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A POPULAR DESTINATION

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A GATHERING PLACE FOR TULSA
NAMES LEADERSHIP TEAM

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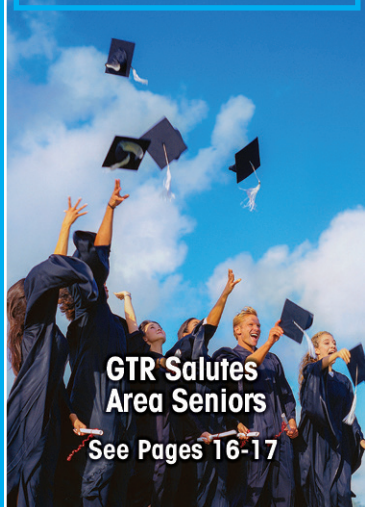
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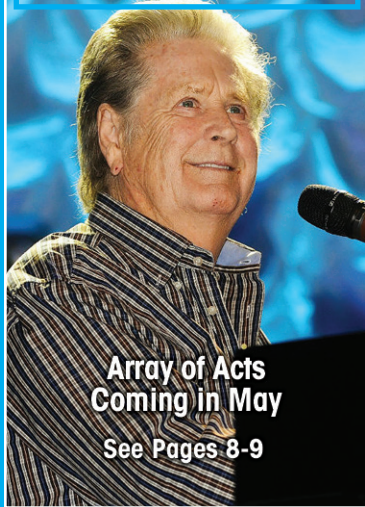
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Tulsa's Original City Hall
Still Iconic in Downtown

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Lake Bixhoma Renovations Near Completion

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

In April, the SkillsUSA Chapter at Tulsa Tech's Peoria Campus completed its revitalization efforts at Lake Bixhoma, which were funded by a \$25,000 Lowe's Community Improvement Grant that the group received at the end of 2016.

The SkillsUSA chapter was one of 14 programs nationwide to receive a Lowe's grant in amounts ranging from \$2,000 to \$25,000. The local grants are designed to strengthen communities and provide enhanced learning opportunities for students.

The group began work on their project in February, which has included demolition of run-down buildings, clean-up, construction, the addition of new grills and picnic tables, and the installation of the relocated gazebo and playground equipment from Charley Young Event Park.

According to Chris Waller, Lowe's district manager, three area store managers also volunteered in the recent efforts: Seth Jones, Andy Schweitzer and Milton Stanley. Also on hand were SkillsUSA chapter leader and Bixby City Councilor Richard Stewart, additional Lowe's Heroes volunteers, two volunteers from Valspar and 23 SkillsUSA students.

"I couldn't be more thrilled for the SkillsUSA organization and the work they've committed to do to revitalize an important Bixby landmark," says Stewart. "It's a definite win-win for the quality of life and economic impact for the City of Bixby."

The SkillsUSA chapter at Tulsa Tech consists of high school students who desire to have an active presence in their community. Previously, the group has worked with the City of Bixby and the Bixhoma Lake Foundation Project to clear overgrowth from around the lake, as well as to paint fences and restore park benches.

The work at the lake is nearing completion and a public grand opening is expected to be announced soon. In the meantime, Lake Bixhoma remains open to the public.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

BEAUTIFICATION EFFORTS: The SkillsUSA Chapter at Tulsa Tech's Peoria Campus and community volunteers came together in April to complete renovation projects at Lake Bixhoma that were funded by a \$25,000 Lowe's Community Improvement Grant. One of the final portions of the project included relocating the gazebo from Charley Young Event Park.

Spring Welcomes Annual Festivals

Bixby BBQ 'n Blues Festival: May 5-6

The Rotary Club of Bixby will host its 16th annual BBQ 'n Blues Festival May 5-6, to be held at Washington Irving Memorial Park.

Proceeds from the event are used by the Rotary Club of Bixby to fund various community projects and organizations.

The event will feature a number of family-friendly activities, including its Kids Zone, with inflatable jumpers, a petting zoo, train rides and pony rides. Tickets cost \$10 for an all-day pass.

The Sam's Club People's Choice competition will take place May 6. Everyone who purchases a \$10 People's Choice Award Taster Kit can participate. A limited number of kits will be available for purchase on the day of the competition from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tasting begins at 11:30 a.m.

Live music will be on the schedule

both days of the festival, with performances beginning at 5:30 p.m. on May 5 and at 1:30 p.m. on May 6.

Also on hand will be the 2017 Great American Cookout, presented by the Kansas City Barbeque Society. The tour visits some of the biggest and best barbeque contests, festivals and retail locations throughout the nation.

In its 11th year, the Great American Cookout will stop at over 50 retail locations and 20 food festivals throughout the tour's seven months on the road. BBQ experts Mike and Christine Peters will share grilling tips and free samples with event attendees.

For more information, visit bixby-rotarybbq.com.

**Bixby Freedom Celebration:
June 30**

The Bixby Freedom Celebration

began in 2015 as a way to bless the community of Bixby, notes The Bridge Church Pastor Orlando Juarez.

"We wanted to give the city of Bixby its very own Independence Day celebration and fireworks display."

The third annual Bixby Freedom Celebration, sponsored by The Bridge Church and other area businesses, will be held on June 30 at The Bridge Church's undeveloped property on the northwest corner of 121st Street and Memorial Drive.

"We want to make the focus of the event all about what's going right in our community and in our country. It's about celebrating our freedom and those who have helped make it possible with the best fireworks show available," says Pastor Juarez.

(Continued on page 32)

KUDOS of the MONTH: Tulsa Opera

Founded in 1948, Tulsa Opera is entering its 70th year of presenting grand opera to the region, with its 2017-2018 season, beginning in the fall, to mark its 70th season.

Tulsa Opera is the 16th oldest opera company in the United States and the oldest professional performing arts company in Oklahoma.

In 1904, the city's first documented opera performance took place: Gounod's Faust, performed at the Epperson Opera House on Main Street. Faust will return as the kick-off performance for the 2017-2018 season.

Over the decades, Tulsa Opera has garnered national and international acclaim,

drawing top names in opera, including Simon Estes, Beverly Sills and Luciano Pavarotti, and hosting the debuts of several young singers, including Joyce DiDonato and Stephanie Blythe, who have gone on to major stardom.

Since 2010, Tulsa Opera has expanded its commitment to education and doubled the size of Tulsa Youth Opera's training program and now presents a children's opera each year. This year, it will be the American premiere of a family opera Pierangelo Valtinoni's The Snow Queen, on June 17 and 18.

Up next for Tulsa Opera's 2016-2017 season is an international, star-studded production of Giacomo Puccini's Tosca on May 5 and 7.



Courtesy Tulsa Opera

PEARL FISHERS: Tulsa Opera General Director and CEO Greg Weber, right, and Artistic Director Tobias Picker stand with the cast of the Pearl Fishers in October: second from left, Aleksey Bogdanov, Aaron Blake, Sarah Shafer and Yunpeng Wang.

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A Gathering Place for Tulsa Names Leadership Fivesome

As progress continues at A Gathering Place for Tulsa (TGP), the park recently announced its leadership team. TGP has named Kirsten Hein as senior programming officer, Josh Henderson as senior operations officer, Amanda Murphy as senior marketing officer and Steve Terry as senior culinary officer. The team will work together with Tony Moore, park director, in running the day-to-day operations and programming for the park.

