

# UNION BOUNDARY

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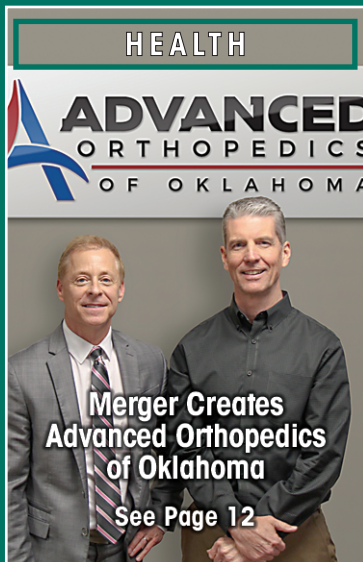
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## DISTRICT TEACHER NAMED



Courtesy Union Public Schools

**TEACHING MORE THAN BOOKS:** Roy Clark Elementary School's Digital Literacy Specialist Susan Henderson is Union Public Schools' 2016-2017 District Teacher of the Year. She has been teaching in the district since 2009.

Susan Henderson, digital literacy specialist at Roy Clark Elementary School, is Union Public Schools' 2016-2017 District Teacher of the Year.

"It's hard to say when I knew for sure I wanted to be a teacher; it's always something I have loved. I remember as a young girl going to school and loving it so much I couldn't wait to get home and play school," Henderson says.

Now, Henderson is helping students to find their passion.

"Above all, I hope that my students learn to think and create on their own. I want them to open their minds to the world of possibilities and realize that truly anything is possible for them," she says. "I want them to be able to problem solve and think for themselves without the help of another person."

One way that Henderson reaches students is through the use of a maker space in the media center, which allows students to experiment with creations using the concepts of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Henderson appreciates the flexibility of the maker space, allowing her to adjust it according to students' individual abilities and

needs through the use of apps and other technology.

"When I see a student struggling with something, I ask them questions that make them think and encourage them to try it a different way. If I see it is not something they can yet do, then I adjust the activity so that it will still stretch them but is within their ability."

Henderson started teaching at Union in the fall 2009 after teaching in Tulsa Public Schools for close to five years.

"In five years, I see myself continuing to lead the maker space movement in our district and state. I firmly believe that the library needs to be so much more than just checking out books. My goal is to lead others to see that the library needs to have a space to collaborate with others to use technology to create, invent, tinker, as well as a place to access great books," says Henderson.

Henderson holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Central Oklahoma and her master's in school administration from the Northeastern State University. She is a National Board Certified teacher and is currently working on a master's in library media.

## UNION COMMUNICATIONS: RESPONSIVE, FLEXIBLE



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

**STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE:** Union Public Schools' Communications Department is, from left, Video Producer Beth Turner, Associate Chief Communications Officer Chris Payne, Webmaster Michael Vore, Chief Communications Officer Gretchen Haas-Bethell and Graphic Designer Bre Willard. Not pictured is Executive Administrative Assistant Beverly Thummel.

By **EMILY RAMSEY**  
Managing Editor

Since forming in 1919 with just four students in its first graduating class, Union Public Schools has shown itself to be responsive with the changing technological times. That aspect couldn't be more evident than in its communications department.

"Communication styles, parents, the scope of the district have all changed a lot over the decades," says Chris Payne, associate chief communications officer, who will take over for Chief Communications Officer Gretchen Haas-Bethell, when she retires June 30.

Haas-Bethell came to Union in 1990 with a broadcast journalism background. She was hired to oversee the school district's public relations, with the charge to tell the story of the district on a consistent basis and to systematically communicate with its audiences, she says.

Previously, the district's communication efforts had been delegated to school administrators and board members.

Haas-Bethell remembers, in the beginning at Union, working

with an electric typewriter before transitioning to one of the earliest versions of a desktop Mac computer.

"We mailed out press releases or hand delivered them to news people," she remembers. "We were making videos on 16 millimeter film."

"Before email, we appointed representatives at each school site to send us photos and information from their individual schools."

Since those early years, Union's communications department has grown to include Executive Administrative Assistant Beverly Thummel; Webmaster Michael Vore, who also oversees social media and photography; Video Producer Beth Turner; and Graphic Designer Bre Willard.

Yet, despite the changes that continue to take place in the department and in the communications field, "what hasn't changed is our knowledge of each of our audiences and their needs, wants and expectations," Haas-Bethell says.

Those external and internal audiences are wide and varied and include district employees, (Continued on page 16)

## KUDOS OF THE MONTH: Ambassador Hotel

The Ambassador Hotel has drawn national attention to Tulsa by being named by Trip Advisor as one of the best hotels in the United States. Trip Advisor is one of the most popular travel website companies in the world.

The Ambassador Hotel Tulsa is ranked ninth among its top 25 hotels in the nation. The number-one rated hotel is the Nantucket Hotel & Resort in Nantucket, Massachusetts.

The Ambassador Hotel, located at 1324 S. Main St., is owned by Coury Properties. The 55-room luxury hotel is on the National Register of Historic Places and was the first hotel opened by Coury Properties and Paul Coury, which now owns hotels in Oklahoma City, Wichita, and Kansas City, Missouri.

The Ambassador Hotel was opened by General Patrick Hurley in 1929 to be a resi-

dence for wealthy Tulsans who were building mansions not yet ready for occupancy. (Hurley was later named Secretary of War in the Herbert Hoover administration.) The hotel went through tough times during the Great Depression of the 1930s and eventually became housing for retired seniors. It closed altogether in 1987. Coury and investors bought the property in 1999 and began a \$5.5 million restoration. In October 2014, the hotel became part of the Autograph Hotel Collection by Marriott with the agreement allowing the Ambassador to retain its own identity.

The Ambassador Hotel also houses the popular Chalkboard Restaurant. The Ambassador General Manager is Andrew Mungul and the Director of Sales is Michelle Koskey.



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BROKEN ARROW EXPRESS • OWASSO RAMBLER • BIXBY BREEZE

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# 2017 OSU in Tulsa Icons Named

An Oklahoma State Regent for Higher Education, a prominent Tulsa charitable organization and a generous philanthropist who left his mark on the city have been selected as 2017 OSU in Tulsa Icons by Oklahoma State University-Tulsa and OSU Center for Health Sciences for their contributions to the university, the state of Oklahoma and the nation.

"The OSU in Tulsa Icons share OSU's mission to educate and help others," says OSU-Tulsa President Howard Barnett. "All have spent their lives in service to our community and have contributed to the breadth and quality of life and education in Oklahoma and throughout the country."

The Icons are Jay Helm, a Tulsa businessman who serves as a member of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education; the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation; and the late Henry Zarrow, who with his wife, Anne, founded the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation.

"A Stately Affair in Tulsa provides the university the opportunity to recognize those who have made a significant impact on Tulsa and our state," says Kayse Shrum, D.O., president of OSU-CHS and dean of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. "These leaders have been integral to furthering our mission to increase the number of primary care physicians in rural Oklahoma and to improve the state's health status."

Helm is chairman of American Residential Group, Ltd., a Tulsa-based multifamily residential properties development and management firm that has been a leader in the renaissance of downtown Tulsa. As a graduate of OSU, he has long provided leadership and support for the university and its efforts in Tulsa. Helm previously served on the OSU/A&M Board of Regents and the OSU-Tulsa Board of Trustees before being appointed in 2013 to a nine-year term on the State Regents.

As a civic leader, Helm's impact has been felt on higher education statewide. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the University Center at Tulsa Authority as well as the Board of Trustees for both OSU Medical Authority and the OSU Medical Trust. He also is a member of the Tulsa Regional Chamber Board of Directors and executive committee.

The Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation was established by the late Charles Schusterman and his wife Lynn in 1987 to benefit education, child advocacy and youth leadership programs in Tulsa and Oklahoma.

(Continued on page 29)



**STATELY PEOPLE:** "A Stately Affair in Tulsa" kickoff event was recently held. From left, front row, are Kayse Shrum, D.O., president of Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences and dean of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine; Burns Hargis, president of OSU; and Howard Barnett, president of OSU-Tulsa. In the back, from left, are Bill Major, executive director of the Zarrow Group of Foundations; Dennis Neill, senior program officer for the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation; and Jay Helm, Oklahoma State Regent for Higher Education.

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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.



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**3/4- 4/1- 40th Anniversary Art Show**  
PAC Gallery  
**4- Rockin' Road To Dublin**  
**10-12, 16-18- The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial-**  
American Theatre Company  
**11- TSO Pops: Route 66- A Trip Down Memory Road**  
**12- Jane Monheit, Nicholas Payton and**  
Tulsa Symphony Orchestra- Tulsa PAC Trust  
**14-19- Motown The Musical- Celebrity Attractions**  
**18- Miss Richfield 1981- Oklahomans For Equality**  
**23- Sheridan Road: The Road To Love Is...**  
**24-26- Swan Lake- Tulsa Ballet**  
**29- Brain Candy LIVE- 35 Concerts**  
**31- Joel Sartore- Tulsa Town Hall**  
**31- Alexander Who's Not Not Not Not Not Not**  
Going To Move- Tulsa PAC Trust  
**31, 4/1-2, 4/6-9- The Last Days of Judas Iscariot-**  
Theatre Pops

## CIVICS

# Give a Little, Change A Lot with the Power of Twelve

## Salvation Army Starts Program To Address Area Needs

By K. J. WEBB  
Contributing Writer

The Salvation Army of Metro Tulsa has launched the Power of Twelve, an ambitious comprehensive program that focuses exclusively on helping those in the community who need it most: the homeless, impoverished and hungry families, children and individuals and the thousands of at-risk youth who encounter challenges on a daily basis.

The Power of Twelve concept is simple: commit to donating \$12 a month for 12 months. The cumulative effect of small, consistent giving produces significant results. The program goal is 12,000 members.

"People often question whether their small donation can make a difference but it can through the Power of 12," says Captain Ken Chapman, Tulsa Area commander, The Salvation Army. "Even a small gift, combined with thousands of others giving on a regular basis, make a big impact. If we can hit our goal, or even go beyond it, the assistance we could provide to the needy and suffering in our community would be tremendous."

These numbers of those needing help can be overwhelming. There



**HUNGRY FAMILIES:** The Power of Twelve is an ambitious comprehensive program that focuses exclusively on helping those in the community who need it most: the homeless, impoverished and hungry families, children and individuals and the thousands of at-risk youth who encounter challenges on a daily basis.

are 50 children every single night of the year at The Salvation Army Center of Hope (COH), northeastern Oklahoma's largest homeless shelter; the average age of homelessness is nine years old. In 2016, the COH provided nearly 110,000 nights of safe shelter and served 358,000 warm, nutritious meals to the hungry, many of them children. The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Tulsa serve over 18,000 at-risk children every year by providing safe, structured after-school and summer youth development programs. These programs educate and empower the

area community's youth to make positive life choices and develop the skills they need to do well academically and succeed in life.

"The Power of Twelve is positioned to make a significant impact on the efficiency and reach of these important social service and youth development programs," Chapman says.

Captain Chapman explains the inspiration for the Power of Twelve concept: "It's about power, the tremendous power that results when people come to together to serve the greater good," he says, adding, "The number 12 can be found 187 places in Scripture.



**CHILDREN IN NEED:** There are 50 children every single night of the year at The Salvation Army Center of Hope (COH), northeastern Oklahoma's largest homeless shelter; the average age of homelessness is nine years old.

There are 22 occurrences of the number in the Book of Revelations alone. The Biblical meaning of the number 12 is God's power and authority. It is considered a perfect number, a number of power."

The number 12 is also significant in secular areas of life: there are 12 months in a year, 12 zodiac signs, 12 people on a jury, a carpenter's ruler has 12 subdivisions, pharmacists and jewelers use the 12-ounce pound.

"The beauty of the Power of Twelve is its simplicity," Chapman says. "For as little as the cost of a movie ticket or a few gourmet cof-

fee drinks, anyone can change a life for the better."

By joining the Power of Twelve, metro Tulsa residents become an important part of a powerful mission of "Doing The Most Good" and make an ongoing positive impact where it is needed most, in the local community.

Register to donate online at [Powerof12Tulsa.com](http://Powerof12Tulsa.com). Donations of \$12 a month or more may be made monthly, quarterly or in a single annual donation.

For more information visit [salarmytulsa.org](http://salarmytulsa.org) or call D.J. Morrow at (918) 587-7801.

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# Laura Chalus Embraces Role at Tulsa Garden Center

By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

*Editor's Note: Laura Chalus, executive director of the Tulsa Garden Center, is one of Greater Tulsa Reporter's "10 People to Watch in 2017," as announced in its January 2017 issue. GTR was the first news group in greater Tulsa to introduce "10 People to Watch," which launched in January 2009.*

*Throughout the year, GTR will publish a series of articles featuring each of its "10 People to Watch," with next month's issue to feature Tulsa's Young Professionals 2017 Chair Stephanie Cameron.*

As a long-time garden hobbyist and self-proclaimed lifelong learner, Laura Chalus was quite familiar with the Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S. Peoria Ave., before she ever considered applying for its executive director position.

Therefore, after she was hired in August 2016, Chalus was surprised that what she found at the garden center far surpassed her expectations.

"I was amazed by the community feel at the garden center and at Woodward Park: it's a home away from home for many people," she says, those "people" including those in the garden center's numerous affiliate organizations.

"These are my people. They love gardening and nature. When there is so much negativity in the world, this is a place where it doesn't exist," she continues.

Chalus' professional history has been wrapped up with nonprofit work. She has worked for Workforce Tulsa and Tulsa Community Foundation, among others, managing grants, oversee-

ing fundraising, and working with event management.

"Helping people is at my core. I always feel like I should be making a contribution."

An Inola native, Chalus earned her bachelor's degree in university studies from Oklahoma State University and recently received her master's from the University of Oklahoma in human relations, with an emphasis on organizational studies.

Before earning her bachelor's degree, Chalus pursued accounting and chemistry. "I'm a left-brain thinker," she admits.

For that reason, she wanted to enhance her skills in human relations and chose to focus her master's degree on an area heavily focused on self-exploration, she continues. "It helped me find meaning and purpose for myself."

Before applying for the position at the Tulsa Garden Center, Chalus was working as a contract accountant and "keeping my options open and just paying attention to things put in front of me," she says.

So, when a friend suggested she apply for the garden center's job opening, Chalus felt as if it was placed in front of her for a reason. "All roads have led me here," she says.

Since joining the garden center, Chalus has compiled a number of priorities, two of those being the maintenance of the center's facilities and mansion and the improvement of its rose garden, which lost about half of its rose bushes last year due to Rose Rosette Disease.

Chalus first focused on the state of the garden center's 97-year-old mansion in order to provide better customer service to the affiliate

groups that use the mansion on a daily basis.

These groups include numerous horticulture and community organizations.

"We started cleaning the nooks and crannies of the mansion and organizing storage areas," she says, with the overall focus of "maintaining and respecting the history of the mansion."

The land that the mansion sits on was originally a Creek Indian allotment. The mansion, built in 1920, holds decades of history, including as one of Tulsa's original Jewish synagogues, which was located in the basement.

"We want to emphasize all of that history and open the area up for tours and make the mansion more convenient and hospitable," she says.

Recently, Chalus and her team have turned their attention to the 4.5-acre rose garden, a WPA (Works Progress Administration) project that was built in 1934.

"The rose garden used to win national awards," she says.

Thanks in part to its rose garden, Tulsa received the designation as "America's Most Beautiful City" in a 1957 Reader's Digest article.

The rose garden has recently been largely affected by Rose Rosette Disease, an incurable virus caused by an eriophyid mite that has created increasing amounts of rose bush devastation in recent years across North America.

In an effort to learn more about the disease, the garden center has joined a national rose research effort, dedicating two of its six rose terraces, or tiers, to research. "We want to be a part of the solution," says Chalus.

The disease has also caused us



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

**NATURE ENTHUSIAST:** Tulsa Garden Center Executive Director Laura Chalus stands outside the mansion, 2435 S. Peoria Ave., which serves as the garden center's offices. Chalus entered her role on Sept. 1, with many points of focus, including the rose gardens, which have been recently devastated by Rose Rosette Disease.

to change the way we look at the rose garden, she says, such as the layout of the rose garden, what plants are in the rose garden and how to maintain the bushes that we currently have.

In the coming months, the staff plans to add additional plants to the rose garden, including plants for pollinators and monarch butterflies, with a focus on beautifying the garden.

This will be done in time for the garden center's much-anticipated Wine and Roses event that will return, after a year's hiatus, in September.

However, with Wine and Roses will come some rebranding changes, including a renaming of the event.

"The cancellation of the event last year allowed us to take a breath and look at the event and determine how we can keep up with the times," says Chalus.

Board members are looking at downsizing and improving the quality of the food and wine vendors to create a higher-end event.

"We are carrying on the tradition but keeping it fresh. Even though the name may change, individuals will still be in for a delightful tasting."

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# Tulsa311 Makes Reporting City Issues Easy

One of the great things about living in Tulsa is that we are headed toward more direct technology interactions between government and citizens. One great example of this occurred last fall when the City of Tulsa launched Tulsa311, a customer-relations management system. Tulsa311 makes it easy for Tulsa residents to report city issues or request city services in multiple ways.

If you need to report a pothole or high grass in your neighborhood or need more information

## From The Mayor



By MAYOR G.T. BYNUM  
City of Tulsa

about city services, you can dial 311 from a cell phone or landline. You can visit our self-serve website at [tulsa311.com](http://tulsa311.com) and use the live chat feature (available during business hours). Or, you can easily download a mobile app on your smart phone (compatible with Android and iOS systems).

Since I always have my cell phone handy, I recently downloaded the Tulsa 311 mobile app on my phone and within seconds, I was checking out the Tulsa311 menu. It's fast and easy to use, allowing me to quickly report a pothole, pinpoint its location, take a photo and file a report.

