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Volume 25

January 2017

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IN THIS ISSUE:

VARIETY



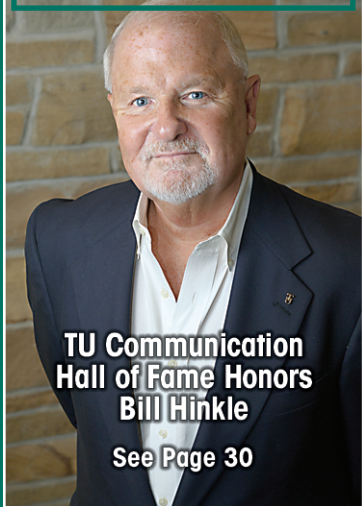
Tulsa PAC Continues 40-Year Celebration In January
See Page 9

THE ECONOMY



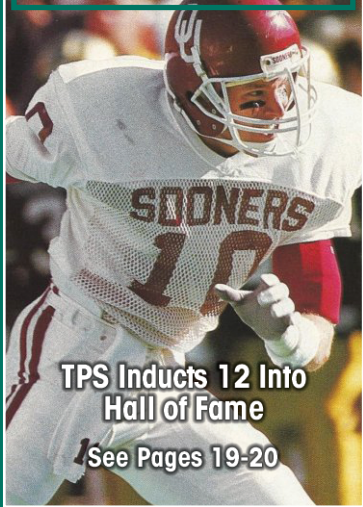
Cell Phone Rescue Continues Expansion
See Page 27

FEATURE



TU Communication Hall of Fame Honors Bill Hinkle
See Page 30

SPORTS



TPS Inducts 12 Into Hall of Fame
See Pages 19-20

Voters to Consider \$26-Million Bond

By **EMILY RAMSEY**
Managing Editor

A \$26-million bond package will be on the ballot on Feb. 14 for Union Public Schools patrons.

The package would not increase taxes above traditional levels.

With the completion of phase 1 of Elementary 14, 12000 E. 31st St., \$11 million of the package would go toward construction-related costs.

Phase II covers construction of a wood-floor gym and stage and two music rooms, which equals just under 11,500 square feet.

Just under \$5 million would benefit the district's many STEM initiatives, covering textbook, equipment and technology needs, and another \$5 million would be used for building and maintenance projects throughout the district.

Part of that \$5 million will be used to cover architectural fees for the addition of fine arts rooms at the High School and renovation of Tuttle Stadium, both needed to address the district's growing enrollment numbers.

"Ninety-percent of our students are enrolled in fine arts programs," says Superintendent Dr. Kirt Hartzler. "It's a good problem to have, but it means that we are running out of room in our fine arts department."

The aging structure of Tuttle Stadium, which was built 40 years ago, is another reason behind the need for its renovations, Hartzler continues.

The stadium is in need of various updates, such as bringing it up to ADA compliancy and addressing environmental issues including earthquakes; "we are also experiencing crowding issues," says Hartzler.

"The stadium was built for a district that was growing. We are now exceeding the growth that we expected 40 years ago.

"We want to do this project correctly so we don't have to touch the stadium again for 40 years."

If the February bond proposal is approved, Hartzler says that the 2018 bond will, then, include construction costs to move forward on the fine arts and stadium projects.

The list of items to be included in

the bond package was the result of a process that began with site-based bond committees that included site principals, teachers and parents.

"I can't overemphasize the importance of school bonds in this state," Hartzler says. "They are vital to our success to make sure that we continue to offer the most innovative programs and maintain the quality of our buildings."

Elementary 14 Details

Union Public Schools officials broke ground on Elementary 14 in July.

The building, which is scheduled to open in fall 2017, is planned to go through three phases of construction through 2019.

Phase I, at a cost of \$15 million, involves initial site development, the construction of half of the building, approximately 70,000 square feet, with space for classrooms, a cafeteria and kitchen, and the school's main office area.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

ELEMENTARY 14: Work continues on the first phase of Union's Elementary 14, 12000 E. 31st St. If voters approve the Feb. 14 bond package, \$11 million will go toward construction-related costs for phase 2 of the elementary school.

The school's initial projected enrollment is approximately 500 students.

Phase III, covering 50,769 square feet, will include 28 additional classrooms, additional art rooms, STEM

rooms, special education rooms, a second media center and space to add pre-kindergarten students. Projected enrollment for the school in 2019 is about 1,000 students.

STATE CHAMPIONS:

Union High School football players celebrate after defeating Norman North High School 57-43 in the Class 6A-1 State Championship on Dec. 2, held at Skelly Field at H.A. Chapman Stadium on the University of Tulsa campus. Norman North won the regular season contest 30-27 on Oct. 14, but the Dec. 2 victory gave Union its ninth State Championship, its first since 2011. The playoff run included a 40-24 victory over Broken Arrow on Nov. 11, followed by a 45-21 win over archival Jenks on Nov. 18. This was the 21st consecutive year that the 6A-1 State Championship went to either Union or Jenks. Running back Shamari Brooks, who will play for the University of Tulsa next year, was named player of the game. Brooks finished with 232 yards rushing and three touchdowns.



DEAN ATCHISON for Union Boundary

KUDOS OF THE MONTH: George Kaiser Family Foundation

Since its beginnings, the George Kaiser Family Foundation has impacted countless children and families in greater Tulsa and beyond as well as having brought arts, culture and revitalization to downtown Tulsa.

George Kaiser developed the foundation's primary focus of providing equal opportunity for young children through early childhood evidence-based and experimental educational programs. The reason for the foundation's mission comes

from Kaiser's belief that it is unfair and inconsistent with America's founding principles for birth to determine a child's potential.

GEORGE KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION

A supporting organization of Tulsa Community Foundation

The foundation's three focus areas are Parent Engagement and Early Education, Health and Family Well-Being, and Civic Enhancement.

Over the past decade, major GKFF projects include, in downtown Tulsa's Brady Arts District the construction of Guthrie Green, creation of the Woody Guthrie Center and partnering with Lobeck

Taylor Family Foundation to create 36 Degrees North; acquisition of the Bob Dylan Archive of more than 6,000 items spanning nearly 60 years in partnership with the University of Tulsa; development of the Tulsa Artist Fellowship in 2015; the opening of three Tulsa Educare centers; launch of the Women in Recovery Program; and construction of A Gathering Place for Tulsa, with its first phase to be completed in late 2017.

GKFF's civic ventures are designed to advance its primary mission while also adding to the diversity and vibrancy of the Tulsa area.



Courtesy photo

ARTS AND CULTURE: In 2011, GKFF purchased the Woody Guthrie Archives from Woody Guthrie Publications in New York, which led to the opening of the Woody Guthrie Center in downtown Tulsa's Brady Arts District in 2013.



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Contents January 2017

CIVICS
 Ten People To Watch in 2017 4-5
 Thank You Tulsa for a Dream Come True 7
From the Mayor by Mayor G.T. Bynum
 Tulsa to Receive Gem with OKPOP Museum 7

VARIETY
 Music, Theater, Comedy Kick Off 2017 in Greater Tulsa 8
Show Buzz by Nancy Hermann
 Tulsa PAC Continues 40-Year Celebration in January 9
 OSU-Tulsa to Hold Beer, Wine Education Courses 11

FEATURES
 Creativity, Community Built at Coworking Spaces 10
Out & About by Emily Ramsey
 Tulsa Community Members Provide Eco Wisdom 10
Trash Talk by Beth Turner
 Torero Brings Latin Flavors to Downtown Tulsa 11
Local Dining by Blake Austyn
 Energy Education is Critical for Economic Growth 24
Energy Watch by Mark Stansberry
 Exploring Streamline Architecture Around Tulsa 29
On Architecture by Roger Coffey

HEALTH & WELLNESS
 Leaders Launch Mental Health Plan 12
 Area Youth Advocates Honors 12

EDUCATION
 Bishop Kelley Academic Bowl Team Places First Nationally 14
 NSU Long Term Care Program to Begin 14
 Tulsa Beechcraft Donates Aircraft to Tulsa Tech 15
News From Tulsa Tech by Dr. Steve Tiger
 Local Education/News 16, 32

SPORTS
 Local Sports 17
 Victory Christian Reaches State Football Finals 18
 TPS to Hold Hall of Fame Ceremony Jan. 19 19
 Flying Tee Hosts Miss United States 20

ECONOMY
 Adrienne Kallweit Talks Entrepreneurialism, Gig Bigwig 22
 Wabi Cycles Relocates to Tulsa from Los Angeles 23
 Lee's Bicycles Closes After 103 Years 24
 Cell Phone Rescue Continues Expansion 27

GTR CLASSIFIED ADS 26
COMMUNITY CALENDAR 31

For archived articles and to subscribe to the GTR e-Edition, go to www.gtrnews.com

GTR Enters 25th Year



UNION BOUNDARY
VOL. 1, ISSUE 1

By **FORREST CAMERON, Ph.D.**
Editor and Publisher

Thanks to our readers, advertisers, my family and all who have contributed in any way to the Greater Tulsa Reporter, we enter our 25th year of publication in 2017.

GTR began as a thought in 1992. Growing up in Tulsa, I loved reading the Tulsa World and Tulsa Tribune (the evening paper).

I was raised from the mid-1950s to the mid-1960s in midtown Tulsa near Edison High School. At that time, the area where the Union School District is today was almost completely rural. Our family moved from Tulsa to Kentucky in 1974 and returned in 1985. When we returned, we purchased a home in the Minshall Park edition in the Union School District. I was immediately amazed how much the Union District had grown in the south and southeast Tulsa and west Broken Arrow areas. It was almost completely full of residential houses and apartments.

Having always been interested in newspapers, I noticed that the Union area was not receiving much targeted news, as it was located in parts of the two cities. I began asking Union residents if they would like to have their own paper. One hundred percent of the people I talked to said yes. So, I decided to publish a paper targeted solely to Union residents. Our first edition, with the front cover above on this page, was published in January 1993. The timing was good as far as news, as a debate was raging over year-round schools. Also, as the headline above states, Highway 169 was opening through 71st Street, resulting in a prediction of a building boom in the 71st Street and Mingo Road area.

As the Union Boundary grew, we decided to expand further into Greater Tulsa. Instead of having one paper and change the Union Boundary name, we decided to continue our target to school district areas and have the papers under the Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers banner. The Jenks District Gazette and Midtown Monitor (formerly the Tulsa Free Press) were started in 1995, the Broken Arrow Express and Owasso Rambler began in 1998, and the Bixby Breeze was introduced in 2002.

Keeping up with the times, we went online in 1996, and as far as we know, we were among the first of publications to do so in Greater Tulsa.

Again, thank you Greater Tulsa for 25 years! We are here to serve!



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

READY TO LEAD: Mayor G.T. Bynum was sworn in as the 40th Mayor of the city of Tulsa Dec. 5 during a ceremony at Central Library in downtown Tulsa. Bynum was joined by his wife, Susan, and two children, Robert and Annabel.

"I come from a family that believes service as Mayor of Tulsa is the greatest honor in elected public service, and I am so thankful my fellow Tulsans have given me this chance to give it my all in this job," Bynum said.

During his candidacy, Bynum pledged to renew a spirit of high expectations at City Hall, focus-

ing on goals that encourage and shape the next generation of Tulsans. A few areas of focus during his term as mayor will be: education, economic development, government efficiency, public safety and community development.

"We were fortunate to have pioneers with a spirit of high expectations for their hometown, and I am excited to bring that spirit back to the city of Tulsa," Bynum added.

Please see page 4 for Mayor Bynum's first monthly column in this issue of the GTR Newspapers.

GATHERING PLAYGROUND



RIP STELL for GTR Newspapers

PLAY EQUIPMENT INSTALLED: In December, the media was invited to tour the progress of A Gathering Place for Tulsa, being built along Riverside Drive. Playground equipment has begun to be installed on the site, and construction moves forward on various structures, including the Lodge and Boathouse.

UPCOMING EVENTS @ the PAC



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January 2017

Vol. 25, No. 1 (Union Boundary);
Vol. 23, No. 1 (Jenks District Gazette, Midtown Monitor);
Vol. 21, No. 1 (Owasso Rambler, Broken Arrow Express);
Vol. 16, No. 1 (Bixby Breeze)

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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 newsstands and other outlets in over 700 locations throughout the greater Tulsa area.

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



TEN PEOPLE TO WATCH IN 2017



G.T. BYNUM



LAURA CHALUS



TONY MOORE



DANIEL SPERLE



KEN CHAPMAN

Greater Tulsa Reporter featured G.T. Bynum as a Person to Watch in 2016 due to his efforts with Vision Tulsa and the Arkansas River Infrastructure Task Force.

Bynum has been named a Person to Watch in 2017 as Tulsa's 40th Mayor, who was sworn into office on Dec. 5.

Bynum is a fifth generation Tulsan with a record of civic service and a family history made up of former mayors.

Bynum ran on the platforms of returning Tulsa to its former status as a nationally-competitive world class city, improving education and the disparity between north and south Tulsa, and improving the city-county relationship.

Bynum convened the city's leaders of early childhood, K-12 and higher education on his first full day in office to form the Mayor's Education Cabinet with the focus on addressing the challenges faced by all education entities citywide.

Bynum's staff includes Chief of Staff Jack Blair; former Mayor Kathy Taylor, chief of economic development; and Nick Doctor, community development and policy chief.

The Tulsa Garden Center announced the appointment of Laura Chalus as executive director in 2016.

Chalus specializes in successful fundraising and project management while bringing an entrepreneurial background to her knowledge, skills, and experience in community relations, non-profit administration, grants management, and database management. Chalus has an interesting challenge to bring the Tulsa Garden Center to its former excellent reputation. In 1957, Tulsa was designated as "America's Most Beautiful City" in an article in Reader's Digest Magazine. Among many attributes about Tulsa, the article cited the beauty of the Tulsa Rose Garden. Unfortunately, the roses were devastated last summer by Rose Rosette's Disease, and weeds filled the space.

Chalus will be working diligently to restore the reputation of the Tulsa Garden Center. Judging by her past experience in motivating volunteers and organizations, Chalus should be an excellent choice to bring the Tulsa Rose garden to its past glory.

A Gathering Place for Tulsa has named Tony Moore park director. In his role, Moore will oversee park operations also for Guthrie Green.

Moore, a native of Jamaica, brings ample experience to Tulsa, previously serving as chief operating officer at the Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa, Florida. Before holding that position, his roles have included corporate director for SeaWorld, director of operations for Discovery Cove and SeaWorld Orlando, director of environmental health and safety for all three SeaWorld Orlando parks, and director of culinary revenue for its water parks. Moore has also held leadership roles in operations at Universal Studios, Florida.

He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Central Florida.

A Gathering Place for Tulsa, a project of George Kaiser Family Foundation, is set to open phase I in late 2017 along Riverside Drive and the Arkansas River.

The \$350-million park will include natural trails, a large green space, recreational water activities and educational programming.

Tulsa Bike Share has named native Tulsan Daniel Sperle executive director of Tulsa Bike Share, a not-for-profit corporation that is partnering with Tulsa Tough in order to bring bike sharing to Tulsa, starting with downtown.

The program, when its first phase launches in spring 2017, will begin to put Tulsa on the national trend of city bike-sharing services. Phase one will be the installation of 12 bike stations all located within the IDL, with a total of 120 bicycles. Phase two will add an additional 12 stations near the University of Tulsa, Cherry Street and Brookside.

Sperle graduated from the University of Oklahoma with every intention of returning to Tulsa: "I wanted to move back after college to be a part of Tulsa's revitalization. I believe this is a pivotal point in Tulsa's development."

Bike Share programs have been shown to increase mobility of local residents and visitors, to more greatly connect neighborhoods, improve health, and increase pedestrian traffic.

Captain Ken Chapman has shown strong leadership in his position with the Salvation Army since he relocated to Tulsa in June 2016. He is very positive about the generosity of the people of his new city, and he has already worked hard in innovative as well as traditional ways to raise funds for people in need.

Though Chapman was raised in a Salvation Army family, he has many years in the private sector. For 20 years, he was president and creative director for Creative Events International and won 22 industry awards as a producer. He was the music producer for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and executive producer for the Atlanta and Barcelona Paralympics Ceremonies. Chapman also produced the Easter Egg Roll for the Bush Administration at the White House in 2006 and produced Santa's Traveling Workshop, a touring show that brought toys and hope to over 300,000 people affected by hurricane Katrina.

It will be interesting to watch Captain Chapman as he works to raise funds for the less fortunate.

Edward Jones

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TEN PEOPLE TO WATCH IN 2017



STEPHANIE CAMERON



DR. GERARD CLANCY



KIMBERLY JOHNSON



PHIL ALBERT



SCOTT STULEN

Stephanie Cameron, 2017 chair of Tulsa's Young Professionals, is state director for Dream It Do It Oklahoma and OK2Grow and community affairs director for APSCO Manufacturing.

Cameron was named as one of the YWCA's 2017 Women of the Year, the Journal Record's 2016 50 Women Making a Difference, Tulsa World's People to Watch in 2016 and a 2016 Journal Record Achiever Under 40.