"The team we have built is of the highest caliber and will undoubtedly further our mission of creating a first-class experience for all Tulsans," Moore says. "Understanding that nothing great was ever accomplished without a team, these individuals not only bring an exceptional level of expertise in their field but a contagious enthusiasm for this project. I can't wait to get to work with this team in the coming months as we design programming and user experiences that will benefit the entire community."

Hein has more than 10 years of park programming experience, including serving as the senior program specialist in the arts and nature department for the Chicago Park District. Most recently, she was the countywide arts coordinator for community arts services for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, where she was responsible for arts programs and events throughout the county, overseeing program and facility budgets and managing art partnerships for the division. Hein holds a master of arts in arts administration and policy program from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a bachelor's degree from Maryland Institute College of Art.

"I'm honored to be joining the team under Tony's leadership," Hein says. "The vision of the park is inspiring, and having the opportunity to build new and innovative events and programs for all to enjoy is a dream come true. I spent my high school years in Oklahoma and can't wait to explore Tulsa and continue the forward momentum of this city."

With more than 20 years of amusement and recreation industry experience, Henderson has experience in customer relations and park operational activities ranging from maintenance to security and park safety. Most recently serving as the general manager of Myrtle Waves, a 21-acre waterpark in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, his experience also includes time as the general manager of Daytona Lagoon, aquatics director for Great Wolf Lodge in Virginia and manager of operations at Six Flags White Water in

(Continued on page 7)



IMPRESSIVE TEAM: As progress continues at A Gathering Place for Tulsa (TGP), the park recently announced its leadership team. From left are Steve Terry, senior culinary officer; Amanda Murphy, senior marketing officer; Tony Moore, park director; Kirsten Hein, senior programming officer; and Josh Henderson, senior operations officer.



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

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12-14 & 18-21- Jesus Christ Superstar- Theatre Tulsa

13- The Firebird- Tulsa Symphony Classics

23-28- Something Rotten!- Celebrity Attractions

25-26- Sangama- Kripalaya Dance Academy

27 & 6/2-3- Flyin' West- Theatre North

25- 6/25- SummerStage Tulsa- PAC Trust

CIVICS

Tulsa Creating a National Model for Community Policing

From Tulsa's Mayor

By G. T. BYNUM
Mayor of Tulsa

Public safety is one of the most vital roles of any municipal government and is one that ensures quality of life for our citizens.

With the overwhelming passage of Vision Tulsa, permanent public safety dollars will be directed to hire 160 additional police officers in our community with a continued focus on building connections across the city between our officers and citizens.

Shortly after taking office, I created the Tulsa Commission on Community Policing so we could have a communitywide conversation on how Tulsa can be the national model when it comes to community policing. I also wanted to have a communitywide consensus on the goals surrounding community policing before new officers come onboard.

The commission primarily focused on the recommendations set forth by the President's Task Force Recommendations on 21st Century Policing, which is aimed at building trust, reducing implicit bias and helping law enforcement

agencies reduce crime while maintaining civic involvement.

I'm proud to say that 77 recommendations were submitted by the commission, which gives us a clear roadmap for what community policing will look like in Tulsa. With months of research and candid discussion, we now have a measurable framework by which citizens and police can work together for improved public safety.

We looked at areas of building trust and legitimacy, community policing and crime reduction, officer wellness and safety, policy and oversight, technology and social media, and training and education.

Some recommendations in the report were already underway, but new recommendations included: expansion of crisis intervention training; implicit bias training for all officers, city employees and elected officials; and new youth programs focusing on leadership and life skills, to name a few.

Sitting on the Commission was a great experience and I personally learned a tremendous amount about what our police department is already doing and where we can go from here. We have great working relationships between the police officers and citizens, but we need to go further to engage and

inform the community. With the leadership of Police Chief Chuck Jordan we will form a community advisory board and community action groups during the next few months to help gauge feedback from the community to find out citizens' concerns. I know this will make Tulsa a safer city in the long run.

I urge you to read the complete report of the Tulsa Community Policing Commission findings and recommendations and review the progress report dashboard that will track the development and status of the recommendations: cityoftulsa.org/police

Tulsa Area United Way Honors Top Supporters

The Tulsa Area United Way honored its leading supporters and volunteers at the recent Live United Awards and Luncheon.

Several companies and organizations received awards during the annual event before more than 900 guests at the Cox Business Center.

The local United Way also celebrated the success of its 2016 campaign, which resulted in \$25,323,712 for the community, exceeding its goal by nearly a half-million dollars.

"The 2016 campaign was highly successful due to the strong leadership of our volunteers and contributions by nearly 40,000 individuals," said Mark Graham, President and CEO of the Tulsa Area United Way.

Co-Chairs of the 2016 campaign were Marla and Steve Bradshaw. "This campaign was truly a community-wide endeavor and proof that Tulsa is one of the nation's most generous cities," said Marla Bradshaw, a community advocate. Steve Bradshaw is president and CEO of BOK Financial.

The Quik Trip Corporation received the United Way's Groundbreaker Award for conducting the only employee campaign in excess of \$2 million.

Major supporters included Bank of Oklahoma, the J.A. Chapman and Leta M. Chapman Trusts, ONE-OK and Williams, each receiving Cornerstone Awards for support in excess of \$1 million, and ONE Gas, which received the Pillar Award for support above a half-million dollars.

The Williams Summit Leadership Award for best overall campaign was awarded jointly to Bank of Oklahoma and WPX Energy. Both companies conducted model campaigns with high levels of employee participation, Graham said.

Other major award recipients were First Oklahoma Bank, Mid-Sized Business Award; Frederic Dorwart Lawyers, Small Business Award; Omni Air International, Leadership Giving Award; Explorer Pipeline, Trailblazer Award; Mental Health Association Oklahoma, Illumi-

nate Award; Cyntergy AEC, Ignite Award; and U.S. Postal Service, Combined Federal Campaign Eagle Award.

The Community Service Award went to Williams for its employees' exceptional service to the community through volunteerism.

The local United Way's most prestigious honor for an individual went to community advocate Libby Johnson, who received the Clydella Hentschel Award for Women in Leadership. Johnson has served as a leader and champion of women and African Americans in Tulsa and northeast Oklahoma for several decades.

She is a charter member of the Women's Leadership Council, and, along with her husband Michael Johnson, has been a member of the United Way's Alexis de Tocqueville Society for 17 years. Libby also served on the Board of Directors of the Tulsa Area United Way.

The Tulsa Area United Way looks forward to its 2017 campaign for the



Courtesy TAUW

STRONG LEADERSHIP: From, left, Steve Bradshaw, chair of the TAUW Board of Directors; Libby Johnson, recipient of the annual Clydella Hentschel Award for Women in Leadership; David Hentschel, who was married to Clydella before she passed away; Susan Crenshaw, chair of the United Way's Women's Leadership Council; and Marla Bradshaw, co-chair of the 2016 TAUW campaign, during the recent Awards Luncheon. Johnson was the 2016 recipient of the Hentschel Award, which is given to a female leader in the community each year.

community, which will publicly kick off in August. Chair of the 2017 campaign is John Hewitt, president and CEO of Matrix Service Company.