Whichever method you choose to use to reach the City of Tulsa, please know that contacting us has never been easier.

I realize some folks would rather speak directly to a Tulsa 311 agent, so you can dial 311 and report or request a service. The call taker will create a service order and route it to the appropriate department for response where they will work as quickly as possible to resolve your issue.

Some of you may prefer to visit the Tulsa311 website, where you can register your own account and begin managing and receiving updates on the service orders you submit to the City of Tulsa. You even have the capability to try out the online chat feature, which is available during regularly scheduled business hours.

I'm excited how Tulsa311 is transforming the way we all communicate with the City of Tulsa. I can hardly wait for future interactive features that will continue to enhance the customer experience



by serving as a one-stop convenience shop for Tulsa residents. I invite you to watch our Tulsa311 tutorial video.

Also, please remember that

Tulsa311 is only for regular everyday city services and is not for emergencies. If you have a police, fire or medical emergency, call 911.

# What Our Military Bases and Defense Communities Need

## Opinion

By MIKE COOPER  
President, Association of Defense Communities



MIKE COOPER

The neglect of our military infrastructure impacts not only our security but also the needs of our service members, their families and the communities that support them.

Our defense infrastructure not only supports our military missions and readiness. It also supports our 1.1 million service members, their families, and the communities they call home. But a five-year period of unprecedented turmoil for our defense budget has seriously damaged the military and our defense installations.

No one understands this more than the members of the Association of Defense Communities – more than 250 communities and 35 states that host and support our nation's 400 defense facilities. A new administration and Congress provide an opportunity for swift action to end sequestration and begin the critical work of rebuilding our military and defense infrastructure. We must remove all obstacles, including arcane, bureaucratic budget-scoring rules, and focus on getting the job done. With an on-the-ground perspective, America's defense communities stand ready to support this undertaking.

To begin with, we need to rein-

vest in the basic components of our military installations -- roads, airfields, buildings and utilities. We need to enhance the resiliency of our installations and protect the land and air space of our training ranges and facilities for current and future missions. And we need to ensure we are providing great places for our service members and their families to live, work and learn.

A ready list of defense infrastructure projects exists. For example, our system of early-warning radar sites in the northern continental tier is on the verge of collapse, directly impacting our security. With quick action, investments in these kinds of critically-needed infrastructure improvements could

become a reality in a matter of months, creating tens of thousands of jobs.

Just as we invest in our defense infrastructure, we must take care of the people who protect us – our service members and their families. Our defense communities work tirelessly to ensure that service members and families have great places to live, learn and prosper. They have invested hundreds of millions of local and state dollars to ensure that our bases are sustained. As a nation, we must support them in return, leveraging their investments to develop transportation connections outside the fence, high-quality schools, health-care options and access to other services our military families need and deserve.

This reinvestment must be driven not only by strategy but by innovation that ensures that we are doing things smarter and more efficiently. Partnerships between the private and public sectors are critical to achieving this goal, and these partners stand ready to make it happen. When the Air Force needed to increase mission capability and reduce costs, for example, the state of Oklahoma and the city of Enid came together to expand the municipal airport facilities and runway to serve Vance Air Force Base.

We also must not forget our nation's former defense infrastructure, the hundreds of military facilities in every part of the country that have been through the Base Realignment and Closing process and offer the potential for job creation. Many sit fallow as they wait

for the federal government to transfer land or address environmental issues. More than 9,700 former defense sites present an opportunity to enhance local job growth if the private sector can collaborate with the federal government to focus existing resources. We should leverage the full power of the federal government to turn these unique sites into robust engines of economic growth.

The communities, states and industry partners that support our military bases – whether active or not – understand the value of our

defense infrastructure both inside and outside the gate. Strong communities are an essential ingredient to the strong military that keeps us all safe.

In addition to his role as president of the Association of Defense Communities, the author is chairman of the Oklahoma Strategic Military Planning Commission and is responsible for external affairs and government relations for AT&T Oklahoma. The website for the Association of Defense Communities is [defensecommunities.org](http://defensecommunities.org)



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

**ROUTE 66 ART:** On Feb. 15, a new piece of original artwork was dedicated on Route 66 in Howard Park, 2510 Southwest Blvd. From left are City Councilor Jeannie Cue, Economic Development Director Kathy Taylor, artist Patrick Sullivan and County Commissioner Karen Keith.

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## VARIETY

# March Means Headliner Heaven in Tulsa

When I worked at the Tulsa PAC and March rolled around, I was keenly aware of the competition for audiences during that time-frame. I learned not to underestimate the pull of March Madness, St. Patrick's Day and spring break.

This month is no exception. In fact, if you are looking for headliner entertainment, you will find it nearly every day at one or more of the many venues around Tulsa.

Forty years ago this month, the PAC opened its doors with a

concert performed by the First Lady of Song, Ella Fitzgerald, accompanied by the Tulsa Philharmonic. To pay homage to that anniversary, the PAC Trust will host singer/siren Jane Monheit on Mar. 12. Performing with her is Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Nicholas Payton, joined by her trio and the Tulsa Symphony. Payton produced and played on Monheit's 2016 album, "The Songbook Sessions: Ella Fitzgerald." In combination with Payton's genius and talent, Monheit brings freshness to The American Songbook. "I love pop stuff, but one of the beautiful things about jazz is the way it blends with other genres. You can cross over, mix it up and try different things," she told me in a recent interview. Expect a few surprising song mashups, top-rate artistry and a concert experience all will remember.

Also at the PAC this month is my favorite musical, Stephen Sondheim's "Sweeney Todd." It's a dark tale for sure, but the music is extraordinary. Theatre Tulsa, which never misses a step thanks in no small part to the leadership of Sara Phoenix, presents this bloody tale of that "Demon Barber of Fleet Street," Mar. 3-12. Meat pie, anyone?

Several other events complete the PAC March calendar, including "Celebrity Attractions," "Motown: The Musical," March 14-19; Tulsa Ballet's "Swan Lake," Mar. 24-26; and "Brain Candy Live!," March 29. "Brain Candy" features Adam Savage and Michael Stevens in what has been described as "a cross

between TED Talks and the Blue Man Group."

In the film "Zen of Bennett," Tony Bennett says, "Choose a

career that encompasses what you gravitate to naturally, and you will have a satisfying, life-long vocation." He's 90 and still booking concert dates and hosting TV specials. I think this iconic

Italian singer can party with the best of them on St. Patrick's Day at the River Spirit Casino, though

he's going to have some stiff competition from "Experience Hendrix" across town at The Joint, or from the opening night of the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship at the BOK Center. "Experience Hendrix" comprises 29 performers channeling Mr. Purple Haze, and sold out all 27 of its shows in 2016.

Take a trip back to the sizzling '60s with the bands Chicago (Mar. 24) and REO Speedwagon (Mar. 25). Both were formed in 1967. Even if the '60s weren't your time in the sun, you will know those Chicago tunes, and the group has retained four of its original members. Also headlining at the Paradise Cove at River Spirit are ZZ Top (Mar. 10), bringing their special brand of sharp-dressed blues as part of their Tonnage Tour, and country music's multi-Grammy winner Brad Paisley (Mar. 23). He's the triple Grammy Award-winning singer who has hosted the Country Music Association Awards with Carrie Underwood for the last several years.

Comedian George Lopez will have plenty of material to work with Mar. 8 at The Joint. He finds the humor in ethnic relations, including Mexican American culture. Brett Michaels of "Every Rose Has Its Thorn" fame performs at The Joint, Mar. 9. He's a singer, songwriter, musician and reality TV star. He won "Celebrity Apprentice" in 2010. "Bad to the Bone" singer George Thorogood and the Destroyers appear at the Hard Rock on Mar. 30.

I saw Stevie Nicks a few years

## Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN



**MIRANDA LAMBERT:** She's a double Grammy winner with a record-setting seven consecutive Academy of Country Music Assn. Awards. Catch her show at the BOK Center, Mar. 11.



**NICHOLAS PAYTON:** Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Nicholas Payton joins singer Jane Monheit and the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra for a concert celebrating the PAC's 40th anniversary, Mar. 12.

ago in Oklahoma City with Fleetwood Mac. She was fabulous then, and I've heard that her solo concert is excellent. She performs at the BOK Center, Mar. 6, followed by American punkers Green Day, Mar. 7. People who weren't familiar with Green Day before have come to know them through the "American Idiot" Broadway musical.

Double Grammy winner Miranda Lambert has gotten a lot of ink lately due to her split with hubby Blake Shelton, but that's a side note to a much bigger story. She's won seven consecutive Academy of Country Music Association awards, which is a



**ZZ TOP:** Their special brand of sharp-dressed blues comes to Paradise Cove at the River Spirit Resort, Mar. 10



**STEVIE NICKS:** Coming Mar. 6 to the BOK Center, this sultry singer gained fans as a member of Fleetwood Mac and enjoys a successful solo career.

record, and is the first woman to win the CMA's Album of the Year twice. Her Highway Vagabond Tour with special guests Old Dominion and Aubrie Sellers stops at the BOK Center Mar. 11.

Add Cain's Ballroom and its usual massive lineup of bands to that, along with performances by singer R. Kelly, Mar. 8, and the rock band Kansas ("Dust in the Wind" and "Carry on Wayward Son"), Mar. 25, at the Brady!

I remember a few years back when one appearance of Michael Bolton would have T-Town buzzing and angling for tickets! A concert staycation could be a great option for March. Do what I do and try to take in as much as time and budget allows, mixing in blast-from-the-past experiences with something entirely new.



**GEORGE LOPEZ:** He finds humor in ethnic relations, including Mexican American Culture, Mar. 8 at The Joint.

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# Tulsa PAC Celebrates 40 Years During March Anniversary

*Special from the PAC*

For four decades, the Tulsa PAC has brought quality arts and entertainment to Tulsa, and the tradition continues this month with the 40th Anniversary Celebration concert and more.

Honoring the first-ever Tulsa PAC concert in March 1977 with the legendary Ella Fitzgerald, jazz artist Jane Monheit will take the stage with Grammy winner Nicholas Payton and Tulsa Symphony Orchestra. The show honors Fitzgerald's musical legacy with several of her classic tunes as well as songs from the Great American Songbook. Monheit and Payton's recent Ella tribute album will take center stage on Sunday, March 12 at 7 p.m. in Chapman Music Hall.

Theatre Tulsa keeps upping the ante with yet another smash musical when "Sweeney Todd" comes to the stage March 3-5 and 9-12. With incredible music from Stephen Sondheim ("Wicked," "Into The Woods"), this maniacal play tells the story of barber Sweeney Todd, who returns to London after 15 years of exile in order to take revenge on the corrupt judge who banished him. He gets a little help from local baker Mrs. Lovett, who is in desperate need of fresh meat for her pies. But where will she find this delicate filling? Starring Theatre Tulsa favorite Mark Frie ("Fiddler On The Roof," "Les Miserables"), it's a deadly delight guaranteed to turn the John H. Williams Theatre upside down.

American Theatre Company presents "The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial," coming March 10-12 and 16-18 to the Liddy Doenges Theatre. In 1953, Herman Wouk



Courtesy photo

**GET READY, 'CUZ HERE THEY COME:** Experience the swingin' sound of yesteryear when Celebrity Attractions presents "Motown The Musical" March 14-19.

adapted the court-martial chapters of his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel into a suspenseful evening of theatre. It's the story of a young lieutenant who is on trial for relieving his captain of command in the midst of a typhoon. The lieutenant claims that the captain, Queeg, was a psychopath in crisis who was commanding the ship and its crew to destruction.

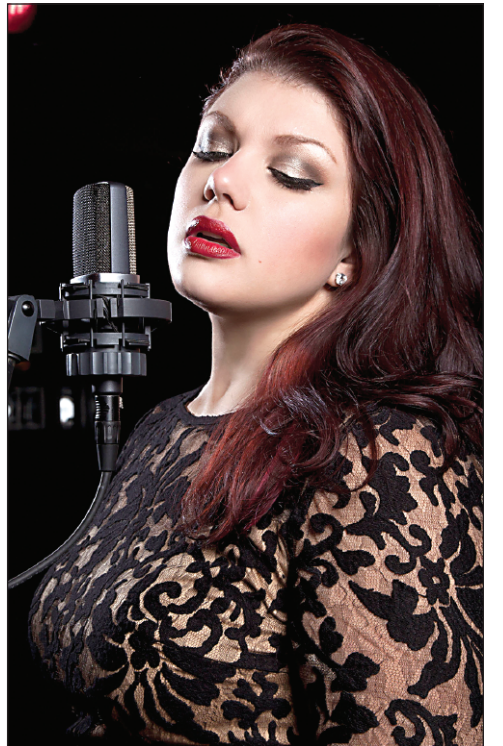
Tulsa Symphony celebrates America's Main Street with the perfect soundtrack for

a road trip with "Route 66: A Trip Down Memory Lane" March 11 in Chapman Music Hall. Conducted by Ron Spigelman, the concert features a multimedia presentation with highlights from the 2,448 miles of the Mother Road as well as memorable music, including highlights from Kander and Ebb's "Chicago," Aaron Copland's "Buckaroo Holiday" from "Rodeo," Gershwin's "Someone to Watch Over Me," excerpts from "Oklahoma!," W.C. Handy's "St. Louis Blues" and more.

It began as one man's story, became everyone's music, and is now a Broadway musical. "Motown: The Musical" is the true American-dream story of Motown record company founder Berry Gordy's journey from featherweight boxer to heavyweight music mogul. He launched the careers of Diana Ross, Marvin Gaye, Michael Jackson, Smokey Robinson, The Temptations and many more. Featuring classic songs such as "My Girl," "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" and "The Tears of a Clown," "Motown: The Musical" is a smash hit Broadway jukebox experience. Presented by Celebrity Attractions, it comes to Chapman Music Hall March 14-19.

In her all new show, "2020 Vision," Miss Richfield 1981 offers a survival guide for the new world. With comedic songs, videos, and her unique take on audience participation, Miss Richfield will help calm post-election panic and provide tools to prevent the apocalypse! Miss R dedicates her life to the friendly citizens and responsible merchants of her hometown, Richfield, Minnesota. Her live performances across the country receive critical acclaim with the New York Post declaring Miss R "the must-see act in Provincetown" and the Chicago Sun-Times describing her as "Garrison Keillor meets Mary Tyler Moore." This event is a benefit for and presented by Oklahomans for Equality and comes to the John H. Williams Theatre March 18.

Choreographed by Tulsa Ballet Artistic Director Marcello Angelini, "Swan Lake"



Courtesy photo

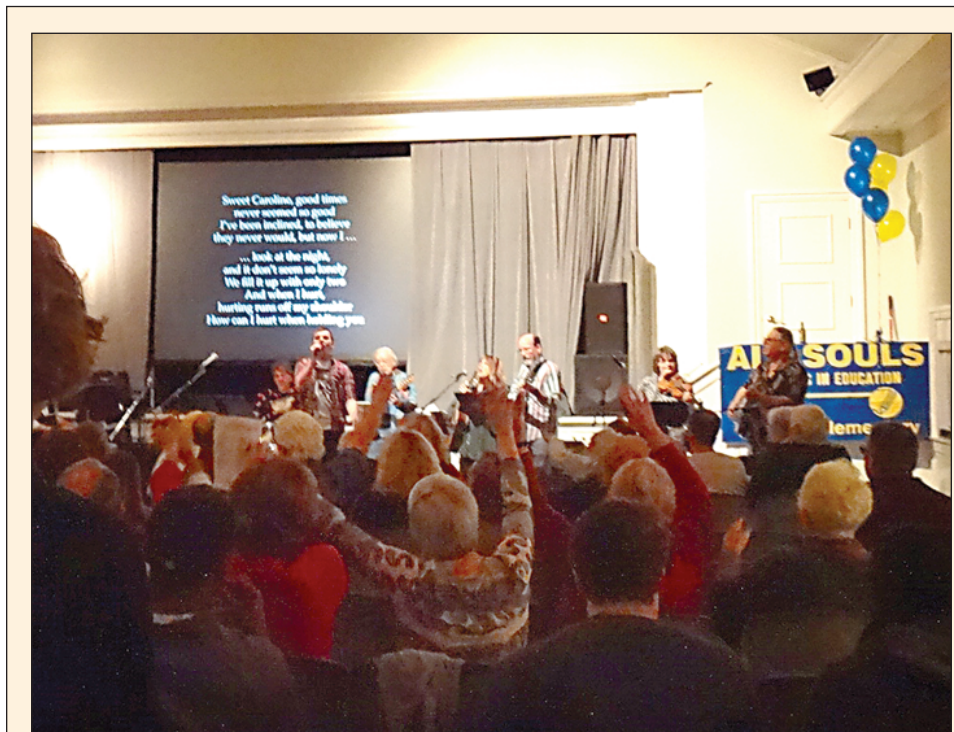
**JANE & CO.:** Celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Tulsa PAC with Jane Monheit, Nicholas Payton and the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra March 12.

returns to Tulsa for the first time in six years. Odette, a young maiden trapped in the form of a swan due to an evil sorcerer's curse, must find eternal love to break the spell. This lavish production, set to Tchaikovsky's well-known and much-loved score, features scenery and costumes originally created for Houston Ballet by Tony Award-winning designer Desmond Heeley. "Swan Lake" is at or near the top of most lists of best ballets, famous ballets and popular ballets. It comes to Chapman Music Hall March 24-26.

Tulsa PAC Trust presents the family-friendly musical "Alexander, Who's Not Not Not Not Not Going To Move," based on the classic book by Judith Vorst. Alexander's dad has taken a job in a city a thousand miles away, which means that he and his family are going to have to move there. But Alexander can't bear to leave the people and places he loves, so he decides that he won't move. Catch the hilarity March 31 in the John H. Williams Theatre.

