antarctica, Court, Satisfaction and Men at Home. The exhibition provides a sampling of the deeply personal and political themes recurring throughout Glier's

The Alphabet of Lili, is an instal-

lation of 26 large scale panels. The original inspiration for the works came from Glier's nightly ritual of reading to his three-year-old daughter, Lili. Reminiscent of letter primers, each piece explores a different letter of the alphabet. For each, Glier made a list of objects that began with that letter. These separate and seemingly unrelated objects were inspired by his hopes and fears for his young daughter's future in an increasingly complex world. The first piece in the series, "A" represents both "amaryllis" and "atomic bomb." The paintings explore the intricacy of life that includes violence and death, as well as joy and beauty.

Twenty-five years after its creation, the work remains a powerful fusion of the personal and political. Other work in the exhibition, The Forests of Antarctica and the Garden Court, reflect this intersec-The focal point of the exhibition, tion as well. The Forests of Antarctica capture the abstract feeling of wind whipping across the blustery landscapes in a clearly fantastical future where the Antarctic is a warmer, forested land. The beauty of the composition belies the environmental disaster that would have to occur for this to happen, ruminating on the effects of the human touch in nature. The Garden Court also explores this interchange of violence and beauty by setting a flourishing garden amidst the backdrop of a concrete wall pockmarked with bullet holes.

"Contemporary Native art has always been a part of Philbrook, but this exhibition of fashion is a first for us," says Christina Burke, coordinating curator. "We're thrilled to serve as the only venue in the Central United States allowing us to present this exhibition of cuttingedge designs to visitors from near and far.'



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Tulsa Opera Season Promises to Please Audiences

Managing Editor

Tulsa Opera's 69th season kicked off Oct. 21 and 23 with a vibrant presentation of Georges Bizet's The Pearl Fishers, to be followed by three additional productions to complete the 2016-17 season, productions that were chosen specifically to meet the wishes of the local opera audience, says Tulsa Opera General Director and CEO Greg Weber.

"It had been several years since Tulsa Opera asked patrons what is important to them. I felt a need to reconnect with our audience.'

Therefore, Tulsa Opera conducted a survey, distributed through mail and email, of its ticket buyers. "The completed surveys reflected our audience's desire for highquality singers, traditional opera productions, and the offering of a Saturday night performance," he continues.

Armed with this information, Weber and Tulsa Opera's new Artistic Director Tobias Picker went to work quickly to put together a revamped season that would address as many of these needs as possible. Both veterans drew upon trusted connections from their years in the performing arts to access top international talent. Picker held auditions in New York City to select exciting singers and conductors for their first full sea-

The second production of the season will take place Feb. 25, 2017, a one-night-only vocal spectacular, Puccini To Pop.

That will be followed by a star-

The season will conclude with the American premiere of a family opera by Pierangelo Valtinoni, The Snow Queen on June 17 and 18.

The Pearl Fishers and Tosca are both traditional operas that have not been performed in Tulsa for many years. The Pearl Fishers was last performed locally in 1998 and Tosca in 2007.

While The Pearl Fishers is not as well known of an opera as Tosca, "we wanted to bring a luxurious, opulent, stunning production for our first show," says Picker. "The music, costumes and set are all very beautiful."

Tosca, on the other hand, is one of the most popular operas, with wellknown music and a dramatic, riveting story, he says. "Of all of Puccini's operas, this one is among the top.'

Puccini's beloved masterpiece will be performed by an international all-star cast led by Russian soprano Evelina Dobraceva, hot on the heels of her American operatic debut with Cincinnati Opera, and Finnish tenor Christian Juslin makes his American debut as Tosca's lover.

In an effort to address the audience request for a Saturday evening performance, Puccini to Pop will take place on Saturday, Feb. 25 and showcase various musical genres with voices that cross over easily from opera to jazz to musical theater. "This show will appeal to experienced opera audiences and newcomers," says Picker, "and allow us to introduce several operas and several styles in one evening.'

Alyson Cambridge, who just studded production of Giacomo released a jazz album, will be fea-Puccini's Tosca on May 5 and 7. released a jazz album, will be fea-tured along with David Miller, tured along with David Miller, Juilliard School, and Princeton



ANTICIPATED PRODUCTIONS: Tulsa Opera General Director and CEO Greg Weber, right, stands with Artistic Director Tobias Picker, who joined Tulsa Opera in June. Tulsa Opera's 69th season began Oct. 21 with its production of The Pearl Fishers.

Sarah Joy Miller and Michael Todd University and has composed Simpson, with special guest Leona Mitchell.

"But this is not a concert," Picker says. "It will be a program with visual elements that will tell a story.'

Picker joined Tulsa Opera as artistic director on June 1, being drawn to Tulsa due to both Picker's working relationship with Weber and Tulsa Opera's rich history, says Picker, an internationally-acclaimed composer from New York City who began composing at eight years old. Picker studied at the Manhattan School of Music, The

five operas.

'Tulsa Opera is known for presenting stars such as Joan Sutherland, Luciano Pavarotti, Beverly Sills and Samuel Ramey; more recently Joyce DiDonato debuted here at the beginning of her rise to stardom, and Stephanie Blythe sang her first Carmen with Tulsa Opera. The 2016-2017 season focuses on Tulsa's artistic lega-

cy," says Weber.
The season's concluding production, Pierangelo Valtinoni's The Snow Queen, will put Tulsa Opera's youth opera program on display.

The Snow Queen has experienced

major success in Hamburg, Dresden and Venice. Tulsa Opera achieved a major coup to present the American premiere of this wholly entertaining opera in an English translation commissioned specifically for Tulsa.

The presentation expands upon the successful annual productions by Tulsa Youth Opera and Tulsa Opera's music training program for students in grades 3-12, and it will combine child soloists and choruses from this program with adults singing many of the principal roles. Tulsa Opera Studio, Tulsa Opera's young artist-in-residence program, will also participate in this production.

IRON GATE HOLDS FUNDRAISER



COOKING FOR A CAUSE: Iron Gate, a soup kitchen and food pantry located in downtown Tulsa, held its annual Cooking for a Cause fundraising event on Oct. 13 at Metro Appliances and More. The event helps to support the mission of Iron Gate to feed the hungry of Tulsa every day. From left are Shane Saunders, board chair-elect; Chris Mantle, local artist; Connie Cronley, Iron Gate executive director; Mary Ann Hille, board chair; and Jay Litchefield, auctioneer. Two of Mantle's paintings were auctioned at the event.

CHEROKEE NATION DONATES TO DIABETES RESEARCH



CONCOURS FOR THE CURE: In September, Principal Chief Bill John Baker, third from left, presented a sponsorship check on behalf of the Cherokee Nation to the American Diabetes Association for \$50,000. On Sept. 25, the Cherokee Nation served as the main sponsor for the annual fundraising event Concours for the Cure, held at Southern Hills Country Club.



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DINING OUT IN GREATER TULSA

Elgin Park: A Beer-and-Sports-Lover's Paradise

LOCAL DINING

By BLAKE AUSTYN Contributing Writer

There aren't many things that fit together as perfectly as baseball and hot dogs and peanut butter and jelly, except sports and beer. Or pizza and beer. Either way, Elgin Park Brewery, 325 E. M.B. Brady St., capitalizes on both.

The microbrewery and restaurant opened Sept. 1 across the street from ONEOK Field in downtown Tulsa's Brady Arts District.

When you combine the more than 50 televisions stationed throughout the restaurant, the eye-catchingly large square-shaped bar, the local beer, and the garage doors that open the restaurant to M.B. Brady Street and Elgin Avenue, this is categorically a sports lover's paradise. Although that's not to say there's nothing for non-sports enthusiasts

A particularly popular portion of the restaurant when the weather is cooperating is the open-air element found in the corner of the restaurant that faces ONEOK Field. There are even tall bar tops placed on the sidewalks outside of the restaurant to incorporate the outdoors and to encourage walk-up patrons.

Elgin Park is a venture by Elliot Nelson of the McNellie's Group and Eric Marshall of Marshall Brewing Company. The microbrewery brews beer on-site using a seven-barrel highlight of the meal, probably due,

PIZZA AND VIEWS: There are six specialty pizzas on the menu at Elgin Park Brewery in addition to the option to build your own pizza. Pictured above are the Spicy Pizza Pie and the vegetarian White Potato pizza.

from Marshall, Marshall Brewing n't expecting it to be so amazingly flavorful. The combination of the marinara sauce, garlic chunks and goat cheese made it a wonderful starter for the meal and showed very clearly why our waitress spoke of the dish's popularity.

Other interesting appetizers that I am curious about for the future include Fried Clam Strips with garlic aioli and Meatballs in Red Sauce. For our entrees, we sprang for two

specialty pizzas: the Spicy Pizza Pie and the White Potato.

The Spicy Pizza Pie is another popular menu item. Yet, I must admit that, although chili flake, pickled peppers and hot coppa were listed in the ingredients, I was not quite prepared for the spiciness of the pizza. But when I

enjoyable.

We also gravitated toward the White Potato pizza because of its lack of meat. It comes topped with white potato, pecorino cheese, rosemary and onion. One person in our group felt that it was a bit bland, and if you are not suited to vegetarian dishes, I can see how it might taste that way. But I, for one, enjoyed it.

I cannot go any further without commenting on the sheer size of these pizzas. One small pizza would most likely be enough for two people to share. However, the pizzas are cooked in the New Haven style, which offers a thinner crust that makes the pizza a bit less filling han a deep dish or traditional crust. Friday and Saturday, its kitchen We also chose to try the Wings, closes at midnight and bar at 2 a.m. than a deep dish or traditional crust.

got past the spice, the flavors were with the option of cauliflower or chicken with the bone. Looking for something different, we opted for the cauliflower. Basically this is breaded cauliflower, so it's the sauces that make the difference. Patrons can choose from dry toppings, such as garlic parmesan and creole or barbecue, hot buffalo and other sauces.

> The menu also includes lunch specials, the option to build your own pizza, salads, clam chowder soup, sandwiches and a couple entree

Elgin Park Brewery opens at 11 a.m. seven days a week. Sunday-Thursday, its kitchen closes at 10 p.m. and its bar at 11 p.m. On



Company founder and brewmaster. The brewery plans to produce several year-round offerings as well as seasonal brews throughout the year. In addition to highlighting its onsite beers, Elgin Park also features six guest taps reserved for some of Marshall and Nelson's favorite My party visited on a Sunday evening, and with the beautiful fall weather, we were drawn to the open

windows, which also provide a generous view of downtown. We started with the Baked Goat Cheese, a hearty marinara sauce

with roasted garlic and crusty bread for dipping. This was, for me, the brewing system, with guidance at least in part, to the fact that I was-

Rib Crib Donates to Charities

Rib Crib BBQ & Grill recently presented \$100,000 to five local Tulsa charities: the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. Children's Hospital Foundation, the Oklahoma Animal Care Foundation Board, Tulsa Zoo Foundation and 12&12. The proceeds came from Rib Crib's 14th annual golf invitational, the 2016 Pitmasters Golf Tournament, which saw more than 140 participants. Each organization received \$20,000.

Representing each agency for Eileen Bradsĥaw, executive director of the Community Food Bank



LOCAL BREWERY: Patrons stand at the open area of Elgin Park Brewery,

325 E. M.B. Brady St., after it opened Sept. I across the street from ONEOK

Field. The restaurant and microbrewery is a venture by Elliot Nelson of the

McNellie's Group and Eric Marshall of Marshall Brewing Company.

the check presentations were FUNDRAISER PROCEEDS: Rib Crib BBO & Grill President Marc Chastain holds Abby the bulldog during a recent check presentation where Rib Crib donated a total of \$100,000 to five local charities. Also pictured of Eastern Oklahoma; Kacie are Danielle Palm, Rib Crib golf tournament director, and Bob Poteet, Frazier, program director at The DVM and trustee of the Oklahoma Animal Care Foundation board.

GRILLING EXPERTS: Char-Broil Nights, created by Char-Broil, LLC, came to Tulsa in September. Hosted by Oklahoma Joe's Barbeque, the evening provided foodies and grillers with an opportunity to learn more about Char-Broil grills and smokers and to sample from a selection of barbeque offerings.





Children's Hospital Foundation; Bob Poteet, trustee of the Oklahoma Care Animal Foundation Board; Terrie Correll, CEO & president at the Tulsa Zoo Foundation; and Bryan Day, CEO of 12&12, which offers recovery tools for adults suffering with addiction or co-existing mental health and substance-use disor-

"Our vendors, sponsors and participating golfers' generosity make these charitable gifts possible, but our Rib Crib employees and volunteers made the day the resounding success it was, says Bret Chandler, Rib Crib founder. "We are proud and grateful for everyone's contributions. We are honored to be able to give back to our community in this way."

The golf tournament was held at the 18-hole Tillinghast-designed Oaks Country Club, featuring a shot-gun start four-person scramble, hole prizes, an all-you-caneat Rib Crib BBQ luncheon, and competitive live and silent auctions.

Seeing Tulsa From a Bicycle Perspective

four years ago, I have wanted to buy a numerous mornings at Central Library,

bicycle. But I have held back from making a purchase, continually questioning myself and whether I would really, consistently ride it.

It doesn't help that I have years of stored memories of my childhood bicycle sitting lonely in my family's garage, waiting to be ridden until it was eventually given away. Not only is that a waste of money, but, plain and simple, it makes me sad to see something sitting alone, even if that "thing" doesn't have feelings.

Even with River Parks just a couple of blocks away, I still wasn't confident that I would eagerly hop on my bicycle at least once a week.

I wasn't sure until Central Library reopened October.

Living just a five-minute walk and twonew dimension to my life that I love.

Ever since I moved into downtown Tulsa Since buying my bike, I have spent

working, studying, reading and soaking in the activity that surrounds it. There is a strongly detectable feeling of life that permeates downtown libraries - a pulse that can be easily felt and one that that is infectious and inspiring, reminding me of just how much humans thrive on being with other humans.

Over the past weeks, I have ventured out on my bicycle beyond the library to downtown restaurants and onto the River Parks trail system that is so expansive; it will take me some time to explore it all.

Right now, I am focused on the trails around downtown and the Arkansas River, which also afford me views of A Gathering Place for Tulsa and its construction progress.

After living in an area for 30-some years, it's always a fun surprise when I learn or minute bicycle ride away from the library, experience something new about Tulsa, I feel like I have been transformed, and my and these new areas of exploration are recently-purchased bicycle has added a doing that for me: providing me welcome, new perspectives of my home.



EXPLORING RIVER PARKS: A view of downtown Tulsa and the current stage of construction at A Gathering Place for Tulsa from the pedestrian bridge.