For more information on the Tulsa Area United Way and its 58 partner agencies, visit tauw.org or call 918-583-7171.

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Stephanie Cameron Stays Busy with Civic Duties

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

Editor's Note: Tulsa's Young Professionals 2017 Chair Stephanie Cameron 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 City-County Library CEO Kimberly Johnson.

Tulsa's Young Professionals played a key role in keeping 2017 Chair Stephanie Cameron in Tulsa after she moved to the city in 2008, and this year in particular, she is paying it forward.

"I only knew one person when I moved here," Cameron says, a Georgia native. "TYPros helped me to understand Tulsa and to get plugged in and connect with other people who care about the city."

Cameron also serves as Community Affairs Director for APSCO Manufacturing and State Director for Dream It Do It Oklahoma and OK2Grow a workforce development nonprofit organization.

Her focus as 2017 TYPros Chair is on "people, purpose and play," she says.

"People" involves celebrating TYPros volunteers, because "they are the heart and soul of our organization;" attracting and retaining talent; and developing the next generation of leaders.

"Purpose" refers to Tulsa's urban environment and the enhancement of Tulsans' use of the city, she says.

The intention of "play" is to "showcase the city as a vibrant

place," she says, highlighting Tulsa's potential and the many ways that the city can be enjoyed.

Cameron chose to focus on these three points during her year of leadership because they reflect the elements that most attracted her to TYPros, and they draw attention to the importance of TYPros' volunteers because "they are at the core of why people are drawn to the organization," she says.

Cameron's year will also be heavily spent organizing TYPros' most well-known and largest annual event: its urban revitalization program Street Cred, to be held Sunday, June 4, 11-4 p.m.

The event, to be called "Bridging the Brady," will be held along Main Street in the Brady Arts District.

Since its inception, Street Cred has been held throughout various areas of the city that are in need of attention and revitalization, such as the Pearl District, 61st Street and Peoria Avenue, and Route 66.

"This is an event that I think has been able to really have some lasting impact on Tulsa," Cameron says. "We've seen tangible results after Street Cred has taken place in these areas," beginning with a heightened awareness that often, leads to increased development.

Street Cred 2017: Bridging the Brady will focus on how cities address highway infrastructure when it becomes a physical barrier. A local example of this is how Interstate 244 cuts through the northern end of the Brady Arts District, hindering its connection to the Brady Heights neighborhood and north Tulsa, says Cameron. "The overpass also creates a safety issue for pedestrians needing to walk under the overpass."

"This is a national topic; neighborhoods have created art installations and held concerts and shown inter-



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers
TYPROS CHAIR: Stephanie Cameron is preparing for Street Cred 2017: Bridging the Brady, to be held June 4.

active art under bridges to draw attention to this," she continues.

The idea behind Street Cred is to show an area's potential and provide temporary ideas in an effort to spur development projects, she says.

The event will involve Brady Arts District businesses and stakeholders, including the future OKPOP Museum, Oklahoma State University in Tulsa and 36 Degrees North. Lighting will be temporarily added under the bridge, and other beautification efforts will be made.

Because of discussions of future types of housing potentially being added to the district, lodging possibilities will be part of the event, such as Homma, a pop-up campsite company.

While the Brady district is arguably one of the most popular areas of downtown, TYPros chose the area for this year's event largely due to its proximity to north Tulsa, she says. "Having a connection to north Tulsa is a critical component



GTR Newspapers Photo
OK2GROW RECEIVES GRANT: On April 13, workforce development nonprofit OK2Grow accepted a \$7,500 grant from ITC, the nation's largest independent electricity transmission company. Pictured are OK2Grow founders Lynda Wingo, left, and Jerry Holder; OK2Grow State Director Stephanie Cameron; and Liz Hunt, ITC marketing and communications manager.

for community dialogue."

Cameron's additional focus areas for the year include increasing TYPros' volunteer engagement with area nonprofits; the upcoming launch of a professional development series that will include information on career advancement, intentional networking and negotiating skills; and development of a new Bring It to Tulsa campaign.

Cameron's time is also spent growing OK2Grow to foster greater local workforce development efforts and to improve Oklahoma's high school graduation rates.

Recently, OK2Grow began working with the Oklahoma Education and Industry Partnership, in coordination with Tulsa Tech and Career Tech. This partnership will provide workshops for area teachers to educate them in the areas of manufacturing, healthcare and aerospace.

Cameron's other community endeavors include involvement with

the Tulsa Global Alliance, the Union Schools Education Foundation, the Rotary Club of Tulsa, the Oklahoma Academy, Leadership Oklahoma, the Tulsa Regional Chamber, ImpactTulsa, the TCC Signature Symphony, the Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma, The Manufacturing Institute, the Hispanic American Foundation, the Center for Legislative Excellence, the State Chamber of Oklahoma, the Tulsa Area Manufacturer's Association, and the Tulsa Regional Stem Alliance.

Cameron considers the timing of her arrival in Tulsa to be a bit serendipitous, as the BOK Center was still under construction and her first job being to provide workers for the event center's construction.

With the momentum taking place currently around Tulsa and particularly downtown, she is especially grateful to have arrived when she did.

"It's a great time to be in Tulsa."

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VARIETY

OK Mozart to Feature Premieres, New Genres

The 2017 OK Mozart Music Festival in Bartlesville June 8-18 has delivered on its promise of a revitalized festival with a knockout lineup of classical performers, as well as the addition of new music genres.

The nine-day festival kicks off Thursday evening with a street concert featuring the 145th Army Band, followed by western blues band Honey Blue, which is free to the public. Later that evening, "High Stakes" cowboy crooner Michael Martin Murphey lights up the Bartlesville Community Center accompanied by the world-class Bartlesville Symphony Orchestra. Best known for the hit "Wildfire," real-life rancher Murphey has topped the pop, country, bluegrass and western music charts.

On June 9, the harmony-rich sound of Wilson Phillips, a vocal trio comprised of sisters Carrie and Wendy

Wilson and Chynna Phillips, comes to the BCC. The songs, "Hold On," "Release Me" and "You're in Love" topped the billboard charts in the 1990s, and their debut album became a Grammy-nominated smash hit. They recently appeared in the comedy, "Bridesmaids," singing "Hold On."

Classically-trained golden-voiced Chris Mann, who starred in "The Phantom of the Opera" in its North American tour, takes to the BCC stage on June 10 accompanied by the Bartlesville Symphony. Since his 2012 stint on NBC's "The Voice," his career has skyrocketed with two albums topping the Billboard charts, two PBS television specials, and the starring role in "Phantom."

On the afternoon of June 11, the festival is honored to present the world premiere of composer Jerod Tate's Muscogee Hymn Suite, com-



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missioned and performed by the
Tulsa Symphony Orchestra. Tate,
a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation,
breathes new life into five traditional
Creek hymns, not only restoring
the original melodies, but adding
orchestration to the pieces.

That evening, spectators can enjoy
a Concert Under the Stars at Sooner
Park with entertainment by Mojo, a
popular Oklahoma jazz band. While
enjoying the sounds of cool jazz on
a hot summer night, patrons can en-
joy cocktails purchased at a cash bar
and food from local food trucks.