Set in a time-bending, darkly comic world between heaven and hell, "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot" reexamines the plight and fate of the Bible's most infamous and unexplained sinner. This thought-provoking work by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Stephen Adly Guirgis tells the story of a court case over the ultimate fate of the disciple who betrayed his friend and teacher to the authorities. Lawyers call for the testimonies of such witnesses as Mother Teresa, Sigmund Freud and Satan. Theatre Pops presents the drama March 31 and April 1-2 and 6-9 in Liddy Doenges Theatre.

Tickets for all events are available by calling the Tulsa PAC ticket office at 918-596-7111 or online at [TulsaPAC.com](http://TulsaPAC.com). You can also check out the latest PAC news on social media platforms.



Courtesy BETH TURNER

**ALL SOULS SING-A-LONG:** All Souls Partners In Education (PIE) hosted its third annual Sing For Our Schools fundraiser Feb. 4. Living up to its billing as a full-fledged funfest, sing-along, hootenanny and hullabaloo, the event featured All Souls' volunteer musicians and song leaders, along with an enthusiastic audience singing songs from a variety of musical genres, including country, folk, rock and roll, and an occasional show tune. All proceeds from the event benefited All Souls partner schools of Gilcrease Elementary, Jackson Elementary and McLain 7th Grade Academy.

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# Upcoming, New Festivals to Promote Design, Music

In the coming months, Tulsa will welcome two new festivals, both making their debut — one for the very first time and one for the first time in our region — and both upping the ante for cultural draws within our city.

In April, Tulsa will welcome the New York City-based Architecture and Design Film Festival, a festival that is making the journey here largely due to our exquisite architectural landscape and through the tireless efforts of the Tulsa Foundation for Architecture (TFA). This festival will not only encourage the

already-abundant interest in our local architecture but also, no doubt, add another ember to the growing fire of our local filmmaking scene.

And in May, the newly-created MisFest, an all-female one-day music showcase, will come to River West Festival Park.

The Architecture and Design Film Festival, presented by Tulsa Foundation for Architecture, will take place April 20-23, at Circle Cinema, 10 S. Lewis Ave.

This film festival was launched in 2009 by Architect Kyle Bergman, with his goal of engaging the design community while also opening up the design world to a wider group of

people, he says. The festival only visits a handful of select cities annually; among them, this year, are Seoul, South Korea; Los Angeles; and Orlando.

The four-day festival features over 20 diverse films, all with varying points of view and unique stories but all unified by their design focus.

“(TFA’s) intent is to provide students and the public the opportunity to learn about design and architecture in order to better appreciate what we have in Tulsa,” says TFA Executive Director Amanda DeCort — a mission that fits seamlessly with the film festival.

The festival, she expects, will also help to capitalize on the current interest in downtown Tulsa architecture.

TFA regularly sells out its Second Saturday downtown walking tours and saw over 700 people attend its downtown residential tour, Dwell in the IDL, last year.

“There is a lot of design curiosity in Tulsa,” Bergman says. “We want, through this festival, to foster and raise the design level of thinking.”

A small sampling of the documentaries, and some on my watch list, to be shown include *Strange and Familiar: Architecture on Fogo Island*, a look at an architecture proj-

ect on Fogo Island, the largest offshore island of Newfoundland and Labrador; Pedro E. Guerrero: A Photographer’s Journey, an exploration of the photographer’s collaborations with three of the most iconic American artists of the 20th century, including Frank Lloyd Wright; If You Build It, a story about an innovative high school design and build project and the changes it brings to students and their poor rural North Carolina community; Yarn, highlighting the reinvention of knitting and crocheting; and Getty Frank Gehry, showcasing one of the world’s greatest architects and some of his greatest and most controversial projects.

Tickets go on sale March 1 at circlecinema.com.

For music lovers and those wishing to encourage female empowerment, MisFest will be held May 13, with its goal to put a spotlight on female artists and their talents, says Ryan Howell, River Parks events coordinator.

The festival will feature upwards of 12 female musicians in the Tulsa and Oklahoma City area.

“There are a great number of female musicians in Tulsa,” says musician Amira Al-Jiboori, who is organizing the festival with Howell and fellow bandmate Casii Stephan. “It’s been our dream to bring female musicians together.”

Al-Jiboori hopes to see this festival return annually and to grow Tulsa’s already large female music scene.

Although Tulsa already has a lot to offer, these new festivals provide further testament to the creativity teeming all around us in our city. It’s hard not to be inspired.

## Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers  
**FEMALE EMPOWERMENT:** Musician Bat-or Kalo performs a song at the announcement of MisFest, an all-female one-day music festival, to be held May 13.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers  
**ARCHITECTURE AND FILM:** Architect and founder of the Architecture and Design Film Festival Kyle Bergman speaks about the upcoming New York City-based film festival that will come to Tulsa for the first time in April.

# The Tropical: Upscale Thai, Seafood in South Tulsa

## Local Dining

By BLAKE AUSTYN  
Contributing Writer

The Tropical Restaurant and Bar, 8125 E. 49th St., opened in 2011 as a second restaurant concept for the Karnchanakphan family, who have been in the Tulsa community for decades.

The family’s original restaurant is Lanna Thai, which opened in 1998 at 51st Street and Harvard Avenue. A second Lanna Thai location opened in 2002 at 7227 S. Memorial Dr.

The Tropical was added as an upscale Thai restaurant with a focus on surf and turf.

The restaurant’s upscale intention would not necessarily be known by looking just at the exterior, which is a house with a picket fence in front. However, once you step inside, the atmosphere shifts.

The interior is very warm. I particularly enjoyed the bar area, which includes a number of tables and booths and a fireplace.

My mother and I came for an early dinner on a Friday evening, and we noticed a nice crowd regularly trickling in, made up of all ages, including families with little ones.

The Tropical’s Thai menu is extensive, with many names hard to pronounce, but our waitress was knowledgeable, and she offered many helpful suggestions.

The menu consists of salads, soups, curry and pasta dishes, and signature entrees, such as a New York strip, ribeye and trout.

For our appetizers, she suggested The Tropical Lettuce Wrap, one of the restaurant’s most popular appetizers. It came with a mix of crispy rice, green onions, red onions, cilantro, carrots, and mint plus noodles and peanuts with iceberg lettuce scoops.

I loved the freshness and the added flavor of peanuts. Delicious!

The size was large enough that my mom said that she could eat this as her whole meal, but granted, she is not known for her large consumption of food. So I don’t know that most people would feel similarly.

We also tried the Corn Cakes, made of herbs and green beans mixed with corn. The dish came with four cakes and offered a surprisingly sweet, unique flavor. We couldn’t get enough of them.

When I was deciding on my entree, there is a red curry dish at Lanna Thai that I am absolutely obsessed with, so I was torn between ordering a dish that our



BLAKE AUSTYN for GTR Newspapers  
**FLAVORS OF THE SEA:** The Tropical Restaurant and Bar, 8125 E. 49th St., was opened in 2011 by the owners of Lanna Thai, 7227 S. Memorial Dr. The family added The Tropical as an upscale Thai restaurant concept with a focus on surf and turf.

server said was similar to that or opting for something different.

But this is a food review, after all, and I am always a fan of trying new things, so I chose the Penne Keow Whan, which still incorporates curry, and I love curry.

The dish is made up of green curry, penne, basil, sugar snap peas,

bamboo shoots, bell peppers, and avocado, plus your choice of a meat. I chose the seafood medley, which includes shrimp, scallops, calamari and salmon.

I enjoyed the slightly spicy flavor of the green curry. Though, some portions of the seafood, namely the scallops and calamari, were a bit too fishy and chewy for me.

My mother chose a dish from the menu’s Flavors off the Grill items, the Jumbo Sea Scallop, which did not consist of one scallop as the name might suggest, but closer to six scallops.

All dishes in this category come with jasmine rice and the choice of an original house-made sauce, a topping and a side.

She ordered the Thai Garlic sauce, Sweet Pepper Mango topping and Corn Cakes as the side.

The flavors all melded together nicely, with the sweet mango flavors combining well with the Thai Garlic sauce.

The Tropical is open for lunch and dinner seven days a week, with lunch starting at 11 a.m. and dinner at 5 p.m.



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# Link Together Fundraiser Supports Tulsa Symphony's Regional Outreach Of Carnegie Hall's Link Up Program

Link Together for student success is the title given for Tulsa Symphony's fundraising dinner event on March 30 in the Assembly Hall of the Cox Business Center. This event will gather support and excitement toward next year's (2017-2018) Link Up program.

Link Up is the Carnegie Hall program that Tulsa Symphony brings to 12,000 Tulsa-area students. The most recent season culminated with concerts in February.

Link Together is planned to be a night featuring a casual and fun atmosphere, with a focus on local teachers and schools.

This year's event will include performances by TSO musicians, explanations about the Link Up program, a demonstration by a small group of Link Up students, and remarks by the special guest, Hillarie O'Toole, from Carnegie Hall.

Hillarie O'Toole has been a member of the Weill Music Institute team since 2012. Currently serving as manager of learning and engagement, she has implemented the Link Up program in New York City, nationally, and internationally, providing concert and educational resources to over 350,000 students and teachers.

Single tickets for the event are \$112 per person (which includes sponsorship for one student in the Link Up program). Various ticket packages are available.

## Clarifying Terminology:

Link Together is the fundraising event on March 30 that will raise awareness of the program and fundraise for the 2017-2018 Link Up program.

"Link Up" is the name of the overarching program developed over the past 30 years by the Weill Institute at Carnegie Hall. It reaches almost 400,000 students worldwide through partnerships with more than 90 orchestras.

Tulsa Symphony was accepted as a partner orchestra in 2015 and piloted a small version of the program (impacting 1,200 children) during the 2015-2016 season. The Pilot Program was an overwhelming success with students, teachers and program sponsors. The 2016-2017 season is our first full execution of the program, and will reach over 12,000 students.

The participating school districts this year are Tulsa Public, Union, Sand Springs, Jenks, and Broken Arrow. The Link Up program, through Tulsa Symphony, is currently active in every elementary school in these five districts, all at zero cost to the schools, teachers and parents.

TSO's Link Up program also serves as Tulsa's Any Given Child program. Every fourth grader in Tulsa Public Schools will take part in this program in 2016-2017.

The Link Up program is a three-year curriculum which engages 3rd, 4th and 5th graders in an exploration of orchestral repertoire and core musical concepts. The design of the curriculum is such that the programs – The Orchestra Rocks, The Orchestra Moves, and The Orchestra Sings – build upon one another from 3rd to 4th to 5th grade, regardless of the order in which they are presented.

The Link Up concept is far more than an annual orchestra concert. Each year, the program begins at least 3-4 months before the culminating concert with participating teachers receiving professional development training to learn the curriculum. Through this professional development training, we work to adapt the program to the needs of each teacher's students and to integrate it with his or her existing school program. Months of classroom preparation lead to a culminating concert with the Tulsa Symphony in which the students and teachers play and sing along with the orchestra from their seats in the concert hall. The concert is fully scripted with engaging visuals projected onto a giant screen above the orchestra with all production and classroom materials provided through the Carnegie Hall partnership.



**LINKING UP:** Link Together Chair Dr. Kathy LaFortune and Judge William Kellough are all smiles as they begin preparation for the fundraising event to promote symphonic music for young students in the greater Tulsa area. LaFortune and Kellough are also on the board of the Tulsa Symphony.

This year's culmination Link Up concerts (The Orchestra Rocks!) took place in February and featured eight student performances.

In a nutshell, this is a program based on decades of research and is a perfect fit for the Tulsa community. Tulsa Symphony would like to continue to expand the reach of Link Up into additional

suburban districts and neighboring cities and towns in our region.

Sponsorships begin at \$1,000 (4 people), and table sponsorship are available at the \$2,500, \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000 and \$20,000 levels.

For more information, see [www.tulsasymphony.org/linktogether](http://www.tulsasymphony.org/linktogether).

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## HEALTH & WELLNESS

# Merger Creates Advanced Orthopedics of Oklahoma

Two of Tulsa's most established and innovative orthopedic groups recently joined to form Advanced Orthopedics of Oklahoma. The affiliation, between Central States Orthopedics (CSO) and Eastern Oklahoma Orthopedic Center (EOOC), will combine the strengths of both organizations to allow them to better serve patients in the Tulsa and surrounding communities. The larger group is now comprised of 29 physicians whose collective goal is to continue to provide superior patient care and service.

Advanced Orthopedics of Oklahoma differs from most groups of its kind, which are typically affiliated with a hospital system, often resulting in less autonomy in patient care. By preserving the independence of the group, the organization can focus on a patient-centered approach and the doctor-patient relationship.

Over 15 years ago, physicians from both CSO and EOOC partnered with other local specialists to form Oklahoma Surgical Hospital, which has been nationally recognized as a leader in the delivery of quality, personalized health care. Oklahoma Surgical Hospital is the only hospital in Tulsa and one of 102 hospitals in the nation to receive a 5-Star rat-

ing from Medicare. They have been ranked by HealthGrades as one of America's 100 Best Hospitals for Joint Replacement, along with receiving 5-star ratings for Total Knee Replacement, Total Hip Replacement and Spinal Fusion Surgery. CareChex, a division of Quartos, Inc., ranks Oklahoma Surgical Hospital in the top 1 percent in the nation and first in the state for Major Orthopedic Surgery. Oklahoma Surgical Hospital is also ranked 2nd in the nation for the lowest readmission rate following hip and knee surgery by Medicare.

The goal of the affiliation of the CSO and EOOC is much the same as their efforts with Oklahoma Surgical Hospital: to create and maintain a quality and cost-effective approach to orthopedic care combined with a personalized approach to the health care experience.

David Long, COO of Advanced Orthopedics, feels the affiliation will have a positive outcome for both organizations as well as for the patients they serve. "We believe an affiliation of our practices strengthens the opportunities for growth through the development and enhancement of services, while improving the overall patient experience," says Long.



**NEW AFFILIATION:** Central States Orthopedics (CSO) and Eastern Oklahoma Orthopedic Center (EOOC) recently announced their merger to form Advanced Orthopedics of Oklahoma. Pictured are Advanced Orthopedics of Oklahoma COO David Long, left, and CFO Jeff Smith.

Jeff Smith, CFO of Advanced Orthopedics, states that a primary goal of the affiliation is to serve the needs of their ever-growing client base. The combining of expertise ensures patients receive the right care in a timely



**CONTINUED SUPERIOR PATIENT CARE:** David E. Nonweiler, MD, left, from Central States Orthopedics, and Christopher A. Browne, MD, from Eastern Oklahoma Orthopedic Center, look forward to their partnership as part of the recent affiliation.

manner. "Together, we offer the most comprehensive musculoskeletal care in Northeast Oklahoma," says Smith.

The group will continue to operate at most local hospitals, allowing patients a variety of options to work with their insurance plans. And, despite the name change, patients will continue to

receive the same care they've come to know and trust from both groups. Patients will notice little difference, with phone numbers and locations remaining the same until a full integration which is expected to occur over the next two years.

For more information about the merger, visit [advancedorthook.com](http://advancedorthook.com).

# Autism Clinic Expands to Accommodate Growth

## The Griffin Promise Autism Clinic to Hold First Annual Gala

By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

Since opening the doors of The Griffin Promise Autism Clinic, 2552 E. Kenosha St., in Broken Arrow, in August 2014, Executive Director Lori Frederick remains

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surprised by the clinic's continued growth.

"In summer 2016, we added two therapy rooms and a training room, expansion that we weren't planning until year five," she says.

The added rooms allow for additional therapy sessions and family training classes to take place at the same time due to the added privacy.

With the start of the new year, the clinic began offering a number of expanded services, and recently hired a part-time therapist to add to its three full-time therapists to help with the workload.

In January, the clinic officially began administering autism diagnostic testing, called ADOS (autism diagnostic observation schedule), a scientific evaluation to determine if and where a child lies on the autism spectrum.

The clinic also recently began providing space for a local doctor who works with rare diseases and PKU (phenylketonuria).

Additionally, the clinic now offers feeding therapy, which assists infants and children with feeding difficulties.

"Children with autism can be sensitive to taste, touch, smell; they don't like the way things feel because their senses are heightened," Frederick says.

"Most people, when they think of autism, they think of people who are sensitive to light and sounds, but it can apply to other senses as well."

Feeding therapy takes the same approach as the clinic's other therapies: coaching of the whole family, including parents and caregivers.

"Therapy clinics are not going to be the fixer. It's about having a team of people," Frederick says. "Families who come in and train, those are the kids who we see have significant improvement."

One such family will be honored at the clinic's first annual gala, to be held April 1 at the Glass Chapel, 1401 W. Washington St., in Broken Arrow.

The Broken Arrow family participated in the clinic's Journey Program and instituted it in their home for their child who has autism, says Frederick.

The clinic's Board of Directors funded the family's table at the event.

The gala will feature interviews with the whole family and provide an opportunity to showcase where our donors' money goes and show-



**A GROWING NEED:** Lori Frederick, executive director of The Griffin Promise Autism Clinic and certified autism specialist, works with a child at the Broken Arrow clinic, which opened in 2014. The clinic recently expanded its physical size and its offered services.

case the kids, their stories and their families, she says.

Frederick and the clinic's board members made the decision to offer a gala this year due to the consistent growth in participation and proceeds at its past fundraising events.

The gala will include a three-course dinner, a wine pull, and live and silent auctions, with packages including international travel, tickets to local events and destinations, and autographed sports memorabilia.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with dinner beginning at 7 p.m.