As TYPros chair, Cameron's focus will be on "people, purpose and play," she says.

"TYPros is a volunteer-driven organization that is 9,000 members strong. In 2017, we'll be celebrating, empowering and developing the individuals who make up our dynamic and diverse organization."

The "purpose" of TYPros is to "provide a vehicle for young talent to have a voice, become civically engaged and actively participate in creating the Tulsa they want to call home."

And regarding her focus on "play," "Tulsa is a vibrant, active and family-friendly city. We see Tulsa as a hub for the arts, entertainment and state of the art parks."

Dr. Gerard Clancy, previously a GTR Person to Watch, continues in the Tulsa spotlight in his amazing career.

Dr. Clancy became president of the University of Tulsa after his role as vice president of health affairs and dean of the new Oxley College of Health Sciences.

Before arriving at TU on Jan. 1, 2015, Clancy served as president of the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa for eight years.

Through a \$50 million donation from the George Kaiser Family Foundation, Clancy led the transformation of medical education at OU-Tulsa in 2008. In 2015 the College of Medicine's Tulsa branch was renamed the OU - TU School of Community Medicine, a joint venture between the OU and TU to provide a four-year program of medical education in Tulsa.

At TU, Clancy launched the College of Health Sciences in 2015 and announced the new name of the Oxley College last fall.

Should Gerard Clancy experience the leadership success in his presidency at TU that he has had in his other positions in the past, look for greatness at TU.

Kimberly Johnson becomes the CEO of the Tulsa City-County Library on Jan. 1, 2017, succeeding Gary Shaffer.

Johnson joined the library in 1998 as the first coordinator of the African-American Resource Center, where she established the library's first countywide public tour to Oklahoma's Historic All-Black Towns and Tulsa's first countywide reading initiative.

Johnson went on to hold a number of positions within the library system, including as deputy director and chief innovation officer where she was instrumental in customizing library buildings and services to meet the demands of the 21st-century library customer. Most recently, she held the position of chief operating officer.

Johnson is a New York native who earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Tulsa and her Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Oklahoma.

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

Phil B. Albert, president of Pelco Structural, LLC, located in Claremore, will be the 2017 Tulsa Regional Chamber Board Chairman. This will be the first time in the history of the organization that the board chair's business resides in a regional partner community outside of Tulsa.

Albert is an advocate of growth and currently serves many local and state-related boards, including being a board member of the Tulsa Regional Chamber and serving as the chairman of the Tulsa Regional Chamber's 2015 Resource Campaign.

Albert started his career working for an accounting firm in Tulsa and moved to manufacturing in 1981. He spent 23 years at JEM Engineering, the last 10 as president, and was responsible for all aspects of daily operations and strategic planning.

In 2005, Albert, along with partner, Phil Parduhn, opened Pelco Structural, LLC, an infrastructure manufacturing company, located in Claremore. The company designs, engineers, and manufactures transmission, traffic and lighting, sports lighting, cellular transmission, signing, and substation structures.

Scott Stulen officially became Philbrook Museum of Art's director on Aug. 22, 2016, succeeding Rand Suffolk.

Stulen looks forward to bringing a number of innovative exhibits and new ideas to Philbrook, in order to maintain the museum as one of the preeminent art museums in the central United States.

Before coming to Philbrook, Stulen worked as the Curator of Audience Experiences and Performance at the Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA), where he created and led the first curatorial department of its kind in the United States that is dedicated to audience experiences.

"Philbrook shares my philosophy that museum's need to put the visitor first by creating experiences that inspire. This innovative thinking is at the forefront of our industry; I look forward to building on the current success to shape Philbrook's future," Stulen said.

Stulen holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and an MFA in Painting and Drawing from the University of Minnesota.



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Allison and Ava R.



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I'm a mom of three boys, so my husband and I were shocked when our doctor told us we were having a girl. I asked several times, 'Are you sure?'

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The staff at Hillcrest South was so accommodating, and each went out of their way to make sure I was comfortable, including my postpartum nurse. They make you feel like you're important and they're glad you are there. Your needs and care are the staff's priority.

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Thank You Tulsa for a Dream Come True

From the Mayor

By **MAYOR G.T. BYNUM**
City of Tulsa

I am pleased and honored to serve my fellow Tulsans as the 40th Mayor of the City of Tulsa. Thank you for electing me as your mayor – it is a dream come true. I love this city, and I love having the opportunity to serve as your mayor.

With the kind support of the Greater Tulsa Reporter, you will see my monthly articles here, dedicated to updating you on city-related topics. In the coming weeks our administration will work hard to bring Tulsa together, so that all areas: north, south, east and west – prosper and thrive.

Today is an exciting time to be a Tulsan. We have a spirit of high expectations that can make our city nationally competitive, change our relationship with the county, and change the way we

work with the schools and do more to make sure kids in north Tulsa have the same opportunities as kids in the rest of the city.

Our spirit of high expectations will allow us, in the next few years, to open the greatest city park in America, become the home to an Olympic sport, and transform the museum that houses the world's greatest collection of Western art. We will build a lake in the center of the city, creating new recreational opportunities for the entire region. We will no longer lag behind, but will be a leader in the field of public transportation with the installation of bus rapid transit lines. We will also be a national leader in the use of data to deliver tremendous customer service to citizens.

We will work hard to build a great workplace for City employees. We will put an employee feedback process in place to create one of the best corporate cultures in the nation. Our management team, department heads and employees will work toward mak-

ing us a nationally-leading innovative city.

Together, we can build the kind of city we will all be proud to pass on to the next generation.

I am thankful to be assisted in this work, not just by my City Council colleagues and the hard-working employees at the City of Tulsa but also by a number of new faces in the Mayor's Office:

Michael Junk, Deputy Mayor; Jack Blair, Chief of Staff; Amy Brown, Deputy Chief of Staff; Mayor Kathy Taylor, Chief of Economic Development; James Wagoner, Chief of Performance Strategy and Innovation; Nick Doctor, Chief of Community Development and Policy; Jonathan Townsend, Mayor's Assistant for Community Development and Policy; Christina Starzl Mendoza, Mayor's Assistant for Community Development and Policy; Kimberly Madden, Mayor's Executive Aide; and Brandon Oldham, Mayor's Aide

Get ready for great things, Tulsa – the best is yet to come!



MAYOR G.T. BYNUM

Tulsa to Receive Gem with OKPOP Museum

\$25 Million Facility to be Built Across from Cain's Ballroom

Oklahoma Historical Society officials have announced the organization will construct the Oklahoma Museum of Popular Culture (OKPOP) at 422 N. Main St. in Tulsa, across the street from the historic Cain's Ballroom, home of Bob Wills. Tulsan David Sharp and Interak Corporation donated the quarter block of land for the OKPOP site, estimated to be valued at \$1 million.

"This is the perfect location for the museum because of the significance of Cain's Ballroom to Oklahoma's popular culture history," OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob Blackburn says.

Additionally, Jeff Moore, OKPOP director, announced the new museum has acquired the personal collection of the late Leon Russell, including his most recent piano. This collection includes more than 2,500 audio masters from Russell's recording career and his work with Shelter Records. Russell and Denny Cordell established Shelter Records in 1969 and soon relocated the company from Los Angeles to Tulsa.

"This collection is of major importance to OKPOP as it keeps this Oklahoman's great work in

Tulsa, instead of it being housed in Nashville or on the coasts," Moore says. "The Leon Russell Collection will join other donated collections from Oklahomans, such as Bob Wills, Ernie Fields, Patti Page, Jamie Oldaker, Mary Kay Place, Tom Mix and Mason Williams."

Tulsa-based firm Lilly Architects and Chris Lilly teamed with Overland Partners of San Antonio to lead the architectural design of OKPOP. Lilly has extensive experience working in the Brady Arts District.

"Taylor Hanson approached us with the idea of locating the OKPOP across the street from Cain's. He knew that this location offers the perfect mix of public visibility, proximity to a historic cultural and entertainment district, and the ability to benefit Tulsa through tourism," says Moore.

Site planning and design will commence in 2017, will break ground at the beginning of 2018 and open late in the fourth quarter of 2019. The OKPOP facility will include an underground, 100-space parking garage to support visitors but also surrounding businesses such as Cain's Ballroom.

OKPOP will be a new visitor experience that explores the incredible history and creativity of Oklahoma's contributions to popular culture in the areas of music, movies, television, radio, theater, pop art, literature, comics, humor and Route 66.

Some of the Oklahomans who will be featured at the OKPOP include Will Rogers, Bob Wills, Joan Crawford, Gene Autry, Leon Russell, Reba McEntire, S. E. Hinton, Garth Brooks, Wes Studi, Alfre Woodard, James Marsden, Carrie Underwood and Kristin Chenoweth, among countless others.

"Newcomers are constantly blown away by our historic attractions and film and music scene. Now, OKPOP adds even more appeal to our cool factor," VisitTulsa President Ray Hoyt says. "The estimated breakdown of 100,000 visitors to OKPOP on an annual basis, results in more than \$11 million dollars within the Oklahoma economy."

The design and construction of OKPOP is funded by a \$25 million bond issue, which the Oklahoma State legislature approved in May 2015.

Mike Neal, president and CEO of the Tulsa Regional Chamber,



TAKE ME BACK: Bob Wills and many other famous Oklahoma entertainers will be honored at the OKPOP Museum.

touts the leadership of Dr. Blackburn for making OKPOP a reality.

"Dr. Blackburn relentlessly led the charge and never lost faith in the vision to establish a world-class museum in one of Tulsa's most prominent entertainment hubs. For eight years, he traveled back and forth to Tulsa, visiting with leaders and philanthropists within the business community and educating us on everything from design concepts to proposed legislation," Neal says. "Additionally, the Chamber's regional OneVoice legislative agenda strongly advocated for the project along with many individual supporters."

About Oklahoma Historical Society

OKPOP is a division of the Oklahoma Historical Society. The mission of the Oklahoma Historical Society is to collect, preserve and share the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma.

Founded in 1893 by members of the Territorial Press Association, the OHS maintains museums, historic sites and affiliates across the state. Through its research archives, exhibits, educational programs and publications the OHS chronicles the rich history of Oklahoma. For more information about the OHS, please visit okhistory.org.

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VARIETY

Music, Theater, Comedy Kick Off 2017 in Greater Tulsa

The holidays are a reflective time when we enact family tradition and assess the year past. The new year dawns, and we are ready to embrace whatever comes next. This year we greet a new president,

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN

and wish the best for all Americans and for our global neighbors as well. I hope you can find time to blend your hard work, study, or focused-elsewhere time with engaging entertainment and fun. There is more to do, see and explore in the Tulsa area than ever before.

The entertainment the local casinos have been bringing in has been substantial, and will increase with the opening of the large performance theatre at the River Spirit Event Center. Don Henley's Jan. 19 show at River Spirit is already sold out, but tickets to country music star Alan Jackson's Jan. 20 concert are still available.

This is a good opportunity to talk briefly about buying tickets online. There are numerous ticket resale sites operating that look like a venue's online ticket office but are not. These resale sites jack up ticket prices as much as four to five times the actual ticket price. Whether you are purchasing tickets for an event at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center, the BOK Center, or the Hard Rock, Brady Theatre or elsewhere, be sure you are not purchasing from resellers, also known as "scalpers." Buy from the official venue website. Also, in many instances, when you purchase at the venue itself, you can avoid most convenience fees.

The Joint at the Hard Rock hosts the Gold and Platinum-selling band 38 Special on Jan. 6, followed by Tanya Tucker on Jan. 12. Tucker began her singing career at age 13 with her colossal hit "Delta Dawn." Her lengthy career and life experiences, including liaisons with some of entertainment's biggest names, would make an engaging film.

Speaking of interesting lives, Priscilla Presley has a lot of stories she could tell. It will be 40 years in 2017 since Elvis died at age 42. His ex-wife, mother of his daughter, Lisa Marie, and former mother-in-law to Michael Jackson, visits the Hard Rock for "Elvis and Me, An Open Conversation." Career-wise, she's appeared in numerous movies and as Jenna Wade on "Dallas" from 1983 to 1988. This Jan. 27 event at The Joint includes a time when the audience can ask Ms. Presley candid questions.

I'd never heard of "Noonatics" until I began researching the Herman's Hermits, but they exist and follow the band's star, Peter Noone. Like Tanya Tucker, Noone was a child prodigy. He began acting and singing as a teen. British TV fans know him from "Coronation Street," and Americans may recognize him as the character Paddington from "As the World Turns." Most of us are familiar with the Herman's Hermits' 1960s-era hit songs: "I'm

Into Something Good, "Mrs. Brown You Have a Lovely Daughter," and "There's a Kind of Hush." The band earned 14 Gold-selling singles and seven Gold albums. The ever-charismatic Peter Noone and Herman's Hermits perform at The Joint, Jan. 29.

If you feel in need of a few laughs to shake off that holiday stress and election tension, take in comedian Lisa Lampanelli's show at the Brady, Jan. 13, or get stirred up anew by Bill O'Reilly and Dennis Miller at the BOK Center, also on Jan. 13. Other events coming to the BOK Center this month are Red Hot Chili Peppers, Jan. 14 - "take me to the place I love" - and Cirque Du Soleil's "Ovo," Jan. 25-29. You know what to expect with a Cirque show. It's over-the-top athletic and gorgeous to view. This presentation concerns the ecosystem of insects, so there will be fantasy and fantastic costumes and choreography. The score to the piece was inspired by music from Brazil. "Ovo" means egg in Portuguese.

I've not been retired very long from the Tulsa Performing Arts Center, but I miss being there and working with good people who value the arts. On Jan. 13, Tulsa Town Hall hosts writer Luis Alberto Urrea in Chapman Music Hall. Born in Mexico, Urrea is a multi-award-winning poet, novelist and essayist. The title of his lecture is "From Tijuana to the World." At the PAC on Jan. 14, Tulsa Symphony features Bulgarian-born violinist Rossitza Jekova-Goza in a program that includes the music of Mendelssohn, Ravel and Beethoven's 4th Symphony. Celebrity Attractions brings back the humor-filled "Men Are From Mars; Women Are From Venus," Jan. 20-21.

I'm so much looking forward to the velvety voice of Nathan Gunn, Jan. 22. Choregus Productions hosts this handsome, celebrated baritone and his wife, Julie Gunn, who will accompany him. The concert will be a mix of opera and pop songs. If you don't know Gunn, Google him on YouTube and listen to his voice. Also at the PAC this month is Theatre Tulsa's "Peter and the Starcatcher," a musical, which is a prequel to the Peter Pan story, Jan. 27- Feb. 5.

A show that people have been asking about for months, "Paw Patrol Live! Race to the Rescue," is slated for four performances at the PAC, Jan. 28-29. The Canadian animated TV show about a boy named Ryder and seven dogs who save the day, every day, is a big hit with families.

At the Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center, which has a penchant for hosting diva singers extraordinaire, 4 Girls 4 gives one performance, Jan. 21. Music direction is by well-known talent Billy Stritch. The four singers all have Broadway musical clout. Andrea McArdle, who many will know as the original Broadway Annie, is joined by



OVO: Meaning "egg" in Portuguese, this Cirque Du Soleil presentation concerns the ecosystem of insects. Ovo runs Jan. 25-29 at the BOK Center.



LISA LAPENELLI: Shake off the holiday stress with an evening of comedy at the Brady Theater Jan. 13.



PETER NOONE: The 1960s idol brings his band Hermin's Hermits to the Joint Jan. 29.

three other headliner voices -- Faith Prince, Maureen McGovern and Christine Andreas. I won't miss this one!

I wish you the best in the New Year along

with many enjoyable moments getting lost in a great play or lecture, a spectacular dance performance and, always, abundant music. Happy 2017!

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Tulsa PAC Continues 40-Year Celebration in January

Special from the PAC

It's a new year, and with it comes the excitement and spectacle of celebrating 40 years of entertainment at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center. Here's what is coming in January:

The new year begins with Tulsa Town Hall speaker Luis Alberto Urrea, a prolific and acclaimed writer who uses his dual-culture life experiences to explore greater themes of love, loss and triumph. A 2005 Pulitzer Prize finalist for nonfiction and a member of the Latino Literature Hall of Fame, Urrea is the best-selling author of 16 books, winning numerous awards for his poetry, fiction and essays. Born in Tijuana to a Mexican father and an American mother, Urrea is most recognized as a border writer, though he says, "I am more interested in bridges not borders." Nearly 100 cities and colleges have chosen his books *Into the Beautiful North*, *The Devil's Highway* and *The Hummingbird's Daughter* for One Book community reading programs.

The lecture will be Jan. 13, 10:30 a.m. in Chapman Music Hall.

Tulsa Symphony Classics continues its winning season with Beethoven's 4th Symphony. Inspiration can come from anything, anywhere, at any time. Mendelssohn, a lover of nature, found inspiration in the natural acoustics of a sea cave in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland for "The Hebrides." The idea for Ravel's "Le tombeau de Couperin" came forth on a battlefield in World War I, and the Hungarian musical style of his "Tzigane" came after hearing a private concert by a talented Hungarian violinist. Catching his breath before returning to the heroic struggles of his Fifth Symphony, Beethoven found inspiration for his illuminating Symphony No. 4 while retiring in the country estate of a devoted admirer. Daniel Hege conducts this concert, which features violinist Rossitza Jekova-Goza. The concert is Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m. in Chapman Music Hall.