On June 12-15, audiences have
four chances to hear the Miró Quar-
tet at Ambler Hall, playing a return
engagement after popular request.
The award-winning chamber quar-
tet is consistently praised for its
deeply musical interpretations and
exciting performances.

On June 13, hear the inspirational
Burchfield Brothers perform at First
Baptist Church. Their stylistic diversi-
ty of Appalachian, classical, jazz, Re-
naissance, praise, worship and gospel
keep the two in constant demand.

"This season is filled with excite-
ment and a little something for
everyone," says Mary Lynn Mihm-
Howk, chairman of the OK Mozart
Board of Directors. "We have sched-

uled diverse, highly-acclaimed mu-
sical talent for residents and visitors
alike to enjoy classical, jazz, blues,
rock and other mixed genres. We
also have two world premieres!"

On June 14, the Brightmusic So-
ciety of Oklahoma and Trio Solari
bring their exceptional talent to
Ambler Hall. Besides performing
audience favorites from the Ba-
roque, Classical and Romantic eras,
Brightmusic also delves into mod-

ern works. The world premiere of
the Joseph F. Tyldesley composi-
tion, "Homage to Haydn," will be
performed by the Trio, who also
commissioned the piece.

On June 16, individuals can head
out to Wootaroc for the crowd-pleas-
ing picnic-style performance. Wear
comfortable clothes, bring dinner
and a lawn chair, and enjoy Dis-
ney classics performed by the Tulsa
Symphony Orchestra. The tradition-
al fireworks over the lake will cap
the evening.

A full spectrum of Showcase
events is planned, including chil-
dren's activities. Enjoy folk and jazz
entertainment at the Price Tower,
a tribute to Gershwin by Those 2!,
and a jam session by Oklahoma Jazz
Hall of Famers, among others.

There is plenty more on tap, and
tickets are available through the
Bartlesville Community Center,
bartlesvillecommunitycenter.com.
For information about OKM, visit
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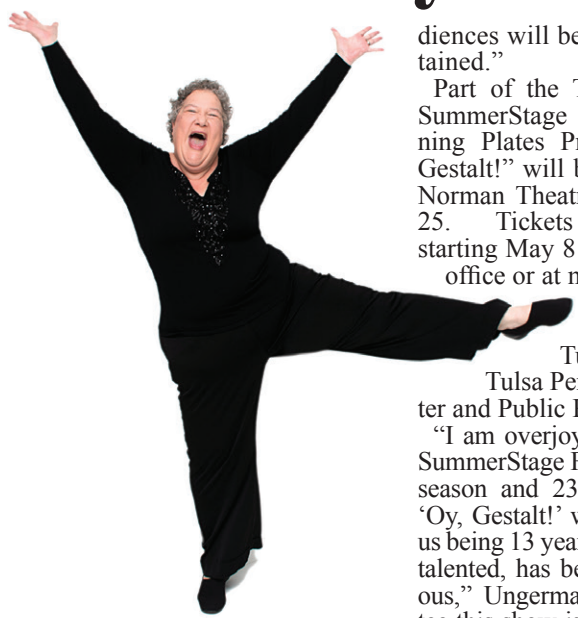
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Rebecca Ungerman Revisits Cabaret Roots in 'Oy Gestalt!'

*Tulsa
Entertainer
Re-Teams
With P. Casey
Morgan*

"Oy, Gestalt" is a rollicking look at the life and career of influential Tulsa entertainer Rebecca Ungerman. Picking up where she left off 12 years ago with Ungerman's first one woman show, "Indulge Me," authors Ungerman and P. Casey Morgan deliver a delightful pastiche of songs, stories and a few secrets.

"Rebecca and I never stopped laughing during the writing of 'Oy, Gestalt!'" Morgan says. "I have no doubt that au-



SUMMERSTAGE FUN

diences will be thoroughly entertained."

Part of the Tulsa PAC Trust's SummerStage Festival, the Spinning Plates Production of "Oy, Gestalt!" will be presented in the Norman Theatre on June 24 and 25. Tickets will be available starting May 8 from the PAC box office or at myticketoffice.com.

SummerStage sponsors are the Tulsa PAC Trust, Tulsa Performing Arts Center and Public Radio Tulsa.

"I am overjoyed to return to the SummerStage Festival for my 13th season and 23rd show. Writing 'Oy, Gestalt!' with Casey, both of us being 13 years smarter and more talented, has been simply marvelous," Ungerman says. "I guarantee this show is made up of actual events, not alternative facts."

Bob Dylan Archive Now Open

The Bob Dylan Archive has officially opened its doors in Tulsa's Brady Arts District to qualified entities and individuals who wish to access the archive's wealth of elements spanning nearly 60 years of Dylan's extraordinary life and career. The announcement was made by Ken Levit, executive director of the George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF), and Dr. Gerard Clancy, president of The University of Tulsa (TU). Concur-

rently, GKFF has issued a request for qualifications from agencies interested in submitting proposals for The Bob Dylan Center, which will be dedicated to the study and appreciation of Dylan and located in Tulsa's vibrant downtown Brady Arts District.

For further information regarding access to The Bob Dylan Archive, visit www.bobdylanarchive.com/archive-access.

The Bob Dylan Center will be

the primary public venue for The Bob Dylan Archive, curating and exhibiting a priceless collection of more than 6,000 items spanning nearly 60 years of Dylan's singular career.

The archive was acquired in 2016 by the George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF) and The University of Tulsa (TU) and is housed in Tulsa under the stewardship of TU's Helmerich Center for American Research.

Leadership Team Named for A Gathering Place for Tulsa

(Continued from page 3)

Georgia. A graduate of the University of Arkansas, Henderson has a bachelor's degree in business administration.

"The scope of this project is amazing," Henderson said. "Coming from the for-profit amusement industry, the opportunity to be part of something that is inclusive of all people versus being profit-driven was too motivating to pass up. While I look forward to bringing my operations and theme park experiences to the public sector, I'm most excited about what A Gathering Place for Tulsa will mean for all Tulsans."

A Tulsa native, Murphy joins the team from Outward Bound, a non-profit wilderness education organization, where she served as the marketing director. Through her various marketing roles, she has been responsible for traditional and digital communications, developing and executing advertising campaigns, social media and event management, website maintenance,

and budget oversight. A Tulsa native, she has a master's degree in management and organization from Northwestern University and new media studies from DePaul University. She obtained her bachelor's degree in communication and Spanish from the University of Tulsa.

"As a child growing up in Tulsa, I never imagined the city would see something of this magnitude," Murphy said. "Essentially, I get a megaphone to let the rest of the region and country know what I already know—that Tulsa is an amazing place."

Terry brings 25 years of experience in food management and hospitality and joins the team from Sodexo, where he served as district manager overseeing the child nutrition division, among many other departments. His experiences also include several director roles in which he managed hundreds of employees, multi-million-dollar budgets and culinary operations. Possessing a diverse set of skills, in-

cluding earning Certified Executive Chef status, he was the executive chef for the 63rd annual Academy Awards. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and received his associate's of science in culinary arts from Johnson and Wales.