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

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

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## EDUCATION

# Fulbright Scholar Researches Global Food Security

*Professor Istvan Feher Leads Courses in TU's Global Scholars Program, TCC's Honors Program*

Professor Istvan Feher, a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence, is teaching this semester at The University of Tulsa and Tulsa Community College. TU and TCC joined to host the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence for the 2016-2017 academic year. Community partners include

Tulsa Global Alliance and the Oklahoma Center for the Humanities at TU.

Feher is from Hungary and is an economist who has spent his career studying food production, agricultural policy and the economics and sociology of food. He served in the Hungarian govern-

ment as the head of Cabinet of the Ministry of Agriculture and deputy secretary of state, Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development.

In addition to his responsibilities as a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence, he is researching and studying sustainability and food issues in Oklahoma. Feher said he is particularly interested in food production and distribution systems development.

"The students at TU and TCC are better global citizens just by the exposure and engagement that Dr. Feher brings to the classroom and the study of food sustainability," says Douglas Price, TCC's director of global learning.

Feher is leading courses as part of TU's Global Scholars Program and TCC's Honors Program on subjects related to global food security. From agricultural production worldwide to food deserts in the Tulsa area, the issue of food supply systems and food security has become a general priority. Feher will lead discussion and critical analysis in the classroom as well as in the greater Tulsa community.

"I can always count on a meaningful conversation with Dr. Feher," TU finance junior Anna Behermeyer says about her experience in Feher's course. "I was initially intimidated by his laundry list of career achievements, but his classic Hungarian friend-



Courtesy photo

**TU AND TCC SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE:** Hungarian professor and economist Istvan Feher, who has spent his career studying food production, agricultural policy and the economics and sociology of food, is a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence teaching this semester at The University of Tulsa and Tulsa Community College.

liness and true passion for teaching put me at ease."

Feher is in a position to serve as a unique expert resource for our students, says Lara Foley, assistant provost for global education at TU. "He wasted no time in engaging with all manner of people from around the state - farmers, policymakers, industry experts and community leaders - all with the aim of integrating their knowledge into his courses. Moreover, his upcoming series of roundtable discussions on the history and governance of the

European Union could not have been timelier," she says.

The Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence program provides an opportunity for cultural and academic exchange between a prominent international scholar and the host institution. Institutions that receive scholars, and the scholars themselves, are selected through a competitive process, and residencies are funded by a grant from the Fulbright Scholar Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.


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Whitney, Digital Media Specialist

# HVAC Student Pushes Past Gender Stereotypes

Each year, the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education recognizes students who have chosen to study specific programs based on interests and abilities, rather than traditional gender roles, with the aptly named Breaking Traditions Award. Nominees for the award contribute by creating more awareness and support of all non-traditional students and programs.

Non-traditional training and employment is defined by occupations and careers where individuals from one gender comprise less than 25 percent of the individuals employed in a particular field.

Lauren Steele, an adult student in Tulsa Tech's Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) program, has been nominated for one of the awards this year. Her initial decision to follow this career path was built on her desire to find a stable career and perform the type of work she enjoys the most.

"I chose HVAC because it is a technology that we all use every day," Steele says. "I also enjoy the type of diagnostic work we encounter, where a component or system has failed, and finding the correct solution is kind of like solving a puzzle."

The Broken Arrow native acknowledges there may not be many women currently working in the industry; however she has never been the type of person to back down from a challenge, especially when it involves a statement that usually ends with, "because you are a girl."

"My family always raised me with the mindset of, 'Don't be that same girl,'" says Steele. "We were always encouraged to make our own choices, to be independent, and to never let others keep us from achieving our goals."

Jimmy Hawley, one of Tulsa Tech's HVAC instructors, thinks there are plenty of opportunities in the industry for students with Steele's unyielding drive.

"There is no doubt that Lauren is determined to learn as much as she can, in order to achieve her goals," Hawley says. "The skills and training will provide an opportunity, but that type of determination will translate into success as she continues her career."

Steele, a recent graduate of Inola High School, credits her instructor with providing knowledge and patience and never hesitating to spend a little extra time to explain a particular concept or process.

"Mr. Hawley is very helpful and

a great instructor," says Steele. "He takes the time to visit with each student to make sure we have a good understanding of something before moving on to the next step. I have always felt comfortable in our class environment, especially if I need to pause or ask additional questions."

A National Technical Honor Society recipient, Steele has already demonstrated what can happen when outstanding career training is combined with a fierce desire to succeed. Intelligence, reliability and always working as a team player are just a few of the reasons Steele was recently offered a position as a preventive maintenance tech, with Tulsa-based Air Solutions Heating, Cooling and Plumbing.

"My responsibilities include inspecting heating and air systems," Steele says. "I check electrical components for potential problems, monitor carbon monoxide emissions, and look for any other issues that may prevent optimal performance of the system or present a danger to our customers. I am very thankful to Air Solutions for such a great opportunity; they are a great company, like a family, and I certainly appreciate everything they have done to help me succeed."

Like all Tulsa Tech students, each day Lauren Steele is making her own path toward success, and she is quick to encourage other young women, regardless of their interests, to do the same.

"Just be yourself," Steele says. "I prefer to wear a T-shirt, jeans and boots, and I enjoy hands-on work. However, I can also throw on a dress, with a little make-up, let my hair down, and do the



**CAREER FOCUSED:** Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) student Lauren Steele has been nominated for a Breaking Traditions Award, due to her chosen career path in a male-dominated field.

whole 'girl thing.' But at the end of the day, my gender will never determine my career goals."

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## LOCAL EDUCATION

# Seniors of the Month Spotlight

Devontae Armstead and Peyton Miller are Union High School's February Seniors of the Month.

Devontae Armstead is the son of Krishauna Harring of Tulsa. He has attended Union since seventh grade.

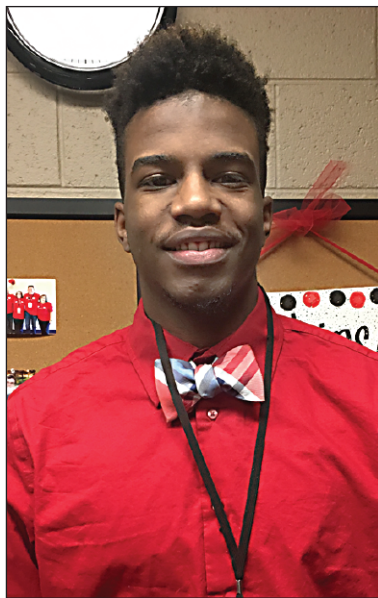
Armstead is active in track and field and has served on the Student Council. He hopes to study veterinary medicine and become a veterinarian and part-time animal trainer.

Peyton Miller is the daughter of David and Denise Miller of Tulsa. She has attended Union since kindergarten. She is active in Athletic Leadership Council, Fuse, basketball, and her church youth group. She has also served as a Children's Ministry leader at Highland Park Christian Church.

Miller has been named to the Athletic Director's Honor Roll and Academic All Conference, lettered in basketball for the past three years, and helped establish a basketball camp at her church. After graduation, she plans to attend Ozark Christian College and study ministry.

### Business Support

Union Students of the Month



DEVONTAE ARMSTEAD



PEYTON MILLER

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, EyeCare Associates, LaMode Cleaners, Phone Doctors, RCB Bank, Tedford Insurance, and Mathis Brothers Furniture.

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

# Changing Communication Methods

(Continued from page 1)

the many clubs and organizations, students and parents, school district residents, the Oklahoma State Department, other school districts, and others.

In order to remain current with the changing communication styles, the department saw the need to focus on its website to expand its information offerings and the ways the information is disseminated, such as through social media and videos.

When Vore came to the school district in 2002, the website was in its early stages. "Since I've been here, we have updated the website about eight times with substantial changes," he says.

Vore also began to think about how he would stay abreast of current news and activities at Union's many school sites. He often utilized teachers and parents to help keep him informed as well as increasing his efforts to visit various school sites on a daily basis to keep Union's publics informed.

Vore's reliance on community-provided information is still very alive and well today, though, thanks to social media.

I am constantly reposting and retweeting information that comes from social media pages of Union clubs and organizations, he says.

Union was one of the first school districts to create a Facebook fan page, and, soon after, it added a youtube channel in order to offer more engagement opportunities with its publics.

"As those platforms became more acceptable, we did more with them," Vore says.

While endeavoring to remain current in its communication methods, the department also has to remain focused on what is fiscally responsible for the district, notes Haas-Bethell. One such situation, a few years ago, involved the question of whether to create an app for the district as mobile devices and smartphones grew in their all-purpose use.

"When attending school events, I would see all of the parents on their mobile devices," says Vore, driving home the point that mobile device compatibility was the way of the future for online content.

However, "an app would have cost us a lot of money and created

double the work for us," Haas-Bethell says.

Instead, the department saw as its best option to create a responsive website that "responds" to individual users' mobile devices by adapting the website's size and other factors to their device.

The school district's responsive site launched two years ago, along with its video section on the main page that highlights school news, extracurricular activities and reminders of upcoming events.

Previously, videos had been included with individual stories on the website, says Vore, but this feature allows individuals to access videos separately.

The bottom line in all of Union's communication methods is flexibility and willingness to adapt, says Haas-Bethell.

"It's not one size fits all," adds Payne. "We can't stop using the old methods, but we have to find new ways, too."

That, as Haas-Bethell sums it up, is the epitome of all that Union stands for: "It's all about the Union Way: striving for excellence in all we do. As a department, we try to portray that."

# Union Wins Oklahoma's Promise Champion

For the fifth consecutive year, Union Public Schools has been recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education as the Oklahoma's Promise 2016 State 6A Champion for having 129 seniors from the class of 2016 qualify for the Oklahoma's Promise Scholarship.

Overall, nine Oklahoma high schools have been named "Oklahoma's Promise 2016 State Champions" by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, with Union placing first in the 6A category. The schools lead the state in the number of graduates who meet the requirements to receive a scholarship through Oklahoma's Promise, a state program that allows students from families whose annual income is \$50,000 or less to earn a scholarship for college tuition.

"The Oklahoma's Promise scholarship program has helped more than 75,000 Oklahoma students achieve the dream of a college education," says Chancellor Glen D. Johnson.

In 2015, Union had 158 seniors qualify for scholarships, 174 in 2014, 166 in 2013, and 128 in 2012.

Beginning in the eighth grade, Union's academic counselors educate students and families and begin signing students up for eligibility in the Oklahoma's Promise program. Counseling teams continue to support students throughout high school, monitoring student enrollment and student grade point averages (GPA) and providing encouragement. As Union students enter their senior year, the academic counselors team with College and Career counselors

to ensure that every eligible student has his/her paperwork completed and sent to regents.

"The students' academic work and the work of the adults responsible for guiding and supporting them is evidence of the tenacity that embodies the 'Union Way,'" says Lisa Witcher, director of Secondary Education for Union Public Schools.

The Oklahoma's Promise program, also known as the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP), has been available to students since 1992. The program provides a scholarship covering resident tuition at Oklahoma public colleges and universities for courses needed to complete a bachelor's degree up to a maximum of five years. The scholarship can also be used to pay for a portion of tuition at eligible private colleges in Oklahoma.

### To be eligible students must:

- be an Oklahoma resident,
- make a commitment to the program as an 8th, 9th or 10th grader,
- complete the courses required for admission to any Oklahoma college or university plus one unit (these courses must include two units of foreign language or technology, and one unit of fine arts),
- graduate with a 2.5 GPA within the previous three years,
- have a family income of \$50,000 or less,
- have been admitted and enrolled in an institution of higher education or certain postsecondary career-tech programs.

# Union Bond Approved

On Feb. 14, Union patrons approved Union Public Schools' \$26-million bond proposal.

The bond funds will go toward Phase II of Elementary 14, 12000 E. 31st St.; district maintenance and operations costs; districtwide textbooks, media books, STEM tools, technology, software licenses and subscriptions; Phase I of Darnaby Elementary's HVAC system replacement; and other district needs.

"I continue to be humbled by this community's unwavering support for Union students and staff, as we work together to achieve our goal of 100-percent graduation, 100-percent college and career readiness," says Superintendent Dr. Kirt Hartzler. "I extend our sincere gratitude to Union patrons for their overwhelming passage of the Feb. 14 school bond proposal."

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## UNION SPORTS

# Mo Garcia Keeping Family Legacy Alive at Union

By **MIKE MOGUIN**  
Sports Writer

Rudy Garcia has been coaching the Union Redskins on the hardwood for a long time. But there has never been a time as special as now as he gets to coach his son, Mo Garcia, now in his junior season.

The younger Garcia has been a starter since halfway through his freshman year and is in a leadership role in the team's unbeaten campaign and a quest for the school's fourth state championship, all under the tenure of his father.

"It's special anytime you get a chance to coach your kids," Rudy Garcia says. "I think any coach cherishes the chance to coach their kids. He's been around it all his life and he's had sisters that played."

One of those sisters is McKenzie, a Union High School graduate of 2010. She was a member of the 2008 girls state championship team. The other is Kennedy, a graduate of 2015.

"We are a basketball family," Rudy Garcia says.

The Garcias are well-grounded in the Union family. Rudy has coached in the school system for 28 seasons and has been the head boys' coach for 22 of them. His wife and Mo's mother, Tammy, a 1980 UHS graduate, has worked within the school system for 35 years. She is currently a counselor at the Union alternative school.

Mo Garcia is also grateful for the privilege of being a protégé under his dad.

"It's special. He's done so many good things here throughout his career," Mo Garcia says. "I'm just glad I can spend time with my basketball career, having him coaching me and growing in the game with him."

When it comes to home, the Garcias rarely talk about their sports action.

"To have the chance to coach him day in and day out, it's a different relationship than a lot of father-son relationships," the older Garcia says. "The fact that it's my job, I have to coach him then go home and try to balance the father-coach aspect of it, but we don't talk a lot about it at home. I may say a few things to him, but I try to leave it at the gym and let him live his life away from the gym, so I have an understanding and a great relationship."

One thing Rudy Garcia has recently preached to his son is that you can never be satisfied with your success.

Mo Garcia says, "My dad says that once you're satisfied, you're done. He's pretty much telling me that I can never quit working."

Mo Garcia is coachable and does a lot for the team, his dad says.

"We ask a lot out of him," Rudy Garcia says. "His overall knowledge of the game and understanding how to play is a plus. He likes being a leader for us and knows



**FATHER AND SON:** Union Head Basketball Coach Rudy Garcia watches as his son Mo Garcia gets ready to hit a three-point shot for the Redskins in a recent game.

where everybody is supposed to be. He is like a coach on the floor. He helps get us organized and when he sees things on the floor that maybe we don't see at the time, he relays things to us

and we're able to use some of those things to our advantage."

His sisters also give him some guidance in the game as well.

"Most definitely," Rudy Garcia says, laughing. "They've been

around it. They watch film with me, they see and understand what I expect from my players. They put a lot of pressure on him and are very critical of what he does. McKenzie watches every film, every game. She usually gives her critique of how he played and things like that. But they are very supportive and very critical of how he plays."

"(McKenzie) grades film almost every game and she'll text me what I need to do better or what I did wrong and make sure I'm getting everything right," Mo Garcia says. "(Kennedy) is always in the stands every game yelling at me if I'm being lazy and tell me to get my butt back in gear."

Mo Garcia's favorite memory of watching any of Dad's teams growing up came in 2012, when the team went unbeaten, capturing the second state championship.

"I was even crying just after we won because I was up here every day in practice just watching them grind it out and get ready," Mo Garcia says.

The Redskins are ranked No. 1 in Class 6A at this writing. The younger Garcia says defense has been the key and will continue to be so as they pursue the dream of winning another state title.

"Every big player we have played, we've kept them to low numbers and they haven't had those 30-40 point games," Mo Garcia says. "So, if we keep those key guys under control, it gives us a good chance to win."

# Union 8th Grader an International Taekwondo Champ

Union eighth grade student Ethan Sen is making a name for himself in national and international taekwondo competition. Sen recently won three medals at the 2017 U.S. Open Taekwondo Championships in Las Vegas, held Jan. 31 through Feb. 3. He is the son of Kenneth Sen and Linda Ting of Tulsa.

Sen won a gold medal in Cadet

Male Team Poomsae and two bronze medals in Cadet Coed Pairs Poomsae and Cadet Male Individual Poomsae.

The awards follow wins that Sen received last fall when he won two bronze medals in the 10th WTF World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships in Lima, Peru.

Sen's father, Kenneth Sen, said

Ethan transferred to Union in seventh grade and has been in love with his new school.

"Ethan loves to go to Union Schools because it is a huge school with a lot of students and school programs. He is a very social person, and he quickly blended himself into the environment. He participates in the MathCounts program, and he is also taking debate class this year," his father says.

In addition to taekwondo, Ethan is active in debate and hopes to fulfill requirements to be inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

"His future plans are to continue to excel in school academics at Union and produce better results in national and international taekwondo tournaments. His goal is to be able to get into one of the Ivy League schools that has a taekwondo college

team affiliated with the National Taekwondo Collegiate Association in order to compete in the Universiade (World University Games)," his father says.

Ethan Sen plans to compete in several more events including:

- 2017 Texas State Taekwondo Championships – National Qualifier (Mar. 17–18);
- 2017 Oklahoma State Taekwondo Championships – National Qualifier (Apr. 1);
- 2017 Pan American Open Taekwondo Championships (Apr. 20–23);
- 2017 ATU National Championships at Orlando, FL (May 26–27);
- 2017 USA Taekwondo National Championships at Detroit, MI (Jun. 29 – Jul. 6);
- 2017 USA Taekwondo Poomsae National Team



**ETHAN SEN**

Courtesy photo

Trials; and

- 2017 Canada Open Taekwondo Championships at Montreal, Canada (Sept. 28 – Oct. 1).