FIRST DRAFT: The Tulsa Press Club held its annual First Draft this year at ONEOK Field in downtown Tulsa. Funds from the event benefit students in the Tulsa area. From left are First Draft Chair Tom Gilbert and volunteers Wes Alexander, Nikki Lamson and Amanda Clinton.

Tulsa Press Club Names John Durkee as Media Icon

By EMILY RAMSEY

Managing Editor

Out & About in

Greater Tulsa

The Tulsa Press Club has named radio broadcaster John Durkee as the 2016 Media Icon during the Newsies Awards, held Sept. 28.

John Durkee is the news director for KWGS radio in Tulsa. He has over 40 years of experience in radio news and has served as news director of radio stations in Tulsa, Missouri and Kansas. He was also a reporter in Oklahoma City early in his career.

Durkee is a Tulsa native and served as the City of Tulsa communications director prior to joining the staff at KWGS.

Durkee has won countless awards for his work as a broadcaster, including awards from the Radio and Television News Directors Association, Associated Press, United Press International, The Society of Professional Journalists and the Oklahoma and Missouri Association of Broadcasters.

He is a past board member of the Oklahoma Associated Press Broadcasters, Kansas the Association of News Broadcasters and the former Tulsa Chapter of Society of Professional Journalists. He resides in Bixby with his wife, Carol.



AWARD WINNER: John Durkee, news director of KWGS radio in Tulsa, receives the 2016 Newsies Icon Award from Steve Schroeder of News On 6 at the Tulsa Press Club Sept. 28.





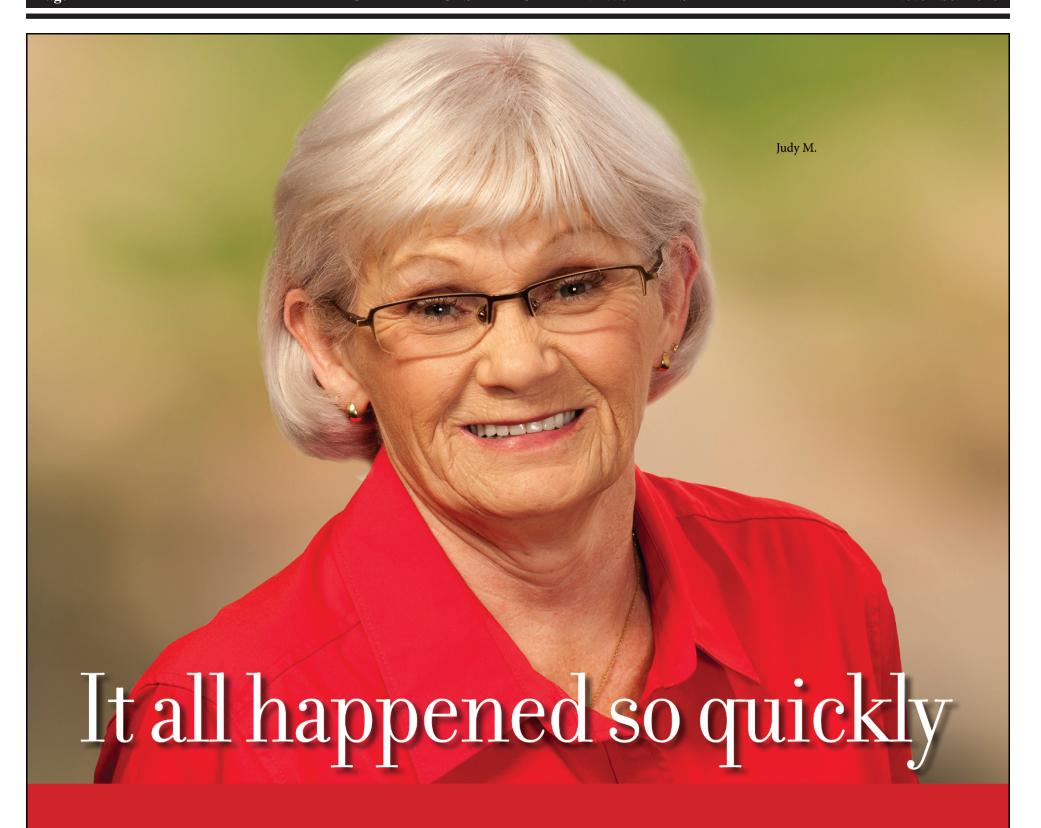
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I was at an appointment and stepped out because I couldn't catch my breath. My inhaler wasn't working. Gasping for air, I suddenly felt myself sliding down the wall. Someone called 911, and I was taken by ambulance to Hillcrest South.

After a quick examination, the specially trained Emergency Department team identified the problem and worked to open my airway. I was having a life-threatening asthma attack caused by an allergic reaction. While treating me, the caring staff kept me calm and reassured me that I would be okay. I'm so grateful for their compassion and expertise. **They saved my life.**



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Oklahoma Heart Institute Implants First-of-its-Kind Naturally Dissolving Heart Stent in Patient with Coronary Disease

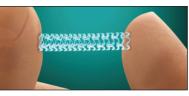
recently became one of the first hospitals in Oklahoma to offer patients with coronary artery disease a new treatment option that literally disappears over time.

Mary Seago of Liberty Mounds was the first OHI patient to be implanted with the world's first FDAapproved dissolving heart stent. The Absorb bioresorbable vascular scaffold is a major advancement in the treatment of coronary artery disease, which affects 15 million people in the United States and remains a leading cause of death worldwide.

Seago began experiencing chest pains which brought her to the emergency department. Her doctor referred her to OHI where she was

Oklahoma Heart Institute (OHI) implanted with the Absorb stent. "I feel great. I feel like I can do anything I want to," says Seago. "I would tell someone else considering this procedure to go for it immediately. Î think it would change their life."

While stents are traditionally made of metal, Abbott's Absorb stent is made of a naturally dissolving material, similar to dissolving sutures. Absorb disappears in about three years, leaving only two pairs of tiny metallic markers that remain in the artery to enable a physician to see where the device was placed, after it has done its job of keeping a clogged artery open and promoting healing of the treated artery segment. By contrast, metal stents are permanent implants.



"Just like a cast isn't needed after a broken bone heals, once a stent has done its job of opening an artery to allow proper blood flow, it is no longer necessary," says Wayne Leimbach, M.D., director of the Cardiac and Interventional Laboratories and medical director of Oklahoma Heart Institute Hospital at Hillcrest Medical Center.

"The introduction of an absorbable stent marks the next generation of artery disease available in the state, interventional cardiology, and we at including:

to have been selected as one of the 75 trial sites across the United States to offer this groundbreaking technology that provides a new treatment option for our patients with coronary artery disease," Leimbach.

OHI's interventional cardiology team underwent extensive training on the new device, as the technique for implantation of the Absorb stent varies from that of the traditional metal stent.

With the addition of the Absorb stent, Oklahoma Heart Institute offers the most comprehensive treatments for patients with coronary

alternative to long-term warfarin therapy to help reduce stroke risk in patients with atrial fibrillation;

TAVR (transcatheter aortic valve replacement), a minimally invasive replacement of the aortic valve done in the Cath Lab, which is now available for patients classified as intermediate risk as well as high risk; and, a non-surgical, transcatheter repair of leak mitral valves.

OHI is the only hospital in Oklahoma currently offering these four interventions.

For more information on the Absorb stent and the treatments available at Oklahoma Heart Institute, visit oklahomaheart.com or call 918-592-0999.



DAY OF CARING: Volunteers from The Center for Individuals with Physical Challenges and Hillcrest work to change "handicapped" parking spots to "accessible" parking spots. The new icon promotes understanding of active life led by individuals with physical disabilities.

Edward **Jones**

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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door, football-themed cookout to honor Tulsa-area first responders. From left are Oklahoma Highway Patrolman Derek Burton, Hillcrest Healthcare System's Rachel Smith, OHP's Steve Enson, Hillcrest South CEO Lynn Mergen and OHP's Steve Eason.



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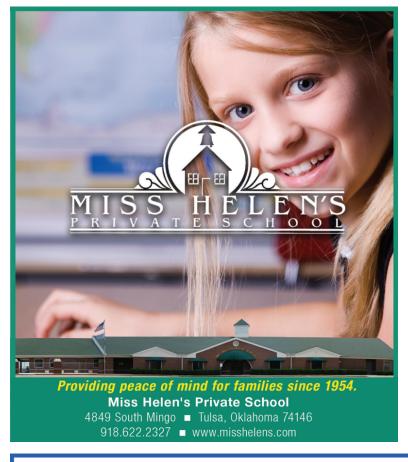
NSU's College of Business Named Top 30 in Affordablity

The Northeastern State University College of Business and Technology was recently named among the Most Affordable Business Schools 2016 by College Choice, a leading authority in college and university rankings and resources. NSU is ranked number 29 of the 30 schools that made the list.

Dr. Roger Collier, dean of the College of Business & Technology, said that everyone within the college is pleased to have been recognized.

"Providing an affordable education to our students is important, especially since it will allow them to graduate without the large amounts of student debt that we see elsewhere in the U.S," Collier says. However, while it is important to

be affordable, College Choice also looked into other factors, he says. For more information about the NSU College of Business & Technology, visit www.nsuok.edu/ businesstechnology.



BankMobile Awards TCC Student

On Sept. 29, BankMobile, a division of Customers Bank, announced the winner of its foundation's Passport Student Success Program: Denver Berumen.

Berumen, a student at Tulsa Community College, was awarded over \$28,000 to completely pay off her current student loans.

The BankMobile Foundation serves as a platform to financially empower individuals by promoting financial literacy. Passport is BankMobile Vibe's recognition program for smart money management, academic achievement, and good financial behavior. BankMobile Vibe is available at campuses that use users have the opportunity to Success Sweepstakes, access to BankMobile



STUDENT LOAN PAY-OFF: Kati Kennedy, center, vice president of relationship management for BankMobile Disbursements, awards Tulsa Community College student Denver Berumen over \$28,000 to pay off her student loans. Also in attendance were TCC President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson and Metro Campus Provost Greg Stone.

Refund earn stamps for chances to win surprises, discounts and deals, Management service. Passport up to \$50,000 in the Student and more.

TU to Launch Nursing Doctoral Degree in College of Health Sciences

The School of Nursing in the which focuses on advanced practice University of Tulsa's Oxley College in primary care for acute illness and of Health Sciences will launch a chronic disease. doctor of nursing practice (DNP) degree program beginning in Association of Colleges of Nursing January 2017. The program is designed to equip nursing professionals with education and clinical experiences to manage care and lead change within a dynamic healthcare environment. TU is one of only three universities in the state of Oklahoma to offer a DNP program.

Students can choose from two concentrations: adult-gerontology acute care (AG-ACNP), which prepares nurses for advanced practice in acute and critical care for patients from adolescence to end of life; and family nurse practitioner (FNP),

In a 2004 report, the American recommended that graduate nursing education move toward practicefocused doctoral nursing programs that would train nurses to navigate the increasing complexities of patient care with the highest standards of quality. "As our healthcare system evolves, TU hopes to meet a critical need for nurse practitioners who can provide care and drive change initiatives that result in better patient outcomes," says Dr. Gerard Clancy, vice president for health affairs and dean of the Oxley College of Health Sciences.

"Launching this program represents the next step in our efforts to improve access to quality health care across our community," Clancy continues. "We have an opportunity to address Oklahoma's shortage of primary caregivers while also reducing health disparities – especially in rural and urban settings.

The program will be housed in the new Oxley College of Health Sciences facility located in downtown Tulsa, where students have access to an on-site skills laboratory, computer lab, health clinic and a clinical simulation center. Classroom instruction combined with clinical time in care environments and specialty rotations will provide hands-on learning opportunities.



Students Find Alternative Path to Success

student to "make your own path" and discover the unique journey that will lead to success. For some itive connection and a supportive

News from

Tulsa Tech

By DR. STEVE TIGER

Superintendent

students, that path leads to Tulsa Tech's Career Academy, a unique program that helps students reconnect with their educational goals.

The Career Academy is a comprehensive alternative education program seeks to recover Tulsa-area high school dropouts and those at risk of dropping out. This collabora-

tive effort alongside Tulsa Public efit from this kinesthetic learning Schools intertwines high school credentials or GED preparation and occupational training experiences to disconnected youth. The ultimate goal of this program is to increase the employment opportunities of at-risk youth through educational support and training while creating self-sufficient young adults who contribute to growth and economic development in the Tulsa region.

Dr. Richard Palazzo, Tulsa Tech's director for alternative education, feels the program represents an opportunity for students seeking a different educational path.

"This program attracts disenfranchised youth that feel disconnected, often alienated from the social and academic life that other students seem to thrive in," Palazzo

At Tulsa Tech, we encourage each says. "The small size of the pro- ideal for learning, or personal gram and engaging nature of the staff allow students to enjoy a pos-

> relationship. Kori Orr, Career Academy instructor, feels the most common misperception is these are the "bad kids," when in fact, it is

often the complete

opposite. So many of these students are gifted and talented," Orr says. "They are kinesthetic learners so they need to be hands-on, in an environment where they can benefit from a little extra one-to-one instruction."

Career Academy students often ben-

style, where instruction takes place when students carry out physical activities, rather than listening to a lecture or watching demonstrations. This tactile approach combined with the academy's supportive family environment are critical components to the program's success.

"The reason the Career Academy works for so many students who have struggled in other classrooms is our foundation of family and respect," says Orr. "We address the whole child, not only the academics but also the emotional and social needs, and we provide resources that emphasize our strong culture of family."

To be fair, some of these students have faced challenges or endured an environment that is less than

growth. However, once each student realizes that they are part of the academy family, a member of the team, and most importantly, an individual whose success matters to others, then everything begins to change.

Mark Farrar, Career Academy math instructor, finds his role very rewarding and enjoys being a part of this realization for the students he serves each day.

"These kids really appreciate the help," Farrar says. "Maybe they need a little extra time to answer a math question, solve a problem, or perhaps discuss something totally unrelated to math. It doesn't matter, because they soon realize my goal is to help them achieve their goals, and by working together, we will make it, and we will win."

Students spend half of each day earning high school credits in math. science, English, and social studies through a combination of teacherled instruction and online, computerized learning. Students are offered credit recovery or "first time" credit courses or assistance for GED exam preparation. The remaining half of each day is spent in a career tech training course available on campuses at Tulsa Tech.

Adrienne Elder, Career Academy science instructor, believes in each of her students regardless of the past as they work together to move forward.