Returning to Tulsa is *Men Are From Mars; Women Are From Venus-Live!*, presented by Celebrity Attractions, Jan. 20-21 in the John H. Williams Theatre. This Off-Broadway comedy hit is a one-man fusion of theatre and stand-up based on The New York Times best-selling book by John Gray. Moving swiftly through a series of vignettes, the show is a light-hearted look at the differences between men and women within relationships. Star of the



Courtesy Sharkey Photography

NATHAN GUNN: The worldwide baritone sensation comes to the John H. Williams Theatre Jan. 22 for an afternoon of opera and pop favorites. He will be joined by his wife, Julie Gunn, on piano.

show is Amadeo Fusca, who currently performs on the Upright Citizens Brigade Maude House Sketch Comedy team Hot Bird. In 2013, he won the legendary Friars Club "So You Think You Can Roast?" competition, beating out 55 comedians. As the winner, Fusca got to help Sarah Silverman, Bob Saget, Amy Schumer and other comedians roast actor Jack Black. Fusco has also appeared in the TV series "Boardwalk Empire," "Marvel's Daredevil" and "As The World Turns." He had a supporting role in the feature film "A New York Heartbeat."

On Jan. 22, Choregus Productions proudly presents Nathan Gunn at 3 p.m. in the John H. Williams Theatre. Gunn has made a reputation as one of the most exciting and in-demand baritones of the day. He has appeared in internationally-renowned opera houses such as the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Royal Opera House, Paris Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper, Glyndebourne Opera Festival, Theater an der Wien, Teatro Real in Madrid and the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie. His many roles include the title roles in "Billy Budd," "Eugene Onegin," "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" and "Hamlet." Also a distinguished concert performer, Gunn has appeared with the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, and the

Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra. Gunn's wife, pianist Julie Gunn, will accompany him in this recital of opera and pop favorites.

Pirates, mermaids and magic all come together for Theatre Tulsa's presentation of Peter and the Starcatcher. This swashbuckling grown-up prequel to "Peter Pan" upends the century-old story of how a miserable orphan comes to be The Boy Who Would Not Grow Up. From marauding pirates and jungle tyrants to unwilling comrades and unlikely heroes, "Peter and the Starcatcher" playfully explores the depths of greed and despair and the bonds of friendship, duty and love. Based on the 2006 novel "Peter and the Starcatchers" by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson and adapted for the stage by Rick Elice, the play won five Tony Awards in 2012. The play runs Jan. 27-29 and Feb. 2-5 in the Liddy Doenges Theatre.

PAW Patrol Live! Race to the Rescue is sure to delight audiences young and young at heart Jan. 28-29 in Chapman Music Hall. PAW Patrol is on a roll with its first-ever live tour.

It's the day of the Super Adventure Race between Adventure Bay's Mayor Goodway and Foggy Bottom's Mayor Humdinger, but Mayor Goodway is nowhere to be found. PAW Patrol to the rescue! Ryder summons Marshall, Chase, Skye, Rubble, Rocky, Zuma and Everest to help. The pups share many lessons for all ages as they make heroic rescues on their race to the finish line. PAW Patrol is a Canadian animated TV series that



Courtesy Tulsa PAC

PAW PATROL LIVE: It's a race to the rescue as Ryder, Marshall, Chase, Skye and all the Paw Patrol gang head to the Chapman Music Hall Jan. 28-29 for a fun-filled show for all ages. The show focuses on a boy who leads a pack of rescue dogs known as the PAW Patrol. Each dog has a specific set of skills based on a real-life profession.

debuted on Nickelodeon in 2013. The show focuses on a boy named Ryder who leads a pack of rescue dogs known as the PAW Patrol. Each dog has a specific set of skills based on a real-life profession.

In the PAC Gallery Jan. 6-29, check out the exhibit by Tulsa Glassblowing School, which will present an array of works inspired by Theatre Tulsa's performances of "Peter and the Starcatcher." Located in the Brady Arts District, Tulsa Glassblowing

School was founded in 2007 and provides an open-access hotshop and kiln studio, offering unique experiences for anyone interested in the beauty of glass art. From the novice to the skilled glass artist, TGS provides an outlet for creativity, teamwork and self-expression.

Tickets for all events are available by calling the Tulsa PAC ticket office at 918-596-7111 or online at TulsaPAC.com. Town Hall is available by subscription only.



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Creativity, Community Built at Coworking Spaces

“Community” seems to be the new buzzword, carrying with it the idea of creating a sense of belonging and of forming connections. With technology and its uses growing, it’s no surprise; humans are, ironically, more connected to one another than ever, regardless of geographical location, and yet more distanced than ever — fueling our innate need and desire to connect with others.

Thinking back to my days as a freelancer and, even still, as a full-time writer at present, my days can often be largely solitary and, therefore, sometimes lonely. As could be said of many jobs, no doubt.

Thus, the desire for a social environment can arise.

While many places may fill this need, with coffee shops and cafés having become common gathering places, other, more purpose-driven models have been springing up around the country largely in the form of coworking spaces, membership-based shared workspaces.

These spots not only provide flexible and communal work areas but also generate conversations and light bulb moments.

Tulsa’s coworking spaces include Savage Space, 1213 E. Admiral Blvd., The Bridge, 5272 S. Lewis Ave., and 36 Degrees North, 36 E. Cameron St., which opened in the Brady Arts District in 2016. When 36 Degrees North first

opened, excitement was all around as to the ways it would contribute to the local entrepreneurial community as well as to downtown Tulsa, and while I felt equally enthusiastic, I did not view it as a place that I would frequent but as a place for entrepreneurs and self-employed, business-minded individuals who are looking to collaborate.

However, after a recent visit to 36 Degrees North to attend a free 1 Million Cups presentation, my mind has been happily opened.

The national program 1 Million Cups was created to engage and connect entrepreneurs. Every Wednesday, the group meets at 9 a.m. at 36 Degrees North, where local start-ups present their businesses in an effort to connect with mentors, peers and advisors.

However, being an entrepreneur is not a requirement to attend.

This platform offers an additional opportunity for individuals unrelated to the entrepreneurial community to take and give as much as they please, social opportunities without the requirement of interaction, all the while being inspired and motivated by the sheer number



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers
ENTREPRENEURIAL IDEAS: Andrew Brister presents his start-up business, which offers 3D building scans, at a 1 Million Cups meeting, held at 36 Degrees North in December.

Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

of ideas and talented people all around.

It’s these types of give-and-take settings where new ideas are formed and seeds for future projects are planted. Moreover, these kinds of events are excellent resources for staying up to date on things just beginning to sprout in Tulsa.

Various free events at 36 Degrees North are plentiful, including women’s coworking days and Cultivate 918 meetings, offering many opportunities to visit the venue and explore, learn, and just breathe in the energy.

And who knows? You may become the one with the next big idea.

Tulsa Community Members Provide Eco Wisdom

This holiday season brings with it the tradition of making New Year’s Resolutions. I enjoy the process of looking back to be inspired as I move forward, as well as finding inspiration from those around me. So here is a round-up of eco habits and resolutions from a few people in our community.

Tulsa Mayor, G.T. Bynum: “One of the most sustainable resources we have is our Tulsa City-County Library system! They provide a venue for our community to share not just books, but movies, music, and more. With the Central Library recently reopened I encourage people to check it out and check out a book while they are there.”

Leadership Tulsa Executive

Director, Wendy Thomas: “I’ve decided to make a resolution to purchase no new clothes in 2017. In addition to the fact I have more clothes already than a person really needs, I’ve become aware of how much cheap clothing gets simply thrown away. There are so many great resale options, and when I’m tired of something I can donate back to a great nonprofit organization like Goodwill.”

Community Affairs Director, APSCO Manufacturer and State Director, OK2Grow and Dream It Do It Oklahoma’s Stephanie Cameron: “I keep a compost at my house.”

Global Gardens Educator, Colby Craig: “In our after-school program, sixth graders come in

with boxed lunches provided by the school system. We incorporated chats about recycling best practices while they eat, so now the students take responsibility and recycle or compost everything except the plastic wrap around their sandwich. Inspired to do more, they’ve started working with the school to find an alternative to the wrap. So for me, it’s about learning different habits that benefit everyone.”

Shikoba Recycling owner and operator Kristen McCormick: “My tip is stop using disposable K-cup pods. They make reusable K-cups and filters that don’t fill up the landfills because no matter what the packaging says, they cannot be recycled without an excessive effort. Reusable options are sold at Bed Bath and Beyond, Target, Walmart and several online retailers.”

Okie Crowe owner and operator, Kelli Brown: “I focus on shopping local, small businesses. The money I spend locally goes back into the local economy, helps local workers and families, and supports a local business owner’s dream. I am biased but tend to think shops like Okie Crowe offer shoppers something unique you cannot find just anywhere. I usual-



BETH TURNER for GTR Newspapers
GROWING KNOWLEDGE: A Union student works in Global Gardens at Rosa Parks Elementary, making connections between what we eat and how it’s made. Global Garden Educator Colby Craig says that when this happens for students, it creates in them a desire to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste. Global Gardens programming helps students take charge in properly composting and recycling food scraps and packaging.

ly get a more personable experience, and I like putting my dollars into the hands of people who are hustling to make their dreams successful, just like me.”

Schnake Turnbo Frank Senior Account Executive, Hannah Jackson: “I don’t take home leftover food from a restaurant unless

I’m definitely going to eat it — that way I don’t waste a to-go container. Alternately, if I have a catered event or over-purchase food for friends at my house, I take the extra food to the Day Center for the Homeless. I’ve taken everything from donuts to baked beans, whole meals, excess fruit and more. They’re always really friendly and grateful, and they can be creative with their food creations!”

Keller Williams Realtor Associate, Steve Trickett: “I’m fighting my packrat nature and getting rid of a lot of old computers and other electronics that don’t work, are out of date, or just aren’t worth fixing. Seems so strange to shed all these items that once cost many hundreds of dollars and are now worthless. But decluttering feels great. Off to the recyclers! Natural Evolutions got my old DVD rom and Zip drive. The old Macs were taken in by MegaWatts and put on their museum wall. They didn’t have any Quicksilver G4s circa year 2000, so they were happy to get them, and I’m happy they’ll live on and maybe even be restored.”

Thank you to all in our community to strive to “green” our lifestyles. Before you begin making New Year’s Resolutions, take a moment to soak in all that you already do well, and appreciate yourself that you have motivation to add new and improved habits into 2017. Send in your New Year’s Resolution to bethturner@me.com, and I’ll tweet about it @TrashTalkTulsa.

Trash Talk



By BETH TURNER
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

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DINING OUT IN GREATER TULSA

Torero Brings Latin Flavors to Downtown Tulsa

Local Dining

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

Torero Bar and Kitchen, 202 S. Cheyenne Ave., opened in downtown Tulsa near the BOK Center in July, tucked away on the east side of One Place Tower, offering Latin American dishes and an extensive beer, wine and cocktail menu.

While its location may not scream out for attention to patrons milling around, the buzz about town since this restaurant opened has done that and more.

Torero is a venture of Chip Gaberino and Noah Bush, creators of The Saturn Room and Hodge's Bend, and Hodge's Bend executive chef Ian Van Anglen.

While the exterior may not offer much to gaze upon, the interior is a different story and deceptively larger than one might first expect. A long, eye-catching bar draws patrons in immediately, taking up one side of the restaurant. In the other portion of the restaurant is a cozy dining area tucked under a staircase that leads to a small second-level eating area. The dining area faces northeast with

floor-to-ceiling windows, offering a pleasant city view and giving the space a more expansive feel.

With construction well underway on Hampton Inn & Suites at One Place directly to the restaurant's south and a Hilton Garden Inn to eventually open to its east, Torero can likely expect not only local and but out-of-patrons in the months ahead.

When my friend and I paid a visit for an early Friday evening dinner, the restaurant was yet to start bustling. "But on event nights at the BOK Center, we are packed," the host told us.

Torero's menu consists of four categories: raw dishes, tapas-style small plates and salads, street food, and larger dishes for those not interested in the tapas-style, sharing concept.

The restaurant also offers happy hour food specials, including \$2 baby back ribs and \$1 Caribbean wings, Monday-Friday 3-6 p.m. and 9 p.m.-close.

We figured we would sample something off each portion of the menu, starting with Scallop Aguachile. The scallops were bathed in a chilled poblano pepper and green herb broth, with avocado and lime. Raw anything is usually an acquired taste, so the food's texture



ONE PLACE TOWER: Torero Bar and Kitchen, 202 S. Cheyenne Ave., opened in July and is located on the east side of One Place Tower in downtown Tulsa.



EXPANSIVE SPACE: Torero's Latin American menu consists of raw dishes, tapas-style small plates and salads, street food, and larger dishes. The restaurant is deceptively larger than it appears from the outside, with a massive bar taking up one half of the restaurant and a cozy dining area with floor-to-ceiling, northeast-facing windows.

could be an issue for some diners, my friend included. The freshness of the ingredients lived the dish.

We also opted for the Charqui Wings and the Costillas as it was still within the Happy Hour timeframe.

The wings have a Caribbean spice, with a nice bit of heat, but my favorite dish of the entire night was the Costillas, chili-rubbed baby back

ribs, so tender that they could put some barbecue joints to shame.

The Cuban Beef Picadillo is a Small Plate of fried plantains, the saltiness of which paired nicely with the beef.

The menu's Street Food category provides nice options for diners not looking to be too adventurous. We sprung for the Mahi Mahi Tacos,

filled with Mahi Mahi, cabbage and pickled jalapeño.

For our Large Plate, we tried the vegetarian dish: Porotos Granados, a Chilean bean and pumpkin stew, with potatoes and corn – a great dish for a cold night.

Torero opens seven days a week at 11 a.m., with brunch available Saturday-Sunday until 3 p.m.

OSU-Tulsa to Hold Non-Credit Beer, Wine Education Courses

For those looking to increase their knowledge of beer and wine, Oklahoma State University's Hotel and Restaurant Administration and the Wayne Hirst Center for Beverage Education will offer two non-credit courses to the public, starting in January at the OSU-Tulsa campus.

On Jan. 21 and 28, OSU-Tulsa will hold Intro to Malted Beverages (HRAD 4850), 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Proof of age will be required.

The course will provide an overview of the history of beer, brewing process, styles, beer and food pairings, and the industry behind the beer business.

The knowledge gained in the class is intended to offer students a baseline understanding of malted beverages from an inside perspective. The course instructor is a seven-year veteran within the craft beer industry.

By the end of the course, students should be knowledgeable in the basic history of beer and craft brewing, be able to explain the general brewing process, including the four basic ingredients,

identify various beer styles and classifications, and demonstrate how to properly serve beer.

On March 25 and April 1, the non-credit class Beverages in the Hospitality Industry (HRAD 3721) will be held, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Proof of age will be required.

This course offers an introduction to the world of wine with an overview of production and farming techniques, major red and white grape varietals and the wine growing regions that produce them, and instruction on how to evaluate, taste and pair wine with food.

Course objectives include knowledge of common wine terminology, basic grape growing and winemaking techniques, major red and white grape varietals, food-and-wine pairings, and important winemaking regions.

From fine teas to coffees to world-class wines and artisanal crafted brews, OSU's Wayne Hirst Center for Beverage Education provides a new avenue for beverage and food experimentation, discovery and research. The program offers educational and



engaging programs that explore this fast-growing industry.

The center provides an integrated, collaborative and interdisciplinary curriculum offering credit and non-credit courses for all student levels.

For more information, visit ches.okstate.edu/hrad.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS: The Cox Business Center held its 7th Annual Client Party in its Grand Ballroom on Dec. 13. From left are Kerry Painter, assistant general manager with Cox Business Center; Chef Devin Levine, executive chef with SMG Tulsa; and Jeff Nickler, general manager with SMG Tulsa.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Leaders Launch Mental Health Plan

Area leaders held a press conference at the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce offices recently to discuss the launch of the Tulsa Regional Mental Health Plan that is led by a steering committee made up of 16 Tulsa-area mental health care professionals, foundations and community leaders.

The health plan is considered to be a "phase two" to the 2006 Lewin Report recommendations that have already significantly reduced the 14-year life expectancy difference between north and south Tulsa by three years.

Research shows that nearly one in four Oklahomans have a mental illness, but the majority of them do not receive the treatment they need. It is an issue that costs taxpayers, creates a drain on limited health and mental health care resources, and costs the lives of many Oklahomans.

With the goal of making the greatest impact on these numbers and on the mental health care delivery system in Tulsa over the next 10 years, area leaders are working with a national consulting firm to create a plan of action going forward.