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# Chris Ratcliff Full Speed Ahead at RSU

By **TERRELL LESTER**  
Editor at Large

Chris Ratcliff talks like he's running a fast break. Up-tempo. No hesitation. Full speed ahead. Quick. Quicker. Quickest. Reach the goal. Make a point. He will lead just about any league in words produced per minute. In January, he was in peak form. His words abounded. Flowed and cascaded. He was just landing in Claremore, taking on the assignment of Director of Athletics for Rogers State University. He had a new job, in a new city, in a new state. He was ready to shout it from the rooftops. He was in super sales mode. He spoke with the energy of a winning coach. The passion of an evangelist. The pace of a quarter-miler. He quoted Maya Angelou. Ratcliff was hired to head up the department that fields teams in 14 sports in its first full year of membership in NCAA Division II. Ratcliff, a native of Houston, Texas, and a 2005 graduate of Henderson (Arkansas) State with a Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Leisure, followed by a Master of Science in Sports Administration in 2006, had spent the previous seven years at the University of Arkansas at Monticello, first as women's basketball coach, finally as athletic director. In rapid-fire succession, he enumerated three reasons for departing Monticello and choosing Claremore:

- Facilities.
- Administration.
- Quality of life.

"I've known about Rogers State

since they started athletics in 2005," he said. "I've always known Claremore was a great town. "When you look for jobs, and I don't look for jobs, you always want to look at their facilities. Are they better than I have right now? "And, does the administration care about athletics? Do they want athletics to succeed? "Then, thirdly, is it a better quality of life for my family?" According to Ratcliff, with a population of some 9,000, Monticello is about half the size of Claremore. "And, we were one-and-a-half hours from anything," he said, referring to the southeast Arkansas community, close to the Mississippi border. Now, he is 20, 25 minutes from Tulsa. He and his wife, Andrea, an elementary art teacher, have two children. "There wasn't a lot of opportunity for our kids to create a culture of arts and athletics" in Monticello, Ratcliff said. "Claremore had a lot of things for our family, a lot of things for quality of life improvement." The campus of Rogers State, which traces its roots to Oklahoma Military Academy and beyond, boasts a still-blossoming baseball and softball complex plus a shimmering soccer pitch. The men's and women's basketball teams play in the off-campus Claremore Expo Center, not an ideal set-up but functional and virtually homey. "Better facilities than what I had," Ratcliff said, adding that UA-Monticello also fielded a football team, a sport RSU does not have. When he trained his focus on the school administration, Ratcliff mentioned RSU President Dr.

Larry Rice and Tom Volturo, executive vice-president for administration and finance. Rice was a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives (1991-04) and was on the staff at the University of Tulsa before assuming the RSU leadership in 2008. "Athletics is important to (Rice and Volturo)," Ratcliff said. "Not just having a program, but being successful." For the 40-year-old Ratcliff, moving from one NCAA Division II school to another was "a no-brainer." Where football had been the No. 1 sport on the UA-Monticello athletics roster, men's basketball is the signature sport at RSU. Or, as Ratcliff says of men's basketball, "our front door." The program has been successful. The bell-cow sport, men's basketball, fielded its first team in 2007-08 and has produced eight 20-win seasons in nine years. Talks have long persisted within the RSU community of the need for an on-campus basketball facility. Mindful of the ever-tightening Oklahoma education budgets, Ratcliff admitted that such a facility was at the top of his priority list. A native of Houston, Ratcliff is animated and dynamic. His workdays can stretch from sun-up to right near midnight. Always in motion, his mind is moving as quickly as his feet. He wears a tireless smile. He can be found at RSU athletic home events and often on the road. Basketball, soccer, baseball, softball. He might be more fan than administrator. For sure, he is part cheerleader, part promoter.



**ROGERS STATE TEAM:** Rogers State President Dr. Larry Rice, left, with his new Athletic Director, Chris Ratcliff, at halftime during a recent RSU basketball game in Claremore.

He lunches with city leaders. Speaks to a litany of service organizations. "We can build a brand here (at Rogers State)," he said. "We can make Rogers State a regional brand. A national brand. "A national brand, of course, comes with winning," he said. Ratcliff has inherited a foundation for winning. The men's basketball team won its Heartland Conference championship last season. Junior cross country runner Baylor Harvey recently became RSU's first NCAA All-American. The baseball team finished runner-up in the 2012 NAIA national tournament. When he left the coaching bench to become a full-time athletics director in 2011, he did so with minimal misgivings. Sure, he would miss the competition of coaching. The camaraderie

with his peers. The interaction with his players. "But I believed I could make a bigger impact on more people as an AD," he said. He tries to set a good example every day. A handshake here. A pat on the back there. A kind gesture along the way. "I always recall the words of Maya Angelou," he said, establishing himself as perhaps the first coach to quote and reference the great poet. "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel," he said, reciting her penetrating, provocative words. For once, and for effect, Chris Ratcliff slowed the pace of his delivery. But almost instantly, he returned to his rapid-fire mode. Talking sports. Talking Rogers State University Hillcats.

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# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS, MASTER OF CEREMONIES ANNOUNCED FOR IBA CITIZEN ATHLETE AWARDS



CHRIS HERREN



SHANNON MILLER



CHRIS LINCOLN



GTR Newspapers photo

**EVENT TASTING:** Members of the Rotary Club of Tulsa's Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Awards Committee met recently for a tasting at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, where the event will be held June 26. From left are Hard Rock Head Chef Tony Aidoo and Rotarians Trisha Kerkstra, Kacey King and Gene Martin. In the background is the table setting, which will feature a center stage.

Shannon Miller, the most decorated Olympic gymnast in American History, and Chris Herren, former NBA player for the Denver Nuggets and Boston Celtics, will be the keynote speakers at this year's Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Awards. Sportscaster Chris Lincoln has been named Master of Ceremonies at the prestigious black-tie-optional event to be held at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa on June 26.

**Shannon Miller** was the first female recipient of the Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Award in 1994. She remains the Most Decorated Olympic Gymnast in American History with seven Olympic medals. She is the only American to rank among the Top 10 All-Time gymnasts and is the only female athlete to be inducted into the US Olympic Hall of Fame twice, Individual in 2006 and Team in 2008.

She has won 59 International and 49 National competition medals. Over half of these have been gold. She is the first U.S. gymnast to win two World All-Around Titles and she is the first American female to medal in the individual all-around of a non-boycotted Olympics. Her tally of five medals (two silver, three bronze) at the 1992 Olympics was the most medals won by a U.S. athlete in any sport. At the '96 Games, she led the "Magnificent Seven" to the U.S. Women's first-ever Team Gold and for the first time for any American gymnast, she captured gold on the Balance Beam.

After retiring from Olympic competition, Miller received her undergraduate degrees in marketing and entrepreneurship from the University of Houston and her law

degree from Boston College. She then moved from Olympic athlete to advocate for the health and wellness of women and children.

Miller launched her company, Shannon Miller Lifestyle: Health and Fitness for Women, which empowers women to make their health a priority through programs, education and awareness.

In 2011, Miller was diagnosed with a rare form of ovarian cancer. She had the baseball-sized tumor removed successfully and followed up with an aggressive chemotherapy regimen. Now cancer free, she continues to be a strong advocate for awareness and early detection.

Miller has taken the lessons she learned through the obstacles she faced as an elite athlete, as a young adult and those from her journey with cancer to publish an inspirational new book: *It's Not About Perfect: Competing for my Country and Fighting for my Life*.

**Chris Herren** was a high school basketball legend from Fall River, Massachusetts, who scored over 2,000 career points while at Durfee High School and was named to the 1994 McDonald's All-American team. Herren realized his lifelong dream of playing in the NBA when he was drafted by the Denver Nuggets in 1999 and then was traded to his hometown team, the Boston Celtics, in 2000. After suffering a season-ending injury as a Celtic, Herren went on to play in five countries, including Italy, Poland, Turkey, China and Iran.

Herren struggled with substance abuse for much of his basketball career. Alcohol and drug-free since Aug. 1, 2008, he has refocused his life to put his sobriety and family above all else. He shares his harrowing story of abuse and recovery in his memoir, *Basketball Junkie*,

as well as in numerous interviews throughout the Emmy-nominated ESPN Films documentary *Unguarded*, of which he is the subject.

In June 2009, he launched Hoop Dreams with Chris Herren, a basketball player development company that offers basketball training, camps and clinics to top basketball prospects in New England. Off the court, Herren continues to share his story with audiences in the hopes of reaching just one person and making a difference in his or her life. In inspiring presentations, he draws on his own history to convince audiences that it is never too late to follow your dreams and urges audience members to overcome their setbacks and start making the right choices.

To support this vision, he founded The Herren Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing treatment navigation, educational and mentoring programs to those touched by addiction and to educate people of all ages on the dangers of substance abuse. In 2012, The Herren Project launched a national anti-substance abuse campaign, Project Purple, to encourage people of all ages to stand up to substance abuse. Since 2012, it is estimated that over 300,000 teens nationwide have taken the pledge to make good choices, standing up and together against drugs and alcohol. The Herren Project continues to make a significant impact nationwide one person, one family at a time.

Returning as master of ceremonies will be **Chris Lincoln** who emceed the eighth annual awards in 2001.

For more than four decades, Lincoln has been covering sports.

He has been to 48 states and traveled to 16 foreign countries on four continents.

He started his sports career in high school in Warren, Michigan, writing for the school newspaper, yearbook and the Royal Oak Tribune. At the University of Missouri, he was active in covering sports.

In 1974, he became sports director at KTUL. He also hosted the University of Oklahoma's national football replay show with Coach Barry Switzer. At the same time, he hosted shows for OSU, TU and ORU. He produced numerous sports specials and did play-by-play of many sports events for the station.

In 1976, he was tabbed by ABC sports as one of the network's four regional college football play-by-play announcers and later did college and Canadian pro football and basketball play-by-play for ESPN.

Lincoln left KTUL at the end of 1981 to form Winner Communications (now Winnercomm), a television sports production company, with former leading KTUL salesman, Jim Wilburn. The two built the company into the nation's largest independently-owned sports production company with over 200 employees in Tulsa and another 2,000 independent contractors across the nation.

In 2007, Lincoln returned to KTUL as Executive Sports Director and main anchor. In 2012, he stepped down and now does special reports and covers feature events for the station plus freelance broadcasting.

Throughout his 25 years at Winnercomm, Lincoln became known to millions of television viewers around the world as "The Voice of the Thoroughbreds" as the host from 1982-1998 of thorough-

bred and quarter horse races and the weekly "Racehorse Digest" show on ESPN.

In Tulsa he is remembered as the "Voice of the Tulsa Roughnecks" (NASL soccer team), the Oklahoma Outlaws (USFL Pro Football) and the Tulsa Twisters (professional team rodeo). He was featured on radio locally as a weekly announcer on the Sports Animal 97.1 FM show. He has also announced local high school football play-by-play for KRMG radio and events for Cox Cable.

He is also active in many Tulsa charities.

The Iba Awards were created in 1994 by the Rotary Club of Tulsa to recognize an influential male and a female premier athlete for their success in their sport, and more importantly, for being positive role models who give back to their communities – not only by donating to worthy causes but by being personally dedicated and involved in their chosen charities.

The awards are named after Henry P. Iba, former Oklahoma State University basketball coach and coach of three U.S. Olympic basketball teams. He was an unparalleled success as a coach, a leader and a citizen and these awards recognize and honor athletes who best exemplify a high degree of citizenship in his image.

Sponsor of the general reception is CommunityCare. Proceeds benefit the Rotary Club of Tulsa Foundation, which supports local non-profits, statewide initiatives benefitting young people and the club's International Projects Committee.

For table sponsorship information, contact the Rotary Club of Tulsa at 918-584-7642 or online at [ibaawards.com](http://ibaawards.com).

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"Confidence, persistence, integrity are necessary qualities for life and running a business," says Gary M. Stanislawski, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER Practitioner and president of Regent Financial Services, Inc.

He credits the U.S. Air Force for instilling those qualities and more in him and setting him on his path to teaching and financial planning.

Stanislawski founded Regent Financial Services, Inc., in 2002, with the goal of assisting clients in every aspect of their financial lives. Today, he uses the problem-solving and leadership skills and genuine interest in others that he developed during his military career to help his clients retire with confidence.

Stanislawski, an Oregon native, attended Oregon State University on a four-year ROTC scholarship, earning his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

Upon graduation, he entered the Air Force and earned his wings as a pilot in 1984. He flew for eight years, flying such planes as the B-52 and the B-1 Bomber.

After leaving the Air Force, he moved to Tulsa where he received his Master of Arts in Christian Education at Oral Roberts University.

In 2008, Stanislawski was elected to the Oklahoma State Senate and serves as the Chairman of the Education Committee, among others. He is the past president of the Financial Planning Association of Tulsa. He has also served his community on the Jenks Public School Foundation Board and the Planned Giving Committee of the Parent Child Center.

He and his wife, Dayna, have been married for over 35 years and have two children.

"I founded Regent Financial



**ORU BACKGROUND:** Gary M. Stanislawski, president of Regent Financial Services, Inc., talks with Oral Roberts, founder of Oral Roberts University. Before opening Regent, Stanislawski served in the U.S. Air Force and then earned his Master of Arts in Christian Education from ORU.

Services with the goal to provide the most personal service available," says Stanislawski.

With 13 employees, the team at Regent Financial has a combined 80 years of financial services experience, working with individuals and businesses in investment, retirement, and estate planning services.

Stanislawski specifically chose Denise A. Lant, CFP®, and Kraig McFarland, RFC®, CRPC®, for their high ethical standards, specialized experience, and their years of service in the industry, he notes.

The Regent Financial team is comprised of three advisors and a support staff of 10, including a Chartered Financial Analyst and a Portfolio Manager.

"Having a support staff of 10 to three advisors allows us to give first class customer service and attention to detail," Stanislawski says. "While the company has grown to be a successful Registered Investment

Advisory firm, one thing has remained constant: our commitment to the highest level of personal service."

Stanislawski encourages parents to teach their children about money and to begin to save. When working with new families, Regent Financial lays the foundation by encouraging families to take a realistic view of their savings and debt picture to see if they will be able to pursue their long-term goals.

Regent Financial also offers free monthly educational classes to its clients and the community.

"The Regent team makes every effort to develop portfolios that aim to manage volatility and seeks to maximize results in both good and bad markets, thereby providing our clients with financial confidence, security and stability," he says.

With his decades of financial planning experience under his belt, Stanislawski can confidently say,



**HIGHLY-SKILLED TEAM:** President of Regent Financial Services, Inc., Gary M. Stanislawski, second from left, stands with his team of three advisors and a support staff of 10, including a Chartered Financial Analyst and a Portfolio Manager.

"Determining the best route into retirement for our clients is as satisfying as flying a jet aircraft."

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**SUCCESSFUL WOMEN:** From left, Broken Arrow Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Janet Dunlop, Lori Fullbright and Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce Senior Vice President April Salsbury pose during the Broken Arrow Chamber's Successful Women's Luncheon, held in January. Fullbright served as the event's emcee.

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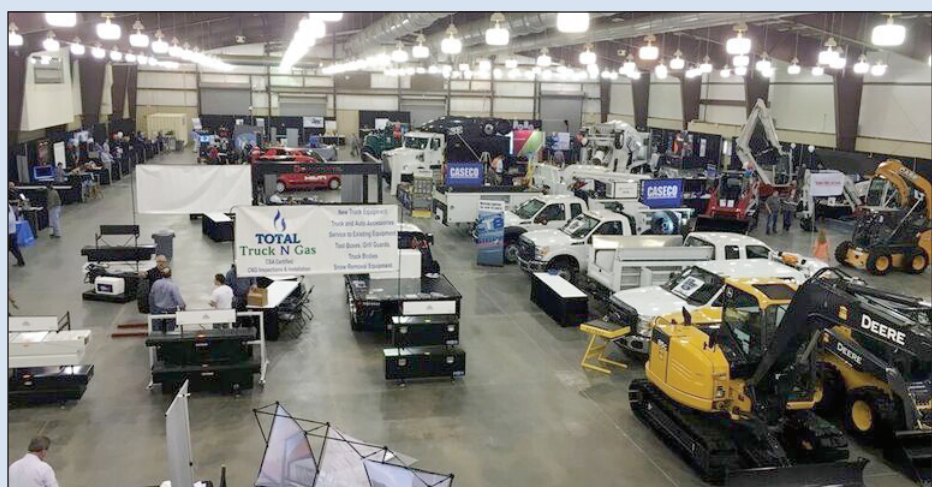
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# Jackie Cooper Breaks Ground for 3rd Tulsa Location

Tulsa community and business leaders recently joined Jackie Cooper Imports of Tulsa executive management, staff and Infiniti USA representatives at 88th Street and South Memorial Drive for the groundbreaking of the company's third Tulsa location. The eight-acre site is the future location of a stand-alone Jackie Cooper Infiniti retail and service facility. Estimated construction cost is \$10 million.

Jackie Cooper began doing business in Tulsa in August 1991 and is now an authorized dealership for Infiniti, Mercedes-Benz, Maserati, Nissan, Smart and Porsche. The Infiniti franchise was acquired in late 1998 and opened in 1999. Other Jackie Cooper dealership locations include Jackie Cooper Imports at 9393 South Memorial Drive (opened in 1999) and Jackie Cooper Nissan at 8998 South Memorial Drive (opened in 2005). Jackie Cooper's current Infiniti retail and service operations are located in the multi-franchise automotive complex at 9393 S. Memorial Dr. The Tulsa dealership currently employs about 250 team members.