"I look forward to using my culinary experiences to cater to all Tulsans," Terry said. "Park goers can expect dining options for all walks of life and ages. In line with the park's mission, the eating options will offer something for everyone."

With a mission to create a park for all Tulsans to enjoy, the new team members bring a diverse set of experiences and skillsets from across the country. With quality control being a stated priority for every aspect of the park, this team will implement first-class services across the board, ensuring a one-of-a-kind experience for all visitors.

For the latest construction updates, events and news, visit agatheringplacefortulsa.com.



GTR Newspapers photo

LOS LOBOS AT TULSA ROOTS MUSIC: Tulsa's truly global, free, all-day eclectic roots music festival, the Tulsa Roots Music Global Bash, was another success this year as the April 15 event featured Los Lobos, above, Young Dubliners and other major internationally touring artists on the main stage. Also included were the best local acts, performance artists, a children's/family area with arts activities, and community booths with local food, craft brews and wines. The event lasted from 2:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at Guthrie Green, 111 E. Brady.



SHARON CAMERON for GTR Newspapers

MUSIC EMPOWERING STUDENTS: Advocates and supporters of the Carnegie Hall Link Up program in Tulsa hosted an event on March 29 at the Summit Club for Hillarie O'Toole, Carnegie Hall Link Up program manager. O'Toole discussed the program and its success in Tulsa. From left: David Carter, education director, Tulsa Symphony Orchestra (TSO); Angela Carter, development director, (TSO); Hillarie O'Toole, program manager, Carnegie Hall Link Up program; Ron Predl, executive director TSO; Ken Busby, executive director and CEO, Route 66 Alliance; and Dr. Kathy LaFortune, program advocate and volunteer.

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Rockers Rule May Lineup of Shows

Looking over the roster of acts coming up at venues across our area, I am marveling at the staying power of some musicians. It's a miracle that **Alice Cooper** and **Brian Wilson** survived the '60s and 1970s, and now here they are, playing within a week of each other at the Brady!

The Brady isn't the only venue hosting musicians who have developed a following over a few decades.

Daryl Hall and **John Oates** appear at the BOK Center on May 4. This songwriting duo from Philadelphia has sold more than 40 million records and is known for songs like "Sara Smile," "Maneater" and "Rich Girl." Hall and Oates are joined by the band Tears for Fears.

Tim McGraw and **Faith Hill** perform together at the BOK Center May 11. They've been married since the 1990s and have three kids. They also have a pact not to be apart from each other for more than three days, max. She's won five Grammys, and he's won three. That is one powerhouse partnership.

I have wanted to see **The Chain-smokers** since I fell in love with their song "Closer." It's the ringtone on my phone! Andrew Taggart and Alex Pall, who comprise the group, are rooted in electronic dance music. I saw them on "Saturday Night Live" recently and enjoyed their new music also. They perform at the BOK Center May 16.

Rascal Flatts drops by the River Spirit Casino Resort on May 12. The band that brought us "Life is a Highway," "Prayin' for Daylight," and the single "Yours If You Want It" in early 2017, is releasing a new album in May called *Back to Us*, which no doubt they will pull from for their Tulsa show.

One more BOK Center event to mention is **New Kids on the Block** with **Paula Abdul** and **Boyz II Men**, May 24. I know I would enjoy this music, and I imagine there will be some super dancing. If only *En Vogue* could be part of this show! I have been waiting for them to tour. They often join Boyz II Men on the road. Next time.

The Joint at the Hard Rock brings its own lineup of nostalgia bands to the May party. **Barenaked Ladies**, the all-male Canadian alternative rock band, is known for entertaining concerts that incorporate comedy. They will be in town May 4, followed

by the rock band **Boston** on May 11 and "The Power of Love" group, **Huey Lewis and the News**, May 18.

Back to Alice Cooper and Brian Wilson — they hung out together during the early drug-infused decades of their careers and survived. Cooper found a way of setting himself apart in the crowded "peace and love" era of music. Wilson is an undisputed genius! It's difficult to appreciate now how innovative "Good Vibrations" was in 1966. Cooper was the originator of shock rock, when "all you need is love" was the going groove, and now we see him

playing celebrity golf with the pros and looking quite normal. Watch for their concerts at the Brady, May 4 (Cooper) and May 16 (Wilson).

My favorite opera is Puccini's "Tosca," coming to the Tulsa PAC May 5 and 7. I'm sentimental about this opera in particular because I got to know and love opera from being a supernumerary, a nun, in "Tosca." My husband and I were dating, and both of us had parts. I guess if people had asked, I could have said I was dating a secret agent/monk (his roles), and he could have claimed he was dating a nun. "Tosca" is a good starter piece for people who aren't already big opera fans. The story takes place in Rome, and if you are visiting that city, you will want to drop by the Castel Sant'Angelo, not far from the Vatican, where some of the opera's story takes place. Tulsa Opera's production features Russian soprano Evelina Dobraeva and Finnish tenor Christian Juslin.

I also wanted to mention two other PAC shows, "Jesus Christ Superstar," staged by Theatre Tulsa, which runs May 12-20, as does the lesser-known "In the Next Room (or The Vibrator Play)" presented by Theatre Pops. Both will be worth your time, as always.

The fabulous **Kristin Chenoweth** returns home to the Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center May 6 with "My Love Letter to Broadway," and at the University of Tulsa's Lorton Performance Center Theatre, **Tulsa Ballet** wraps its 60th anniversary season, May 11-14. That program will feature a selection of pieces that are among Artistic Director Marcello Angelini's favorites: the



BRIAN WILSON: *The Beach Boys* Star performs his ground-breaking album *Pet Sounds* at the Brady Theater May 16.



ALICE COOPER: *The Shock Rock* pioneer comes to the Brady Theater May 4.



KRISTIN CHENOWETH: *The Broken Arrow native* performs at the Broken Arrow PAC May 6 with "My Love Letter to Broadway."

lighthearted "Cacti" by Alexander Ekman, the exuberant "A Million Kisses to my Skin" by David Dawson, and a piece that was created for Tulsa Ballet's "Creations in Studio K" series, "Cripple and the Starfish" by Adam Houghland. Congrats on another excellent season, Tulsa Ballet. Rock on!



HALL & OATS: Daryl Hall and John Oates bring their 1980s hits to the BOK Center May 4.



TIM MCGRAW AND FAITH HILL: Country music's powerhouse couple visit the BOK Center May 11.



NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK: The former boy band comes to the BOK Center with Paula Abdul and Boyz II Men May 24.



RASCAL FLATTS: With a new album due in May, the band comes to River Spirit Casino May 12.

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Shows Heat Up In May at Tulsa PAC

From The PAC

As summer swiftly approaches, the shows at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center are heating up too!

Strings & Pearls, a harp duo, comes to the PAC Trust's Brown Bag It series May 3 at 12:10 p.m. in the Westby Pavilion. Harpists Linda Barton Paul and Vicki L. Smith have been playing together for two years and enjoy performing music of many different genres for concerts, galas, events, and church services. The show is free and open to the public.