IMPACTING ILLNESS: Dr. Gerry Clancy, president of the University of Tulsa, speaks at a press conference regarding the launch of the Tulsa Regional Mental Health Plan. Also pictured are, from left, seated, Dr. Jeff Alderman, director of the TU Institute for Health Care Delivery Systems; Jan Figart, senior planner for Community Service Council of Tulsa; Mike Neal, president and CEO of Tulsa Regional Chamber; and Bill Major, executive director of The Zarrow Family Foundations.

Area Youth Advocates Honored

As a culmination to "Let's Talk" month in October, the Tulsa Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy hosted a luncheon on Nov. 10 in downtown Tulsa to celebrate its third anniversary and honor Community Champion and Changemaker Award recipients.

Community Champion Awards were presented to Youth Services of Tulsa (YST) for their PregNot program and to the Tulsa Carrera Program. Tania Pryce, pictured second from right, assistant director of YST, accepted the award for YST, and Union Schools Superintendent Dr. Kirt Hartzler, center, accepted the award for the Tulsa Carrera Program.



TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION: On Nov. 10, the Tulsa Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy presented Community Champion Awards to Youth Services of Tulsa and the Tulsa Carrera Program and Community Changemaker Award to Sharon Gallagher, with Tulsa Area United Way.

SANTA VISITS NEWBORNS



HO HO HOLIDAYS: On Dec. 20, Santa Claus brought cheer to patients and families in the Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Health Center's neonatal intensive care unit on the Hillcrest Medical Center campus, 1120 S. Utica Ave.

YOUNG CONTEST WINNER



EARLY COLLEGE PLANNING: Malerie and Zack Frost hold their daughter, Shanleigh, during a celebration at Hillcrest Medical Center where the Frosts were presented with more than \$5,000 as winners of the annual Oklahoma 529 College Savings Plan Newborn Sweepstakes. The money will go toward a college savings plan account for Shanleigh.

Gatesway Foundation Gives Transportation

On Election Day, Gatesway Foundation debuted its transportation program by providing free, handicap-accessible transportation to LIFE Senior Services and Vintage Housing residents in order to vote.

The inspiration for Gatesway's new venture originated at the organization's Board of Trustees meeting. Discussing ideas for broadening Gatesway's community reach, Greg Arend, Gatesway Board treasurer and managing partner of Deloitte & Touche LLP, mentioned

his connection to LIFE Senior Services. He recalled the staff's frustration that some senior residents lacked access to transportation for doctors' visits and shopping outings.

"The more the members of the board looked into the issue, it became clear that the dilemma for local seniors was not just one of limited mobility but of limited freedom in other vital respects like community participation, and expression," said Arend. "Something as simple as free transport accommodation on Election Day could be a push toward more opportunities for so many."

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Sharon Gallagher, second from left, director of Collaborative Initiatives at Tulsa Area United Way, received the inaugural Community Changemaker Award.

Forrest Alton, a national leader in teen pregnancy prevention, served as the keynote speaker and applauded the Tulsa Campaign and its partners for the work done over the last three years to educate parents and teens.

Since 2012, the Tulsa County teen birth rate has fallen by 28 percent.

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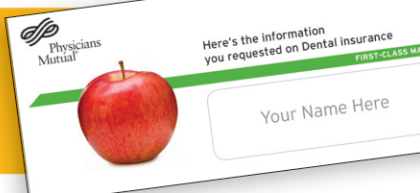
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EDUCATION

Bishop Kelley Academic Bowl Team Places First Nationally

Bishop Kelley High School Academic Bowl team placed first among 155 high school teams across the country in a December online academic quiz competition.

Bishop Kelley's team had one of the fastest completion times in the contest and was the only team to answer more than 75 percent of questions correctly, according to Academic Bowl Coach Medea Bendel.

Questions Unlimited, qulimited.com, held its first national online tournament in December, and Bishop Kelley has participated twice in this tournament and plans to compete again in April, Bendel says.

The team finished first among 155 teams from across the nation; crosstown rival Booker T. Washington High School finished seventh. Teams that registered could go online to take the test during a week-long window, and scores were based on an honors system, says Bendel. Coaches monitored students to ensure they



Courtesy Bishop Kelley

SMART STUDENTS: The Bishop Kelley High School Academic Bowl team placed first among 155 high school teams nationwide and had one of the fastest completion times in a December online academic quiz competition. Pictured are academic bowl team members Joshua Gottes, Devin Raine, Angela Brown and Joseph Mellor.

did not use phones and that they did their own work.

Nearly 1,000 high school academic competitions across the country use Questions Unlimited, the largest supplier of official tour-

nament questions and answers for academic competition.

In February, the Bishop Kelley Academic Bowl team won its third state championship in a row and fourth win in five years.

NSU Long Term Care Program to Begin

Enrollment is now open for Northeastern State University and the Oklahoma Healthy Aging Initiative's (OHA) Long Term Care Certificate program, to begin Jan. 9 at the OHA Caregiver Training Center, 2417 E. 53rd St., Ste. B, in Tulsa.

The course is a six-week interactive learning program designed to teach students how to care for individuals in the home or in a

health care setting. Training is divided into four modules, and courses are led by professionals with geriatric, long-term care, and home health and hospice experience. The program is a total of 138 hours, including 16 clinical hours.

The course will teach skills such as maintaining patient dignity and independence, problem solving, knowledge of common and chronic diseases and proper body

mechanics, and health care communication. The course also includes a State Testing Review session.

Upon completion of the course, students will be eligible to take the Oklahoma State Nurse Aide Competency examination. Upon passing the exam, students will receive certification as a Long-Term Care Aide (LTCA/CAN) and Home Health Aide (HHA).



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Tulsair Beechcraft Donates Aircraft to Tulsa Tech

1968 Learjet 25 Provides Unique Opportunity for Aviation Students

Aviation students at Tulsa Tech have the opportunity to work on a wide variety of aircraft in an FAA-approved aviation environment as they study ground operations, the use of aircraft composite materials, and the maintenance of both reciprocating and turbine engines.

Thanks to a very generous donation from Tulsair Beechcraft, the Tulsa Tech Riverside Campus hangar is now home to a 1968 Learjet 25.

This remarkable aircraft was delivered on Dec. 9 after departing Tulsa International Airport, completing a final salute pass over the Jones-Riverside airport, then landing at the facility and taxiing to the Tulsa Tech hangar.

According to Tom Clark, chairman of Tulsair Beechcraft, the donation was an opportunity to keep the aircraft in America and support local Tulsa aviation education.

"The airplane had reached the end of its useful life in the United States from an operational standpoint," Clark says. "Rather than sell it into another country, we chose to donate it to support local aviation technician education programs, and Tulsa Tech was a great fit."

Located at Tulsa International

Airport and Millington Municipal Airport in Tennessee, Tulsair Beechcraft offers a complete line of aircraft support services including fuel and line service, heavy airframe and engine maintenance, advanced avionics installation and repair, aircraft sales and leasing, and worldwide Beechcraft parts sales.

The donated Learjet 25 is an American 10-seat, twin-engine, high-speed business jet aircraft introduced by Learjet in late 1967. The small business jet offered an ideal high speed platform for six-to-eight passengers, with a high rate of climb, enabling it to pass congested flight levels quickly. With typical cruising altitudes between 39,000 and 43,000 feet, the aircraft is able to fly over most weather systems and congested airspace. The Lear-25, provided by Tulsair, tail number N473TC, is in excellent condition and makes it difficult to believe this pristine business jet was manufactured nearly 50 years ago.

Sheryl Oxley, Tulsa Tech's Aviation Program coordinator, says that despite the age of the aircraft, all of the flight systems are up to date and still relevant to aviation education curriculum.

"This is an impeccable example of

a Lear 25," says Oxley, "which will allow students to experience both the interior and the exterior of this aircraft, identical to what they will find in the industry. Many of these fine planes are still out there flying, and this particular aircraft has been maintained at a very high level. We are very grateful and extremely fortunate to receive this donation from Tulsair."

J.J. Lester, president of Tulsair Beechcraft, says the high-performance business jet has been based in the Tulsa area for the past 30 years.

"We originally purchased the aircraft in the 1980s for one of our customers," Lester says. "Since then, we have either owned or operated the plane and performed all of the maintenance and avionics work on the plane."

With this substantial donation, Tulsair Beechcraft has demonstrated not only their commitment to local aviation education but also their commitment to the community of Tulsa.

"Tulsair is heavily invested in the aircraft maintenance and avionics fields," says Lester. "It is important to encourage and train our young people for the career path opportunities available in aviation. It's good for our business to have a larger, more qualified labor pool, and more importantly, it's good for Tulsa."

If you're currently looking for exciting classes for high school and adult students, quality business and industry training, or are climbing toward a new career, Tulsa Tech invites you to visit today. For more information, please call 918-828-5200 or visit us online at tulsatech.edu.



AVIATION EDUCATION: Representatives from Tulsa Tech and Tulsair Beechcraft gathered to celebrate the arrival of the 1968 Learjet 25, which was delivered to the Riverside Campus on Dec. 9.

News from Tulsa Tech



By **DR. STEVE TIGER**
Superintendent

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LOCAL EDUCATION

December Senior Spotlight

Cheyenne Blackwood and Josh Spears are Union High School's December Seniors of the Month.

Cheyenne Blackwood, who has attended Union since pre-kindergarten, is the granddaughter of Randy and Cyndi Blackwood of Broken Arrow. She is president of the Union College and Career Crew and works in an industry partnership with Miss Helen's Private School. She has received honors for two years in math and an award for "Most Hardworking" in her industry partnership. She plans to study business, communications, marketing and art after high school.

Josh Spears, who has also attended Union since pre-kindergarten, is the son of Greg and Denise Spears of Broken Arrow. He is active in baseball, orchestra, TeePee Crew, Union Athletic Leadership Council and Asbury United Methodist Church. His honors include being named to the Athletic Director's Honor Roll and a member of the Mr. Union 2016 junior class. He plans to study biology and major in pre-medicine in college.

Business Support

Union Students of the Month



CHEYENNE BLACKWOOD



JOSH SPEARS

awards during the 2016-2017 school year are presented by several strong Union-supporting businesses in the area, including Union graduate Arthur Greeno's Chick-Fil-A restaurants, located on 71st Street and in Woodland Hills Mall.

Additional sponsors and strong Union supporters are Christian

Brothers Automotive, Barbee Cookies, Zoellners, Elephant in the Room, Eskimo Joes, Yale Cleaners, Tedford Insurance and RCB Bank.

Special thanks goes to Tommy Keeter from Christian Brothers Automotive, who is an avid Union supporter.

HAPPY RETIREMENT



Courtesy Union Public Schools

A FOND FAREWELL: Union Finance Director Debbie Jacoby, center, stands with Superintendent Dr. Kirt Hartzler and former school Superintendent Dr. Cathy Burden. The school district held a retirement reception Dec. 5 for Jacoby who is retiring after 22 years with Union Public Schools.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

TU BOUND: University of Tulsa President Dr. Gerard Clancy poses with TU mascot Goldie and Union High School students who received surprise early acceptance notices into TU.

UNION GRADUATE SIGHTING



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

DEVELOPER AND ENTREPRENEUR: Union High School graduate Elliot Nelson, left, stands with Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum, center, and Nelson's business partner Casey Stowe at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for The Boxyard, a retail development made up of shipping containers in downtown Tulsa, on Dec. 8.

Correction: December Union Boundary

The Union Boundary erroneously reported Jarman Elementary Teacher of the Year Wanda Gatlin's total years of teaching. Gatlin is a 27-year teacher, with 19 of those years being with Union Public

Schools. Gatlin holds her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Pikeville University in Pikeville, Kentucky, and her master's in elementary education with an endorsement in English

Language Learners from the University of Central Oklahoma. She earned her National Board Certification in 2006.

Congratulations to Gatlin and all of Union's outstanding Teachers of the Year!



Courtesy Union Public Schools

IMPACTFUL TEACHER: Seventh grade pre-engineering teacher Tiffany Bolding displays the check she received from KOTV the News on 6 and Bob Hurley Auto Family after being named an "Impactful Teacher" on Dec. 15. From left are 6 In The Morning anchor Rich Lenz, Bolding, News On 6 meteorologist Alan Crone, and Bob Hurley Jr., owner of Bob Hurley Auto Family.

These Businesses Support The Union School District



UNION SPORTS

Union Celebrates Ninth State Championship

Redskins Roll With Win Over Norman North

By **MIKE MOGUIN**
Sports Writer

It can best be said that it was Union's time to win state in 2016. The Redskins had a senior-loaded class with players like running back Shamari Brooks and wide receiver/defensive back Tre Brown, who are bound Division I programs.

There were questions if the Redskins could still do it after losses to Jenks and Norman North in the regular season. But they rebounded nicely, avenging those defeats respectively in the playoffs and the Class 6AI state championship game. The latter was held Dec. 2 at Chapman Stadium, located on the University of Tulsa campus.

A lot of offense was expected and that's what took place as Union was a 57-43 victor over Norman North, who had the sons of Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops on their roster.

"In order to win, we had to come together as a family, and we just showed up right there," Brown says.

"It feels great (to win a state championship)," Brooks says. "In my senior season, I just wanted to focus on winning a gold ball for my team and I'm finally able to say I won a championship for my team."

Brooks, a University of Tulsa commit, was the player of the game. Making rushes in his last high school game on the same field he'll playing college ball, Brooks ran for 228 yards on 33 carries while scoring three touchdowns. Those numbers allowed Brooks to finish the year with 2,024 yards in 308 hand-offs.

"This is great," Brook says. "It feels like home. I love it, man. I love Tulsa."

"The defense gave us great opportunities to get the ball back," Brooks says. "The offensive line did exceptionally well in their job blocking."

And it took an offensive line-



IMPRESSIVE YARDAGE: Union's Shamari Brooks flies toward the end zone in the state championship game. Brooks, a University of Tulsa commit, was the player of the game. He ran for 228 yards on 33 carries while scoring three touchdowns. Those numbers allowed Brooks to finish the year with 2,024 yards in 308 handoffs.



HAPPY TIMES: Union players, from left, Shamari Brooks, Tre Brown and Kyrei Fisher congratulate each other near the finish of the game as Union students enjoy the action.

man to get the lead back for good.

In Union's only low point of the game, the Redskins trailed 7-6 after giving up a 23-yard TD pass to the Timberwolves. That came five minutes after Brooks scored Union's first TD, with the extra point missed.

The Redskins answered with a trick play as Cooper Hoopingartner, a senior left tackle who stands 6-5 and weighs 290 pounds, caught a backward pass from quarterback Grady Davenport and took it three yards to the end zone for a TD on fourth down, giving Union a 13-7 lead.

"It was crazy," Hoopingartner said of the situation. "We've been practicing this play for weeks, and they were like (coaches said), 'I'm running the play. This is on you.' To be honest, I was nervous. But I remembered how many times we practiced that, and how many times we were going to execute that. It was just an amazing feeling."

The Union fans were digging it, Hoopingartner says.

"It definitely built up the teams and it brought everything together," he says. "There was great execution on both sides."

Brown made the most critical play of the game with a short pass he took for a 53-yard TD down

the east sideline. The lead was increased to 20-7, where it stood going into the second quarter.

Brown caught three catches for 83 yards and returned a punt 52 yards. On defense, he had two tackles.

"I just put in God's hands," Brown says. "I told you God was going to get this for me. I prayed before the game, I prayed before the day. I'm at a loss for words right now because I always told my team I would bring one back before we (graduate). We didn't get it my freshman and sophomore years (referring to Union's appearance in the 2013 6A and 2014 6AI championships), but we did it this year. I made some plays, but I've got to thank my teammates. They helped me get to where I am."

Junior C.J. Moore led the Redskins in catches with six for 82 yards and three TDs. Moore would score on an 11-yard pass from Davenport. Noah Rauschenberg missed the extra point but he booted a 26-yard field goal before halftime and it was 29-7.

The Timberwolves got the ball to start the second half and scored immediately. That began an exchange of scoring for the rest of the game. But the advantage Union had built up through the first half made the difference.



BIG MAN TOUCHDOWN: The Redskins pulled a special play with Cooper Hoopingartner (75), a senior left tackle who stands 6-5 and weighs 290 pounds, catching a backward pass from quarterback Grady Davenport and taking it three yards to the end zone for a TD on fourth down, giving Union a 13-7 lead.

Davenport finished the game with 208 yards passing, completing 14-of-24 attempts and tossing four TDs.

Union captured its ninth state title in school history and the first in Division 6AI. It was the first title since 2011 and the eighth in 15 years. It is the 21st straight year that either the Redskins or Jenks have won the championship at the highest classification in Oklahoma high school football.



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SPORTS

Victory Christian Reaches State Football Finals

By MIKE MOGUIN Sports Writer

Victory Christian may have not won the state championship, but making it was a big plus for a program that was expected to be in a rebuilding year since it lost excellent players Keats Calhoun and Jon-Michael Terry to graduation.

“It’s special at any class at any school when you get to the championship game,” says Victory coach Ron Smith, who completed his second year at the post.

Victory (13-2) lost 56-33 to Oklahoma City Millwood on Dec. 9 in Stillwater. But at one point, in the third quarter, the Conquerors had a 27-26 lead over the long-time perennial powerhouse Falcons.