Architect Michael Dwyer designed the new 36,000-square-foot stand-alone Infiniti retail, service, administrative and warehouse complex. Stava Building



**FIRST DIRT:** Present at the Jackie Cooper groundbreaking are, from left, Jerry Sole, Infiniti After sales manager; John Stava, owner, Stava Building Corp.; Bob Duncan, realtor, Duncan Realty; Mark Lorentz, director of fixed operations, Jackie Cooper Imports of Tulsa; Greg Kach, Jackie Cooper Imports of Tulsa managing partner; Mike Neal, Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce; Phil Lakin, Tulsa city councilor, District 8; and James Donley, dealer operations manager, Infiniti.

Corporation of Tulsa will provide construction services. Completion is expected to be in spring 2018.

"The continued growth of our Infiniti sales, the manufacturer's model expansion and concept cars in development make this the opportune time to expand our Infiniti facility so we may continue to offer exceptional service to

our Infiniti customers," says Jackie Cooper Imports Managing Partner Greg Kach.

Jackie Cooper is Tulsa's exclusive Infiniti dealership. The Infiniti full line of 10 luxury performance vehicles includes the Q50, Q50 Hybrid, Q70, Q70 Hybrid and Q70L Sedans, the Q60 Coupe, the QX30, QX50, QX60,



**EXPANSION TEAM:** Looking forward to the third Jackie Cooper location in Tulsa are, from left, Steve Lujan, Jackie Cooper Imports general manager; Mark Lorentz, Jackie Cooper Imports director of fixed operations; and Greg Kach, Jackie Cooper Imports managing partner.

QX70 Crossovers and the full-size SUV, the QX80.

The new facility will provide approximately a 300-percent increase in overall space compared to the current area dedicated to the Infiniti showroom, customer amenity areas, service department and parts inventory. It will also allow the dealership to

consolidate and expand current vehicle detail operations housed at existing locations.

"Within a year of opening, we anticipate staffing to include approximately 60 team members," says Jackie Cooper Imports Director of Fixed Operations and Infiniti Project Manager Mark Lorentz.

## State Homebuilders Induct Five into Hall of Fame

Five legends of Oklahoma's home building industry were inducted into the Oklahoma Housing Hall of Fame recently during the annual Installation Banquet and Hall of Fame induction ceremony of the Oklahoma State Home Builders Association (OSHBA).

Home builders honored four living Hall of Famers and one posthumously as the second class inducted into the Housing Hall of Fame.

Inducted as the Class of 2016 into the Housing Hall were Bob Thompson of Norman, Ken Klein, Charlie Gilmore and the late Bill Rhee, all of Tulsa, and Reese Wilmoth of Oklahoma City, the first OSHBA Associates Council member inducted.

Hall of Fame inductees were introduced before an audience of about 250 by former OSHBA President Phil Rhee, who led the initiative to create an Oklahoma Housing Hall of Fame in 2016.

"It's been a great honor for me to watch the guys come up and receive their awards and to be rec-

ognized, because it means so much," Rhee says. "For quite a long time I felt like a big segment of our leadership was not receiving the due recognition that they deserved."

Rhee is the son of Hall of Famer Bill Rhee, who died in 2014 and was known for his work in developing wind-resistant construction techniques and safe rooms.

"Back in 1999, he worked with Project Impact, the city of Tulsa, Texas Tech University and State Farm Insurance to develop safe rooms that FEMA uses today," Rhee says. "He did a lot of work putting those things together. I'm proud of the legacy he left of making homes safer for people, and I'm so glad he was recognized for that."

The first class inducted in 2015 included the late Mark Dale of Edmond and Joe Robson of Tulsa.

The banquet was highlighted by three special awards presented, including Oklahoma Builder of the Year award to Jeff Click, of Oklahoma City, owner of Jeff

Click Homes. Also honored as State Associate of the Year was Steve Taylor, immediate past Chair of the State Associates Council, and Phil Rhee, honored with the President's Award by outgoing President Kurt Dinnes.

Guest speaker at the event was Randy Noel of Louisiana, first vice chairman of the board of the National Association of Home Builders.

Installed as 2017 OSHBA officers were Dan Reeves of Norman, President; David Blackburn, Tulsa, as vice president/treasurer; and Steve Allen, of Oklahoma City, as vice president/secretary.

Reeves is founder and CEO of Norman's Landmark Fine Homes. He said his agenda for the year includes implementing a philosophy of "shepherding" leadership to connect with more members throughout the state with the ultimate goal of influencing legislation that impacts the housing industry.

"Our goal is government advocacy, and you have all this activity going on at the Capitol," Reeves said. "We want more people out there. Our voice is being heard, because we've been into the politics side of it. But we need the people to show up at our Legislative Day at the Capitol to see that they are in it."

Also installed were new officers of the State Associates Council, including Chris Evans of Oklahoma City as president; David Sanders of Tulsa, vice chair; and Connie Stokes of Stillwater, secretary. Vanessa Shadix of Oklahoma City remains as treasurer.

"This was an historic night as we not only installed new officers, but recognized five legends that shaped our industry," said Mike Means, OSHBA Executive Vice President. "We are excited about the year ahead and the impact these new officers will have not

only on our organization, but the housing industry across Oklahoma."

### About Tulsa HBA:

The Home Builders Association of Greater Tulsa is a not-for-profit, professional trade organization that is an advocate for the residential housing and remodeling industry in communities in and around Tulsa and serves approximately 900 members. The association is a corporate channel through which builders contribute time, money and services to local community service projects and education initiatives. Professional members must meet stringent requirements, including customer and professional references, insurance certification and adhere to a strict code of ethics. For more information, visit [www.TulsaHBA.com](http://www.TulsaHBA.com).

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# White River Fish Market Expands to B.A.

By GRANT ROWL  
Contributing Writer

Broken Arrow civic leaders and others participated in a ribbon cutting on Jan. 30 for the new White River Fish Market and Restaurant in B.A., located at 1105 E. Kenosha St., which is at the southeast corner of 71st Street and Lynn Lane in the County Line Shopping Center. This is the first expansion in the restaurant's over 80 year history.

This new location is over 7,200 square feet, which is almost 50 percent larger than their current location 1708 N. Sheridan Rd. Broken Arrow City Councilor Mike Lester has worked on this project for over six years to bring White River to B.A. He says, "I viewed no less than eight or nine different sites, none of which worked out for one reason or another. Then one day I drove past this shopping center which really stuck out as being one that mimicked their current location in many ways. After nearly two years of negotiations and issues that at times seemed to almost be insurmountable, we have arrived at the day we knew would finally come."

Lester says, "White River was founded in 1932 by O.T. Fallis as a fresh fish market only, which derived its name from the river in Arkansas from which it got most of its fish. A restaurant was added in 1942. It was first located at approximately First Street and



**BROKEN ARROW LOCATION:** The new White River Fish Market and Restaurant is located at 1105 E. Kenosha St., which is at the southeast corner of 71st Street and Lynn Lane in the County Line Shopping Center. This new location is over 7,200 square feet, which is almost 50 percent larger than their current location at 1708 N. Sheridan Rd. This is the first expansion in the restaurant's over 80-year history.

Boston Avenue in downtown Tulsa but moved to its current location on North Sheridan in the early 1960s in a nondescript shopping center.

"In 1981 it was purchased by Garry Cozby, a Texas transplant, who embarked on a 28-year career as proprietor of White River, prior to his death in 2009. For years prior to his death, businessmen Tom Clark, president of Tulsa Beechcraft, and J.J. Lester, VP/CFO Tulsa Beechcraft, whose operation was only one mile north of White River, would eat lunch there and tell

Garry, 'any time you're ready to sell, we're ready to buy.' Upon Garry's death, the administrator of his estate pursued Clark and Lester as to their interest in acquiring the establishment. Of course they immediately set in motion what they describe as one of their best business moves ever."

Mike Lester, Broken Arrow vice-mayor at the time and commercial broker with Newmark Grubb, began to court White River to come to downtown Broken Arrow long before the Rose District was even under consideration. It soon became



**RIBBON CUTTING:** Broken Arrow civic leaders and others participated in a ribbon cutting on Jan. 30 for the new White River Fish Market and Restaurant in B.A. Tom Clark of White River cuts the ribbon with B.A. City Councilor Mike Lester. From left are Vice Mayor Richard Carter; Chamber Board Chair Eric Kehmeier; EDC Board Chair Ted Cundiff; Mayor Craig Thurmond, Clark and Lester; Tom Cleator of White River; J.J. Lester; Chamber President Wes Smithwick and City Manager Michael Spurgeon.

apparent that there was no building suitable within the core downtown area and, more importantly, not sufficient parking to handle the more than 600 average customers that visit White River each day. Lester says that is one of the reasons this location stood out: the abundance of parking, as well as the "glass store front" which is much like that of the one on North Sheridan Road.

Lester says that there is an abundant population surrounding the location for its success. He says, "Flight Safety is across the road with its 850 employees, and there is

extensive retail growth in and around this location. Another plus is its proximity to the Broken Arrow Expressway, which will make ease of access from the entire Metro area, especially those living in the southern region, which typically felt it too far to travel to North Sheridan location."

Operating hours are Monday – Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Lester adds, "The restaurant will serve the freshest grilled, baked or fried fish, along with all the trimmings, to be found anywhere in Oklahoma."

## 'Fueling Freedom' and the Madness of the Green World

### OPINION

In the book titled "Fueling Freedom," authors Stephen Moore and Kathleen Hartnett White explain their views by addressing "the madness of the green war on abundant energy":

-Why the idea of replacing fossil fuel energy with medieval technologies of wind, solar power, and biomass is a dangerous fantasy;

-How recent technological breakthroughs have made our supply of oil and gas virtually unlimited, exploding the myth of 'peak oil';

-Why the green agenda will keep billions of people in grinding poverty and threatens the world - with massive starvation;

-The value of the energy underneath federal lands and waters is at least \$50 trillion;

-With a pro-America energy policy, the U.S. should be energy independent by the year 2020.

In my book, 'America Needs America's Energy: Creating Together the People's Energy Plan,' I stress similar points of view. However, I strongly emphasize that the book is dedicated to the proposition that we need to turn to new technologies, innovation, and the enduring American spirit that has enabled us to overcome every chal-

lenge this nation has faced since our founding, the goal of total energy independence can be achieved before it is too late. We are the ones who will have to do it, because our societal institutions have proven they are not up to the task. It is time to take a stand, evaluate your own impact to our nation, and play your part in preserving our country. Energy is the future of America, and America Needs America's Energy.

It is time we come together: the U.S. has the immediate challenge

### Energy Watch



By MARK A. STANSBERRY

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# BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES



**TU COMMUNICATION HALL OF FAME:** Longtime University of Tulsa adjunct instructor and co-founder of the university's Ad Program William "Bill" Hinkle (BS '69) was inducted into the TU Communication Hall of Fame on Jan. 26. At the event are, from left, Communication Hall of Fame representatives Becky Dixon, 2006; Steve Turnbo, 2011; Bill Hinkle, 2017; Ken Neal, 2002; and David Averill, 2013.



**BOAT SHOW ACTION:** The Tulsa Boat Sport and Travel Show was another success this year. From left are Scott Lackey, vice president of Big Mac Marine; Jennifer Miracle, executive director of the Tulsa Boat Sport and Travel Show; and John Lovell, Manager of Big Mac Marine. Big Mac Marine, located in Claremore and Eufala, hosted the Big Mac Indoor Zip Line that allowed attendees to glide over the entire show.



**ABC CHAIRMAN:** Jennifer Jezek, center, president and owner of York Electronics Systems, Inc., stands with her parents. She has been elected as chairman of the Associated Builders and Contractors of Oklahoma (ABC). Jezek is ABC of Oklahoma's first female to serve as chairman. She's also the first succession to serve. Her father, Steve York, pictured, served as chairman in 1999. ABC of Oklahoma President & CEO Carl Williams says, "We are pleased to have Jennifer serve as our chairman of ABC this year. She is a remarkable young woman who leads by example. We know she will do great things for our organization."

Tulsa attorney **Kimberly K. Hays** recently took an oath of office as **Oklahoma Bar Association** president-elect, automatically becoming president Jan. 1, 2018. Also being sworn in as a member-at-large was **James R. Hicks**. They will be part of the OBA's 17-member Board of Governors, which meets monthly and governs the association.

Hays is a solo practitioner in Tulsa and has practiced exclusively in the area of family law since 1993. She served on the OBA Board of Governors representing Tulsa County in 2012-2014. She is past chair of the OBA Family Law Section and currently serves as the section's Section Leaders Council liaison, budget chair and Annual Meeting Committee member. She will chair the OBA's Strategic Planning Committee.

Hays is also active in the Tulsa County Bar Association, having served as a director-at-large, TCBA Family Law Section chairperson and as a member of the Professionalism and Professional Responsibility Committees. She is a volunteer attorney for Legal Aid Services, Domestic Violence Intervention Services and Oklahoma Lawyers for America's Heroes. She received her B.A. from Oklahoma State University and her J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law.

Hicks concentrates his practice in the areas of civil litigation, family law, probate and estate planning in Tulsa with the firm of Barrow & Grimm PC. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Oklahoma, where he was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He earned his J.D. from the University of Tulsa College of Law in 1985. He served as Tulsa County Bar Association president in 2013-2014 during its 110th anniversary celebration. He was appointed to the OBA Board of Governors in 2015 by President David Poarch to serve out an unexpired term ending in 2016. He previously served on the Board of Governors in 1994 as chair of the Young Lawyers Division. Currently, he serves as senior warden of St. John's Episcopal Church in Tulsa.

OBA leadership roles are voluntary positions in which lawyers serve while continuing to practice law.

The 17,600-member Oklahoma Bar Association, headquartered in Oklahoma City, was created by the Oklahoma Supreme Court to advance the administration of justice and to foster and maintain learning, integrity, competence, public service and high standards of conduct among Oklahoma's legal community.



HAYS



HICKS

Two new employees have been added to the management ranks of the **First National Bank & Trust Co. of Broken Arrow**.

**Yvette Martinez** has joined Broken Arrow's first bank as vice president of retail banking administration while **Brian Talkington** has assumed responsibility as vice president of commercial lending, working out of its North Aspen branch.

A native Tulsan, Martinez holds a degree in business administration from Northeastern State University. Before joining First National of Broken Arrow, she was associated with Bank of Oklahoma, F&M Bank, and Trust and Prosperity Bank. While at F&M, she oversaw retail operations of 12 branch offices in Texas and Oklahoma.

Talkington is a native of Oklahoma City, holds a BBA degree from the University of Oklahoma and is a graduate of the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado in Boulder, Colorado.

An 18-year veteran of the financial services industry, his background includes service as Tulsa market president for NBC Oklahoma and vice president of commercial lending for American Heritage Bank Sapulpa/Tulsa.

Board Chairman and CEO Gregory Graham says both Martinez and Talkington bring considerable experience and proven expertise to the bank's management ranks and reflect its commitment to excellence in all aspects of customer service.

**AVB Bank** has named **Kaleb Grimm** assistant vice president of commercial and consumer lending. Grimm has extensive experience in mortgage, commercial and consumer lending. He is located at the Tulsa-Mingo location at 9800 E. 51st St.

AVB Chief Lending Officer Topper Causby is excited to have Grimm join AVB, saying "Kaleb is a seasoned banker, with experience in mortgage lending and sales. He's a great addition to our consumer and commercial lending areas at the bank." Causby adds, "He is enthusiastic about anything he does, and that certainly meshes well with our energetic group of people here at AVB." Grimm talked about joining AVB, saying, "AVB has good people, great culture and is a fun place to call work." Grimm is a native of Enid, Oklahoma and graduated from Northeastern State University with a bachelor's degree in finance, and has his associates degree in management from the United States Air Force.

Grimm was a member of the Air National Guard/United States Air Force for eight years. He joined in 2009 and served with the 219th EIS Unit. The 219th EIS is an engineering and installation unit that provides power and communication to all members of the Department of Defense (DOD). Grimm served in the Afghanistan War and went on many other temporary duty assignments (TDYs) to multiple countries as well as CONUS (contiguous United States).



MARTINEZ



TALKINGTON

**CommunityCare** announces the appointment of **Bradley Bartle** as executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Bartle previously served as chief actuary at Noridian Mutual Insurance Company and Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota. He has more than 20 years of experience in the health insurance industry with extensive background in finance, operations, actuarial services, underwriting and health data analytics.

Bartle received a master's in business administration from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management in Evanston, Illinois. He completed his undergraduate degree in mathematics at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Bartle is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries.

CommunityCare is Oklahoma's largest locally owned and governed health insurance organization. CommunityCare is owned and operated by Saint Francis Health System and St. John Health System.

**Emergency Infant Services** announces the hiring of **Tim Gowin** as executive director.

EIS initiated its search for an executive director in December 2016 seeking candidates displaying exceptional leadership characteristics, strategic vision, respect for the mission of EIS, and compassion for the EIS clients.

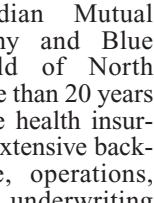
A graduate of Oklahoma State University, Gowin has over 17 years of experience in non-profit direct care agency services. Prior to joining EIS, he served as director of outreach at Youth Services of Tulsa where, among many accomplishments, he was instrumental in the launch of T-Town Tacos, a partnership with YST and the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. The concept earned a coveted Social Innovation Grant from the Tulsa Area United Way and benefits Tulsa's at-risk homeless and homeless youth with on-the-job skills. Gowin also oversaw Street Outreach Services, Transitional Living Programming and Health Navigation Services at YST.

**Peter Grant**, president of Grant Homes Remodel & Restoration in Tulsa, has taken the helm as the 2017 president of the **Home Builders Association (HBA)** of Greater Tulsa.