"Tosca" was the opera most frequently requested in Tulsa Opera's recent audience survey. Puccini's beloved masterpiece will be performed by an international all-star cast led by Russian soprano Evelina Dobračeva, hot on the heels of her American debut with Cincinnati Opera. Dobračeva has performed extensively with Cologne Opera, including her recent role debut as Odabella in "Atilla," Micaëla in "Carmen," Donna Anna in "Don Giovanni" and Violetta in "La Traviata." Other recent engagements include Emma in "Khovanshina" with the Bayerische Staatsoper, Tatiana in "Eugene Onegin" for Switzerland's Theater St. Gallen and Lisa in



ROCK OPERA: Theatre Tulsa presents the classic "Jesus Christ Superstar" May 12-21.

"Queen of Spades" at Moscow's Bolshoi Opera. The opera runs May 5 and 7 in Chapman Music Hall.

Mature audiences will enjoy **"In The Next Room (Or The Vibrator Play)"** presented by American Theatre Company, May 12-20. Set in the 1880s, this 2009 play by Sarah Ruhl is a

provocative, funny, touching and entertaining story about a young doctor and his wife. Dr. Givings is obsessed with the marvels of technology and what they can do for his patients. His wife, Catherine, is only a bystander in her husband's world, listening at the door from the next room as he treats his female patients. Dr. Givings is not sure exactly how the vibrators help the women he treats, but they do keep coming back. The only woman whose problem is not helped by the doctor is his own wife, who longs to connect with him, but not electrically. The show will be performed in Liddy Doenges Theatre.

Theatre Tulsa presents the legendary rock opera **"Jesus Christ Superstar,"** with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice. The musical chronicles the final days of Jesus Christ's life, told from the perspective of his friend, disciple and betrayer – Judas Iscariot. Experience the power, the glory, the love and the passion. The musical runs May 12-21 in John H. Williams Theatre.

Conducted by Daniel Hege, **"The Firebird"** from Tulsa Symphony Classics will elicit smiles from seasoned concertgoers and first-timers alike. Haydn's Symphony No. 90 offers glimpses into his humorous, prankster side. Kodaly paints in impressionistic orchestral colors the comedic tale of a Hungarian-style Don Quixote in his "Háry János Suite." And Stravinsky captivates listeners with his ballet music suite The Firebird. Even without the ballet theater, Stra-



Photo by JOAN MARCUS

THIS SHOW STINKS: Celebrity Attractions presents the hysterical Tony-nominated musical "Something Rotten!" May 23-28.

vinsky's music summons the imagination to delight in Russian fairy tales of the magical glowing bird that can be a blessing or a curse to its owner. Experience this unique show May 13 at Chapman Music Hall.

Direct from Broadway, **Something Rotten!** is a "big, fat hit!" (New York Post). Set in the '90s – the 1590s – this hilarious smash tells the story of Nick and Nigel Bottom (Tony nominee Rob McClure and Broadway's Josh Gristetti), two brothers who are desperate to write their own hit play while the "rock star" Shakespeare (Tony nominee Adam Pascal) keeps getting all the hits. When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre involves singing, dancing and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. With its heart on its ruffled sleeve and sequins in its soul, Something Rotten! is "The Producers + Spamalat + The Book of Mormon. Squared!" (New York Magazine). Celebrity Attractions presents this musical May 23-28 in Chapman Music Hall.

SummerStage Tulsa officially kicks off early this year with **"Sangama,"** presented by Kripalaya Dance Academy. Kripalaya's dance-and-music production "Sangama," which means "confluence," depicts how people can embrace individuality and show everyone how wonderful the world can be if they all come together as one. This pre-Memorial Day production is dedicated to United States Military veterans and runs May 25-26 in John H. Williams Theatre.

Theatre North presents **"Flyin' West,"** May 27 and June 2-3 in Liddy Doenges Theatre. Following the end of the Civil War, many former slaves, anxious to leave the South and the increasing disappointments and dangers of Reconstruction, take advantage of The Homestead Act and go west to build new lives for themselves and their families. Many of these homesteaders were black women who overcame tremendous odds to work their own land and make a place for themselves in an often harsh and forbidding environment. Set in 1898, "Flyin' West" by Pearl Cleage is the story of some of these African-American female pioneers who settled together in the all-black town of Nicodemus, Kansas.

SummerStage, Tulsa's annual festival runs May 25-June 25 and features nearly 25 local and regional acts bringing their music, drama, art and more to the stages of the Tulsa PAC. Catch all of the action by visiting summerstagetulsa.org and see an amazing line-up that includes Theatre Tulsa, Tulsa Youth Opera, Echo Theatre and popular local acts like **Mark Gibson, Rebecca Ungerman, Janet Rutland** and more.

And in the PAC Gallery this month are artists **Brigid Spanier** and **Jean Kelley**. Their dual show features abstract and contemporary art and runs May 2-28.

Tickets for all events are available by calling the Tulsa PAC ticket office at 918-596-7111 or online at TulsaPAC.com, or on social media platforms.

GILCREASE PRESENTS 'PLAINS INDIAN ART'



Courtesy Gilcrease Museum

NEW EXHIBITION: Gilcrease Museum presents *Plains Indian Art: Created in Community* through Aug. 27, an exhibition highlighting Plains art as an expression of cultural tradition and community vibrancy.

Through Aug. 27, Gilcrease Museum is presenting *Plains Indian Art: Created in Community*, an exhibition that explores the talent and special role of Plains artists in their communities. The exhibition will highlight Plains art as an expression of cultural tradition and community vibrancy, focusing specifically on generational change in style and function and the innovative techniques used by various artists.

Visitors to the exhibition will learn how art is created within Native American communities as well as understand the shifting cultural meaning of certain artistic expressions. The exhibition also celebrates the different approaches — including the curator, historian and artist approaches — to understanding Native American art.

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DINING OUT IN GREATER TULSA

Ol'Vine Brings Quality Food, Wine to Brookside

Local Dining

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

Ol'Vine, 3523 S. Peoria Ave., opened in February in the former space of Sonoma Bistro and Wine Bar in Brookside.

While the new owners created a menu largely reminiscent of Sonoma's offerings, there are still a number of new dishes to be discovered as well as a heightened food quality, noted our server Samuel, when our party dined their recently.

The menu follows an Italian theme with salads, pizzas, pastas, sandwiches and entrees.

"Ol'Vine upped the food quality with higher-quality cuts of meat, added a grilled element and offers one of the most reasonably-priced wine lists around," he continued.

We began with the Wood Grilled Meatballs. We received five meatballs in an iron skillet, cooked in marinara and parmesan. The meatballs sat in a thick tomato bisque that added a unique flavor, leaving me wanting another round.

I then ordered the House Field Greens Salad, which is a gluten-free option. The salad features a

generous amount of field greens, topped with pears, walnuts and goat cheese. I would have preferred a bit more of the toppings, but when I got a fork-full of all of the ingredients, the taste was bright and flavorful.

My tablemate ordered the Chicken and Avocado Panini, which came with one side order. She chose grilled asparagus.

Sides are included with sandwiches and a few entrees. There are 12 wide-ranging sides to choose from: mac n cheese, sweet potato fries, jicama cole slaw, herbed mashed potatoes, cheese grits, to name a few.

The asparagus was plump and nicely cooked, not stringy; the sandwich came with a thick piece of chicken breast topped with slices of avocado, but not so much avocado that the sandwich was overwhelmed with the flavor. Although, I would have preferred a bit more because I am avocado obsessed.