Millwood (15-0) exploded from there with a 30-point run that carried over into the fourth quarter.

After yielding three TDs to the Falcons, Victory was in position to trim the deficit to 11 points with a goal-to-go situation with around nine minutes left in the game. It scored, but the TD was nullified by a penalty.

Instead of reducing the deficit, Victory was down 50-27.

“Basically, the game is over at that point, we’re not going to overcome a three-touchdown deficit to

Millwood. That’s just part of the game, and they got after us pretty good after that,” Smith says.

“I was really proud of our kids,” Smith says. “We certainly didn’t give up. We felt like we had a good game plan, and we knew we had to play a perfect game to win.”

The Conquerors, who were ranked seventh, flourished in their passing attack. They did score the first touchdown and led 7-0 after the first quarter and led 13-12 in the second.

R.J. Wakley threw for four TDs and 360 yards on 31-of-51 attempts and rushed for another score.

Caleb Calhoun was the leading receiver with 11 catches for 153 yards with two TDs.

Tyler Hicks, a running back, also factored in as a receiver, finishing with 10 receptions for 119 yards and two TDs.

Working against Victory were eight turnovers - six on interceptions, and only 50 yards rushing.

Wakley, Calhoun and Hicks were key skill position players through most of the season. All three return next year as seniors. And that’s not all.

“Our kids believed they (would make the state final) and got in the game, and fell a little short,” Smith says. “But the good news is, we got a whole bunch of guys coming back. We feel very good about our future here at Victory Christian.”

The Conquerors’ toughest wins in 2016 came in a 14-10 victory over Holland Hall in Week 10 and a 27-21 win against longtime perennial 2A power Davis in the quarterfinals of the playoffs.

The performance of the defense was instrumental in those games.

“We get a lot of accolades for our offensive output this year,” Smith says. “But if the truth be known, our defense had a better year than our offense.”

“On the way to the state finals, we beat the Davis Wolves, who many considered the best team in the state,” Smith says.

Two goal-line stands against the Wolves inside the 5-yard line made a huge difference for Victory.

“That’s a rare feat because the Davis Wolves had not been stopped inside the 5-yard line all year, until they played us,” Smith says. “So I was very happy with the way we played defense.”

Wakley, Calhoun and Hicks were also significant on the defense. But two other players who also made an impact will not return because they graduate next spring. They are

nose guard Jonah Morrow and middle linebacker Brandon Billups, the latter who was a transfer from Union. They were key players in the win against the Wolves, as well as through the season.

Morrow had 119 tackles through the year. “It is a tremendous feat when a down lineman tallies 119 tackles in a season,” Smith says. “That is even unusual at the D-I or the NFL level.”

Billups had to sit out the first four games of the season due to a broken arm. But he managed to rack up tackles through the rest of the year. “He was the state’s leading tackler with 181 in just the 10 games that he played,” Smith says.



VICTORY CHRISTIAN QUARTERBACK R.J. WAKLEY



CASCIA COMMANDO: Cascia Hall quarterback Dalton Abney looks downfield for a receiver in the Oklahoma 4-A semifinal game against Wagoner. Wagoner won the game, 43-28.

Advertisement for ORU (Oklahoma Christian University) featuring a football and 'UPCOMING GAMES' schedule for January 12, 14, 18, 21, 28, and 31.

Tulsa Oilers 2016-17 Schedule advertisement including a calendar of games from October to April, ticket information, and abbreviations for various teams.

TPS to Hold Hall of Fame Ceremony Jan. 19

Twelve individuals with wide-ranging talents and a common cultural bond will be inducted into the Tulsa Public Schools Hall of Fame on Jan. 19.

In announcing the fifth class of honorees, TPS Director of Athletics Gil Cloud said that the Hall of Fame ceremony and dinner will be held at the Marriott Southern Hills. Individual plaques will be presented to the honorees. Identical plaques will be installed in the permanent home of the Hall of Fame within the TPS Department of Athletics in the Charles Mason Education Service Center, 3027 S. New Haven Ave.

Over the last nine months, a selection committee has weighed the accomplishments of scores of athletes and coaches who made their marks within the Tulsa Public Schools system and beyond.

All nine TPS high schools are represented among the 12 new members of the Hall of Fame. The 2017 class will lift the total membership of the Hall of Fame, begun in 2013, to 62.

Reservations for tables or individual seating should be made through Lisa Norman in the TPS Athletics Department, at 918-746-6453. Individual tickets are \$100 and tables are \$1,000.

The following profiles are listed in alphabetical order. The photos shown were ones available.

Cathey Durbin Barkley
Thomas Edison

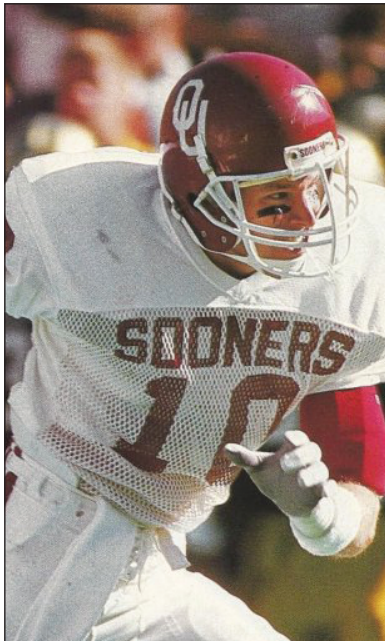
A trailblazer, she was making a big splash in the sports pages while still working toward her graduation in 1975. In the days before females in Tulsa Public Schools were permitted to compete in interscholastic athletics, Cathey Durbin earned a spot on Edison's boys diving team. As a junior in 1974, she became the first female to qualify for the state diving championships on the coed level. As a senior, she again reached the state championship after losing only once (to a male) during the regular season. She qualified for three straight AAU national diving championships before accepting a scholarship to the University of Illinois. She later coached in the Tulsa area. Displaying her athletic skills, she quarterbacked the Tulsa entry in the National Women's Football League in 1977.

Daniel Ford
East Central

Before graduating in 1984, having attended Tulsa Public Schools for 12 years, he lettered in baseball, basketball and football. Earning All-State honors as a quarterback, he accepted a scholarship to play football at the University of Minnesota. Transferring to Arizona State University (1985-88), he was a member of teams that made three straight bowl appearances, winning the Rose and Freedom bowls. He was selected MVP of the 1987 Freedom Bowl, passing for 272 yards and a touchdown in a 33-28 victory over Air Force. He joined the Tulsa Police Department in 1991, serving with distinction until his retirement in 2015, when he joined the City of Tulsa as a project manager. He also found time to coach quarterbacks and coordinate offenses at three Tulsa-area high schools, including his alma mater.

H.J. Green
Coach, Administrator

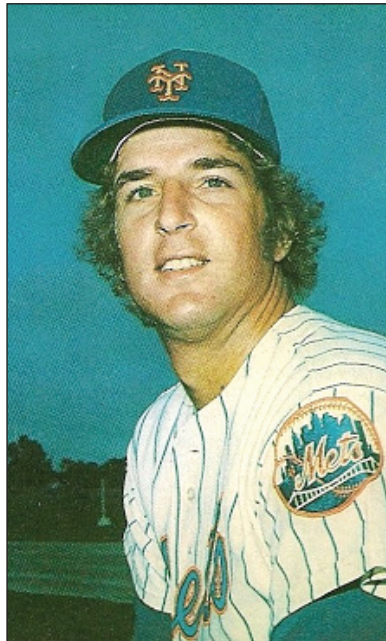
His contributions to Tulsa Public Schools were felt through



DAVID VICKERS



JULIUS PEGUES



JACKSON TODD



CARL MORTON

parts of six decades. A native of Wakita, Oklahoma, he was a three-year football letterman at Oklahoma State University. His first coaching job (football, track) with TPS was at Thomas Edison in 1959. He later coached football at Nathan Hale, Memorial and East Central. While Principal at Hale and Booker T. Washington, he coached elementary and middle-school teams. In 1973, he led the development and implementation of a voluntary desegregation program at Washington. Later, he served four years (1987-91) as Executive Director of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association. He returned to TPS as Deputy Superintendent (2008-10). He is a member of the Booker T. Washington Hall of Fame and earned two Tulsa Tribune football Coach of the Year awards at Hale.

Nathan (Nate) Harris
Booker T. Washington

An All-State basketball player in the Class of 1965, he went on to become one of the most acclaimed coaches in Oklahoma history. He played on Oral Roberts University's first basketball team in 1965-66 before launching a Tulsa Public Schools coaching career that spanned 34 years. After leading programs at Thomas Edison and Charles Mason high schools, he returned to his alma mater in 1982. Under his direction, Washington won 10 state championships and finished runner-up twice before his retirement in 2007. His career record stands at 632-239 and he coached in the 1996 McDonald's All-American game. He is a member of the halls of fame of the Oklahoma Coaches Association, Oklahoma Basketball Coaches Association, and Tournament of Champions. The gymnasium at Washington is Nathan E. Harris Field House.

LaNita Luckey
Central

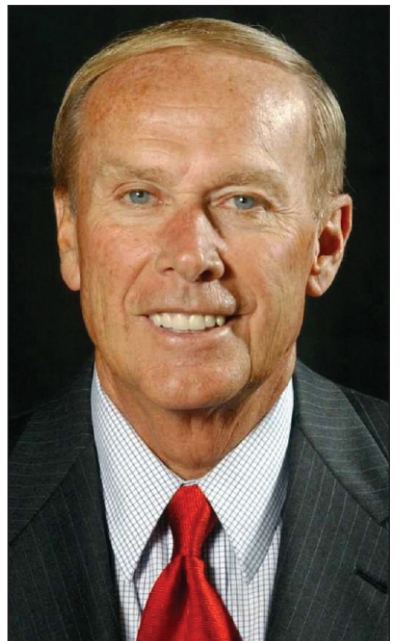
She used her Central experience as a springboard to basketball fame at Baylor University. During her senior year at Central, 1987-88, she was selected Homecoming queen and was a member of the state's Super Five girls basketball All-State team. Ultimately, she was singled out as Oklahoma's Gatorade basketball Player of the Year. Accepting a scholarship to Baylor, she played four years (1988-92) and averaged 16.4 points and 8.3 rebounds. In 2010, she was inducted into the Baylor Athletic Hall of Fame. She was cited for her overall accomplishments and



SHEA SEALS



H.J. GREEN



BILLY TUBBS

record-setting play, including a perfect 12-for-12 field-goal shooting performance for a game. Later, as the first in her family to graduate from college, she launched a business career that led her to the executive director's position of the Waco, Texas, YMCA.

Wallace (Wally) Maurer
Memorial

His name is synonymous with running, and coaching, throughout the state of Oklahoma. A native of Lima, Ohio, he received a track and cross country scholarship to Miami (Ohio) University and began coaching in 1962. Working in the pipeline field, he moved to Tulsa in 1971 and immediately set a course for excellence in competitive running. He coached and directed AAU teams and programs, and served as meet official and starter for hundreds of local, state and national road races, in addition to the Oklahoma high school championships. From 1998 until 2015, he coached boys and girls track and cross country teams at Memorial. In 1996, he received the Governor's Award as an outstanding "Contributor to Youth Activities." He served as president of the Oklahoma chapter of The Athletics Congress (1984-88).

Carl Morton
Daniel Webster

He had attained "legend" status at Daniel Webster by the time he graduated in 1962. He played a starring role on the Tulsa team that won the 1959 national Babe Ruth League championship. He shared Oklahoma baseball Player of the Year honors with teammate and TPS Hall of Famer Richard

Calmus in 1962 after helping Webster win back-to-back state championships. He was a stand-out in basketball and football and attended the University of Oklahoma on a baseball scholarship. He was drafted by the Montreal Expos in 1968 as an outfielder before converting to a pitcher. He was the National League 1970 Rookie of the Year, posting an 18-11 record with four shutouts, 10 complete games. He pitched for Atlanta (1973-76) and had three straight 15-plus win seasons. He died in 1983.

Julius Pegues
Booker T. Washington

In the days before integration, he helped guide Booker T. Washington to three straight Oklahoma high-school basketball state championships. He also played football for three years and was valedictorian of the Class of 1953. Although he did not receive an athletic scholarship to attend the University of Pittsburgh, he did earn the full grant just three games into his freshman year. He went on to become a three-year varsity starter and Pitt's first African-American basketball player. He played in two NCAA basketball tournaments, was selected by the St. Louis Hawks in the NBA draft, and upon graduation in 1958, with a degree in aeronautical engineering, was Pitt's fourth highest career scorer. He retired from McDonnell Douglas as principal engineer/scientist and is a member of the Tulsa Historical Society Hall of Fame.

Shea Seals
McLain

He was the hometown product who made it big. As a high-

school senior, he was the 1993 Oklahoma basketball Player of the Year following a season in which he averaged 24.4 points. Accepting a scholarship to the University of Tulsa, his impact was immediate. In his first collegiate game, he scored 33 points. He went on to earn Freshman All-American honors, averaging 16.8 points. Before he graduated in 1997, he had become the school's all-time scoring leader and his jersey number, 21, has been retired. He played seven years of professional basketball. He returned to coach at McLain and at Booker T. Washington, where he won two state championships (2010, 2011). He joined TU's basketball staff as an assistant in 2012. He is a member of the Tournament of Champions Hall of Fame.

Jackson Todd
Will Rogers

A high-school star, a collegiate All-American, a major-league baseball pitcher. At 6-foot-2, the right-hander posted an 11-2 record as a Will Rogers senior in 1970. Over his final two seasons, his earned-run average was 1.01, en route to All-State recognition. Despite being drafted by the Chicago Cubs, he accepted a scholarship to the University of Oklahoma. While at OU, he pitched in the 1971 Pan American Games, in the 1972 College World Series and twice was named All-American. He established an OU record in 1973 with 13 complete games. After being selected in the second round (38th pick) of the 1973 major-league draft by the New York Mets, he pitched in four seasons (with Mets and Toronto) before

(Continued on page 20)

TPS Hall of Fame Inductees

(Continued from page 19)
retiring in 1985. He served as assistant coach at OU for three seasons.

Billy Tubbs Central

From a three-year start as a player at Central, graduating in 1953, he followed up with a 42-year run as a basketball coach. Although he was head coach for 31 seasons at the NCAA level, he is best remembered for the 14 years he was at the University of Oklahoma. From 1980 through 1994, his teams won four Big Eight Conference championships and finished national runner-up in 1988. Twice he was selected National Coach of the Year and

his OU record was 333-132, including three seasons with 30-plus wins. He served two stints as head coach at his alma mater, Lamar University (1976-80, 2003-06), and coached at TCU (1994-2002). He won more than 100 games at each school, the ninth coach in NCAA history to do so. His collegiate coaching record is 641-340.

David Vickers Nathan Hale

He was a high-school football blue-chipper, Oklahoma Player of the Year, and that served as a prelude to a decorated college career. Graduating in 1983 as a three-year football and track letterman, he received a scholarship

to the University of Oklahoma. He swapped his high-school quarterback role for a key spot in the OU defensive backfield and became a four-year letterman. Chief among his accomplishments: Three-time All-Big Eight Conference, two-time Academic All-Big Eight, two-time second-team All-American, recipient of OU's Sooner Schooner Award for academic achievement. He was a 6-foot-4, 198-pound starter on OU's 1985 national championship team that defeated Penn State University and a captain on the 1987 team. In his four seasons at OU, his teams compiled a record of 42-5-1, never finishing below No. 6 in the final rankings.



CELEBRATION: TU players, coaches and administrators celebrate their 55-10 victory over Central Michigan in the 2016 Miami Beach Bowl Dec. 19 at Marlins Park. Tulsa finished the season with a 10-3 record, the 10th 10-win season in school history, while also capturing the school's 10th bowl game victory.

Flying Tee Hosts Miss United States

Event Benefits No Kid Hungry

FlyingTee, Tulsa's premier golf entertainment venue, teamed up with Miss United States, Alayah Benavidez, to benefit the No Kid Hungry initiative on Dec. 7.

"We are thrilled to have Miss United States in Tulsa for a great opportunity to help make an impact for No Kid Hungry," James Vollbrecht, FlyingTee co-founder and chief technology officer, said. "During the holiday season, many people and businesses, including our facility, are looking for ways to give back. This event gives the community a way to support a great cause."

On Dec. 7, FlyingTee hosted a Long Drive Tournament and donated 50 percent of its golf bay rental proceeds to the No Kids Hungry initiative with the help of Miss United States.

"I'm honored to take part in this event at FlyingTee in support of No Kid Hungry," said Benavidez. "This campaign is near and dear to my heart, so to be able to share it with others and encourage them to donate is a wonderful opportunity for me. I am looking forward to meeting the locals that make up the heartland of America!"



Miss U.S. ALAYAH BENAVIDEZ



HARRY LENTZ for GTR Newspapers

MAYOR'S CUP ACTION: Tulsa's Travis Aston heads to the basket through Oral Roberts defenders Albert Owens, left, and Jalen Bradley in TU's 79-65 Mayor's Cup victory earlier this season. Tulsa's number 12 is Will Magnay and ORU's 30 is Desmond McDaniel.