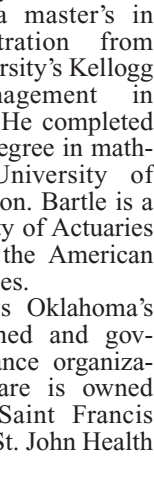
Grant was installed as the head of the nearly 1,000 member trade organization during the association's annual Installation Gala, along with builders Ryan Farabough of Farabough Homes, and Erin DeWeese of Brian D. Wiggs Homes, who were elected to the positions of vice president/treasurer and vice president/secretary, respectively.



BARTLE



GOWIN



GRIMM

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# Upcycling Food Waste Takes Us Back to the Future

A nut about recycling from an early age, I distinctly remember the final scene in the movie, “Back to the Future,” where Doc comes back to warn our dear couple of future events, all the while stuffing items from the garbage can into the fuel section of his time traveling DeLorean. What was once a laughable scene is today a near-reality.

Compost is now successfully fueling semi-trailer trucks. UK newspaper The Times reports that British supermarket chain, Waitrose, comparable to our Whole Foods, now utilizes 10 delivery trucks powered by the biomethane captured from food waste. “As of today, there is sufficient biomethane, or renewable gas, from food waste to fuel thousands of trucks – I would say somewhere between 2,000 and 5,000 trucks,” says Waitrose partner, CNG Fuels CEO Phillip Fjeld. According to the report, the trucks can travel up to 500 miles on one tank of the food-based gas. The cost is about 40 percent less than diesel and emits nearly 70 percent less carbon dioxide.

**Sustainability Springs to Action**  
While some are turning compost into fuel, I focus on just the compost. For our lifestyle, vermi-posting works best. We purchased worms from Grogg’s Green Barn

to get us started and maintain a thriving, wiggly community that provide us with great soil for starting our spring and fall seeds.

## Trash Talk



By BETH TURNER  
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

Learn how to create your own compost, capture rainwater, raise chickens or garden. Grogg’s Green Barn offers an array of classes, many of which come with free starter kits for first come, first served. Another great resource is our Tulsa Master Gardeners. They have a phone hotline to answer your questions, and their spring plant sale is underway online. You can purchase and pick up your bounty at the Tulsa Fairgrounds April 13 from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Splash in to Tulsa’s urban nature and help clean up Dirty Butter and the Osage Trail running through north Tulsa. TYPros Sustainability Team invites you to mark your calendar for May 6 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Food will be provided. For more information, check TYPros Sustainability Facebook page or information from project partner, the City of Tulsa.

**Eco Miss America**  
I recently read in a YWCA report on the beauty industry, that seven billion dollars is spent on cosmetics each year in the United States. Currently, cosmetics and accessories are FDA regulated but none require FDA approval.

So, I see it as a step in the right direction that the Miss America organization announced they will begin partnering with Eco Tools.

As their name implies, this is a brand of cosmetic tools such as brushes that are made with non-toxic, cruelty-free, recyclable materials. “We are so pleased to welcome EcoTools into the Miss America family,” said Josh Randle, MAO’s COO, “and we look forward to working hand-in-hand with them and Miss America 2017, Savvy Shields, to promote our mutual mission of empowering young women everywhere to look and live beautifully.”

On a side-note, Shields is a fellow University of Arkansas alum. Go Hogs!

**What’s Your Spring Focus?**  
From large-scale changes to the unexpected ones to our own personal choices, it’s pretty incredible to realize that there are people across the globe invested in



**SOWING SUSTAINABILITY:** *Tulsans take part in a free lesson on starting plants from seed at Grogg’s Green Barn, which offers an array of classes on sustainable living.*

improving what Sustainable Tulsa calls the triple bottom line of people, profit and planet. Has a person or business

impressed you with an eco-action, lately? Brag on them! Send in your story to [bethturner@me.com](mailto:bethturner@me.com) or send me a tweet @TrashTalkTulsa.

**TEATIME TOAST:** *The Teatime Toast to Moms on April 8 will honor two Tulsa leaders and mothers with the Dr. Margaret Hudson Award for their community service and public health advocacy. The 2017 Dr. Margaret Hudson Award honorees are, from left, Dr. Jan Figart, associate director of the Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa, and Vanessa Hall-Harper, MSM, Tulsa District 1 city councilor and child health and policy manager with the Tulsa Health Department. At right is Betina Tillman, Margaret Hudson Program executive director.*



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# Senior Star Receives Accreditation, Supports ASHA Website

*Company Awarded the Highest Level of Accreditation That Can Be Awarded to an Organization*

Senior Star recently announced its three-year term of accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) and the launch of a new website by the American Seniors Housing Association (ASHA), whereyoulivematters.org, a website that Senior Star employee Letitia Jackson played a role in developing.

The CARF accreditation represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and demonstrates

Senior Star's substantial conformance to more than 1,000 CARF standards for quality and pursuit of excellence.

Senior Star at Burgundy Place and Senior Star at Woodland Terrace were each awarded this honor in the following program: Independent Senior Living. This distinction places the communities as the only two organizations in Oklahoma to be CARF accredited for Independent Senior Living.

Choosing to be accredited by CARF is voluntary and a testa-

ment to Senior Star's unwavering commitment to improve the quality of lives for the older adults and families in their care, says Shondel Bennett, executive director of Senior Star at Burgundy Place.

"We base our daily decisions on a set of core values, and earning CARF accreditation means our values are measurable with quality care," says Bennett.

"It really means that families can expect excellence from our team," says Sabrina Davidson, executive director of Senior Star at Woodland Terrace.

Senior Star also works to empower its residents and their families with information on aging well in a rapidly growing seniors housing industry. For that reason, Senior Star endorses the new website, whereyoulivematters.org, and its content.

The website offers a consultative approach and is a valuable resource for those searching for expert advice. Among the tools is a 16-page glossary of senior living terminology, as well as numerous videos, testimonials, and editorials from seniors and industry experts. The site also includes informational categories, such as choosing well to live well, comparing lifestyle options, learning about life at a retirement community, forming a plan to live well and longer, making a family decision, and preparing and managing finances.

The new website is part of ASHA's five-year strategic plan designed to provide seniors, adult children and others with meaningful seniors housing information.



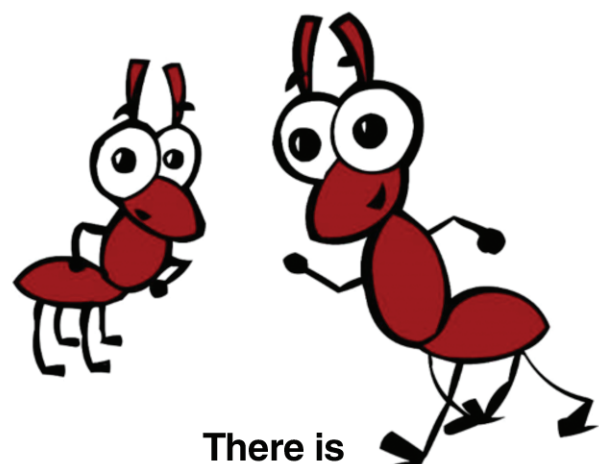
GTR Newspapers photo

**NONPROFIT DONATIONS:** Senior Star associates came together on Feb. 8 to make items for two nonprofit organizations, Family & Children's Services and Community Action Project (CAP). From left are Pam Smith, with CAP Tulsa; Jenny Fairchild and John Peters, with Senior Star; Lacey Austin, with Family & Children's Services; and Julie Podewitz, Mark Ross and Anja Rogers, with Senior Star.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

**103 YEARS YOUNG:** Staff at Senior Star at Burgundy Place, 8887 S. Lewis Ave., pose with resident Dorothy Crump, for her 103rd birthday celebration.



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# Original Sinclair Building Holds Rich History

In the archives of Harweldon, the former Arts and Humanities Council headquarters, is a photo of me around age five playing in the fish pond adjacent to the garage. I was there along with other children of friends because the Harwell's daughter, Margo, was my mother's best friend. By my side was one of my favorite water toys, a large green plastic inflatable dinosaur named "Dino," which was a promotional gift from a Sinclair gas station. The "Dino" character was a company trademark.

The Sinclair buildings are two of Tulsa's legacies from the Sinclair Oil and Gas Company. The 1953 building is now the downtown home of Tulsa Community College. The original 1919 Sinclair Headquarters Building continues in use as an office building and has significant historic interest.

Tulsa's early day oilmen always seem larger than life. They lived very colorful lives as they gambled in the oil patch, winning and losing large fortunes while they ruthlessly conducted business. Harry Sinclair was one of these men.

In the brief time that Harry Sinclair lived in Tulsa (1912-1916), he built his three-story mansion (now demolished) near the Council Oak Tree, the Sinclair Refinery west of the Arkansas River and the Sinclair

Building at 6 E. 5th St. in downtown Tulsa. He was also one of the founders of The Exchange National Bank, now Bank of Oklahoma.

The most noticeable thing about this building is its shape. The center section is recessed above the ground floor, creating a U-shaped frontal façade. A second characteristic is the paired window placement. Pairs are butted together creating a strong horizontal masonry opening. A third characteristic is the palate of exterior building materials: dark tan granite encasing the first floor, a light tan brick skin for the upper six floors, and cream colored terra cotta for accent trim for the eighth floor and the ninth-floor penthouse. These colors make a notable contrast to many neighboring buildings featuring red brick and gray limestone accents.

At the eighth floor, terra cotta brackets between window openings support a massive fascia. And at the top of the central recess is a huge cartouche framed in acanthus leaves, featuring a large S. Obviously, Sinclair made no attempt at modesty. The cartouche is centered on the main entrance below. Where the center section recesses, a balustrade maintains the line of the first floor.

Sinclair incorporated a number of special features in the interior of his building. Ceilings were typically at 12 feet (very high even in a pre-air



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers  
**5TH AND MAIN:** The original Tulsa Sinclair Building, built in 1919, sits at 6 E. 5th St. in downtown Tulsa. The building was built by oilman Harry Sinclair, president of Sinclair Oil and Gas Company.

conditioning era when ceilings were normally high). Floors throughout were oak hardwood. One of the elevators had a trap door which led to a secret passageway to the penthouse, allowing Sinclair to enter and leave the building unseen. Pneumatic tubes connected offices around the building for inter-office communication. There were nine vaults in the building for a very security conscious company. Finally, basement radiators ensured that perimeter sidewalks would be free of ice and snow.

Harry Sinclair is probably best known for his involvement in the 1923 Teapot Dome scandal. During Warren G. Harding's presidency, his Secretary of the Interior, Albert Fall, was accused of receiving a bribe of \$300,000 from the Sinclair Oil and Gas Company to provide non-competitive oil leases in Teapot Dome, Wyoming. The planning to secure the Teapot Dome leases is said to



Courtesy photo  
**ADDITIONAL STRUCTURE:** The 1953 Sinclair Building, left, now makes up a portion of Tulsa Community College's downtown Metro Campus, 909 S. Boston Ave. On the right is the TCC Center for Creativity.

have occurred in the Sinclair Building Penthouse. The Washington D.C. District Court found Sinclair innocent of this charge even though the leases were obtained. He was convicted of jury tampering instead and served six months in a Washington D.C. jail.

Soon afterwards, Fall resigned from the Harding administration and went to work for the Sinclair Oil and Gas Company.

Sinclair remained President of Sinclair Oil and Gas Company until 1949. He retired to Pasadena, California, and died in 1956.

## A Stately Affair is May 1

(Continued from page 3)

Nationally, the Foundation focuses on improving public education, supporting initiatives to provide high-quality training and resources for teachers and to increase the number of students from low-income families who graduate from high school prepared for college and the workplace.

Internationally, the Foundation works to strengthen the Jewish community through investments in leadership development, service and volunteerism, inclusivity and connecting young people with Israel. The Foundation also invests to strengthen Israeli society, primarily through child protection and the renewal of Jerusalem.

The Schusterman Family Foundation has provided generous support for student scholarships at OSU-Tulsa. The Foundation also provides assistance for OSUTeach, a program designed to attract students with science and mathematics majors to careers in secondary education. Lynn and daughter, Stacy, are co-chairs of the Foundation and lead the family's commitment to investing in young people and strengthening communities.

Henry Zarrow, who was affectionately known to many as "Mr. Henry," founded the Sooner Pipe and Supply Company in Tulsa at age

22. A highly successful businessman, Zarrow was also known for his giving spirit. He established The Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation, which provides broad-based programs benefitting children, the disadvantaged, health programs, education and medical research, primarily in Tulsa.

The Zarrow Foundation is an OSU supporter. Their generous gift to OSU-CHS has underwritten a portion of the construction costs for the A.R. and Marylouise Tandy Medical Academic Building set for completion later this year. The Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation Lecture Hall in the Tandy Medical Academic Building will be named in their honor. The organization also provides scholarships for students at OSU-Tulsa, OSU-CHS and OSU-Stillwater and helps fund programs such as OSU-Tulsa's Center for Family Resilience.

The Icons for OSU in Tulsa, who were selected by an independent committee, will be honored at "A Stately Affair in Tulsa" on May 1 at Southern Hills Country Club. Proceeds from the black-tie event will fund scholarships for students who plan to attend OSU-CHS or OSU-Tulsa.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma President Ted Haynes and

his wife, Shiela, are co-chairs for the event and Senior U.S. District Judge Terence Kern and his wife, Jeanette, are serving as honorary co-chairs.

For sponsorship information, visit [www.astatelyaffair.com](http://www.astatelyaffair.com) or contact the OSU Foundation in Tulsa at 918-594-8500.

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# CAN Superhero Challenge Shines the Light on Abuse

*Annual Family-Focused Event: April 2*

By **EMILY RAMSEY**  
Managing Editor

In its efforts to continue to raise awareness of child abuse, the Child Abuse Network (CAN) will hold its fourth annual CAN Superhero Challenge on Sunday, April 2 at POSTOAK Lodge and Retreat, 5323 W. 31st St. N.

The event consists of a half-mile and mile run and a Fun Zone.

"The event is about giving kids encouragement and courage, to help them feel powerful, like a superhero," says Brandi Moore, CAN community relations manager.

In Tulsa county, one in 15 children are involved in a child abuse investigation, she continues, and kids talk to other kids, which, then, affects more kids.

Therefore, the primary focus for the event is to encourage families to talk about the subject of abuse and what children should do if it happens to them or if they hear about it happening to someone else.

"It's a subject that we don't like

to talk about, but we have to in order to help the kids," says Moore.

Event organizers, including co-chairs Jessica Zimmerman and Rebecca Thompson, expect to see close to 1,000 attend. The family-focused event has continued to grow year after year, from 250 participants in its inaugural year.

The event will begin at 1 p.m. with the opening of its Fun Zone, with inflatables, face painting and other activities, and the start of its first run, with runs staggered throughout the afternoon.

Children seven years old and younger are welcome to participate in the half-mile run; kids ages eight and older can run in the mile-long course.

The courses are filled with easy obstacles and are not only for kids but for families as well, notes Thompson. "Parents often like to run with their children and to run as a family."

The runs are not timed, and all children receive a medal.

In order to further encourage the superhero mentality and to increase the fun of the event,

organizers encourage children to don superhero costumes.

To further spread its message, CAN makes an intentional effort to be active with area schools.

"Schools are one reason why we have eyes and ears," Moore says. "They are on the forefront of saving kids' lives and keeping them safe."

CAN will award the school with the highest number of participants with \$500.

Zimmerman, a mother of four, got involved with CAN after moving to Tulsa about four years ago.

"I loved learning about CAN and its mission to be a one-stop place for a child who has suffered abuse," she says.

"And at the event, it's wonderful to see the families come out together, being active together and supporting a great cause."

CAN, located at 2829 S. Sheridan Rd., began in 1988 and serves as a centralized location for all agencies that investigate and prosecute child abuse.

The child is able to tell his/her story one time and, because all



**ENCOURAGING STRENGTH:** Rebecca Thompson, left, and Jessica Zimmerman, co-chairs of the fourth annual Child Abuse Network's Superhero Challenge, pose in their superhero capes in promotion of the event, to be held April 2 at POSTOAK Lodge and Retreat, 5323 W. 31st St. N.

agencies are on site, the child does not have to be re-traumatized by repeating the story over and over again to multiple agen-

cies, Moore says.

"You can often see the relief lift off their shoulders after they've spoken to us."

## Street School Holds Annual Fundraiser

Guests wore their Mad Hatter-est of hats and Cheshire grins during Street Party 2017, held Feb. 24 at the Cox Business Center Assembly Hall. Merriment abounded with food and melodious tunes for twirling.

Street School's annual fundraiser, Street Party, was an evening of whimsy and adventure. The event is the school's primary fundraiser to help provide the best individualized therapeutic and educational support for at-risk students to

overcome the odds and become high school graduates.

Street School is committed to addressing the 23 percent of Oklahoma students that drop out of school every year between ninth and 12th grades. Street School boasts a 90 percent graduation rate every year, disrupting the cycle of dropping out.

The Street Party fundraiser featured dinner and dancing to music from Charlie Redd and the Full Flava Kings. Additionally, there was a live auction, silent auction, wine pull, and raffle for a chance to win a trip for two to Napa Valley, California.

Live auction items included a four-course dinner for eight at The Bull in the Alley, a trip to see the Chicago Cubs, a week-long stay in Lake Geneva, Switzerland, a Colorado mountain climbing adventure with Tulsa City Councilor Phil Lakin and a dinner for 10 with HGTV's Gardener Guy Paul James. Rick Miller served as auctioneer, and Terry Hood from KOTV6 was the emcee.

The event chair was Katie Mabrey, vice president of marketing, Mabrey Bank. Sponsors included Joseph and Virginia Dibert Foundation, The Canada Company, Philip and Miranda



**EVENT PLANNERS:** Committee members worked diligently before the Mad Hatter event. From left are Karen Kantor, Street Party Planning Committee member and community volunteer; Deborah Fritts, Street Party Silent Auction chair and director of the Cherokee Art Market for Cherokee Nation Business; Lori McGinnis-Madland, Ed.D., Street School executive director; and Katie Mabrey, Street Party 2017 chair and vice president of marketing, Mabrey Bank.