"The most rewarding thing as an instructor is helping each student succeed," says Elder. "Children who have often been told, at least in part, that they will not succeed, watching these individuals develop self-confidence, achieving both academic and personal goals, as an instructor, it's just a great feeling. It doesn't get much better than



STUDENT RECOVERY: Tulsa Tech Career Academy instructor Kori Orr works with Tulsa Tech Career Academy high school senior Paola Nunez. The Career Academy is a comprehensive alternative education program that seeks to recover Tulsa-area high school dropouts and those at risk of dropping out.

Career Academy students, like all Tulsa Tech students, work hard to succeed and ultimately are responsible for achieving both their academic and personal goals. They are required to do the work, complete the assignments, and pass the exams in order to succeed. They truly make their own path to success.

If you're currently looking for exciting classes for high school and adult students, quality customized corporate training, or wish to Make Your Own Path, Tulsa Tech invites you to visit today. For more information, please call 918-828-5000 or visit us online at tulsatech.edu.







Maintaining Owasso for the Future CHAMBER WELCOMES

(Continued from page 1) award due to its partnership with

Girl Scout Troop 661.

This year, Owasso CARES received the Owasso Chamber of Commerce's Community Spirit award.

"When OSNI receives an award, we might be accepting the award, but it's the community and the residents who are getting the award," Fowler says.

In addition to Keep Owasso Clean and Owasso CARES, OSNI is ripe with other opportunities for individuals to volunteer in the community through its City Volunteer program. The program matches qualified individuals and groups to meet city needs that may otherwise go unfulfilled due to limits in revenue, according to the OSNI website.

"We are always partnering with groups who are looking to engage in volunteer service, whether that's local students, civic groups, court ordered situations, scout groups, church groups or other individuals," Fowler says.

In OSNI's ongoing efforts to create stronger bonds within its neighborhoods, in 2014, Owasso became the first city in Oklahoma to become an agency site for social network Nextdoor, which allows residents to securely communicate with other residents within their neighborhood or nearby neighborhoods. Across the U.S., over 90,000 neighborhoods are registered.

Owasso residents can join private neighborhood websites to share information, including neighborhood public safety issues, community events and activities, local services, and even lost pets.



RELIABLE VOLUNTEERS: Urban Soul-Xtreme Youth Ministries of Owasso First Assembly Church helping with clean-up at the June Keep Owasso Clean event. Because of Urban's Soul's volunteer efforts, the group has been named a finalist for the Volunteer Community Group Award at the Keep Oklahoma Beautiful's (KOB) Environmental Excellence Celebration to be held in November.

"We have become isolated in our Owasso Police Department and homes," says Fowler. "We have to OSNI to provide residents with get past our garage doors and get to know each other and what's going on."

The site also allows the City of Owasso to post information, such as news, services, programs, public events, and emergency notifications.

Currently, there are 5,600 Owasso residents in 63 neighborhood groups signed up for NextDoor.

The Alert Neighborhood program, which was one of the first OSNI programs to be created, enables residents to create crime grams is for us to be a strong comprevention programs within their munity with engaged and active neighborhoods in order to encourage community policing.

information on how to better protect property and their neighbors through greater alertness and reporting of suspicious behavior, Fowler says. "It also builds better relationships between police and citizens and greater trust within

the community."

Additional OSNI programs include Neighborhood Grants, Sign Toppers, Street Neighborhood Leadership Conference to be held Jan. 28 and the annual Block Party.

"The big thing for all of our proresidents," says Fowler, "with city government, residents and busi-The program partners the nesses all coming together."

Tulsa Mayor-Elect



REGIONAL PARTNERS: Tulsa Mayor-elect G.T. Bynum, left, stands with Owasso Chamber of Commerce President Gary Akin and the chamber's 2016 Chairman of the Board Tony Heaberlin. Bynum spoke at the Chamber's Oct. 12 luncheon.

By EMILY RAMSEY Managing Editor

Tulsa Mayor-elect G.T. Bynum spoke at the Owasso Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Oct. 12, addressing his goals for his four-year term and Owasso's role.

"I ran for mayor because I didn't feel like as a city we were challenging ourselves enough to progress; we have not spent enough time talking about being more nationally competitive," said Bynum, who will be sworn in on Dec. 5.

Instead of focusing on putting Tulsa in a position to compete nationally, city leaders have focused more on regional competition. Bynum, on the other hand, praising and helping nearby cities, provide better aid to education.

instead of competing against them.

"I want to thank the City of Owasso for the great job you have been doing with economic development, particularly retail development," he continued.

Why is that so important?

Because when one city prospers, the surrounding cities benefit, he said, the strengths of that concept of regionalism being highlighted during regional leaders' recent intercity visit to Cincinnati.

Regionalism will be among Bynum's top priorities when he enters office, he said. His other objectives include growing opportunities in Tulsa to better position it to be nationally competitive and improving the city's relationship wants to think bigger and focus on with Tulsa Public Schools so as to

Mountain Lions in Owasso

(Continued from page 1)

90 to several hundred square miles. When spotted, it's normally in the early morning hours or just as the sun is setting.

Mountain lions are an important part of the ecosystem. "In states where established populations are found, they are what's termed as an apex predator," says Davis. "They play a pivotal and critical role in maintaining biodiversity and stability in those ecosystems.

In their range, the animals are invaluable in maintaining plants and animals. For example, they keep deer on the move, preventing them from overgrazing in areas. This change results in more grasses for songbirds and less erosion on hillsides.

The Oklahoma Department of Conservation protects the mountain lions that do move through the area. "Our Wildlife Code contin- allows citizens to protect themindiscriminate shooting, but does notes.



ON THE LOOKOUT: Sightings of mountain lions in Oklahoma have been documented since 1852 and continue today, including in Owasso. With confirmed populations of mountain lions in nearby states, including Texas, Colorado, New Mexico and South Dakota, biologists theorize that mountain lions seen moving through the state could belong to those surrounding populations.

ues to protect mountain lions from selves and their property," Davis



THE PIONEER WOMAN: Bartlesville native Ree Drummond, known as The Pioneer Woman, held a signing for her newest cookbook, "Dinnertime," at Cracker Barrel in Owasso on Oct. 12. Drummond is a blogger, author, photographer and television personality who lives on a ranch outside of Pawhuska.

Mountain lions are by nature shy animals that tend to avoid confrontation in any way they can. Due to their elusive habits, encounters with the animals are very rare, and mountain lions are usually quick to look for the nearest way to escape.

If a mountain lion is spotted nearby, it's recommended to stop, stand tall and raise your arms to make yourself look large while speaking firming, he says. This often scares them away from the situation.

According to Davis, the department is always looking for more information and reports so they can possibly confirm the animals in the area.

To learn more about mountain lions, report a sighting or to view information about confirmed sightings in the state, visit wildlifedepartment.com.

OWASSO FIRE DEPT. RECEIVES DONATION



SUPPORTING PUBLIC SAFETY: In October, representatives from the Owasso Fire Department accepted a utility terrain vehicle (UTV) worth almost \$20,000. The UTV was donated by Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, which holds the mission of providing funding, lifesaving equipment, and educational opportunities to first-responders and public safety organizations.

BLAKE AUSTYN Contributing Writer

hanks to money donated to I Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, the Owasso Fire Department received a utility terrain vehicle (UTV) worth almost \$20,000.

In 2005, Firehouse Subs created the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation with the mission of providing funding, life-saving equipment, and educational opportunities to first-responders and public safety organizations.

With the recent increase in natural disasters, including tornadoes, earthquakes and flooding, the awarded UTV will allow firefighters to quickly respond in emergenbenefit the foundation.

cies and provide medical assistance in areas impassable by traditional emergency vehicles, note foundation representatives

Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation has given more than \$23 million to hometown heroes in 46 states, Puerto Rico and Canada, including more than \$545,000 in Oklahoma.

Each restaurant recycles leftover, five-gallon pickle buckets, available to guests for a \$2 donation to the foundation. Donation canisters on register counters explain the nonprofit's mission and collect spare change, while the Round Up Program allows guests to "round up" their bill to the nearest dollar. All funds raised

OWASSO SPORTS

Connor Haff Looks Forward to College Football

Ram Senior Defensive Lineman Is Texas Bound Next Fall

By MIKE MOGUIN Sports Correspondent

Connor Haff loves the outdoors. He hopes to do some of that when he goes down to Stephen F. Austin University next fall.

The senior Owasso defensive lineman recently committed to the Texas school, located in the east central part of the state, to play his college football career. Haff (6-3, 240) is verbally committed to that program at this point. Verbal commitments are non-binding. He went to SFA's spring game and was drawn to the coaching staff.

"I liked the coaches a lot, and they made it feel like home," Haff says. "And there is a lot of bass-fishing and hunting down there. I'm really into that. But the main part is the coaches down there are really cool."

He chose SFA over Pittsburg State, Southwestern Oklahoma State and Northeastern State.

In the meantime, Haff is focused on helping the Rams overcome their early-season struggles.

"It's been a journey," he says.
"We're finally starting to find that

rhythm as a team.' Haff wrestled in the past, but he stopped after his sophomore year when he realized a bright future on

the gridiron. As a wrestler, Haff competed as a heavyweight. In his last season, he made it to a national event in Columbia, Missouri, here he earned runner-up.

But like many, his grappling

experience has been a plus for him in football.

Haff can put both his hands on the ground and crash the middle of the line, or he can slide outside and finesse you into giving up a sack.

Size, strength and quickness is what Haff considers his best attributes.

The Rams snapped a three-game losing streak on Oct. 6 when they

defeated Putnam City North 43-0. "It was a good confidence boost," Haff says.

We really haven't played up to our capability," he says. "After our losses to Jenks and Union, we got down on ourselves, and we haven't been playing to the best of our ability."

As of Oct. 14, the Rams were 2-4 overall and 1-2 in District 6AI-2. They opened the season in zero week with a 41-23 loss to Jenks before responding with a 59-14 rout of Bartlesville. A heartbreaking four-point loss (14-10) to Broken Arrow followed, then came defeats to Mustang (40-21) and Union (59-

"We started off the game with Jenks playing good defense and offense, but the offense was getting three-and-out shutouts and our defense wasn't getting any rest. That was tough in our defense, and I think we all just got tired and with it being the first game of the year. I don't think we were in the best of shape."

Owasso scored first on a pass play before Jenks moved out to a 21-7 lead. The Rams kicked a field goal and scored another TD, having missed the 2-point try, to draw with-



CONNOR HAFF: He's headed to Stephen F. Austin University.

in 21-16. Then Jenks blew the game

Against Broken Arrow, the Rams owned leads of 7-0 and 10-7 before coming up short.

Injuries incurred in that game hindered Owasso and, after an open date in week three, hurt them in the Mustang and Union games.

"They capitalized on that," Haff said in regards to the losses.

Quarterbacks Troy Hudson and Josh Proctor, first and second string, respectively, were hurt in those

Unfortunately, Owasso had another setback after the Putnam City North win, as it fell at home to against 6AI-2 leader Norman North possible.'



DEFENSIVE SPECIALIST: Owasso's Connor Haff battles an offensive lineman against Union on Sept. 30.

was next on the schedule as of submission of this story. Road games against Moore and Edmond North

Haff primarily plays defensive end for Owasso. He is also used some on the offensive line in their "Jumbo Package," a strategy the Rams use for red-zone situations.

He recalls some personal highlights against Mustang, but there are not any plays that stand out to him.

Haff enjoys the defensive mentality of the game.

"I like playing offense too, but I love playing defense and being able to hit guys. I like playing offensive line because if my team needs me, I Southmoore, 34-12. A home game like helping my team out in any way

Lady Rams Drop **First-Round Game**

Owasso appeared to be a frontrunner for the Class 6A championship in fast-pitch softball after going through the season with a 35-3 record.

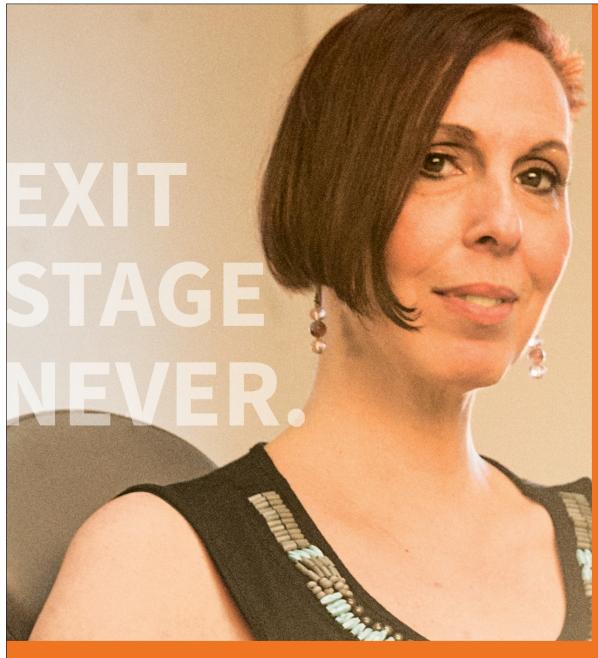
However, the Lady Rams could not get past the first round against Moore in the state tournament on Oct. 13. Owasso lost the game 5-3.

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Amy Meisner was diagnosed with MS in 1997. For someone who has always danced, MS would seem like the end. But great choreographer. Embracing Amy's undying passion, the National MS Society teamed up with LaTonya Swann to create share yours at WeAreStrongerThanMS.org.

Together We Are Stronger.



QB Dylan Bierman Leading Metro Christian

Patriots Win Regional Volleyball

By MIKE MOGUIN Sports Writer

Competing in Class 4A in its third year, Metro Christian Academy is having a banner year while contending for the District 4 title.

Quarterback Dylan Bierman (6-3, 203, senior) has led the way in the Patriots' passing attack. He gained some experience last year when his predecessor, Abe Anderson, was out due to injuries. New starters have also stepped up, continuing Metro's winning

The Patriots (6-1 overall, 3-1 in 4A-4 at this writing) have some of the biggest wins in program history this season, though they did incur their first loss when they fell 34-13 to Hilldale on Oct. 14. MCA opened the season with a major road win against 5A foe Coweta, beating the Tigers 27-15.

"We have been able to replace some pretty important kids from last year," Metro coach Jared McCoy says. "Our kids this year have stepped in and are filling in their shoes. We played real well early. Being able to beat Coweta in that first game gave us a lot of momentum to start the season. I think that win really helped us get started on the right foot.

Metro has also defeated Holland Hall, Poteau and Ft. Gibson. The win at Poteau was big for the Patriots, who lost 43-42 in over- and Griffin Lane (5-10, 165).

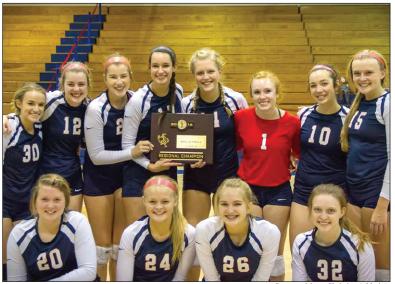
time to the Pirates in 2015, but captured a 48-21 rout this year.