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THE ECONOMY

Adrienne Kallweit Talks Entrepreneurialism, Gig Bigwig

By **EMILY RAMSEY**
Managing Editor

Some individuals are born with an entrepreneurship gene, it seems, the desire accompanied with the ability to brainstorm and develop new ideas.

“As a serial entrepreneur, you’re always creating, always inventing,” says Adrienne Kallweit, co-owner and co-founder of SeekingSitters and Gig Bigwig.

Adrienne Kallweit, who earned a bachelor’s degree in construction management from the University of Oklahoma, spent years in the construction industry with her husband, David, before they took their first steps in launching SeekingSitters, which provides on-demand background-screened professional babysitters. “The Uber of babysitting, long before Uber,” says Adrienne.

The idea for SeekingSitters came about in 2004 after Adrienne performed a background screening on a woman whom she and David planned to employ as a babysitter, only to find that the woman had a criminal history.

Adrienne’s extensive knowledge of

background investigation comes from her parents, who founded an investigative service company in 1978, Hide and Seek, which Adrienne and David purchased in 1999.

“From the beginning, our plan in creating SeekingSitters was to take it nationwide so that parents everywhere could feel safe,” says Adrienne. “We started with Tulsa and began franchising in 2006.”

Utilizing the stringent screening practices founded in her investigative practice, to date, SeekingSitters has had zero reported safety incidents and operates in 27 states with more than 100 locations.

At the end of 2015, Adrienne and David evaluated the need to support the verification of “gig workers,” a growing industry of temporary workers or independent contractors who contract through various on-demand services.

With a 2017 launch, Gig Bigwig, gigbigwig.com, will provide verification services for gig workers. “It serves somewhat like their online driver’s license, giving peace of mind to the consumer,” says Adrienne.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

BUSINESS CREATOR: Adrienne Kallweit and her husband, David, are in the process of launching their second business, Gig Bigwig. In 2004, they founded SeekingSitters, which currently operates in 27 states with more than 100 locations.



GTR Newspapers Photo

NEW COMPANY: Adrienne Kallweit, left, co-founder of SeekingSitters and Gig Bigwig, speaks during a recent 1 Million Cups presentation of Gig Bigwig, held at 36 Degrees North, 36 E. Cameron St. Gig Bigwig provides verification of gig workers by licensed private investigators. Presenting with Kallweit is Gig Bigwig’s Jennifer Caudle.

Gig Bigwig’s hands-on verification of the gig worker provides a certification that the gig worker’s background and work history have been analyzed and cleared by a licensed private investigator. Gig Bigwig also provides a virtual location for gig workers to keep their jobs and payments organized and additional offerings such as tax and credit services.

Regarding Gig Bigwig’s verification process, some might wonder what sets them apart from other private investigation or background check companies. Adrienne says, “It is so important how you gather the information and that you analyze the data by an actual person.”

With the rise of many gig-based companies, such as Airbnb and Uber, and the growth of the gig industry, the need for a systematic screening process is growing.

It is estimated that there are 40 million gig workers nationally, with 60 million expected by 2020.

“These companies that are providing on-demand services are not utilizing any type of uniform screening process,” says Adrienne. “One service said that their advertised ‘background check screening’ meant that the company called to make sure the worker answered their phone.”

Safety, the common thread in Adrienne’s business ventures, is

something that she feels strongly about and recognizes the national need for improvement.

“When you see the assaults, the deaths happening with some of these sharing services, they don’t need to be happening,” she says. “We want to help the gig industry grow and help everyone to be safe.”

Besides safety, the other underlying theme that, perhaps, runs a bit deeper for Adrienne is her passion to create, which is clearly serving her well.

“Being an entrepreneur has been a gift. And I feel we have an obligation to be passionate about our gifts.”



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Wabi Cycles Relocates to Tulsa from Los Angeles

Innovative Company Has National Market

By **KIRBY DAVIS**
Contributing Writer

Bicycle manufacturer Wabi Cycles will complete its downtown Tulsa debut early this year with the rollout of a new racing model.

This will bring its lineup of customizable leisure and town bikes to five.

"We're seeing strong interest in our bikes," says Curtis Kline, who, with co-owner Matt Gragg, bought this seven-year-old firm in May. "We think the product has potential across a much broader demographic. We are using digital marketing to attract those other demographics."

Since its June relocation from Los Angeles to Tulsa's Brady Arts District, Wabi has produced three single-speed models with steel frames for direct sale to internet consumers. Each offers a wide variety of custom options. A fourth model features a 10-speed gearbox. Base prices range from \$750 to \$1,950 through wabicycles.com, with free shipping within the 48 contiguous U.S. states.

These models appeal to the growing leisure market, says Kline, who handles Wabi's marketing and sales chores. Shipments in the customizable commuter/town bike segment, which also includes electric bicycles, jumped 63 percent in the first nine months of 2016, countering an eight-percent drop in overall U.S. bicycle manufacturer shipments over that same period, according to an October report by Bicycle Retailer magazine.

Wabi's fifth model, expected to begin sales in early 2017, will give the company a cyclocross racing entry. A position in that segment, which also showed growth this year, could provide the young company a nice marketing and sales advantage.

"People that race may have more than one bike," says University of Oklahoma retail economist James Kenderdine. "And they (racing models) can appeal to bicycle magazines and enthusiast groups."

The new Tulsa company targeted its initial e-sales towards women cyclists, a customer base originally overlooked by Wabi founder Richard Snook. Kline said Snook had primarily focused on friends and racing enthusiasts.

"We've actually sold a lot of bikes to women since we've taken over," Kline says. "We think there's a good, solid market there."

Wabi also sees growth potential among college students.

"Right now we're running digital ads to Stanford, UC (University of California) Santa Barbara, and UT (University of Texas) Austin, because those are campuses that are at the top of the list of bike-friendly campuses," Kline says.

"The niche is high-quality, single-speed bikes," he explains. "What you find out there on the

market is that single-speed bikes are very popular because they're simple and not really expensive, and in a lot of cases, through their simplicity, are very beautiful bikes. But what aren't in that space are high-quality bikes. There are mass-produced bikes in a lower price range. Our bikes are like those single-speed, steel-framed bikes but they're also high quality."

Wabi imports its frames from Taiwan suppliers, then finishes assembly at its 3,800-square-foot 107 N. Boulder Ave. shop. The company keeps more than 200 frames in stock in order to quickly complete customer orders.

"It's working out well," says Gragg, who oversees Wabi's manufacturing and supplier relations. "In terms of turnaround time, our standard bike takes two or three business days to build."

From its June production start, Kline says Wabi has averaged \$30,000 monthly sales in the third quarter. These direct-to-customer transactions originated from about 15 different states, as well as seven other countries.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

GRAND OPENING: To celebrate the opening of Wabi Cycles in Tulsa in October, the firm held a welcoming party at its 107 N. Boulder Ave. location in the Brady Arts District. From left are owners Curtis Kline and Matt Gragg.

"Our biggest markets are New York City and Los Angeles," Kline says.

Kline and Gragg added a retail outlet at its Tulsa shop on Oct. 7, selling not just Wabi models but two Huntington Beach chopper-styled bicycles. While their focus

remains on e-sales outside Tulsa, the duo expects that storefront to help Wabi reach their first-year sales target of \$500,000.

"What they've got to do is reach people who cycle a lot, people who understand cycling," says

Kenderdine, professor emeritus of marketing and supply chain management with OU's Price College of Business. "I think there's a market. I probably would have been willing to spend for a good, customized bike."

BROKEN ARROW HOLIDAY



GTR Newspapers photo

HAPPY TIMES: AVB Bank held its annual holiday party in December at its headquarters in downtown Broken Arrow. Enjoying the evening are, from left, Topper Causby, executive vice president and chief lending officer for AVB Bank; Wes Smithwick, president and CEO of the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce; April Sailsbury, senior vice president of the B.A. Chamber; Ted Cundiff, president and CEO of AVB Bank; and Scott Eudey, B.A. city councillor.

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Lee's Bicycles Closes After 103 Years

By ADAM VANDERBURG
Owner, Lee's Bicycles

What a journey this has been growing up in this business for the last 44 years. My father bought Lee's when it was at 51st Street and Quaker Avenue. At that time, Lee's was selling new and used Euro bikes but mostly servicing Yahoo lawnmowers and old bicycle clunkers!

Growing up in the early 1970s, I was converting old Stingrays into BMX bikes and taking old cruisers and converting them to mountain bikes by late 1970s. That was an epic time as our industry grew and changed quickly and it hasn't stopped since. My first journey at 15 years old was cycling 1,000 miles through western Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Colorado with my best friend. My first road bike race was the Joe Martin Stage Race in Fayetteville, Arkansas in 1981. Bicycling is in my blood. It's now part of our culture and the fabric of the United States.

For 103 years Lee's Bicycles has sold and serviced bicycles in Tulsa. But times change and I've

made some significant changes too. I decided to transition the spirit of Lee's and pass this to our new owners - Phat Tire Bike Shop. Phat Tire has the energy and passion to take us into a new century. I met our new owners last year and was impressed with their operation and knowledge of cycling. I felt these guys had the vision and would be perfect owners for Lee's in Tulsa. They are based in Bentonville and have four other locations in Arkansas. If you get the chance, I recommend visiting Northwest Arkansas and checking out some of the great paved trails for road bike riding and soft trails for mountain bike riding.

The beautiful thing about Phat Tire Bike Shop taking over is that I get to continue working at the bike shop. I will be helping them with advocacy, community relations, and events. I can't thank you enough for the decades of support. I am excited to be able to continue living the dream and working with many new members at Phat Tire Bike Shop!

I'll be seeing you...Where the trail meets the road!



BMX VISIT: Connor Fields, center, visited Lee's Bicycles Nov. 22 to promote the season finale of the BMX National Series. It was one of the last events at Lee's Bicycles, which has become Phat Tire Bike Shop. At left is Nickel Potter, manager of Phat Tire Bike Shop, and at right is former Lee's Bicycles owner Adam Vanderburg

Adam Vanderburg says he will keep managing his commercial properties in the Blue Dome with tenants Phat Tire Bike Shop, Fleet Feet Sports & JINYA Ramen Bar and at the Peloton Center located at 97th Street and Riverside Parkway with tenants Phat Tire Bike Shop, Tulsa Runner, and Fitness Together.

Energy Education is Critical for Economic Growth

Future generations are depending on us to keep the American dream alive. For too long we in America have been wasting time blaming the energy industry or the government for failure to adopt a national energy strategy when we each should be responsible for creating the plan.

In order to create a plan, energy education should be at the forefront.

Since I entered the energy business in 1977, going on forty years, the industry has continually been forced to defend itself. For example, in 1985, I testified before the U.S. Senate and Natural Resources Committee, in a forty-three page report, on the potentially devastating effects that proposed regulations would have on the oil and gas industry, in term of job loss, and reductions in drilling expenditures, at a time when the vital indus-

try most needed support. Sound familiar?

At a White House briefing I attended in September, 2006, I asked US Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman about the status of their pending national energy education initiatives. He did not have an answer, but promised he would have an aide contact me with answers. The aide did call, but provided me little information. Energy education was needed then, as it is now.

On December 4th, 2013, at the South Texas Wildcatters Association in San Antonio, I launched the energy education campaign "It's Time to Tell Our Story!" based upon my book "America Needs America's Energy: Creating Together the People's Energy Plan!" The message has been delivered through radio interviews in more than 30 states and 150 radio

stations, a weekly radio show, weekly column/blog, speeches throughout the US, op-eds, newspaper interviews, and other media outlets.

The following are among those who I personally am involved with to provide energy education:

IEPC energy policy conference: In 1992, I founded and chaired the first conference which was held at the University of Oklahoma. Conferences have been held in Washington, DC, Tulsa, Denver, Houston and Oklahoma City. In 2017, the twenty fifth anniversary, events will be held throughout Oklahoma. Upcoming conferences/roundtables are planned to be held 2018- Detroit, 2019- Washington, DC and 2020-Houston.

The Energy Advocates: Energy Advocates was founded in 1974. The primary mission of The Energy Advocates is to inform the general public about our vital energy industry and energy policy.

Exploring Energy radio show and newspaper: I am the first Monday of each month guest on the award-winning radio show and have a

monthly column in the newspaper. Through news and interviews, hosts Shawn Wilson and Nathan Brewer talk about all aspects of energy, from oil and gas to wind, solar, coal, nuclear, and geothermal, for one hour/five days a week. Big Chief Plant Services Exploring Energy Show is the main sponsor and Paul Joseph is the producer. Exploring Energy newspaper distributes 20,000 copies per month.

Oilman Magazine: I have a column in each issue of the magazine. The magazine is Houston based. In addition to the magazine, the website www.oilmagazine.com is a good source for energy education.

GTR Newspapers: I have a monthly column in the Greater Tulsa Reporter newspapers- Union Boundary, Midtown Monitor, Jenks District Gazette, Broken Arrow Express, Owasso Rambler, and the Bixby Breeze. Thanks to Forrest Cameron, GTR editor and publisher, for providing the opportunity to provide energy education.

University of Tulsa Master of Energy Business Industry Advisory

Council: I serve as a member of the advisory council along with around twenty-five others from across the nation. The program is designed for working professionals who already have some experience in the energy industry. It has a broad-based energy business focus and is designed to train students on and managing organizations across the entire energy complex. The Master of Energy Business (MEB) is a 34-credit-hour graduate program offered in a technology-enriched online delivery format.

The oil and gas industry touches our lives daily. Among the petroleum-based consumer products that Americans use daily include: anti-septics, asphalt, bottles, clothes, computers, contacts, deodorant, drinking cups, eyeglasses, plastics, shampoo, shoes, shaving cream, telephones, toothbrushes, trash bags, tires, vitamin capsules, and thousands of other products.

Mark A. Stansberry is Chairman of The GTD Group, an award-winning energy author, and Energy Advocate.

Energy Watch



By MARK A. STANSBERRY

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WILLIAMS TOY DRIVE: Williams Companies employees donated toys to The Salvation Army Dec. 14, showcasing Williams' commitment to Tulsa's needs. At right is Tulsa Salvation Army Captain and Area Commander Ken Chapman with Amy Shank, manager of Williams' Project Development NGL/Petchem, and other Williams employees. 225 Williams employees participated, exemplifying the community spirit and goodwill of the Tulsa-based company.



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BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES



Courtesy HEATHER BERRYHILL

CELEBRATING CONSTRUCTION: Associated Builders & Contractors of Oklahoma (ABC) recently held their Excellence in Construction (EIC) Awards at the Cox Business Center. Now in its 30th year, the program recognizes and celebrates the outstanding achievements of ABC of Oklahoma members. The event honors innovations in merit shop construction and includes entire team members including contractor, owner, architect and engineer. U.S. Congressman Markwayne Mullin gave the invocation. KOTV Anchor Terri Hood and Meteorologist Travis Myer were guest emcees for the evening, and the 486th Civil Affairs Battalion provided the Color Guard. From left are, front row, Thomas Martinez (entertainment); middle row: Jennifer Jezek, Travis Meyer, Terri Hood, Carl Williams and Sally Singer; back row: Andy Wright, Steve Ludwig and Brian Smith.



Courtesy HEATHER BERRYHILL

AWARD WINNERS: Rupe Helmer Group (RHG) received two EIC awards from the Associated Builders & Contractors of Oklahoma (ABC) Excellence in Construction (EIC) Awards. They won in the "Under \$2 million" category for their works on the construction of Golden Dragon Taekwondo in Tulsa and NextCare Urgent Care in Claremore. Pictured from left are Danny Kennedy, Rupe Helmer Group VP of Construction; Michael Holt, VP at Citizens Bank; and Adam Hannaford, Rupe Helmer group project manager.

The Tulsa Press Club has announced its 2017 board of directors. Members of the executive committee include **President Michael Overall**, Tulsa World; **Vice President Nicole Amend**, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma; **Treasurer Amanda Clinton**, Cherokee Nation Businesses; and **Secretary Claire Johnson**, Camp Fire Green Country.



OVERALL

Committee chairs include Development Chair **Kim Brown**, Communications Specialist; Membership Chair **Biff Noble**, Global Talent Management; and Communications Chair **Rachel Smith**, Hillcrest Medical Center. Members at large include **David Potts**, partner and shareholder, James, Potts & Wulfers, Inc.; **Leanna Reeder**, Cherokee Nation; **Lindsey Ellerbach**, AIA Eastern Oklahoma; **Melani Hamilton**, Gilcrease Museum; **Nikki Lamson**, Cubic Inc.; **Tom Gilbert**, Tulsa World; **Zack Stoycoff**, Tulsa Regional Chamber; and **Forrest Cameron**, GTR Newspapers.

The immediate past president is **Rachel Anderson**, Schnake Turnbo Frank, and the Club Manager is **Kelly Nash**.

Cytergy, an award-winning architecture and engineering firm based in Tulsa, announces the promotion of **Robert Burkman** to deputy director of retail.