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Sun. May 7, 12 - 5 p.m.  
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NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Returns to BOK Center. First-Round Games March 17-19.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>29 February</div> <div>MIRÓ QUARTET: BEETHOVEN WINTER FESTIVAL Chamber Music Tulsa 5 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>TULSA OILERS vs. Missouri 4:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information.</div>	<div>30</div> <div>I CAN'T PLAY GUITAR WITH BART CENTER FOR MUSIC McKeon Center for Creativity 12 – 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.</div> <div>I CAN'T CONDUCT WITH MAESTRO ANDRÉS FRANCO McKeon Center for Creativity 12 – 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.</div> <div>STEVE NICKS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div>	<div>31</div> <div>SHEN YUN Falun Dafa Association Oklahoma 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>LAUGHTER YOGA CLUB LaFortune Community Center 1 – 2 p.m. Visit lifseniorservices.org for more information.</div> <div>RETRO GAMING FOR TEENS Bixby Library 6 – 7 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div>	<div>1 March</div> <div>BROWN BAG IT: LISE GLASER PAC Trust 12:10 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>SHEN YUN Falun Dafa Association Oklahoma 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>MY FIRST STORYTIME Jenks Library 6 – 7 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div>	<div>2</div> <div>FIRST THURSDAY SINGLE MINGLE MILES Fleet Feet Sports 5:45 p.m. Visit fleetfeettulsa.com for more information.</div> <div>We offer Health Savings Accounts Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</div>	<div>3</div> <div>BRIDGMAN-PACKER DANCE COMPANY Living Arts of Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>SWEENEY TODD Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>FIRST FRIDAY WITH GILCREASE Central Library 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div>	<div>4</div> <div>BRIDGMAN-PACKER DANCE COMPANY Living Arts of Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>SWEENEY TODD Theatre Tulsa 2 &amp; 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>ROCKIN' ROAD TO DUBLIN Rockin' Road to Dublin LLC 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>
<div>5</div> <div>SWEENEY TODD Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>BRIDGMAN-PACKER DANCE COMPANY Living Arts of Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>BIG 12 WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP BOK Center March 4-5 Visit bokcenter.com for info.</div>	<div>6</div> <div>I CAN'T CONDUCT WITH MAESTRO ANDRÉS FRANCO McKeon Center for Creativity 12 – 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.</div> <div>STEVE NICKS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div>	<div>7</div> <div>CAREGIVING: LIFTS AND TRANSFERS Life Senior Services Broken Arrow 4:30 p.m. Visit lifseniorservices.org for more information.</div> <div>GREEN DAY BOK Center 8 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div> <div>Free small business checking Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</div>	<div>8</div> <div>R. KELLY Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</div> <div>AN EVENING WITH AUTHOR CHRIS CLEAVE Central Library 7 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div> <div>EVERYONE'S PLACE PAC Gallery March 4 – April 1 FREE exhibition.</div>	<div>9</div> <div>BRETT MICHAELS The Joint at Hard Rock 7 p.m. Visit hardrocktulsa.com for more information.</div> <div>TULSA CONFESSIONS - STORYTELLING COMPETITION IDL Ballroom 7:30 p.m. Visit facebook.com/oksotulsa for more information.</div> <div>SWEENEY TODD Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>	<div>10</div> <div>SWEENEY TODD Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>THE CAIN MUTINY COURT-MARTIAL American Theatre Co. 8 p.m. • March 10-11 myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>ZZ TOP River Spirit Event Center 8 p.m. Visit riverspirittulsa.com for more information.</div>	<div>11</div> <div>SWEENEY TODD Theatre Tulsa 2 &amp; 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>MIRANDA LAMBERT BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div> <div>TSO POPS: A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE Tulsa Symphony 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>
<div>12</div> <div>SWEENEY TODD Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>THE CAIN MUTINY COURT-MARTIAL American Theatre Co. 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>JANE MONHEIT WITH NICHOLAS PAYTON PAC Trust 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>	<div>13</div> <div>WILLIAM SINGE Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div> <div>STOP MOTION ANIMATION: SIX-DAY WORKSHOP Hardesty Regional Library March 13-18 Visit tulsalibrary.org for more info.</div>	<div>14</div> <div>DRAWING ON MEMORIES Gilcrease Museum 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div> <div>MOTOWN THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>THE TWISTER SPRING FUNNEL Cain's Ballroom 7:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div>	<div>15</div> <div>MOTOWN THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. • March 15-16 myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>GOLDEN EAGLES vs. Kansas • 6:30 p.m. Baseball 918-495-6000 for info.</div> <div>More Bank for your Buck. Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</div>	<div>16</div> <div>THE CAIN MUTINY COURT-MARTIAL American Theatre Co. 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>NCAA BASKETBALL MEN'S DI OPEN PRACTICE BOK Center 12 – 7:20 p.m. Admission is free. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div>	<div>17</div> <div>MOTOWN THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>THE CAIN MUTINY COURT-MARTIAL American Theatre Co. 8 p.m. • March 17-18 myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>NCAA MEN'S DI BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP BOK Center March 17-19 Visit bokcenter.com for info.</div>	<div>18</div> <div>MOTOWN THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions 2 &amp; 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>SESAME STREET LIVE "ELMO MAKES MUSIC" Cox Business Center 10:30 a.m., 2 &amp; 5:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div> <div>MISS RICHFIELD 1981 Oklahomans for Equality 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>
<div>19</div> <div>GOLDEN EAGLES vs. North Dakota St. • 1 p.m. Baseball 918-495-6000 for info.</div> <div>SESAME STREET LIVE "ELMO MAKES MUSIC" Cox Business Center 1 &amp; 4:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div> <div>MOTOWN THE MUSICAL Celebrity Attractions 2 &amp; 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>	<div>20</div> <div>I CAN'T DANCE WITH TULSA BALLET McKeon Center for Creativity 12 – 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.</div> <div>MATISYAHU Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div> <div>New Name. Same Bank Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</div>	<div>21</div> <div>GOLDEN EAGLES vs. Wichita • 6:30 p.m. Baseball 918-495-6000 for info.</div> <div>TULSA NIGHTWRITERS MEETING Martin East Regional Library 7 p.m. Visit nightwriters.org for more information.</div> <div>AN EVENING WITH DAWES Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for info.</div>	<div>22</div> <div>INTRO TO CNC Central Library 7 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div> <div>GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN Life Senior Services Broken Arrow 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Visit lifseniorservices.org for more information.</div>	<div>23</div> <div>THE ROAD TO LOVE IS... Sheridan Road Ensemble 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>BRAD PAISLEY River Spirit Event Center 8 p.m. Visit riverspirittulsa.com for more information.</div> <div>CASEY DONAHEW BAND Cain's Ballroom 8:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div>	<div>24</div> <div>GOLDEN EAGLES vs. South Dakota • 6:30 p.m. Baseball 918-495-6000 for info.</div> <div>SWAN LAKE Tulsa Ballet 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>CHICAGO River Spirit Event Center 8 p.m. Visit riverspirittulsa.com for more information.</div>	<div>25</div> <div>KANSAS Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</div> <div>SWAN LAKE Tulsa Ballet 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>REO SPEEDWAGON River Spirit Event Center 8 p.m. Visit riverspirittulsa.com for more information.</div>
<div>26</div> <div>GOLDEN EAGLES vs. South Dakota St. • 1 p.m. Baseball 918-495-6000 for info.</div> <div>SWAN LAKE Tulsa Ballet 3 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>EXCISION Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div>	<div>27</div> <div>I CAN'T IMPROV WITH MARK FRANK McKeon Center for Creativity 12 – 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.</div> <div>BEETHOVEN BOOK EVENT Central Library 7 p.m. Visit chambermusictulsa.org for more information.</div>	<div>28</div> <div>MAINLY MYSTERIES: DISCOVER JULIE MCELWAIN AND EMILY LITTLEJOHN Hardesty Regional Library March 13-18 Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div>	<div>29</div> <div>FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY Guthrie Green 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div> <div>ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION Bixby Library 2 – 3 p.m. "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more info.</div> <div>BRAIN CANDY LIVE! 35 Concerts 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>	<div>30</div> <div>SPLIT LIP RAYFIELD Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div> <div>GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTROYERS Hard Rock Hotel and Casino 8 p.m. Visit hardrocktulsa.com for more information.</div> <div>Ask us about ID Fraud Protection Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</div>	<div>31</div> <div>ALEXANDER WHO'S NOT NOT NOT NOT GOING TO MOVE PAC Trust 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT Theatre Pops 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>	<div>1 April</div> <div>THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT Theatre Pops 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>BLACK GRACE Choregus Productions 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>LIFE IN COLOR BOK Center 7 p.m. – 12 a.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div>



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## UNION NEWS

# Seven Inducted into Union Athletic Hall of Fame

Seven people were inducted into the Union Public Schools Athletic Hall of Fame Jan. 27 in a UMAC Arena ceremony.

"The Athletics Department would like to congratulate this year's class of inductees into the Union Athletic Hall of Fame," said Emily Barkley, director of Athletics.

This year's class includes the following individuals, their sport, contribution, and graduation year or years at Union: Tracey Moore, Football, 2009; Derrek Lewis, Basketball, 2007; Brandon Rogers, Football, 2008; Alyssa Curley Steig, Pom, 2008; Howard Scarborough, Football, 2009; Amy Wollmershauser, Special Olympian, 1995; and Doc Blevins, Athletic Department Supporter.

### 2016 Hall of Fame Bios:

#### Alyssa Curley Steig, Pom, 2008 Graduate:

A three-year member of the Varsity Pom squad and team captain her senior year, Alyssa was named to the All-State dance team, as well as being selected a Universal Dance Association All-Star. Alyssa was also a member of three state championship pom teams during her time at Union. Upon graduation, Alyssa was honored as being selected an instructor with the Universal Dance Association and traveled the United States teaching summer dance camps for 2 years. In 2013, Alyssa graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Petroleum Engineering and is currently working for Apache Corporation as a Petroleum Engineer in Houston, Texas. Alyssa's favorite Union memory is representing Union High School at the National Dance Team Championships in Orlando, Florida four years in a row, finishing with top 10 wins every year.

#### Derrek Lewis, Basketball, 2007 Graduate

A four-year letterman in basketball, Derrek led his basketball team in steals, points, three-point and free throw percentage and was named Best Offensive Player his senior year. An all-conference, all-district and all-state selection, Derrek furthered his basketball career at Texas A&M University where his team competed in four straight appearances. Derrek is currently employed at LDF com-

panies where he is in advanced sales. Derrek's most memorable sports moment at Union was being with his teammates. Derrek says he is able to receive this award because of what they were able to accomplish as a team and he is blessed to call them his friends.

#### Tracy Moore, Football, 2009 Graduate

A three-year letterman in both basketball and football, Tracy was a team captain, homecoming attendant and Backyard Bowl Most Valuable Player his senior year. Tracy was selected to the first team all-state team as well as being named Tulsa World All-Metro Player of the Year. Tracy went on to play football collegiately at Oklahoma State University where he was a 2013 All Big 12 Honorable Mention selection and received the Thurman Thomas Offensive Player of the Year award. Tracy left OSU as eighth in all-time receiving yards, eighth with 144 receptions, seventh in receiving touchdowns, and was tied at second for most TD's in a game with 4 touchdowns against Arizona in 2012. Tracy's most memorable sports moments were beating Jenks in the Backyard Bowl in 2008 and winning the state championship in 2009.

#### Brandon Rogers, Football, 2008 Graduate

The starting quarterback for the 2007 state runner-up football team, Brandon was named Ford Player of the Week during both the 2006 and 2007 seasons and was honored as the 2007 Union-Jenks Backyard Bowl Most Valuable Player. Brandon is currently attending the University of Tulsa School of Law. His most memorable sports moment at Union was defeating Jenks in the Backyard Bowl his senior year.

#### Howard Scarborough Jr., Football, 2009 Graduate:

A three-year letterman on the Varsity football team, Howard was a two-sport athlete for the Redskins as he was also a member of the Varsity basketball team. A captain and member of the 2008 Union state championship football team, Howard received a scholarship to continue playing football at Missouri State University in Springfield, where he was a four-year letterman with 36 career starts. Howard ranks



**UNION GREATS:** Newest members in the Union High School Athletic Hall of Fame are, from left, Howard Scarborough, Amy Wollmershauser, Tracey Moore, Doc Blevins, Derrek Lewis, Brandon Rogers and Alyssa Curley Steig. The photo was taken at The UMAC during the Jan. 27 ceremony.

third in Missouri State history with pass break ups and was honored with the very prestigious "Bears Team Excellence Award" which is given to the student-athlete that is the top representative of the team both on and off the field. Howard is currently pursuing his Masters in Administrative Studies at Missouri State University while serving as a graduate assistant for the TRIO Upward Bound program and also serving as a defensive backs coach at Springfield Central High School. Howard's most memorable sports moment at Union was beating our rival the Jenks Trojans in the Backyard Bowl and state championship game his senior year. Howard also enjoyed watching 2003 Union graduate and Union Athletic Department Hall of Fame member Spencer McIlwain play on Friday nights.

#### Amy Wollmershauser, Special Olympian, 1995 Graduate

As a seventh grader at Union Public Schools, Amy joined the Special Olympics and describes this as a game changer in her life. This is where Amy says she learned that if you keep trying harder, you get better at things. Amy went on to compete in track and field, bowling, basketball, softball, bocce, and snowshoeing. In 2003, Amy won a gold medal in speed walking at the Special Olympics World Summer Games

in Dublin, Ireland. She continued her success at the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai, China with a gold medal in bocce with her father as her unified partner. And finally, in 2013, Amy won a gold medal in a 4 x 4 Snowshoeing Relay Race at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Pyong Chang, South Korea. In June of 2016, Amy was honored by the Rotary Club of Tulsa as the Henry P. Iba Chairman Award winner. Amy's most memorable sports moment at Union were every single Special Olympics Summer Games on Union's Special Olympics Team. It was like a trip to Disney World. Through Union's support of Special Olympics, Amy discovered her gifts and her voice.

#### Gary "Doc" Blevins, Athletic Supporter

Doc has served as Union High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes sponsor for the past 35 years and has sponsored the Union 8th Grade Center FCA since the school opened. Doc takes personal responsibility to make sure FCA Huddles are active at all five Union secondary schools, one of the most comprehensive FCA programs in the nation. Doc began announcing Union Athletic events in 1978. His Public Address announcing duties over the past 39 years have included football, basketball, wrestling,

baseball, softball and volleyball. He currently announces volleyball, boys and girls basketball and every home game for all three baseball teams.

In 1990, Doc negotiated a contract with KXOJ and put the Redskins football games on the radio. Doc was the play-by-play voice and former TU Coach Pec Clark did the color. In 1993 Union signed a contract with KRMG and Doc has been on the field as sideline reporter ever since. Doc's greatest Union sports memories include: The 1989-90 State Baseball Championships - Coach Bill Blankenship's first State Championship win over Broken Arrow - Coach Rudy Garcia's 2011 undefeated State Championship Basketball team - the football win over Canton McKinley in the NFL Hall of Fame Stadium in Canton, OH - getting to be on the sideline for every Union/Jenks game - and the unforgettable response of the crowd at Clovis, California when the High Steppers performed their "Oklahoma!" routine. His greatest memories as FCA sponsor are the thousands of awesome Union young people he had the privilege of working with over the past four decades. The Union Athletic Department would like to thank Doc for his years of service, support and friendship to the students and staff of Union Public Schools.

## National Merit Finalists Announced

Seven seniors from Union High School have been named 2016-2017 National Merit Finalists:

- Colton J. Benningfield, son of Gregg and Susan Benningfield of Tulsa
- Abigail B. Cornett, daughter of Nancy Cornett of Broken Arrow
- Timothy D. McMullen, son of John and Kay McMullen of Tulsa
- Daniel C. Royer, son of Michael and Marla Royer of Tulsa
- Stephanie K Royer, daughter of Christopher and Grace Royer of Tulsa
- Wade G. Witcher, son of Joey and Lisa Witcher of Broken Arrow
- Bella Zhan, daughter of Xiaodong and Jinyi Wang Zhan of Broken Arrow

Each seniors has an opportunity to win one of 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$33 mil-



**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT:** Seven Union High School seniors have been named 2016-2017 National Merit Finalists. They are, from left, Wade G. Witcher, Bella Zhan, Timothy D. McMullen, Abigail B. Cornett, Colton J. Benningfield, Stephanie K. Royer, and Daniel C. Royer.

lion that will be offered this spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, students, as semifinalists, have to fulfill several requirements to advance to the

finalist level of the competition. The Union finalists are among approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 62nd annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

## B.A. Launches Financial Transparency Tool

In an effort to, yet again, improve the City of Broken Arrow's transparency, it has launched a new digital platform, powered by OpenGov, that provides convenient access to the city's finances and performance information in an easy-to-understand way.

The OpenGov platform transforms complex financial data into an interactive, digital format that enables better analysis and understanding of the city's finances. The intuitive design makes it easier to explore how taxpayer money is used. The platform can be accessed at brokenarrowwok.opengov.com.

OpenGov displays multiple years of government spending and revenue detail and allows users to

view historical revenue and expenditure trends and explore multiple views of financial data, including by fund, department, expense, or revenue type.

The platform can show visitors, for example, how much the city spent on public safety over a given time and how much the city collected on fees and then enable the user to share that information directly via email or onto social media.

"This is a great new tool that visually explains how taxpayer money is collected and spent," says Mayor Craig Thurmond. "I'm very excited for the public to begin using the software. It's part of the city's on-going efforts to make our finances more transparent and understandable."