In its last meeting at Ft. Gibson, MCA fell to the Tigers in 2014. This year at the same site, the game went by way of the Patriots, 35-13.

Bierman has passed for 20 touchdowns and nearly 1,900 yards through seven games this season. "Dylan stepped in for Abe and has done well. We've always had some receivers who can run and catch, but there have been a number of guys who have produced consistently this season," McCoy says. 'Defenses haven't been able to key just on one player, plus our offensive line has played really well. We have a bunch of seniors up there and those guys have been starting for three years.

"Dylan has been very poised in the pocket," McCoy says. "His ability to take care of the ball and know when to get rid of it has been extremely important to us as an offense. He's a big strong kid and he's got an extremely strong arm. He has made really good decisions. He has been able to go through his read progressions quite efficiently, throwing well above 60 percent of his passes. The touchdown to interception ratio is phenomenal."

Bierman has seven different receivers in the Patriots' air attack in which to throw. They include seniors Donovan Nicholson (5-8, 165), Dalton Smallwood (5-7, 145)



CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM: MCA volleyball celebrates its regional

championship and a berth in the state tournament on Sept. 29. Complementing Bierman in the Lady Patriots finish runner-up

backfield is running back Robbie Johnson (5-10, 195, senior). "He's been phenomenal," McCoy says of Johnson, who ran for 150 yards on 15 carries and four touchdowns against Ft. Gibson and has about 600 yards rushing on the season.

"We're predominantly a passing team, but Robbie Johnson has been extremely important to keep us more balanced," McCoy says.

Protecting Metro up front are senior linemen Jack Roe (6-4, 229), Cooper Rogers (6-1, 205), Sam Wales (64, 230), Coleman Davis (6-1, 200) and Sam Hatley (6-4, 188).

At this writing, MCA had games remaining at Broken Bow, home against Will Rogers and at Sallisaw to finish the regular season.

Metro Christian was ranked No. 1 by OSSAArankings.com in Class 4A volleyball through most of the year. But the Lady Patriots were forced to settle for runnerup after getting swept 3-0 by Christian Heritage in the state championship game on Oct. 8.

"I'm extremely proud of this Metro coach Beth Roe says. "They took advantage of every opportunity presented to them this season and entered the playoffs in the best possible position. They had a great run at State, and gave everything they had. I wish for them that they could have won that last match, but to be runner-up is a huge accomplishment."

It was a record-setting season Lady Patriots.



GROUND GAME: Metro running back Robbie Johnson (left) carries the ball after taking a handoff from quarterback Dylan Bierman.

for Metro, who won the regional tournament it hosted at Woody West Fieldhouse on Sept. 29, getting sweeps of Locust Grove and Berryhill. At the state tourney, the Lady Patriots beat Bethany (3-1) in the first round and Lincoln Christian (3-2) in the semifinals before the finals loss

Seniors Riley Roth, Kara Speer, Mary Mills, Jenna Smith, Mallory Jackson, Sophia Clark, Ashlynn Groves and Hannah Gray played their final seasons as





Area Athletic Directors Honored for Service

By TERRELL LESTER Editor at Large

It's been a good year, a very good year, for Emily Barkley and Gil Cloud.

Barkley, director of athletics for Union Public Schools, was the recipient of the Oklahoma Coaches Association's Athletics Director of the Year award during the organization's summer clinic in Tulsa in July.

At the same time, the Oklahoma Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association singled out Cloud, director of athletics for Tulsa Public Schools, for its State Award of Merit.

In each case, the recognition added to a rich and rewarding

In March, Emily and her husband, Justin Barkley, welcomed their first child, Sutton Caroline.

Justin Barkley, basketball coach at Rogers State University, received Heartland Conference Coach of the Year honors after leading his team to the league championship.

In July, Justin Barkley saw his RSU athletics program confirmed for full NCAA Division II membership after years of competing within the NAÏA.

Emily Barkley has been the overseer of athletics for the state's second-largest high school since 2012.

"It has been an exciting year for our family," she said, calling the OCA award "an honor."

"The OCA has a long tradition of recognizing outstanding coaches in our profession and I am humbled to be included amongst them by this honor," she said.

The week-long OCA convention and clinic registered more than 8,200 coaches and hosted more



EMILY BARKLEY: At her Union High School office.

than 450 graduated high school

nine sports.

athletes for All-State games in

Similar to the good fortune

enjoyed by Emily Barkley, Cloud,

too, can celebrate a run of mile-

Cloud, AD in for Tulsa Public

Schools since 2012 and a 1964

graduate of Will Rogers High

School, started the year off in

January with induction into the

In the same week, he and his

Then, in the same July ceremony

that honored the elder Cloud, their

son, Matt, director of athletics at

Tahlequah High School, received

the Eastern Oklahoma Newcomer

AD of the Year award from the

OIAAA, sharing the honor with

"I am so pleased and happy for

Matt," Cloud said. "He has

accomplished a great deal for the

Steve Dunn of Broken Arrow.

Tahlequah Public Schools.

wife, Vickie, celebrated their 50th

TPS Athletics Hall of Fame.

wedding anniversary.

stones within his family.

"It is always more meaningful when one is recognized by his peers.'

The State Award of Merit is the highest honor bestowed by the OIAAA. "I am very humbled," Cloud said.

"I have been very fortunate to work with a great staff which shares the values that we want our students to have as they grow.

"This year has been very rewarding professionally and personally for me and my family," Cloud said.

Ten new members were inducted as the 50th class into the OCA Hall of Fame. Owasso baseball coach Larry Turner and former Broken Arrow and Jenks football coach Ron Lancaster were honored, along with 1960 Tulsa Central graduate Gary Howard, retired as football coach at University of Central Oklahoma.

They were joined by Danny Daniels, Hominy; Tony Duck, Sulphur; Jim Ferguson, Alva; Bruce Harrington, Lawton Eisenhower; Clarence Madden, Lawton; Tim Reynolds, Chickasha, and Doug Tolin, Oklahoma Baptist University. Other awards from the Oklahoma Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association presented to area individuals:

National Council of Secondary Schools AD of the Year - Ed Garrett, Sand Springs.

Tom Westbrook Distinguished Service Award - Tommy Burns,



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GAME-WINNING TOUCHDOWN: Tulsa Golden Hurricane quarterback Dane Evans goes 14 yards untouched for the winning touchdown in overtime against SMU in Tulsa Oct. 7. The Hurricane won the thriller, 43-40.



READY TO LOAD: TU freshman football player Jimmy Nelson helps to load food to go to Emergency Infant Services during Lift Up America. For the sixth straight year, TU athletics have teamed with Lift Up America and Tyson Foods in donating protein to more than 50 partner programs serviced through the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma.



LIFTING UP AMERICA: University of Tulsa athletes and coaches listen to Eileen Bradshaw, executive director of the Community Food Bank of Oklahoma, as they get ready to unload food to fight hunger in the Tulsa area on Oct. 10 on the TU campus.



NEW OILER MARTELL: The Tulsa Oilers have acquired experienced defenseman Brandon Martell from the Alaska Aces in exchange for goaltender Kevin Carr, as announced by Oilers Head Coach Jason Christie. Martell, 27, enters his fourth full pro season. The 6'3, 212 lbs. defenseman played four seasons of college hockey at Ohio State University from 2009-13.



GAINING YARDAGE: Jalen McClesky gains valuable yardage for the Oklahoma State Cowboys against Central Michigan on September 10 in Stillwater, but it wasn't enough as the Cowboys were upset by the visitors in the last seconds 30-27 on one of the most controversial plays in



TENNIS TALENT: The University of Tulsa Men's Tennis team wrapped up play at the Saint Francis Health System ITA Men's All American against high-level competition, competing in two singles matches and one doubles match on the day. TU's Or Ram-Harel, above, was a top competitor and is one of the best players in the nation.



PHILIP MONTGOMERY SHOW AT MAMADOU'S: Mamadou's Restaurant in downtown Tulsa is the home of TU Coach Philip Montgomery's weekly radio show, held Mondays and hosted by awardwinning broadcaster Bruce Howard. Above, Montgomery, left, talks about how his team overcame a 31-0 deficit to beat Fresno State, 48-41 in overtime. The show was held Sept. 26.



TAILGATE TIME: The annual GTR Tailgate party was held on the TU campus before the SMU game Oct. 7. Enjoying the fun are, from left, Jon Terry of SRO Productions, Barbara Terry, Harry Ramsey of Ramsey Chiropractic, GTR Managing Editor Emily Ramsey, and Ed Richard and Kim Richard of Hebert's Specialty Meats.



CHEERS TO TULSA: Video producer and columnist Beth Turner is all smiles as she enjoys the annual GTR tailgate party on the TU Campus before the SMU game.



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GTR 2016 COMPOSITE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

<u>HOME</u> NSU DATE Oct. 7 Holland Hall 10 Cascia Hall 48 Sept. 23 Edmond North 0 Victory Christian 56 Nebraska-Kearney Sept. 1 Sept. 2 Union 51 Oct. 22 Colcord 0 Broken Arrow 7 Bixby 70 Liberty 12 Rejoice Christian 76 Oct. 27 Memorial Union 42 Westmore 28 Tahlequah Claremore 62 B.T. Washington 47 Holland Hall 38 Chouteau-Mazie 14 Summit Christian 0 Jenks 38 Bixby 34 Hale 6 Blinn College NEO Bartlesville 14 Owasso 59 Ponca City 0 Oct. 28 Kiefer 18 Edmond Memorial Broken Arrow East Central 27 B.T. Washington 21 Midwest City 14 Shawnee 54 SMU 40 TU 43 (OT) Putnam City North Union Bishop Kelley 28 Arkansas 30 OSU 38 Claremore 47 Collinsville 10 Oct. 8 Alabama 49 Moore East Central 6 Owasso Edison 6 Central 27 Bishop Kelley 42 Jenks B.T. Washington Memorial 0 Pryor 32 Iowa State 31 Westmoore Memorial 34 Glenpool 6 OU 45 Bixby Texas 40 Edison 0 Tahlequah Sequoyah 3 McLain 12 Central 40 Tecumseh 14 NEO 60 Cisco College 26 Coweta East Central Bishop Kelley Edison Wagoner 34 Victory Christian 49 Bristow 48 Cascia Hall 7 Emporia State 47 NSU 27 Hale Memorial 0 Noble Lincoln Christian 6 Jones 42 Rogers 20 McLain 20 Broken Bow 56 Oct. 13 Collinsville 28 Miami 21 Cascia Hall Seeworth Academy 0 Webster 33 East Central 15 Noble 48 Grove Okmulgee 28 Summit Christian 6 Rogers 42 Hulbert 43 Vinita 6 Grove 40 Metro Christian 48 Poteau 21 Cascia Hall 41 McLain Oologah Webster 25 Sperry 47 McLain 14 Central Harrah Lincoln Christian 48 Sequoyah-Tahlequah 28 Victory Christian 47 Metro Christian OU 23 Houston 33 Chouteau-Mazie 8 Sept. 3 Rogers Louisiana Tech 20 Arkansas 21 Holland Hall 30 Ketchum 7 Rejoice Christian 0 Afton 41 Verdigris Webster Victory Christian 42 OSU 24 Lincoln Christian Owasso 12 San Jose State 10 NEO 45 TU 45 Kansas 0 Oct. 14 Southmoore 34 Locust Grove NMMI 52 Sept. 24 Union 27 Norman North 30 Salina Victory Christian Baylor 35 NSU 19 Washburn 38 TU 48 Fresno State 41 (2OT) Broken Arrow 6 Edmond Santa Fe 18 Colcord Holland Hall Navarro College 46 Fort Hays State 35 Sept. 9 Owasso 10 Broken Arrow 14 NEO 51 Bixby 60 Ponca City 6 Summitt Christian Woodland Rejoice Christian Jenks 35 NSU 7 Coweta 34 Fairland Union 28 Edison 14 Bixby 34 Bentonville (AR) 44 Arkansas 24 Texas A&M 45 Skiatook 21 Bishop Kelley 28 Memphis Cascia Hall 27 Pryor 47 Hilldale 34 Hale 6 Metro Christian 13 Bartlesville 7 Sept. 30 Union 59 Owasso 3 Kansas OUOSU Broken Arrow 24 Jenks 62 West Virginia Edison 7 Memorial 28 Hale 10 Poteau 59 Bixby 42 Muskogee 45 Cleveland 26 Central 28 NSU Missouri Southern Bishop McGuinness 14 Bartlesville Bishop Kelley 7 B.T. Washington 45 Fort Gibson 57 B.T. Washington Sapulpa 0 Rogers 0 Memorial 13 Dewey 39 Lincoln Christian 14 Central 42 McLain 28 Claremore 2 Webster 7 East Central McAllester Oklahoma Christian 7 Skiatook 39 Iowa State OU Metro 54 Hale 0 Sperry 35 Edison 25 Lincoln Christian 43 Holland Hall 7 East Central 7 Kansas 14 Holland Hall 51 Owasso Edmond North NOAH 6 Summit Christian 8 Hominy 55 Arkansas 34 Jenks Mustang Webster 50 Pryor 21 Bishop Kelley 31 Summit Christian 0 Edmond Santa Fe Kelleyville 19 Oct. 15 Tuttle 55 Ole Miss 30 Central 38 Union Cascia Hall 56 Houston 38 Sperry 38 Victory 0 McLain 7 Sapulpa Broken Arrow Sallisaw 58 Metro Christian 41 Kansas State 17 NSU 29 OU 38 NW Missouri St. 74 Sept. 10 B.T. Washington 7 IMG Academy (FL) 49 Rogers 7 Stilwell 7 Sand Springs Bixby TU 3 Ohio State 41 Edison Durant OU 59 Coffeyville 42 Louisiana Monroe 17 Jay 13 Lincoln Christian 62 NEO 31 Bishop Kelley Tahlequah Arkansas 41 TCU 38 (2OT) Webster 6 Mannford 34 Oct. 20 Union Southmoore Memorial Hale Central Michigan 30 Trinity Valley 29 Cascia Hall Summit Christian 48 Liberty 29 Victory Christian 56 Norman North Oologah Blanchard OSU 27 Owasso NEO 30 Broken Arrow Central Ketchum 14 Norman Lindenwood 31 NSU 35 Rejoice Christian 49 Bartlesville McLain Quapaw 8 Bixby Catoosa Oct. 1 Arkansas 52 Sept. 16 Har-ber Springdale 22 Jenks 44 Alcorn State 10 B.T. Washington Sand Springs Metro Christian Sallisaw Bixby 56 Putnam City 20 OU 42 TCU 46 Shawnee Edison Stilwell Rogers Tahlequah Claremore-Sequoyah Bishop Kelley 35 Sapulpa 7 Texas 31 Hale Webster Claremore 28 B.T. Washington 43 NSU 14 NEO 22 Lincoln Christian Holland Hall Edison 7 Missouri Western St. 45 Catoosa Cascia Hall Keys Shawnee 6 Victory Christian Kilgore College 31 Ada Central NW Classen 52 Owasso 43 Hale 47 Oct. 6 Putnam City North 0 Vinita McLain Foyil Rejoice Christian East Central 27 Skiatook 49 Hilldale 63 Porter Summit Christian Rogers 0 Poteau Rogers Oct. 7 Metro Christian Broken Bow Memorial 55 NOAH 20 Moore 3 Union 52 Nov. 5 Florida Arkansas Cascia Hall 32 Jenks 59 Edmond Memorial 21 Millwood 34 Sequoyah-Tahlequah East Carolina Victory Christian Star Spencer 6 Westmore 28 Central 47 Broken Arrow 36 Lincoln Christian Westville OSU Kansas State Liberty Summit Christian Holland Hall 7 Metro 37 Sapulpa 17 Bixby 62 Hominy Central Missouri NSU Bishop Kelley 7 Muskogee 23 Claremore 21 LSU Rogers 26 Nov. 12 Arkansas McLain 0 Mounds Seminole 14 Lincoln Christian 50 B.T. Washington 6 Oct. 21 Yukon Jenks Baylor Summit Christian 0 Capitol Hill Texas Tech Rejoice Christian 48 Memorial 35 Skiatook 22 Webster OSU Collinsville 49 Sept. 17 East Central North Carolina A&T 21 TU 58 Hale 12 Glenpool TU Navy Durant 35 Bishop Kelley Pittsburg 38 OSU 45 East Central 6 Memorial NSU Central Oklahoma Texas State 3 Arkansas 42 Edison 7 Central 14 McAlleter 36 Holland Hall Arkansas Mississippi State Salina Rejoice Christian Arkansas Ohio State 45 OU 24 Bethany 35 Hulbert TU UCF NSU 37 West Virginia Pittsburg State 38 (OT) Cascia Hall 63 Oct. 22 OU Miami 7 Auburn NEO 14 Tyler JČ 65 McLain 0 OSU TCU Wagoner 55 Tulane Metro Christian 13 Sept. 23 Owasso 21 Mustang 40 Fort Gibson 35 OSU Kansas Nov. 26 Cinncinnati TU Missouri Broken Arrow 33 Texas Tech Yukon 9 Lincoln Christian 75 Inola 59 OU Arkansas Berryhill 42 Webster 0 Arkansas Baptist Dec. 3 Norman 0