BURKMAN

Burkman has been on Cytergy's retail team for 16 years. His time at Cytergy has given him expertise in managing retail projects and complex building programs all while maintaining relationships with Cytergy's biggest clients. Burkman earned his Bachelor of Science in telecommunications from Oral Roberts University.

Cytergy is a full-service architecture, engineering and construction management firm offering professional expertise to a wide range of customers and building types. The firm has 90 professional architects, structural engineers, civil engineers, electrical engineers, mechanical engineers, project managers, specialists and design professionals based in Tulsa and licensed in every state in the Continental US.

Hall Estill announces that two attorneys, **Megan M. Beck** and **Kelly C. Comarda**, have been elected shareholders of the firm's Tulsa office.

Beck joined Hall Estill in 2015 where she focuses her practice in the family services arena, with an emphasis on custody, divorce and guardianship matters. Her experience includes working with clients in complex financial and high profile domestic relations matters. She is a graduate of the University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law (J.D., 2005) and the University of Kansas (B.S., 2002).

Comarda has been practicing law at Hall Estill since 2013 concentrating his practice on litigation, primarily in the healthcare and medical malpractice fields. His experience includes representing physicians in matters before various administrative boards, including the Oklahoma Medical Board, the National Practitioner Data Bank and the American Board of Neurological Surgery. He is a University of Arkansas School of Law (J.D., 2008) and Tulane University (B.S.M., 2004) graduate.

AVB Bank is pleased to announce the hiring of **Steven Barnes** to serve as vice president and commercial lending officer. Barnes has over 17 years of experience in the financial industry, including branch management, internal audit, and consumer and commercial lending.



BARNES

Topper Causby, AVB's chief lending officer, says, "We are thrilled to have Steve join our bank. His extensive background in finance will only strengthen this bank and our pursuit to grow with the communities we serve." Causby adds, "AVB Bank has a long-standing reputation of advocating for small businesses, and with Steve on our team, we are even better positioned to help business owners achieve their goals."

Brittany Taylor, Barnes' long time assistant, has joined him in his move to AVB Bank. Barnes and Taylor office at AVB Bank's Stone Wood Hills branch, located at 2201 N. Elm Pl.

Barnes grew up in Sapulpa. He earned his Bachelor of Business Administration with emphasis in Finance from Northeastern State University and completed his Master of Business Administration from the University of Tulsa. He is a graduate of Leadership Broken Arrow. A 13-year resident, he and his wife, Mollie, and daughter, Natalie, are proud to call Broken Arrow their home.

The **Community Service Council (CSC)** has expanded its leadership team to include **Heather Hope-Hernandez** as chief of external affairs and **John Gonsalves** as chief financial officer.



HERNANDEZ

Hope-Hernandez is a veteran communications and public affairs professional with a nearly 25-year track record. A native Tulsan and University of Oklahoma graduate, Hope-Hernandez began her career in Washington, D.C., and New York City as a political journalist.

As chief of external affairs, Hope-Hernandez will concentrate on the CSC's public policy agenda as well as manage all aspects of CSC's marketing and communications including funder relations and development.

"Heather's combined expertise in communications, policy and development, makes her the perfect choice for this newly-conceived position as CSC embarks on its new strategic direction. We're very excited to welcome her to the team," says CSC Chief Executive Officer Kevin Burr.

Gonsalves comes to CSC with more than 15 years of non-profit leadership experience, having served most recently as controller for the Youth Empowerment Project in New Orleans and prior to that as director of finance and administration for Tulsa Habitat for Humanity. Gonsalves received a bachelor's degree in accounting and business administration from Oklahoma Wesleyan University and has an MBA from Northeastern State University.

As chief financial officer, Gonsalves will oversee the intricate finances of a \$12 million annual budget, which includes multiple grant reporting requirements as well as a staff of 140.

State Rep. **Mike Ritze** was recently named to the **Oklahoma Baptist Village Board of Directors** for the Village Communities for 2016-2017.



RITZE

The 22-member board oversees the operations of Baptist Villages Communities (BVC) in Ada, Broken Arrow, Cleveland, Elk City, Hugo, Lake Texoma, Oklahoma City, Okmulgee and Owasso. The board also oversees Entrusted Hearts by Baptist Village services at home in Lawton, Oklahoma City and Owasso/Tulsa areas, as well as Entrusted Hearts Medical Equipment by Baptist Village.

BVC is the largest not-for-profit provider of senior living and aging services in Oklahoma, serving residents across the state since 1958.

"I am so honored to be appointed to the Oklahoma Baptist Village Board of Directors for the Village Communities," Rep. Ritze, R-Broken Arrow says. "I'm proud to be involved with such a fine organization that provides exceptional care at each one of their campuses in Oklahoma."

Rep. Ritze brings over 40 years of experience as a practicing physician and surgeon to the BVC Board.

Nabholz Construction recently announced the internal promotion of **Doyle Phillips** to executive vice president of preconstruction for the Southwest Operation of Nabholz Corporation.



PHILLIPS

Phillips is a 30-plus-year veteran of the construction industry with extensive experience in all aspects of commercial construction - from the field to management. He holds a bachelor's degree in construction management, a Master of Science in Education, and an educational doctoral degree in leadership and management. Phillips has served as an adjunct professor for the past four years, currently teaching at the University of Oklahoma in the Construction Science Department. Phillips' accomplishments continue as a certified professional estimator, certified professional constructor, and certified construction contract administrator. Due to his outstanding work, Phillips was honored as the National Estimator of the Year from the American Society of Professional Estimators.

For more information about Nabholz, go to nabholz.com.

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Cell Phone Rescue Continues Expansion

Year-Old Company Plans to Double Size

By KIRBY DAVIS
Contributing Writer

As demand continues, Cell Phone Rescue intends to double its size while expanding its services.

Since its October 2015 launch under a different name, this repairer of cell phones, computers, tablets, and other electronic devices has opened three Tulsa area locations. Founder Ted Andress plans to add three to five more stores in this region, each three-person locations averaging 1,500 square feet.

"We are taking this industry to a completely different level," says Andress, who owns and operates the family-owned chain with his sons Teddy and Tyler. "We are taking it from a mom-and-pop-type business to more of a mainstream service-oriented business."

"It used to be anybody could open up just a small 500-square-foot repair store and be very limited," Ted Andress says. "We've hired the very best people and educated technicians with state-of-the-art equipment to be able to offer state-of-the-art services and a more wide variety of services."

This 10-employee Tulsa firm made its reputation repairing cell phones of all makes and models, with a one-year warranty on all completed work. Cell Phone Rescue also retails a wide variety of cases, cords, chargers and Bluetooth accessories. Andress

says his company focuses on customer service while safeguarding customer data and privacy.

"It doesn't take long for us to repair these devices, using the best quality parts," says Tyler Andress. He says each location maintains an inventory of thousands of parts to help achieve a fast turnaround time.

Store locations are chosen to maximize easy access and population growth.

"There were no other repair stores in these areas," says Ted Andress.

Cell Phone Rescue finished its first year by branching into computer, game console, and drone repairs, along with sales of used and refurbished phones and tablets. The company also provides data recovery and virus removal services.

"We want to be at the forefront of that," says Ted Andress.

"We're the fastest-growing full-service cellular repair business in northeastern Oklahoma. We have customers that come to us from as far away as Miami and Coffeyville, Kansas, and all the way from Stillwater, Bristow, and McAlester."

Cell Phone Rescue adopted its new name at the close of 2016 to maximize growth opportunities in new markets, says Teddy Andress. Its new logo mixes lime green block letters and backgrounds with white and black reverses to build a unique brand image.

"We wanted to differentiate



SHARON CAMERON for GTR Newspapers

FAMILY WELCOME: Cell Phone Rescue has shown amazing growth in its first year. Founder Ted Andress, left, and his sons Teddy Andress, center, and Tyler Andress look forward to a successful future as they stand in front of the 7462 S Olympia Ave. location in the Tulsa Hills Shopping Center. Cell Phone Rescue also has locations in Owasso at 12305 E. 96th St. N. and at 10035 S. Memorial Dr. in south Tulsa.

ourselves," says Ted Andress, noting how many retailers employ red and white signage. "When you drive by our stores, our signs kind of pop off the wall."

Cell Phone Rescue extended this color scheme into its store interiors, with walls alternating from solid white to lime green and back again. Large white letters proclaim the company's name on that lime green back wall.

Each 1,500-square-foot location provides not just retail space and a repair shop but a large

waiting area with lounge chairs and TV displays.

"We wanted a nice professional presentation, a comfortable setting where you can sit down, drink a cup of coffee, read your paper, and be comfortable while we get your devices fixed," says Ted Andress.

The company unveiled cellphonerescue.com as it enters 2017. The Andress family intends to use this site, Facebook, and other social media options for its primary marketing efforts.

To celebrate its one-year anniversary,

Cell Phone Rescue will offer several specials in January at its three stores: 12305 E. 96th St. N. in Owasso, 7462 S. Olympia Ave., in the Tulsa Hills shopping center, and 10035 S. Memorial Dr. in south Tulsa. All three stores operate seven days a week.

"Drop in any one of our three locations to sign up for a free flat screen TV giveaway for Super Bowl Sunday," says Ted Andress. Each location will be giving away a TV. "We will also have 20 percent off on cases, and 15 percent off on all repairs through February."

PSO Benefits Wind Power

Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) is lowering the cost for customers who sign up to receive wind power.

In a July 29 filing at the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC), PSO proposed modifications to its existing Green Energy Tariff, known as WindChoice, to reduce the cost for customers who participate in the voluntary program. Today, the proposal was approved by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, meaning the additional cost for customers who sign up for WindChoice will be reduced by as much as 76 percent beginning January 2017.

"WindChoice is an important option for customers - particularly those who are environmentally conscious or desire to support renewable energy in Oklahoma," says Scott Ritz, PSO director of Customer Services and Marketing. "Simplifying the tariff's structure will allow customers to receive the renewable benefit from PSO's wind resources at a much lower rate than before, which should make the

program even more attractive to customers."

PSO began offering WindChoice in 2011 to allow customers to designate a specific amount of their energy requirement to come from wind. Under the newly-revised WindChoice tariff, not only will subscribers benefit from a much lower rate, they also will be able to choose the exact percentage of their electricity - from one to 100 percent - that comes from PSO's Oklahoma-based renewable wind energy resources.

Currently, approximately 1,000 customers are enrolled in the program, with residential customers accounting for 99 percent of the subscribers.

PSO, a unit of American Electric Power, is an electric utility company serving more than 545,000 customers in eastern and southwestern Oklahoma. Based in Tulsa, PSO has nearly 3,800 megawatts of generating capacity and is one of the largest distributors of wind energy in the state. More information about PSO can be found at PSOklahoma.com.

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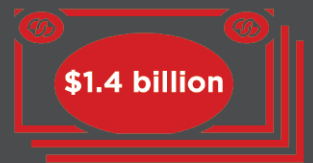
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Exploring Streamline Architecture Around Tulsa

In previous columns, I've reviewed some of our well-known Art Deco buildings. But, there were other smaller, more modest buildings built in the late 1930s and 40s in the Art Deco style we call Streamline, which seldom receives mention.

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

Streamline leant itself easily to diners, service stations, movie theaters, residences and small commercial buildings. The design basis of these were on strong horizontal lines as opposed to the vertical emphasis of earlier Art Deco designs. Rounded corners in a parabolic curve and monolithic exterior skin almost devoid of ornamentation were classic characteristics. Materials commonly used included brick, stucco, glass block vitrolite, porcelain panels, chrome and aluminum. Four commercial buildings in this Streamline Art Deco design in Tulsa are Tulsa Monument Co., Phoenix Cleaners, City Veterinary Hospital and Security Federal.

Tulsa Monument Co., 1735 E. 11th St., was built in 1936 and designed by architect Harry Mahler. The design idea was that the building would simulate the appearance of a monument. The building is symmetrical with two wings off a central small clock tower element that houses the main entrance. The tower is stepped back and flanked by vertical pillars. The pillars match those at the corners of the wings, each is capped with three horizontal bands. The tower vertically is accented by columns of glass brick inset in a narrow perpendicular line. The skin is white plaster concrete trimmed in gunmetal gray.

The west half of Phoenix Cleaners at 125 E. 18th St. began life as a grocery store. It was purchased by the Robinson family and converted into a cleaning establishment in the late 1930s. Several fires in the late 1940s due to naphtha and other cleaning solvents caused the owners to rebuild with noncombustible materials in 1947 and add the east wing. Today there is an

antique shop in the west wing. The cleaners, located in the east wing, is owned by the third generation of the Robinson family, Todd and Allison Robinson. The exterior is painted brick with steel casement windows and a rounded southeast corner, with glass blocks, virtually the same as originally built. The second level floor frame is steel and concrete; there is no wood in the building structure. The main customer lobby has a diamond gridded terrazzo floor which appears to be in excellent condition.

City Veterinary Hospital, 3550 S. Peoria Ave., was designed by Joseph R. Koberling in 1942 and has operated continuously as a veterinary clinic. Today, it is owned by Dr. Chet Thomas. This one-story building has a skin of buff brick with strong horizontal banding achieved by periodic courses of corbelled brick. Corners are rounded and glass block is used in many areas.

Security Federal is a special Streamline building that unfortunately no longer exists except in the memories of longtime Tulsans. I include it because of its great Art Deco design and because my grandfather, C. C. Cole, was CEO there during the 1940s and early 1950s.

Security Federal began as a small financial institution, providing residential loans. Originally located in the Skelly Building, the landlord W. G. Skelly, repeatedly lowered the rent during the lean 1930s, enabling the newly formed Security Federal to remain afloat. In 1937, Security Federal



TULSA MONUMENT CO: Located at 1735 E. 11th St., this structure was built in 1936 and designed in the Streamline style by architect Harry Mahler. The Streamline style was based on strong horizontal lines as opposed to the vertical emphasis of earlier Art Deco designs.

bought the structure at 120 W. 4th St. and hired architect Harry Mahler to update the basic one-story brick building. Mahler faced the building with alternating dull and polished panels of black vitrolite in a stepped design terminating in a pediment featuring a clock.

Security Federal went on in the 1950s to become part of State Federal Savings and Loan and moved from the building. In its final years, the building became a bar called Court of the Three Sisters before surrendering to a wrecking ball in the 1980s. Pictures of this building may be found in the book, Tulsa Art Deco, originally published by The Junior League of Tulsa and reprinted by The Tulsa Foundation of Architecture.



CITY VETERINARY HOSPITAL: At 3550 S. Peoria Ave., it was designed by Joseph R. Koberling in 1942 and has operated continuously as a veterinary clinic.

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TU Communication Hall of Fame to Honor Bill Hinkle

Information from this article is attributed to writer Hunter Howe Cates and the University of Tulsa

John William "Bill" Hinkle, a leading Tulsa-based advertising professional and adjunct professor at the University of Tulsa, will be inducted into the TU Communication Hall of Fame during a ceremony Jan. 26 at the Lorton Performance Center on the TU campus. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 5 p.m.

This will be Hinkle's second honor from TU. In 2012 he received the J. Paschal Twyman Award, a special honor given only to individuals who display exceptional leadership and commitment to the university.

Hinkle is a big believer in teaching beyond the books. As an adjunct instructor at TU since 1994, he encourages students to step out of the classroom and into the real world long before graduation. Since he began teaching, eager students have been transformed into successful professionals in the advertising industry under his tutelage.

With more than 40 years of advertising experience, Hinkle is a Tulsa legend known for both his practical teaching applications and a passion for writing that dates back to his childhood.

"My dad owned the largest graphic design studio in the southwest for about 25 years," Hinkle says. "I was always around advertising people, and I knew from the eighth grade on that's what I was going to do."

Hinkle graduated from TU in 1969 and worked his way up the ladder in advertising. "I went to work as a gofer at an ad agency making \$305 a month ... I was lucky to get that," he says.

Next, Hinkle accepted a copywriting position at Ackerman Ad Agency where he worked until starting his own advertising business in 1975. The name was changed to HinkleBrownBloyed in 1979. When he sold it in 1983, the firm had grown from a staff of two people to 35, but that agency was just the beginning. By 1991, Hinkle had set his sights on a new endeavor and created

Hinkle Creative Services, Inc., a creative resource for companies and their marketing departments. His works have garnered him numerous advertising awards from across the country. Beyond his own personal success, Hinkle cares about the future of his TU students.

"This world is moving fast, and technology changes quickly, but nothing will replace the ability to communicate," he says. "Twenty-two-year-olds who graduate and go into this business must be able to sell themselves and understand the dynamics of the industry, or they'll never get anywhere."

While developing his agency, Hinkle offered to teach TU communications students practical application by allowing them to work with professionals on real accounts.

"We put students face-to-face with industry professionals on our advisory board; and when they graduate, they've already interned with people in the industry and have a leg up on the competition," he says.

In addition to real-world experience, TU students also benefit from the Hinkle Creative Center, an informal teaching space in Oliphant Hall sponsored by Hinkle, with smart boards, track lights and other mobile features.