To share, our group ordered the Steak Pizza. For the steak, filet is used, paired with just the right amount of blue cheese. Because the blue cheese was not overpowering, the filet is allowed to be the star. The pizza also came topped with caramelized onion and balsamic drizzle. The pizza was particularly delicious



ITALIAN FARE: Ol'Vine's Chicken and Avocado Panini. In the background is the Chicken Piccata, one of the restaurant's best-selling dishes.

combined with a dark beer, accentuating both the pizza and the beer flavors.

For my entree, I ordered the Chicken Piccata, panko crusted chicken breast with a slew of veggies all on a bed of angel hair pasta. The veggies included spinach, artichokes, asparagus and tomatoes. This is one of the restaurant's



NEW RESTAURANT: Ol'Vine, 3523 S. Peoria Ave., opened in February in Brookside, taking over the space formerly occupied by Sonoma Bistro and Wine Bar. The restaurant offers reasonably-priced Italian dishes and an extensive wine list.

most popular dishes and for good reason. Its creaminess combined with the ample vegetables and the just right amount of pasta created a refreshing springtime dish.

Another popular dish, said our server, is the Cast-Iron Red Fish, which comes over creamed spinach and cheese grits.

The menu's price range is very reasonable, very comparable to Sonoma's. That is especially welcome

when one considers the restaurant's location on Brookside among many higher-priced restaurants. I appreciate the moderate pricing that they bring to the district.

Ol'Vine also boasts a mixologist who oversees the seasonal cocktail list.

Ol'Vine is open seven days a week, Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Grogg's Green Barn Introduces The Reserve

Since opening in 2011, Grogg's Green Barn (GGB) has been offering organic, native and edible products in its encouragement of sustainability and urban gardening.

The company's latest venture, called The Reserve at Grogg's Green Barn, provides guests with a "full-circle gardening" experience. The menu and culinary theme will change often to reflect the seasonality of the garden, making every dinner session unique and coveted. The Reserve will offer two dinners a week for 27 weeks of the year.

"We want to enhance the horticulture experience for our customers by offering them examples of what they can create for their table, straight from their own gardens," says co-owner Kelly Grogg.

The Groggs believe the concept is a perfect expansion from the current



GARDEN-TO-TABLE DINNERS: Carla Grogg, co-owner of Grogg's Green Barn, addresses guests at Grogg's first garden-to-table dinner. At left is her husband and co-owner Kelly Grogg.

business, and coupled with an existing organic savvy customer base, it is a natural progression for growth.

When native Tulsan Matt Owens (former executive chef at Torero and Canebrake) learned of their plans, he recognized it as something special. Having previously spent eight years in Portland working with local farmers, ranchers and growers, Owens was intrigued at the idea of bringing his enthusiasm for locally-sourced food to the Tulsa area. "My vision for The Reserve is to use at least 80 percent of the food from produce grown in Grogg's very own backyard. I believe in the leaf to root



HAPPY GUESTS: Adrienne Kallweit, left, owner of Seeking Sitters and Gig Bigwig, sits with Amy Bates, owner of Merry Maids, at the inaugural dinner for The Reserve at Grogg's Green Barn.

concept of using as much of the vegetable as I can."

The Reserve will host dinners on Friday and Saturday evenings April 7-Aug. 5, before returning on Sept. 9 through Nov. 4 for fall season din-

ing. Dinners are on a reservation basis only.

Along with its dinners, The Reserve will also host cooking classes and corporate and private gatherings during the off-season.

To learn more and to make a reservation, visit grogsgreenbarn.com/the-reserve or call 918-994-4222.

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Tulsa's ONEOK Field a Community Gathering Place

Despite the rain—sometimes coming in sheets—I was happy to see the crowds come out in full force for opening night of the Tulsa Drillers on April 13.

Spectators sat under their umbrellas; crowds hovered under the overhang; parents endured, soaked to the core, as their children played unconcerned in the grass.

All proving that the rituals and general outing of baseball remain alive and well.

This was my first time to watch a baseball game in the rain, and it wasn't completely unwelcome. I always feel a combined sense of adventure and safety when I am out in the elements yet shielded under an umbrella.

Still, in addition to my umbrella, I was grateful for the stadium overhang that gave my seat an extra degree of protection.

It appeared that there were others who felt similarly: there were many fans toughing it out in their seats wearing only plastic rain gear. It was nice to see that those die-hard fans still exist, unless they just enjoy the rain.

For the majority of people, though, they milled around behind the seats, avoiding the rain and, perhaps, simply taking in the general atmosphere and

energy that one only finds at a sporting event.

Unlike some sports, baseball provides a particularly nice spectating option because of its somewhat leisurely pace. A person can keep one eye on the game and one ear on conversation.

Yet, I can't help but consider whether it's the age-old tradition of baseball that keeps people coming back. Or something more basic to our human need.

ONEOK Field's accommodating design, including its open-air concession corridor, effectively pulls together the game, the spectators and those out of their seats, creating a unifying sense that we are all "in this together."

Add to that the couples stretched out on the south lawn, families playing catch and children laughing at the splash pads, and the game feels no longer like a sporting event but a community gathering for all kinds of people.

"It's never 'just' a baseball game; there's always tons to enjoy," noted one Drillers spectator who admits to not being a baseball fan.

The games could be compared to what the Tulsa Farmers' Market has turned into: the place to be on Saturday mornings.

Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers
OPENING NIGHT: The Tulsa Drillers opened its 2017 season on April 13 at ONEOK Field. Before the game was an opening night parade.

I remember almost two decades ago when the farmers' market took place in a parking lot along 15th Street. There was still a sense of community captured there, but the expansion that has taken place since the market's move onto 15th Street and the subsequent community buy-in has been amazing to witness.

And, still, the intention of that activity, although with a different focus, at its core is also wrapped up with human connection.

A similar, yet I suspect slightly rowdier, atmosphere can be found at the Tulsa Roughnecks games, also held at ONEOK Field.

As the days grow longer and the weather warmer, I plan to drink it all up.



GTR Newspapers photo
ENJOYING THE GAME: Spectators enjoy a Tulsa Drillers baseball game on the lawn of ONEOK Field, located in downtown Tulsa's Brady Arts District.



GTR Newspapers photo
SPLASH PAD FUN: Children play in the splash pads at ONEOK Field during a recent Tulsa Drillers game.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

CTCA Adds Medical Oncologist/Hematologist, Promotes Medical Director

Cancer Treatment Centers of America at Southwestern Regional Medical Center in Tulsa (CTCA) has announced two recent physician changes. Kathryn Arrambide, M.D., F.A.C.P., has joined the hospital as

a medical oncologist and hematologist and Kevin Tulipana, D.O., who served as a hospitalist in the special care unit, has been promoted to medical director of hospital medicine.

Dr. Arrambide has extensive experience in treating blood cancers and disorders, as well as lung, breast, cervical, uterine and advanced-staged cancers. In addition, she is board certified in medical oncology and hematology. Prior to joining CTCA, Dr. Arrambide worked at a medical group in Quincy, Illinois, where she was a partner and served as medical director of clinical research. Prior to that, she practiced at various clinics and hospitals in the Dallas area, where she grew up.