THUNDER IN TULSA: OKC's Victor Oladipo goes around a Memphis Grizzlie in the Oct. 13 NBA exhibition game at the BOK Center in Tulsa as Thunder Coach Billy Donovan watches the action. A crowd of 17,022 witnessed the game, the eighth exhibition the Thunder has played in Tulsa over the years. Memphis won the game, 110-94.





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Local Businesses Honored at Small Business Summit

The Tulsa Small Business Connection held its third annual Small Business Summit and Awards Lunch, celebrating the impact of small business in northeast Oklahoma.

The Tulsa Regional Chamber created the Tulsa Small Business Connection with the mission to educate, empower and expand small business in northeast Oklahoma.

Small business makes up about 85 percent of business in the region, creates two out of every three jobs and supports 55,000 jobs, pouring money back into local communities.

The annual Crystal Star Awards honor the region's small business leaders. The following businesses and individuals received Crystal Star Awards:

• Small Business Person of the

Year: Melinda Stinnett, Stinnett and Associates

- Women in Business Champion: Sangita Patel Chaterjee, 3S Hospitality
- Young Entrepreneur of the Year: Dixie Agostino, Switchgear Search and Recruiting
- Entrepreneurial Success: DJ Patterson, EcoGreen Mobile Detailing
- Manufacturer of the Year: Brooke Hamilton, NPI
- Veteran Business Champion: Travis Jones, Career Development Partners
- Diversity Business Advocate: Stephanie Elder, Gallant Background Checks
- Family Owned Business of the Year: Allison Dickens, Ludger's Bavarian Cakery and Coffeehouse

• Pioneer Award: Barrett Waller, Waller & Company Public Relations

- Lifetime Achievement Award, Tier 1: White River Fish Market
- Lifetime Achievement Award, Tier 2: Tulsa Area United Way

In addition to the Crystal Star Awards, the event featured keynote speakers Bill Graham, president of Graham Communications, and Brian Byrnes, senior vice president of sales and marketing for the Oklahoma City Thunder. Local small business experts led breakout sessions in areas such as social media, leadership, customer service and sales training.

"The summit is an opportunity for small businesses to be recognized for their impact in our community," says Kent Williams, chair of the Tulsa Small Business Connection.



CRYSTAL STAR WINNERS: Small Business Award winners gathered after the recent Small Business Summit and Awards Luncheon held at the Marriott Tulsa Hotel Southern Hills.

"It also provides the chance to connect small businesses to the resources they need to succeed and be eligible to compete for to other small business owners who Oklahoma SBA Awards.

have been in their shoes."

Crystal Star Award winners will

urs Opens Full-Service Store in Tulsa

Although Tulsa retail icon Miss Jackson's is gone, the shop's fur and quality service have returned to Tulsa. Koslow's operated the fur department in Miss Jackson's for over 30 years and opened its own full-service fur store in South Tulsa on Sept. 29.

Koslow's was given little notice about Miss Jackson's closing, but the company's commitment to Tulsa has not wavered.

'We never left Tulsa. Immediately after Miss Jackson's closed we held a hotel sale and moved into a temporary space so we could continue to service the needs of our fur patrons who knew us from Utica Square," says Cliff Katsamakis, owner of Koslow's Furs of Tulsa. "We are invested in this community and look

selling furs and women's apparel in Tulsa.

By opening this store, Koslow's is preserving jobs that would have been lost. One employee who worked at Miss Jackson's for 36 years is able to stay in the field she loves.

Koslow's Furs of Tulsa grand opening weekend offered customers 20 percent off all merchandise, with an additional portion of sales being donated to Dress for Success Tulsa.

"Koslow's Furs of Tulsa understands when women feel their best they are more likely to succeed," says Ronda Adkisson, executive director of Dress for Success Tulsa. "As we celebrate 15 years of serving this community, we're proud to partner with Koslow's, another organiza-

forward to at least 30 more years of tion with a long-standing commitment to Tulsa."

> Dress for Success Tulsa empowers women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support and professional attire tools to help women thrive in work and in

Koslow's new store is located at 6528 East 101st St. in Tulsa.

The grand opening event featured a ribbon cutting with the Tulsa Regional Chamber, clients of Dress for Success Tulsa as models, refreshments, and a preview of Tulsa's finest furs and women's apparel.

About Koslow's Furs of Tulsa

Koslow's Furs of Tulsa, former operator of the fur department at Miss Jackson's, features a unique



GRAND OPENING: Ladies from Dress for Success Tulsa pose in Koslow's Furs of Tulsa merchandise with store owner Cliff Katsamakis. A portion of sales from its grand opening weekend went to Dress for Success Tulsa. Please see page 33 for more information about Dress For Success.

selection of boutique furs and accessories as well as designer women's apparel. Koslow's has been in busi- koslowsfurstulsa.com.

ness since 1904, originating in Fort Worth, Texas. To learn more, visit

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America Needs America's Natural Gas

policy conference is planned to be heavy trucks – the 18-wheelers

held in Detroit Recently, I visited there and the "energy buzz" in Detroit seems to be focusing a great deal on fuel cells, electric vehicles, and natural gas vehicles.

When it comes to fuel cells, natural gas will be a main source to obtain hydrogen which is used along with oxygen. Natural gas will serve as one of the power genera-

tion sources to provide electricity ing along with other purposes. for electric vehicle charging. There are over 130,000 natural gas vehicles (NGVs) on U.S. roads today.

Energy Watch

By MARK A. STANSBERRY

which move goods around America.'

Items made from natural gas include fercarpet. furniture, detergent, lenses, footwear, signs, sweaters and electronics. About one-half of the 120 million U.S. households are direct customers of natural gas. Natural gas is used for home heating, cook-

Since September 2015, associat-Northeast, the country's fastestgrowing gas-producing region, ral gas is a fuel capable of offset- about 2.5 billion cubic feet a day,

Platts Analytics Bentek, (Wall Street Journal 10/12/16).

That drop-off is enough fuel to enterprise generally. power roughly 13 million U.S. homes daily, and one reason allows the U.S. to "strive for enermonthly heating costs are poised to rise. Natural gas heats about tilizer, paint, half of all U.S. homes, while theme of the IEPC energy policy another third are heated by electricity, which is increasingly genanti-freeze, erated by burning gas, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Natural gas for November delivery closed at national and international atten-\$3.3470 million British thermal tion. Ted Turner purchased severunits on Tuesday, Oct. 11.

> are switching from coal to a Congressmen and Fortune 500 cleaner-burning natural gas. There were 94 rigs drilling gas wells in the US as of this writing. Dr. Eric Claeys, professor at George Mason University, in his Academy Award winning producbook entitled "The Case for er, MeiLi Hefner and I were pro-Shale," states, "...in a system of ducers of The GET (The Grand

free enterprise, owners use their Energy Transition) documentary ed-gas production outside the land to make their own lives bet- based upon Hefner's book. We ter, and everyone benefits when believe that it is important that energy companies increase the natural gas be a focus in the As Boone Pickens states, "natu- has fallen by nearly 9 percent, or supply of energy available for all. national energy debate. The shale revolution needs more Having been in the natural gas

American citizens why. And so does the American system of free

Natural gas is the fuel which gy efficiency and environmental preservation" as has been the conference, which I founded and have chaired since 1992.

Robert Hefner III's book entitled The Grand Energy Transition in the past few years has brought al hundred copies of Hefner's More and more power producers book and had them distributed to executives. Turner stated about the book, "If you care about the future you must read the book".

In 2012, Gray Frederickson,

The 26th Annual IEPC energy ting imported diesel to power according to energy data firm champions who can remind industry for close to 40 years, it is my strong belief that America Needs Natural Gas. In Los Angeles, I have seen how natural gas is making an impact. I have seen up and down the busy streets of Los Angeles the nation's largest fleet of buses in the country running on compressed natural gas. There are more than 2,800 NGV buses in operation within Los Angeles.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration forecasts natural gas consumption will increase form 325 billion cubic feet in 2015 to 390 Bcf/d by 2025 and to more 500 Bcf/d by 2040. Liquefied natural gas is projected to account for a larger share of the world's natural gas trade.

We need to strengthen our support for the Natural Gas Industry. need to Advocacy/Education. America Needs America's Energy! And America Needs America's Natural Gas!

Award winning auther Mark A, Stansberry is Chairman of The Groupand Energy

Oil & Natural Gas Study Shows Industry Responsible for \$65.7 Billion of State Output

natural gas industry in Oklahoma energy sector. has been reaffirmed through an updated report. The study, "Economic Impact of the Oil & Gas Industry on Oklahoma," shows that almost 150,000 Oklahomans earned \$15.6 billion in wages or self-employment income from oil and natural gas activity in 2015, and that public education received \$331 million in oil and gas severance tax revenue.

Activity in the industry supports an estimated \$28.6 billion in additional spillover output of goods and services in other industry sectors statewide, means that approximately 27 per- pushed state per capita income to president of RegionTrack, who study, "Economic Assessment of information, cent of total state household 95 percent of the U.S. average in authored the study. "The oil and Oil & Gas Tax Policy in chamber.com."

"Looking at both the economic and tax revenue impact of the oil and natural gas industry, we can see that this sector continues to make a huge contribution to Oklahoma," says Fred Morgan, president and CEO of the State Chamber of Oklahoma. "As the report update clearly demonstrates, even with the drastic price reductions we've seen in the past couple of years, oil and natural gas is still the most important contributor to economic growth in Oklahoma.'

The report finds that oil and

that in 2015 the industry spent largest single source of state tax \$10 billion to complete an esti- revenue, and important shifts mated 1,822 wells in Oklahoma have taken place in the types and at a cost of \$5.46 million per amounts of taxes paid by the well. Over the past five years, industry. The channels of ecoaccording to the report, drilling nomic influence on the state expenditures in Oklahoma economy have also changed, as totaled an estimated \$61 billion, ownership and investment in the or an average of \$12.2 billion industry are now as important as

"For policymakers, the volatile source of economic stimulus." and ever-changing environment for oil and natural gas makes balthe state's trademark industry more challenging than ever," says

employment and wages as a

This study was first conducted two-and-a-half years ago, but an ancing the need for tax revenue updated version was prepared for with the desire to foster growth in the State Chamber of Oklahoma in response to the extreme slide in prices and resulting revenue according to the report. This natural gas income gains have Dr. Mark Snead, economist and loss to the state. The earlier

The importance of the oil and earnings are supported by the recent years. It also determined natural gas industry remains the Oklahoma", was prepared by RegionTrack, an Oklahoma Citybased economic research firm specializing in regional economic forecasting and analysis. They also prepared the update.

The report and executive summary can be viewed online at the State Chamber Research Foundation website.

About the State Chamber of Oklahoma

Representing more than 1,500 businesses Oklahoma 350,000 employees, the State Chamber of Oklahoma has been the state's leading advocate for business since 1926. For more information, visit www.okstate-

New Tenants Open at Woodland Hills Mall

Simon, a leading global retail real estate company, announces that Brow Art 23, Flip Flop Shops and ThinkGeek are now open at Woodland Hills Mall.

Brow Art 23 is now open on the Upper Level at the Pinecone Entrance. The salon offers a varietv of services including eyebrow threading, facial threading, body threading and waxing, ckin care additional information, visit www.browart23.com

Flip Flop Shops has opened its doors in a 455-square-foot space on the lower level near Dillard's. The retailer offers shoppers the hottest brands and latest styles of flip flops and casual footwear. The laid-back brand strives to "live, work and play with toes exposed while wearing the freedom of flip flops on our feet." For additional details, www.flipflopshops.com.

Online retailer ThinkGeek has opened its first location in these fine retailers to our tenant Oklahoma at Woodland Hills Mall. ThinkGeek offers fans a wide assortment of nerd-interest inspired items, gadgets, apparel and other unique licensed products from some of the most our community and compliment admired pop culture brands the overall retail experience at including Star Wars, StarTrek, our center."