"I didn't want anything that says this is a classroom with students lined up like pigeons," Hinkle says. "I wanted everybody to feel comfortable and to be creative."

Thanks to Hinkle's efforts, TU advertising graduates are in high demand in Tulsa and across the nation. Their portfolios reflect his dedication to student success.

As part of Hinkle's teaching responsibilities at TU, he oversees the Ad Program, which includes teaching several classes and managing and developing the TU National Student Advertising Team annually. He works with hundreds of advertising industry companies to place Ad Program graduates as employees. Hinkle is responsible for over 300 TU advertising, marketing, graphic design, broadcast production, and PR graduates being hired by various companies all over America.



BILL HINKLE

He says, "I am obsessed with doing breakthrough advertising creative for my clients based on sound strategy and research. I am also obsessed with helping as many TU students succeed in my profession during their school years and when they graduate."

In 1994, Hinkle began at TU as an unpaid adjunct.

But instead of drowning students in tests, he immediately had them producing campaigns for real-world clients. It wasn't easy. He says, for the first five years, "I literally had to beg people to give us a chance."

Those that did were surprised by the quality. However, Hinkle had a bigger goal in mind, to establish a full, interdisciplinary advertising curriculum. "You better be an advocate for these students," he says. "And the whole point of the Ad Program is to keep these superstars in town."

It took Hinkle about 13 years to establish the program. He found a home in the college of Arts and Sciences with the forward-thinking help of Dean Tom Benediktson and fellow professor Teresa Valero. Hinkle couldn't be happier now that he's blessed with students who are right-brainers like him.

As a teacher, Hinkle has arguably given as much to the industry as he did in his entire advertising career. Today, more than 80 of his former students are employed in the Tulsa industry with more than 150 others working across the country.

His former students include Lucinda Rojas-Ross who began her career with Tulsa firm Schnake Turnbo Frank PR. "He helped open doors when I was still a student that helped me land where I am today." Ross was eventually named Young Professional of the Year by PRSA of Tulsa, one of the association's highest honors. Ross says that Hinkle's "mentality of creating work you can be proud of for every client is something I continue to think about often in my career."

But his influence is felt not only by ad students. Despite being a speech pathology major, Sophia Olsen took all of Hinkle's classes and says his lessons will guide her in her own career. "He forces his students into situations where they must work together, be creative, and find new solutions. And he never fails to encourage everyone he meets to be remarkable."



HOLIDAY FUN: InHouse Advertising held its Christmas Party in south Tulsa in December. From left are Beth Rengel, author; Renee Proffitt, InHouse Advertising; Santa; Kristy Eagan, Uber Healthcare; and Matt Hiller, The Castle of Muskogee.

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25 December RHEMA CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN BROKEN ARROW Rhema Bible Church 5:30-11:30 p.m. through Jan. 1 Visit rhemabilechurch.com for more information.

26 PHILBROOK FESTIVAL Philbrook Museum 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. through Dec. 31 Visit philbrook.org for more information. SCIENCE DEMONSTRATION Tulsa Children's Museum 3:45 p.m. Visit tulsachildreismuseum.org for more information.

27 TULSA OILERS vs. Missouri 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com FREE CPR COURSES FOR CHILDREN 10-16 YEARS OF AGE DURING WINTER BREAK Osteopathic Founders Foundation 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Visit osteopathicfounders.org for more information.

28 MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER CHRISTMAS Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. ULTIMATE EXHIBITION - MARK ROSS Living Arts of Tulsa Dec. 27-29 Visit livingarts.org for more information.

29 BIG & RICH WITH COWBOY TROY Hard Rock Hotel and Casino 8 p.m. Visit hardrocktulsa.com for more information. TEXAS HIPPIE COALITION AT THE CAIN'S BALLROOM Cain's Ballroom 7:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.

30 TULSA OILERS vs. Utah 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com THE TURNPIKE TROUBADOURS Cain's Ballroom 8:30 p.m. • Dec. 30-31 Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.

31 Happy New Year! NOON YEAR'S EVE Tulsa Children's Museum 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Visit tulsachildreismuseum.org for more information. GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. UConn 7 p.m. Men's Basketball 918-631-4688 for tickets. TULSA OILERS vs. Wichita 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com

1 January TULSA OILERS vs. Wichita 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com HAPPY NEW YEAR

2 WINTER BREAK CAMP: COOL CONCOCTIONS Tulsa Children's Museum Jan. 2 - 3 Visit tulsachildreismuseum.org for more information. Ask us about ID Fraud Protection Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.

3 OPEN STUDIO FOR ADULT ARTISTS Zarrow Center for Art & Education -4 - 7 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information. BIPOLAR MANAGEMENT SUPPORT GROUP Mental Health Association Oklahoma 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Visit mhaok.org for more information.

4 SUPPORT GROUP FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH PROGRESSIVE SUPRANUCLEAR PALSY AND RELATED BRAIN DISEASES Warren Clinic 2 - 3:30 p.m. Call 918-557-8784 for more information. GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. Memphis 7 p.m. Women's Basketball 918-631-4688 for tickets.

5 NATURE'S BUDDIES: BACKYARD ANIMALS Tulsa Zoo 9 a.m. For ages 2 - 4. Registration required. Visit tulsazoo.org for more info. FIRST FRIDAY ART CRAWL Brady District, Downtown Tulsa 6 - 9 p.m. • Jan. 6 Visit thebradyartsdistrict.com for more information.

6 FIRST FRIDAY ART WITH GILCREASE MUSEUM Central Library 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Visit tulsashrine.com for more information. ARSON CITY The Shrine 8 p.m. Visit tulsashrine.com for more information.

7 WARRIOR SISTERS FIRST SATURDAY INTRODUCTORY SELF DEFENSE CLASS Church of the Restoration, Tulsa 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Visit warrior-sisters.org for more information. MONSTER JAM BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.

8 MONSTER JAM BOK Center 2 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. TULSA ARTIST FELLOWSHIP: SYNCRETIC 108/Contemporary Through Jan. 22 Visit tulsaaartistfellowship.org for more information.

9 BLOWN GLASS EXHIBIT PAC Gallery Jan. 6-29 FREE exhibit. BROOKSIDE BOOK DISCUSSION: "DEAD WAKE" Brookside Library 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. For adults. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.

10 DRAWING ON MEMORIES Gilcrease Museum 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Visit alz.org/oklahoma for more information. LAUGHTER YOGA CLUB LaFortune Community Center 1 - 2 p.m. Visit lifeseniorsservices.org for more information. DEPOT JAZZ AND BLUES JAMS Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame 6 p.m. Visit okjazz.org for more information.

11 GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. Memphis 7 p.m. Men's Basketball 918-631-4688 for tickets. GOLDEN EAGLES vs. South Dakota • 7 p.m. Women's Basketball oruathletics.com for info. We offer Health Savings Accounts Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.

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13 LUIS ALBERTO URREA Tulsa Town Hall 10:30 a.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. BILL O'REILLY AND DENNIS MILLER BOK Center 8 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. LISA LAMPANELLI Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.

14 RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. BEETHOVEN'S FOURTH SYMPHONY Tulsa Symphony 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. CHARLIE WILSON River Spirit Casino 8 p.m. Visit riverspiritulsa.com for more information.

15 WWE LIVE BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. FUNDAY SUNDAY Gilcrease Museum 12 - 4 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information.

Martin Luther King, Jr. FEDERAL HOLIDAY • JANUARY 16 DROP-IN FAMILY ART DAY @ ZARROW Zarrow Center for Art & Education 12 - 4 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information. New Name. Same Bank Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.

17 GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. UCONN 7 p.m. Women's Basketball 918-631-4688 for tickets. PROJECT MANAGEMENT TOOLS: BROWN BAG LECTURE Central Library 12 - 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.

18 GOLDEN HURRICANE vs. Tulane 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball 918-631-4688 for tickets. GOLDEN EAGLES vs. South Dakota • 7 p.m. Men's Basketball oruathletics.com for info. FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY Guthrie Green 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.

19 DEPRESSION MANAGEMENT SUPPORT GROUP Mental Health Association of Oklahoma 6 - 7 p.m. Visit www.mhaok.org for more information. DON HENLEY River Spirit Casino 7:30 p.m. Visit riverspiritulsa.com for more information.

20 OKMEA ALL STATE MUSIC CONCERTS Oklahoma Music Educators Association Jan. 20-21 myticketoffice.com for tickets. MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS - LIVE! Celebrity Attractions 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.

21 MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS - LIVE! Celebrity Attractions 4 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA OILERS vs. Idaho 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com

22 NATHAN GUNN Choregas Productions 3 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA OILERS vs. Idaho 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com TULSA GIRLS ART SCHOOL KALEIDOSCOPE EXHIBIT McKeon Center for Creativity Through Jan. 26 Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.

23 LEGO CLUB South Broken Arrow Library 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. For ages 5 - 18. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. SERIES: INTRODUCTION TO CSS FOR TEENS Central Library 4 - 5:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.

24 CAREGIVING 101 Life Senior Services 3 - 4:30 p.m. Visit lifeseniorsservices.org for more information. ANXIETY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT GROUP Mental Health Association of Oklahoma 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Visit mhaok.org for info. Free small business checking Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.

25 CIRQUE DU SOLEIL OVO BOK Center 7:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. GOLDEN EAGLES vs. Denver • 7 p.m. Women's Basketball oruathletics.com for info. BLUEGRAZZ WEDNESDAYS Cellar Dweller 7:30 p.m. Visit grazzopper.net for more information.

26 CIRQUE DU SOLEIL OVO BOK Center 7:30 p.m. • Jan. 26-28 Visit bokcenter.com for more information. TULSA CAMERATA: THE END OF TIME Philbrook Museum 7 - 9 p.m. Visit tulsacamerata.org for more information.

27 PETER AND THE STARCATCHER Theatre Tulsa Next Stage 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. ELVIS AND ME, AN EVENING WITH PRISCILLA PRESLEY The Joint, Hard Rock 8 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.

28 PAW PATROL - LIVE! VStar Entertainment 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. PETER AND THE STARCATCHER Theatre Tulsa Next Stage 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. MICHAEL CARBONARO Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.



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UNION AREA NEWS

B.A. Manager Gives State of City

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

In his State of the City address on Dec. 14, Broken Arrow City Manager Michael Spurgeon provided an overview of Broken Arrow's recent successes as well as the looming challenges that come with a growing city.

Regarding the city's financial condition, Spurgeon described it as "outstanding," with the city maintaining 10 percent in its emergency reserve fund and holding onto stable bond ratings from Moody's and Standard & Poor's.

However, Spurgeon noted that the two entities raised concerns regarding the city's over reliance on sales tax – a challenge that Spurgeon hopes to see addressed in the coming years.

"The tax model that our cities operate on in Oklahoma doesn't work as well anymore due to changing habits, such as online shopping," he said.

"With our growth, in the coming years, our expenses will outpace revenues. We are talking with other cities about coming up with a tax model that works."

Since becoming city manager in September 2015, Spurgeon has spent much of his time reviewing the city's day-to-day operations and infrastructure conditions.

The city recently completed a street pavement index report,

which will serve as a guiding document for maintaining city streets: "Not many cities have this report; it will be a great tool.

"While our streets are better than most in the country, we have to keep them up," Spurgeon continued.

From July 2016-June 2017, the city is spending \$70 million in citywide projects, largely including utility work. With 550 lane roads in Broken Arrow, "we need to continue looking at infrastructure."

In line with that constant need, the city is working on creation of a seven-year plan for utility reinvestment.

One infrastructure project currently taking place is in the Rose District, as the city works to complete the fourth and final infrastructure phase, which was a priority, Spurgeon said, when he took over as city manager. The final phase includes streetscaping along Main Street from Dallas to Fort Worth streets.

On Dec. 14, a community forum was held to discuss future Rose District residential development and possible zoning changes to the area. "We want a systematic housing plan for downtown," Spurgeon said.

Regarding commercial development, city officials are maintaining their focus on encouraging growth in south Broken Arrow, including

around Warren Theatre, near 121st Street and Aspen Avenue, an area where they expected to have already seen growth by now, Spurgeon noted.

"Every day, we are out there trying to get people to develop in south Broken Arrow and around Warren Theatre."

In September 2017, the Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center is expected to open, which "will be a boon to the city," Spurgeon said.

The city's Tourism Assessment is nearing completion, and Spurgeon hopes to use that to determine how to further engage ones who are visiting the conference center.

Another of Spurgeon's priorities has been improving government transparency. In addition to launching an annual financial report and online video recaps of city council meetings, the city is planning to add more content online and to its government access channel to further inform residents on city news.

Coming most likely in late 2017, will be residential curbside recycling, a program that the city desperately needs in order to keep pace with other cities and to improve its sustainability, Spurgeon said.

Also coming in 2017 will be a General Obligation Bond Package vote for utility infrastructure projects.

Oklahoma Aquarium Sea Turtle Island Exhibit to Open Soon

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

The final phase of the Oklahoma Aquarium's Sea Turtle Island, presented by The Oxley Foundation, is well underway, with the exhibit expected to open in March.

The 65,000-gallon tank will feature two 300-pound loggerhead sea turtles, reef sharks and tropical fish.

Alongside a boardwalk, spectators will be able to experience the ocean life from three viewing levels, including an underwater observation station for children.

"We want people to feel as if they've left Tulsa and landed in a sunny tropical island complete with tropical music," says Teri Bowers, COO and executive director of the Oklahoma Aquarium.

Loggerheads are one of seven species of sea turtles in the world. Sea Turtle Island will highlight the endangered status of sea turtles and what can be done to protect



Courtesy Oklahoma Aquarium

TROPICAL ISLAND: A rendering of the Oklahoma Aquarium's Sea Turtle Island to be completed in March. The 65,000-gallon tank will feature two 300-pound loggerhead sea turtles, reef sharks and tropical fish.

the species, even from inland Oklahoma.

The project initially began in 2010 with early construction on the room where the exhibit will be located. However, due to the recession, the project was delayed until the aquarium was given a portion of the Vision 2025 surplus

money in order to complete the exhibit.

The aquarium will host a contest among area schools called See the Sea Turtles First Class, for a field trip during the unveiling of the exhibit. For adults, a new event will debut March 4, called Splash - Lagers and Loggerheads.

BE LOVE YOGA EXPANDS



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

FINDING CALM: Joe Picorale, owner of Be Love Yoga Studio, sits in Be Love's Tulsa location, which he opened in the Pearl District at 1310 E. 6th St. in 2013. Since opening in Tulsa, Be Love has expanded into Broken Arrow and Jenks.

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

The practice of yoga has seen a sharp uptick in national popularity in the past four years. Tulsa is no exception to that.

Broken Arrow native Joe Picorale, owner of Be Love Yoga Studio, co-founded Tulsa's I Am yoga, music and art festival in 2011 when there were only three local yoga studios, he says.

Fast forward to present time, and the practice of yoga is alive and well in Tulsa, with the number of yoga studios continuing to multiply.

"At many yoga studios, students come only for the fitness element," Picorale says, which is the strength portion of yoga that involves postures, or poses. However, the postures make up only one aspect of the practice. Postures are one of the "eight limbs of yoga," referred to as Asana.

"We focus on all of the 'eight limbs,' so our studio draws more students who are interested in following the lifestyle of a yogi," Picorale says.

Other "limbs" include Pranayama, proper breathing; Dharana, concentration; and Dhyana, meditation.

The original intent of yoga is to merge the mind, body, soul, spirit and emotions in order to attain self-realization, or pure awareness. Therefore, the practice of yoga involves attaining calmness and peace, something that Picorale found himself searching for five years ago.

Picorale had previously become heavily involved in political activism but found himself feeling increasingly anxious and dissatisfied with politics.

After cutting ties with those efforts, he attended a spiritual retreat in Oregon, where he met a

fellow Tulsan who suggested that he try yoga and even took Picorale to his first yoga class when they both returned to Tulsa.

A year later, he organized the first I Am festival, which he co-founded, in an effort to connect and grow the local yoga community.

After creating the festival, Picorale saw the need for their own yoga space, to allow them to more easily hold fundraising events for the festival and to further encourage the local yoga movement.

The I Am Yoga Studio, located at 1310 E. 6th St. in Tulsa's Pearl District, opened in November 2013. A few months later, Picorale changed the name to Be Love in order to avoid confusion and to keep separation with the festival.

In January 2015, he established the Everyone Yoga School, a 200-hour yoga certification program, that has, to date, graduated 75 yoga teachers, making it the largest Tulsa-area provider of yoga teachers, he says.

In September 2015, Picorale opened Be Love studio at 4904 W. Kenosha St., on the corner of 71st Street and Garnett Road. He, then, opened a third studio location in the greater Tulsa area in downtown Jenks, 211 E. Main St., in April 2016.

In addition to focusing on the comprehensive practices of yoga, Be Love also makes effort to provide a feeling of community for its members.

Every Friday evening, the studio holds a donation class with proceeds benefiting a local cause. In the past, donations have benefited local business owners, schools and individuals in need.

"We want people to come here and feel good about themselves and receive a feeling of community," says Picorale.

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