THINKGEEK: The first ThinkGee location in Oklahoma opened recently at Woodland Hills Mall. ThinkGeek offers nerd-interest inspired items, gadgets, apparel and other licensed products.

Game of Thrones, Marvel, Nintendo and Minecraft. Learn real estate ownership, managemore at www.thinkgeek.com. "We are thrilled to welcome

lineup," says Scott Budge, mall manager at Woodland Hills Mall. "The additions of Brow Art 23, Flip Flop Shops and ThinkGeek certainly appeal to

Simon is a global leader in retail ment and development and an S&P100 company (Simon Property Group, NYŠE:SPG). Its industry-leading retail properties and investments across North America, Europe and Asia provide shopping experiences for millions of consumers every day and generate billions in annual retail sales. For more information, visit simon.com.



BROW ART 23: The salon, located on the upper level of Woodland Hills Mall, offers a variety of services, including eyebrow threading, facial threading, body threading and waxing, henna tattoos, and skin care.

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Business Leaders Inducted into TU Hall of Fame

College of Business inducted three business leaders into its Hall of Fame during a special ceremony on Oct. 6 at Gilcrease Museum. Robin F. Ballenger, Jake Henry Jr. and Doug McMillon were named outstanding business leaders for 2016.

The Business Hall of Fame annually honors the widespread contributions of outstanding Tulsa business leaders who shape and strengthen the university, community and econ-

The Collins College of Business Hall of Fame has inducted 47 individuals since its establishment in

About the 2016 Inductees:

Robin F. Ballenger

Robin F. Ballenger is currently the chairman of Flint Resources Company, LLC, and president of the Flint Family Foundation.

She was the third generation of the Flint family to lead Flintco, a diverse, national construction company with offices in seven cities, until its sale in January 2013. She served as chair of the board of Flintco, LLC, and its subsidiaries. Her special interest was Flintco's Native American work, and under her leadership, the company did construction for more than 25 Indian Nations across the United States.

Through Ballenger's leadership, Flintco consistently ranked in Engineering News' top 100 contractors in the nation and won the 2006 U.S. Department of Commerce Business Development Agency's Minority Construction Firm of the Year Award. Her distinguished leadership was further evidenced by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development's 2006 American Indian Business Owner of the Year Award, and the Greater Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission's Charles Chibitty Community contributor award for

American lives. Ballenger won The Journal Record's prestigious 2007 Woman of The Year Award; and in 2010, she was inducted into the Tulsa Hall of Fame.

An enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation, Ballenger served as president of the Cherokee Nation Foundation, a tribally chartered nonprofit and has served on the Cherokee Nation Citizens' Compensation Committee. She is a past board member of the Cherokee Heritage Center.

Current board memberships include Tulsa Community College Board of Regents, River Parks Authority, Clarehouse and the Tulsa City-County Library Trust.

Jake Henry Jr.

Jake Henry Jr. was appointed president and chief executive officer of Saint Francis Health System (SFHS) on July 1, 2002. Henry and his executive team have led SFHS through a time of tremendous growth and success made more memorable by the turmoil occurring in the healthcare

Since 2002, SFHS has reinvested over \$1.6 billion to expand, update and replace facilities and equipment. Net worth of the company has increased from \$433 million in 2002 to over \$2.0 billion in 2015, a 341 percent increase. From 2002 to 2014, a total benefit of \$625 million has been returned to the Tulsa community and surrounding region.

Henry obtained his bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. He gained his master's degree in health administration from Trinity University in San Antonio, where he was president of his class and received the Distinguished Student Award.

Henry has over 40 years' experience in healthcare administration. Prior to his time at SFHS, he served Healthcare Executives. as president and chief executive



JAKE HENRY JR.

Health System in Corpus Christi, Texas. Previous to that, Henry served a long tenure with the St. Joseph Health System of Orange, California, where he was responsible for the system's hospitals in Texas and northern and southern California. Henry served as president of the University Health System in Lubbock and had his first ČEO position at age 30 in San Angelo, Texas, where he built the 125-bed Angelo Community

Henry has served as chair of the Tulsa Årea United Way (2007) and the Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce (2013). He is a director the Children's Foundation board, the William K. Warren Medical Research Center and Montereau, Inc. He is chair of the board of directors of CommunityCare Managed Healthcare Plans of Oklahoma and a member of the American Bank and Trust board of directors.

Hospital.

He has served as a member of the American Hospital Association's House of Delegates and is a fellow of the American College of

Henry served as an army combat officer of the six-hospital Spohn medic with the 1st Calvary Division



ROBIN F. BALLENGER

Kathy for 47 years. They have two

October, 1966-67.



DOUG MCMILLON

(Airmobile) in South Vietnam in son-in-law Ray have two daughters, Abby (10) and Caroline (8). **Doug McMillon**

management team that is working to deliver Walmart's mission of "saving people money so they can live better." Under his leadership, Walmart is bringing together its stores, logistics network and digital commerce capabilities in new ways to empower Hospital customers to shop whenever, wherever and however they want. From February 2009 to February

2014, McMillon served as president and chief executive officer of Walmart International, a fast-growing segment of Walmart's overall operations, with more than 6,400 stores and nearly 800,000 associates in 26 countries outside the United States. From 2006 to 2009, he served as president and chief executive officer of Sam's Club, an operating segment of Walmart, with sales of more than \$46 billion annually during his tenure.

McMillon is a longtime champion of Walmart's customers, its associ-Henry has been married to his wife ates and the company's culture. In 1984, he started out as an hourly daughters, Christine Brooke and summer associate in a Walmart dis-Katherine Ames (Ami). Ami and tribution center. In 1990, while pursuing his MBA, he rejoined the company as an assistant manager in a Tulsa Walmart store before moving to merchandising as a buyer trainee. As CEO, McMillon leads a strong He went on to serve in successful senior leadership roles in all of Walmart's business segments. He remains a merchant at heart and understands where customers around the world are heading next.

McMillon has served on the board of directors for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., since 2009 and currently is the chair of the executive and global compensation committees. In addition, he serves on the boards of directors of the Consumer Goods Forum, the U.S.-China Business Council and Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. He also serves on the advisory board of the Tsinghua University School of Economics and Management in Beijing, China; the executive committee of Business Roundtable; and the Dean's Advisory Board for the Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas.



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SOLAR POWER AT TU: The University of Tulsa's Case Tennis Center is being powered by solar energy in partnership with Public Service Co. of Oklahoma. On Sept. 28, TU and PSO officials announced completion of the four-month project, one of the state's largest rooftop solar installations. From left at the announcement are Susan Neal, TU vice president for public affairs, research and economic development; Stuart Solomon, PSO president and chief operating officer; Vince Westbrook, director of TU tennis; and Kylah McNabb, energy policy adviser to Oklahoma's secretary of energy and environment. A photo of the rooftop project is in the background. The implementation of solar power supports TU's ongoing efforts to promote a campus culture focused on increasing sustainability. TU continues to lead sustainability efforts among educational institutions in Oklahoma.



ONEOK FIELD VISITORS: Jason George of the Tulsa Drillers and Roughnecks hosted Rotary Club of Tulsa members recently during the club's Business Visitation Day. From left are George, Kathy Gorrell, Elaine Dishman, Del Snoberger, Jeff Hassell, Chris Odom, Bob Spears, Chris McKeown, Tom Klenda and Brent Blackstock.

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The **Tulsa** Garden Center announces the appointment of Laura Chalus as

executive director. Chalus specializes in successful fundraising and project manage-



CHALUS

ment while bringing an entrepreneurial background to her knowledge, skills, and experience in community relations, non profit administration, grants management, and database management. Chalus is passionate about utilizing innovation, best practices, and collaborative partnerships to improve her community by leveraging limited resources and minimizing duplication of services.

She has served on numerous nonprofit boards including Living Arts of Tulsa, Youth Services of Tulsa, the Signature Symphony, Metropolitan Tulsa Urban League, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals, among others. Chalus has been named in "The Hot 100" by a local publication and was a mayoral appointee to the Citizens Commission for City Government. She is also a graduate of Leadership Tulsa, Class 42, and served as a Baldrige Examiner for the Oklahoma Quality Award Foundation.

Chalus holds a master's degree in human relations from the University of Oklahoma as well as an undergraduate degree from Oklahoma State University.

Jenks resident Lloyd W. Landreth was named "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers, the oldest and most respected peer-review publication in the legal profession. Landreth practices with the law firm GableGotwals. Landreth was honored for his work in environmental litigation in the Tulsa area. Only one

lawyer from each practice area is chosen for this award from each metropolitan area.

Landreth also named to the 2017 Best Lawyers list for his work in environmental litigation and natural



LANDRETH

resources law. Selections for both of these awards are based upon voting averages received during peerreview assessments.

GableGotwals is a full-service law firm of more than 90 attorneys representing a diversified client base in Oklahoma, the Southwest and across the nation. The firm has offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma City and San Antonio, Texas.

Law Firm Hall Estill announces the addition of Cassia C. Carr, Ruth E. Stevens and Carson K. **Glass** as associates to the firm's Tulsa office.

Carr will serve as part of Hall Estill's litigation practice in its Tulsa office. Prior to joining Hall Estill, Carr served as editor of the Tulsa Law Review and president of the Women's Law Caucus at the University of Tulsa College of Law.

Stevens will primarily practice in the firm's corporate/commercial law practice area. She graduated from University of Oklahoma College of Law with highest honors in 2016 and also graduated summa cum laude in 2013 from the University of Oklahoma with her bachelor's in political science.

Carson K. Glass, who will practice in the litigation area, joined Hall Estill's Tulsa office after graduating from the University of Texas School of Law in 2016. While in law school she served as Symposium Associate for the Texas Journal of Oil, Gas &

BOK Financial Corporation announces that Brad Emmons, CFA. has been named treasurer of the company, effective immediately. Emmons replaces Marty



EMMONS

Grunst, who was promoted to chief risk officer earlier this year. Emmons is a 19-year veteran of

BOK Financial and served under Grunst as senior vice president, asset/liability manager. He is a CFA charterholder with experience in balance sheet management, capital planning and stress testing, and interest rate derivative He joined BOK hedging. Financial in 1997 and has advanced through increasingly responsible positions in the company's finance and administration department. Throughout his career he has led major projects for the bank including building its interest rate risk and funds transfer pricing models and creating its interest rate derivative program.

Emmons is a graduate of the Wharton School of Business, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Economics, and the Collins College of Business at the University of Tulsa, where he earned a master's degree in Business Administration. He resides in Owasso with his wife and three children.

NAI Rupe Helmer, affiliate of Rupe Helmer Group, announces the addition of four new team members to the organization: Lori Spyres, Jamie Perkins, Keith Allison and Blayne Frieden.

Spyres is part of the brokerage business unit and manages all aspects of the daily business operations for the brokerage team. She brings more than 20 years of administrative experience and is a licensed real estate professional. Prior to NAI Rupe Helmer, she worked at Stan Johnson Company as operations manager for a brokerage team and was responsible for all operational and financial

Perkins is NAI Rupe Helmer's property accountant on the property management team. She has seven years of accounting experience in both commercial and residential property management. Prior to NAI Rupe Helmer, Perkins served as a staff accountant for two different property management companies in Tulsa.

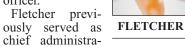
Allison has served as project manager whose experience includes negotiating and securing favorable lease terms, facilities management, tenant improvement, design and buildout and new bank construction. He has also serviced full-service branches, call centers. treasury management, brokerage sales, executive offices, information technology, customer service and most recently a 19,000 squarefoot, full-service bank in Tulsa.

Frieden, with 20-plus years of business ownership, has provided many commercial real estate opportunities. Managing and investing in his own properties eventually led him to assist others in acquiring investment opportunities. When Frieden decided to go to work for a brokerage firm, he felt NAI was the best choice because of the support and expertise provided that allows for seamless transactions.

Rupe Helmer Group services include construction, development, property dispositions, tenant representation, landlord representation, property management and investment services.



CommunityCare announces the appointment Sharon Fletcher, **Ph.D.**, as president and chief executive





tive officer at Noridian Mutual Insurance Company and Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota. She has 25 years of executive experience in the health care, airline and technology industries. She has an extensive background in operations, human resources, provider relations and communications.

Fletcher received a doctorate in organizational leadership and behavior from North Central University in Prescott, Arizona She has a master's degree in human resource management and labor relations from La Roche College and a bachelor's degree in business management from Point Park College. She also has an MBA in business from the University of Mary and completed an Executive Finance Program at Cornell University.

Institute for Organization Management appointed Allison Walden, senior vice president of resource development for the Tulsa Regional Chamber, to its Southeast Board of Regents. As a member of its





board, Walden will implement the policies created by Institute's National Board of Trustees.

Institute's five boards of regents serve on behalf of the national board of trustees. Each board of regents is responsible for recruitment, retention and marketing of the program nationwide. Each regent is an institute graduate nominated by their peers.

Institute for Organization Management is the professional development program of the U.S. Commerce Chamber of Foundation. It is the premier nonprofit professional development program for association and chamber professionals, fostering individual growth through interactive learning and networking opportu-

Jamie Brickman has been named

managing partner KPMG's Oklahoma region.

Brickman will be responsible for the strategic direction and growth of K P M G 's Oklahoma offices in Oklahoma City and Tulsa and sup-



BRICKMAN

port the development of its nearly 60 partners and professionals.

Brickman began his career with KPMG in Oklahoma City in 1987 and was admitted to the partnership in 2001 and most recently was located in Dallas serving significant public company clients in the energy and leisure industries. Brickman has served in various leadership roles including SEC Reviewing Partner and involved in campus new hire recruitment at the University of Oklahoma and Texas Tech University. He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Oklahoma.

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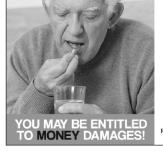
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J.M. Davis Museum is Home to Wayne McCombs

By TERRELL LESTER Editor at Large

It was not the best introduction. But it was memorable. For one of the principals, at least.

It was the summer of 1961. Not a lot to do for three or four youngsters trying to dodge the heat in downtown Claremore.

The Mason Hotel presented itself as an oasis, air-conditioned as it was. Plus, there was that collection of guns exhibited by the proprietor, James Monroe Davis.

On a summer afternoon, air-conditioning and guns would be an inviting and double-barreled treat for rambunctious boys still shy of their teenage years.

They entered the lobby, cautiously, stealthily, if not so quietly. Looked around for the boss

Considering themselves alone, the boys encircled one of the most enticing pieces of Davis' collection of guns: The Gatling gun, rapid-fire linchpin of 19th-century army brigades and star of so many western movies.

As ringleader of the youngsters, Wayne McCombs remembered that he and his pals began imitating cavalry troops, rattling off sounds they thought mimicked the actions of the Gatling gun, whooping, jumping. One of his confederates even fell to the floor as if shot and wounded.

That was enough to rouse the heretofore silent and unseen James Monroe Davis.

"He stood up from behind his desk," McCombs said. "He saw us come in. He let us play for a little bit, but then it was time to

"All right, you kids, get out of here,' he said with a stern, nononsense voice," McCombs said.

there. Didn't look back."

That was 55 years ago. Many things have changed. But some things have remained the same.

McCombs no longer must slip quietly into the building housing the Davis collection. He can make all the mimicking sounds he wants around the Gatling gun, around the thousands of rifles and handguns that complement it.

McCombs now is the overseer of the Davis gun collection, known officially and internationally as the J.M. Davis Arms & Historical Museum.

Located on Route 66 in the heart of Claremore, just a short walk from the site of the long-gone Mason Hotel, the museum is home to what is billed as the world's largest private collection of firearms. McCombs puts the number at 14,000.

But there is more to this museum than guns and weaponry.

McCombs points to the World War I posters, some 250 in all, and says the collection is the second largest in the world.

There is the assemblage of more than 1,200 German beer steins.

Arranged and displayed ever so handsomely and efficiently are items than range from the curious to the unique. Saddles and spurs. Musical instruments and Indian artifacts. Statuary and artwork. Animal horns and trophy heads.

As the 64-year-old McCombs meandered through the corridors and galleries of the museum he has called his office since 2009, he thought back to that initial runin with Davis in 1961.

"If Mr. Davis knew back then that I was going to take care of his collection, he'd have been a little nicer to me that day," he said with a smile.

And, if only 9-year-old Wayne "Man, we ran straight out of McCombs had known back then.

McCombs, born in Tulsa but reared in Claremore, had other experiences with the Davis collection over the years but does not recall a second meeting with the man himself.

As a jack-of-all-trades staff member of local radio station KWPR in June 1969, just before his senior year of high school, McCombs was at the dedication of the Davis museum, amassing a roster of interviews for broad-

His attendance that day was especially foretelling on two fronts: He would eventually take stewardship of the museum and its collection, and he would continue along the communications path illuminated by his KWPR experience.

He followed his two-year college introduction at Oklahoma Military Academy and Claremore Junior College with a pursuit of a degree in journalism from the University of Tulsa.

Just months before his graduation from TU, McCombs was hired by radio station KVOO. He soon landed the coveted 8 p.m. to midnight gig on the country giant, leading into Billy Parker's allnight trucker's show.

McCombs also struck a friendship with KVOO newsman and voice legend Jack Campbell. Through Campbell's part-time work as public-address announcer with the Tulsa Oilers baseball team, McCombs gained entry into the realm of sports.

He joined the University of Tulsa Athletics Department in 1980 as promotions director. His tenure connected with one of TU's golden periods, football under John Cooper, basketball under Nolan Richardson.

Buoyed by his enthusiasm and proficiency for marketing, McCombs departed TU after five years for ventures into the corporate world of advertising and pro-

Along the way, though, he never abandoned his life-long affection for sports. A Cardinals fan and a Yankees fan, he long harbored the dream of a major-league playing

Instead, he fell back on his journalistic and communications edu-

McCombs authored two books on the history of baseball in Tulsa and another on the history of Claremore High School football.





AT THE READY: The talented Wayne McCombs at the J.M. Davis Arms & Historical Museum in Claremore, where he is the executive director. McCombs is also a baseball historian, author and former radio broadcaster.

He also contributed to two other books on baseball.

After accepting the directorship of the Davis museum in 2009, McCombs teamed with John Wooley and Larry Larkin for a book on the history of the man and his collection.

With the museum as his pulpit and his penchant for publicizing, McCombs has positioned himself as the unchallenged champion of all things Claremore.

For years, he has been a driving force in the leadership of levels to that of Rogers State to as "an Oklahoma gem." University.

He is chairman of the Claremore Veteran's Day parade and regularly plays host at the museum for a variety of civic and social functions.

As an independent agency within the State of Oklahoma, the museum operates with government funding and a full-time staff of four.

McCombs routinely calls upon his marketing background for events to put, and keep, the museum in the public eye.

Along with the monthly appearance of western re-enactors, McCombs has installed such short-term exhibits as a collection of John Wayne movie posters and a tribute to the radio career of Parker.

McCombs hosted a book-signing for former New York Yankees pitcher and Chelsea native Ralph Terry. Once or twice a year, McCombs plays host to a BB-gun shooting contest for youngsters.

"I was tired of hearing people say, 'I've been to the museum, but it's been a while. I haven't been back in years.

"Well, I am trying to get people to come back to the museum," McCombs said.

When they do return, or even make their first trip, to the muse-Claremore baseball, from the um, patrons will find what American Legion and high school McCombs and others often refer

> After all, where else can one see on display a gun from 1350 China, or a 36-pound gun that requires the teamwork of three people, or even the world's smallest commercially produced hand-

There is a Korean War-era tank standing silent vigil in the parking lot outside the front door.

And inside, there is that Gatling gun that attracted a young Wayne McCombs and his pals back in

Not too far away from it is the final resting place of John Monroe Davis, who died in 1973 at the age of 85.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is free, but In October, donations are accepted.



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As you can see, shopping small makes a BIG impact. Get out and shop and dine locally on **Small Business Saturday, Nov. 26**. View a list of participating small businesses at www.TulsaSBC.com.



Repurposed Central High School Maintains Beauty

One of the best examples of repurseams with more than 1,500 stu-

porate office build-Public Service Company Oklahoma (PSO), originally Tulsa's Central High School. The building occupies a full city block between 6th and 7th streets and Detroit and

Cincinnati avenues. The north half of the school was designed by Tulsa George architect Winkler and built at a cost of \$390,855 in 1916 to alleviate the overcrowded existing high school at 4th Street Boston

posing a Tulsa building is the cordents. Shortly afterwards, Winkler

On Architecture

designed south wing which was built in 1922, doubling the size the school building, a visual demonstration of the surge in population in Tulsa.

At its peak, Tulsa's Central High School housed more than 5,000 students, making it the second largest high school in the U.S. at the time. When it closed in 1976, over 44,000 students had graduated from there. It was Tulsa's only high school until



ORNATE MOTIFS: The detail work around the doors of the former Central High School located on the block between 6th and 7th streets and Detroit and Cincinnati avenues in downtown Tulsa.



PRESERVING HISTORY: Few exterior changes were made to Tulsa's Central High School when the building was repurposed into the headquarters of Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) in the 1970s. The building was built in 1916, with a wing being added in 1922.

By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

Avenue, which was bursting at its Will Rogers was built in 1938. DIY Confectionary Huge Selection of Supplies!



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In the 1970s, PSO needed to centralize its headquarters staff, which was spread around Tulsa in seven different buildings. The company had long outgrown its original office building at 7th and Main streets, built in 1922. It was determined that the Central High School building could provide almost 290,000 square feet of office space at 30 percent less than the cost of a comparable new building. The architectural firm of Coleman, Erwin & Associates was retained, and two years later, the completed project was ready for occupancy.

On the exterior, the changes PSO has made are relatively subtle. The biggest was removing the north steps and lowering the main entrance at 6th Street to ground level. Ground floor window frames were replaced with concrete surrounds. The second, third and fourth solar bronze-insulated glazing in crete frame and structural columns. cle.

exterior brick and limestone trim was cleaned, surrounding sidewalks and landscaping were added, making it more pedestrian-friendly while respecting the character of the original building. Solar panels were also added on the replaced roof.

The intaglio class years that are recorded in the limestone facing around the north entrance still remain. The English Renaissance look of the exterior, English Tudor in character, also remains along with crenulations at the parapet, the foliage motifs and the coats of arms medallions carved in stone (depicting oil lamps resting on three books, symbolizing knowledge) facing the north entrance. A strong, enduring, almost fortress appearance, as was originally intended, still persists.

But inside, the alterations are sub-

anodized aluminum frames. The Where exposed, these columns were faced with brick and the interior treated to an open office manner. Four elevators were added to both the north and south wings to accommodate a staff of over 700 people. The stairs were retained, and more were added. The original open light wells were enclosed with large skylights to create four atrium areas. Computer controlled lighting and heat reclaim units were incorporated for energy efficiency along with increased insulation to the original building shell.

In 2007, the PSO General Office Building received a Landmark Award by the Tulsa Foundation for Architecture. Today, the interior is in pristine condition as if it were installed yesterday. PSO obviously appreciates its excellent facility.

Many thanks to Stan Whiteford, stantial. Almost all interior walls manager of PSO region communifloor windows were replaced with were removed, exposing the con- cations, for his help with this arti-

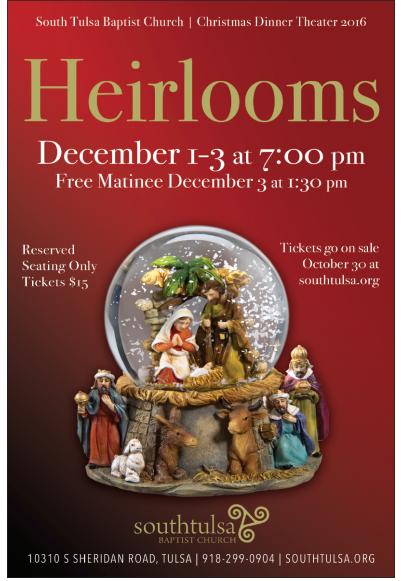
Church Celebrates 125th Year

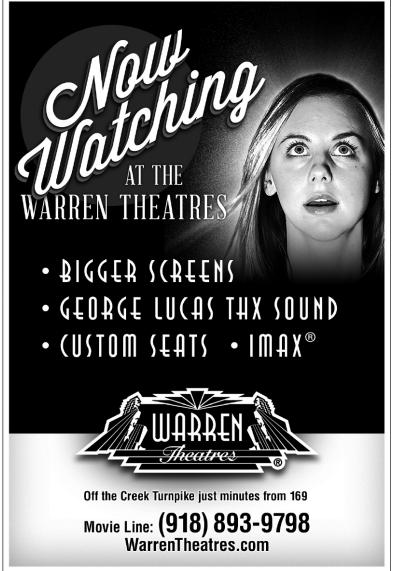
will celebrate its 125th year with special Anniversary Celebration services on Sunday, Nov. 13. One morning worship service will be led at 10:30 a.m. by Senior Pastor James Biesiadecki. Guest speaker Dr. Anthony Jordan, executive director of the Baptist

will bring the anniversary message. The beginning of Bartlesville First Baptist Church dates back to northeast Kansas and a Delaware Indian converted by a Baptist missionary. Chief Charles Journeycake, leader of the Delaware tribe, led his people from

Bartlesville First Baptist Church General Convention of Oklahoma, Kansas into Indian Territory (Oklahoma) in 1867. The Delaware had been displaced or removed from their land six times, had their property and livestock taken from them, and suffered numerous killings. In spite of that, he said, "We...cannot forget that the white man also brought us the blessed gospel." With that, he settled his tribe and quickly established a church.

In the early 1870s he began to preach at Silver Lake, on the outskirts of present day Bartlesville. His sermons, delivered in the Delaware tongue then translated into English, not surprisingly, took several hours. Soon after that first church began, another Delaware (Arthur Armstrong) built a log cabin that would serve as both a church and a school at the north end of what is now Seneca Street.







Runway Tulsa Offers an Amazing Week of Fashion

By TERRY TRIMMER

Tulsa put its most fashionable foot forward when Runway Tulsa kicked off on Sept. 14 in the stylish showroom of presenting sponsor Lexus of Tulsa and revealed what was to come. Fabulous couture designs, statuesque models, luxury cars and a very fashionable audience were all on display.

Abby Kurin of the Tulsa Office of Music, Arts, Film and Culture read Dewey Bartlett, Jr.'s Proclamation that declared Sept. 14 – 18 as Tulsa Runway Week.

A Lexus automobile was raffled off to benefit Make-A-Wish Foundation and Marc Labonte of Bixby was the winner. Following that, the ceremony climaxed with the unveiling of the all new Lexus LC. The unveiling included a dramatic entrance of models in stunning designs from the new collection of L.A. designer Alexis Monsanto. The ensuing photo op gathered all the guests and photographers around to document this stylish blending of fashion and automobile designs.

Runway Tulsa co-chairs Chera Kimiko (Runway Tulsa emcee), Michelle Evans (2015 Mrs. America) and Cindy Morrison (Social Vention) hosted this red carpet evening for this full-house audi-

The following evening, the festivities moved to the always fashionable

merchants provided in-store parties while attendees went store to store to have their "Passport to Fashion" books stamped for a chance to win prizes later in the center's garden. The garden was the site of a fashion show and featured designs from Utica Square boutiques.

The stage was then set for Saturday night's Runway Finale at the Cox Business Center. The VIP reception inside the Assembly Hall was packed with Tulsa personalities and fashionistas alike.

Promptly at the announced starting time, emcee Chera Kimiko welcomed guests while wearing an Alexis Monsanto original gown. While mentioning different wellknown Tulsans in the audience she came upon front row guest Issac Hanson of the musical trio from Tulsa and stopped to acknowledge him and his wife.

Before starting the show, Chera invited co-chair Michelle Evans from backstage for a couple of comments. All the Runway Tulsa cochairs were extremely involved promoting the entire event, but Michelle took it even further and walked the runway for both New York designer Caycee Black and LA designer Monsanto.

The show began with the collection of 18-year-old Grant Karpin of Kansas City. It was his runway debut and started the show with a Utica Square where participating human experience of gender on a and casual situations.



L.A.'S ALEXIS MONSANTO **DESIGNS:** *The stage was set for* the Runway Tulsa Finale at the Cox Business Center.

molecular level. Grant was chosen to present at Runway Tulsa as part of brought fun along with her fashion its goal to encourage and nurture young talent.

Another mission of RW-T is to feature the best of local design talent and give them the opportunity to present in the most professional way Tulsan Nikki Warren Her brand, MOCHA runway. Butterfly, offered chic designs that more edgy display that explored the are expressive in both professional



MEDIA NIGHT: Los Angeles-based designer Alexis Monsanto poses with models from the Linda Layman Agency during the Runway Tulsa Media Night, held at the showroom of presenting sponsor Lexus of Tulsa.

Another Tulsan, Kenya Carter presented her K. Nicole collection of feminine designs for the girl of style, making use of beautifully mixed fabrics of lace and shine.

New York designer Caycee Black to the show. Presenting her Dark Carnival collection, she masterfully mixes her fashions with amazing proportion play for a fearless approach to dressing. Always stylish with her runway presentation, Caycee's finale walk with her modproved she deserved her place on this els can be one of the more entertaining moments of a show with her over the top acknowledgement followed by a gleeful skipping return to back

Celebrity designer Christensen from Project Runway Season Nine presented his Sugarcoated collection. A menswear concept collection that made use of lighthearted pastels and playful designs.

The runway then prepared for the presentation of Alexis Monsanto. A masterful couture collection inspired by the many looks of James Bond fashions. The extended runway show dramatically featured diverse looks from retro swimsuits to jet setting gala couture all leading up to a climatic golden girl finish.

Plans for 2017 are already in the works by SRO Productions of Tulsa. Inc., the producers of Runway Tulsa.

Dress For Success Tulsa Readies for 'Empower Gala'

for Success Tulsa begin at 7 p.m. announces its 15-year anniversary, Empower Gala. The fundraising event will be held at the Renaissance Hotel located at 6808 S. 107th E Ave. in Tulsa on Friday, Nov 4. Doors open at 6 p.m. with a silent auction and cocktails. Dinner and the evening's activities will Hills Mall.

Chera Kimiko will be the evening's Emcee. Executive men and women representing Tulsa area businesses and several Dress for Success Tulsa clients will be modeling the latest fashions and accessories from Dillard's in Woodland Kim Freeman and

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other colleagues from Ihloff Salon will be providing the models with hair styling and makeup.

Fashion Show Models for this year include: Kim Armstrong-TEEOCA; Michelle Bradshaw-Coldwell Banker; Amanda Clinton-Cherokee Nation Businesses; Wendy Drummond-Drummond Law, P.L.L.C.; Michelle Evens- 2015 Mrs. P.L.L.C.; America; Melinda Lapham- The Williams Companies; Liz Lord-QuikTrip Corporation; Grady- NetLink Solutions, LLC; Randall Graham, DDS-Children's Dental Health Center; John Rothrock- Yale Cleaners; Paul Samuels-Morgan Stanley; Landon Thomas- Landon Thomas Designs; Chuck Zoellner- Zoellner Chiropractic; and Dress for Success Tulsa clients, Carolyn Gaiters, Brenda Aston, LaDonna Bullard and Wendelene Rios.

Dr. Madeline Manning Mims, Olympic Gold and Silver Medalist will serve as the Keynote speaker.



WELCOMING MODELS: Getting ready for the Dress for Success "Empower Gala" are, from left, Patti Freeman, advisory board; Ronda Adkisson, executive director; Katherine Skorvaga, board president; Donna Grady, board treasurer: and Katie Hoffman, program coordinator.

United States Council for Sports Chaplaincy. Madeline's inspiring story of faith, perseverance and triumph resonates deeply with the Dress for Success Tulsa mission of empowering women.

The event will also host a live and In the 2000 Sydney Olympics silent auction, including a variety Games, Madeline was honored as of packages you won't want to

founder and president of the include quarterly chef dinners from some of Tulsa's premiere chefs, date nights for a year, 7 night vacation in Orlando, ladies day of beauty for 6 and an African safari hunt and a duck hunt in Argentina.

For information regarding Dress for Success Tulsa, please contact Ronda Adkisson at 918-599-8892 or email an Olympic Legend. She also is miss. Some of the packages to Ronda@tulsadressforsuccess.org.

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NOCHE DE GALA: The Hispanic American Foundation of Tulsa recently held its annual Noche de Gala Carnaval at Southern Hills Country Club. From left are HAF Chairman Jeff Nevins, HAF Gala Chair Mimi Rice, Maria Rojas of Helmerich and Payne and HAF President Tom Bueno. Helmerich and Payne was honored with the Award of the Americas. The Foundation is dedicated to the preservation, appreciation, and promotion of Hispanic culture through scholarships, grants, and the presentation of cultural programs.



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: Residents and management of The Villages at Southern Hills recently celebrated the assisted living and skilled nursing center fifth anniversary. From left are Assistant Administrator Shelby Hill, Stonegate Senior Living COO John Paul Taylor, Executive Director of Nursing Danae Veloquio, Executive Director Lee Sudbeck and Regional Director of Business Development Alicia Conner-Todd, RN, MSN.



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ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION Bixby Library 2 – 3 p.m. Discussion of "Back of Beyond" by C.J. Box. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.

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6 – 8 p.m. For all ages. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.

CHARLIE PUTH 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more

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ONEGIN 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.

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LESLIE JONES Hard Rock Casino 8 p.m. Visit for more information.

hardrockeasinotulsa com

THE TULSA RUN Downtown Tulsa 9 a.m. Visit tulsasports.org/tulsarun

for more information **ONEGIN** Tulsa Ballet 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.

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OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN 8 p.m. Visit hardrockcasinotulsa.com for more information. DOG NIGHT AT THE

GARDEN Tulsa Botanic Garden 5 – 8 p.m. Visit www.tulsabotanic.org for more information.

4

DAVE BARRY Tulsa Town Hall 10:30 a.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. BOOMTOWN AWARDS

RiverSpirit Casino 6 p.m. Visit typros.com for more

information. TULSA OILERS

vs. Missouri 7:05 p.m. For more info. visit tulsaoilers.com 5

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CABARET Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.

TSO POPS; RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK Tulsa Symphony Orchestra 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.

GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. East Carolina Time TBD Football 918-631-4688 for tickets.

6

CABARET Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets

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7:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. **HOPSIN**

8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for

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13

IN LOVE AND WARCRAFT Henthorne PAC 2 p.m. Visit hellertheatreco.com for

MODIGLIANI QUARTET Chamber Music Tulsa 3 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.

SNOW THA PRODUCT Cains Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for

more information.

14

I CAN'T BUILD A CAMERA WITH HARDESTY ARTS CENTER Thomas K. McKeon Center for Creativity 12 – 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information. BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Central Library 12:10 - 12:50 p.m.

Visit tulsalibrary.org for

more information.

15

DRAWING ON MEMORIES Philbrook Museum of Art 12 – 12:45 p.m. Visit alz.org/Oklahoma/ for more information.

ELF THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.

More Bank for your Buck. Central Bank of Oklahoma

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ELF THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions
7:30 p.m.
myticketoffice.com for tickets.

TULSA OILERS vs. Rapid City
7:05 p.m.
For more info.,
visit tulsaoilers.com

OSU Tulsa Business Forum with Carly Fiorina Mabee Center 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Visit mabeecenter.com for more

ELF THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions
7:30 p.m.
myticketoffice.com for tickets.

7TH ANNUAL DINNER OF RECONCILIATION
Greenwood Cultural Center 6:30 – 10 p.m. Visit www.jhfcenter.org for more information.

OPEN STUDIO NIGHT WITH BILL DERREVERE McKeon Center for Creativity 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

ELF THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions myticketoffice.com for tickets.

TULSA OILERS vs. Rapid City 7:05 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com

PAWS FOR READING Brookside Library 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information

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ELF THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions 2 & 8 p.m.
myticketoffice.com for tickets. GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. New Orleans

3 p.m. Men's Basketball 918-631-4688 for tickets.

BATTLE OF THE BANDS FOR TPS FINE ARTS Cains Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.

20

vs. Allen 4:05 p.m.

For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com

THE WILLIAMS ROUTE 66 MARATHON Guthrie Green All Day Visit route66marathon.com for

more information ELF THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions
2 & 7 p.m.
myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA OILERS

IN THE MIDDLE BOOK GROUP South Broken Arrow Library 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. For ages 9-12. Visit

tulsalibrary.org for more information. Ask us about ID Fraud Protection Central Bank

GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. Oregon State 8 p.m. Men's Basketball 918-631-4688 for tickets.

Young Thug 8 p.m. Visit cainshallroom.com

information.

PARENTS SUPPORTING PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP Mental Health Association Oklahoma p.m.

information

information. FOOD TRUCK
WEDNESDAY
Guthrie Green 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.

Visit www.mhaok.org for more

Visit tulsacc.edu for more info.

TURKEY DAY 5K & FUN RUN! Guthrie Green

7 a.m. – 2 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information. LIGHTS ON! Utica Square 6:30 p.m. Visit uticasquare.com for more

information.

information.

GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. Tulo 918-631-4688 for tickets.

TEEN ADOPTEE SUPPORT GROUP Dillon International 6 – 8 p.m. Visit dillonadopt.com for more

TULSA OILERS vs. Wichita 7:05 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com

POP EVIL Cains Ballroom 7:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.

THE DRUNKARD AND OLIO Tulsa Spotlight Theatre

7:30 p.m. Visit spotlighttheatre.org for more information.

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The Wall That Heals Comes to Owasso

By BLAKE AUSTYN Contributing Writer

For four days in October, Owasso was home to The Wall That Heals, a 250-foot replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and a mobile Education Center, which was on display at Tulsa Tech's Owasso campus.

Owasso officials were eager to bring The Wall That Heals to the city, and they promised that it was going to be the best stop in the country, said Tim Tetz, director of public outreach for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund.

The Wall That Heals honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Vietnam War; its walls bear the names of the more than 58,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

"Taking The Wall That Heals on the road gives thousands more veterans and their family members an opportunity to see The Wall and honor those who have served and sacrificed so much," says Jim Knotts, CEO of VVMF. "It helps veterans from all of America's conflicts to find healing and a powerful connection the Vietnam era and The Wall.



"And they may be right," he continued. "The setting was absolutely magical."

HONORING VETERANS: Individuals view The Wall That Heals, which bears the names of the more than 58,000 men and women who lost their lives while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Vietnam War. The Wall was on display at Tulsa Tech's Owasso campus Oct. 13-16.

through their common military experiences."

Since its debut in 1996, more than two million people have visited The Wall That Heals sites. It has made stops in nearly 400 U.S. communities in addition to an April 1999 tour of the Four Provinces of Ireland and a visit to Canada in 2005. Hosting The Wall That Heals provides a community with a multi-day experience that includes an educational and experience for local schools and organizations on the history of Vietnam in a historical and cul-

The exhibit includes a mobile education center comprised of: photos of service members whose names are found on The Wall; letters and memorabilia left at The Wall in D.C.; a map of Vietnam and a chronological overview of the conflict in Vietnam.

The exhibits tell the story of the Vietnam War, The Wall, and the era surrounding the conflict are designed to put American experiences tural context.



CLOSING CEREMONIES: Owasso City Manager Owasso Lehr speaks during closing ceremonies on Oct. 16 of The Wall That Heals, a 250-foot replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.



BALLOON LAUNCH: Community members watch as balloons are released to symbolize each American who lost his/her life during the Vietnam War at the closing ceremonies of The Wall That Heals.

repares for Holidays wasso Tree and Berry Farm P

By ANNE BOYD Contributing Writer

The Owasso Tree and Berry Farm, 11039 N. 129th E. Ave., has been filled with hustle and bustle as its owners, Bill and Paula Jacobs, prepare to open Nov. 19 for the holiday season.

The Jacobs have been putting the finishing touches on everything that the farm has to offer, including a variety of Christmas trees. The trees will be available for tagging, which means that a family can find their favorite tree and mark it in the field so that they can return and pick it up closer to the holidays, or they can take the tree home right away.

including the Virginia Pine, a popular soft needle tree; Leyland fanned branches; and Carolina Sapphire Cypress, which is blue in color.

The trees make up acres of the farm, and a hayride is always on the move, taking visitors to search for their favorite.

In addition to the trees that the Jacobs grow and tend to throughout the year, they also bring in trees from other states such as the Noble Fir, Douglas Fir, Nordmann Fir and Red Fir, which come from Oregon, and Fraser Fir from North Carolina.

Instead of growing those vari-There are three types of trees eties locally, they are shipped in. for shoppers to choose from.

grown on the farm, Bill says, Why? Bill explains, "Because you'll always find the very best tree where it grows naturally. Cypress, a tree that has flat Those don't grow well in Oklahoma.'

> The Jacobs visit the farms where the trees are grown to make sure that they are the best trees that they can find. Then, the trees are cut just before being loaded onto refrigerated trucks to make the journey to Owasso.

> When the trees arrive at the farm, they are placed in a barn so that they are not exposed to wind. When it's time to display the trees, they are placed in a shaded area. New trees are brought to the farm weekly, thus ensuring a fresh selection throughout the season

In addition to the trees, the Jacobs also offer a garland, roping, swags and wreaths. "We decorate some of the wreaths here at the farm, and if you save the decorations, we'll add them to your wreath next year," says

The farm also offers a gift shop filled with ornaments of every shape and size, unique holiday decorations, and plenty of gift ideas for family and friends. And as always, hot apple cider and candy canes for the kids are plentiful in the shop.

includes a large fireplace and Owasso Tree and Berry Farm, more space. The Jacobs are look- 11039 N. 129th E. Ave., is preparing ing forward to sharing their for its holiday Christmas tree sea-updates with everyone this year. son, which begins Nov. 19.



A new addition to their shop CHRISTMAS SEASON: The

More Buildings Take Shape at Tulsa's Gathering Place

The latest structures beginning to be constructed at A Gathering Place for Tulsa include the Boat House, 40,000-square-foot underground warehouse that will house all park operations and Mist Mountain.

The Boat House sits just south of Peggy's Pond, near Swing Hill and the northern-most land bridge. The Boat House will be the launching place for all of the park's programming and will house a mixture of social and educational spaces. The basement, which has already been constructed, includes a craft room. The first floor will feature a nature center and activity space, with the second floor showcasing views of the Arkansas River and a sit-down restaurant with an outdoor patio. The building will also feature kayak storage, a dock, and workshop space for boat repairs and classes.

The Boat House will be integrated into the landscape with its exterior being a combination of glass, wood and stone veneer that is quarried locally.

Swing Hill will be the highest point of the park, with about 46 feet of elevation above the pond and



NEW CONSTRUCTION: *The Boat House will be a two-story building.* which sits near a large recreational pond, will be the launching place for all of the park's programming. It will house a mixture of social and educational spaces, including a nature center and activity space.

level of the Boat House. Recently, the foundations were other play equipment and serve as a poured for Mist Mountain, which

will also directly connect to the top

THE BOAT HOUSE: A rendering of the completed Boat House. On the building's top level will be a sit-down restaurant and outdoor patio, showcasing views of the Arkansas River. river levels, offering expansive Lawn and the River Parks trails. It will feature various water features,

clothing changing areas, restrooms, and food and drink concessions.

Mist Mountain will also feature a landscape of stone and other natural materials as well as a visually engaging palette of plants.

views of downtown Tulsa and the Arkansas River.

The hill will include swings and connecting spot to both the Great will sit north of the Boat House. It Lodge will provide easy access to

including a spray area, mist area, tunnels, dams and streams, a water lab, and the water plaza. Mist Mountain's location close to the

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