With a bachelor of science degree in clinical nutrition with an emphasis in nutrition in cancer patients from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas, Dr. Arrambide received her doctor of medicine at the

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and later completed her hematology/oncology fellowship there. She also served as chief fellow in hematology/medical oncology from 1994 to 1995.

Dr. Tulipana, who joined CTCA in January 2015, earned his bachelor's degree in biology at Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri. He completed his doctor of osteopathy degree at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. He was a resident in Family Medicine at Mercy/Mayo Family Medical Center, serving as chief resident from 2002 to 2003.

Prior to joining CTCA, Dr. Tulipana provided family medical care at a large regional medical center in Missouri for seven years. He then served as hospitalist at a large health-care facility in Oklahoma. During his career, Dr. Tulipana has also held several administrative positions focused on quality improvement, innovation and other aspects of patient care.

"We are thrilled about Dr. Arrambide joining our team. Her background aligns strongly with the CTCA model of care, and she has a good grasp on the whole-person needs of cancer patients," says Dr. Daniel Nader, chief of staff at the Tulsa hospital. "We are also excited about Dr. Tulipana's promotion. He understands the importance of compassionate care, while also being committed to quality improvement and innovation."



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Hillcrest HealthCare Expands to Mayes Co.

Hillcrest HealthCare System (HHS) has signed a long-term management agreement to assume operations and associated assets of AllianceHealth Pryor in Pryor, Oklahoma. The seven-year agreement between HHS and the Mayes County Hospital Authority is effective May 1.

HHS will take on the day-to-day operations of the hospital, which will be renamed Hillcrest Hospital Pryor. The Mayes County Hospital Authority will retain independent ownership of the hospital's facilities. AllianceHealth Pryor employees will become employed by Hillcrest HealthCare System, including AllianceHealth Pryor chief executive officer (CEO) Doug Weaver.

This arrangement furthers Hillcrest's commitment to serving northeast Oklahoma, including Pryor and the greater Mayes County community. HHS operates seven hospitals in the Tulsa region, including similar operating agreements with Hillcrest Hospital Henryetta and Hillcrest Hospital Cushing. Additionally, HHS owns Hillcrest Hospital Claremore in neighboring Rogers County as well as Utica Park Clinic (primary care) and Oklahoma Heart Institute, both with locations in Pryor.

"When reviewing Hillcrest HealthCare System's geographic footprint, the ability to offer our exceptional level of care in Pryor and all of Mayes County is an exciting option," says Kevin Gross, chief executive officer of Hillcrest HealthCare System. "With this new partnership we have the opportunity to provide additional access points to quality health care for Oklahomans, and we're looking forward to serving the Pryor community in this new way."

"Hillcrest HealthCare System is an established, effective hospital system familiar with our area," says Doug Weaver, CEO, AllianceHealth Pryor. "Several Hillcrest physicians already work in Pryor providing quality care to our residents. We look forward to continuing to work closely with them and the Mayes County Hospital Authority as we prepare to join the Hillcrest network."

AllianceHealth Pryor, established in 1954, is a 52-bed acute care hospital. The hospital is currently operated by a subsidiary of Community Health Systems (CHS) under a sub-lease operation structure with the Mayes County Hospital Authority.

About Hillcrest HealthCare System

Serving communities throughout eastern Oklahoma, Hillcrest HealthCare System (HHS) includes Hillcrest Medical Center, Hillcrest Hospital South, Oklahoma Heart Institute, Bailey Medical Center, Hillcrest Hospital Claremore, Hillcrest Hospital Cushing, Hillcrest Hospital Henryetta, Tulsa Spine & Specialty Hospital and Utica Park Clinic. Across its hospitals and health care facilities, HHS offers 1,235 beds and employs a team of more than 5,500.

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A portrait of a woman with short, dark brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a black and white patterned cardigan over a blue top. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with greenery and a light sky.

Betty D.

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EDUCATION

Student Uses Personal Experience to Teach Healthy Living

By JIMI KUSEK
Student Writer

As part of a Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) project, Tulsa Tech Apparel Design student Jimi Kusek recently spent two

days visiting a first grade class at Tulsa Public Schools' Skelly Elementary to talk with them about the importance of exercise.

Kusek, a junior at Tulsa Tech's Career Academy, recently received second place from FC-

CLA for her submitted article about the activity.

A few years ago, Kusek weighed over 200 pounds; she credits hula hooping as the catalyst for her weight loss and subsequent health focus. "Hula hooping can help you burn close to 400 calories in 30 minutes," she says.

Kusek's goal in speaking to the Skelly first grade class was to raise their awareness and provide further education and encouragement regarding exercise and health.

"America's child obesity rates have tripled over past decades," she says. "But that can be changed."

"We need to start changing our habits, but change can be scary." At the beginning of her presentation, Kusek entered the room to greet the first graders while hula hooping. She explained to them that exercise can be found in everything they do, from dancing to spinning to jumping in place.

Kusek also talked with them about what exercise actually is and how to do it, she says.

In addition to gaining fitness information, however, students also had opportunity to play games and put what they learned into practice.

Students played high-energy games ranging from racing from one end of the gym to the other to playing Red Light, Green Light, tag and Duck Duck Goose.

"I want students to realize that things that are active and fun can help them be healthier," Kusek



Courtesy photo

HULA HOOP ENTHUSIAST: Jimi Kusek, background, center, a student at Tulsa Tech's Career Academy, recently visited a Skelly Elementary first grade class to teach them about the importance of health and fitness. She also demonstrated hula hooping as an effective way to burn calories.

says. "I also wanted to teach them balance with regards to eating healthier, that it's not a good idea to have candy every day."

Kusek left students with exercise coloring books that she created, filled with well-known

cartoon characters. Students also received fliers to take home to help educate their parents.

"I hope what I did spreads the message to those students of living healthy and that exercise can be fun."

Owasso Graduate Recognized at Eastern Oklahoma State College

Eastern Oklahoma State College and Owasso High School graduate Mykaela Jones was recognized at last year's Larry Stone Award event.

Jones graduated in May last year with a degree in life science. She also earned the Southwestern Bell Telephone Endowed Scholarship in 2014 and 2015. She was named to the President's Honor Roll for fall 2015 and was invited to join the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society in 2015. Jones played in Eastern's first-ever soccer game in the fall 2015. During her time on the team, she played in 38 games and was a starter in 37.

She graduated spring 2016

with a 3.95 GPA and plans to continue her education and become a pharmacist.

Larry Stone was a popular football and basketball player at Eastern in the 1960s and was known for his commitment to his team and selflessness. He was killed while serving his country on a patrol in Vietnam.

Since 1967, Eastern alumni and friends have gathered at the college to present the award to a male and female student athlete who exemplify the same characteristics as Stone. Both recipients embody the spirit of teamwork, citizenship, selflessness, determination and excellence in their scholarly efforts as well as athletics.



Courtesy photo

AWARD WINNER: Mykaela Jones of Owasso proudly holds her Larry Stone Award at last year's event. She is with Eastern graduate and Tulsan Henry Migliore.

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Former Student Returns to Tulsa Tech

Editor's Note: This article originally ran in Greater Tulsa Reporter's September 2016 newspapers but has been updated to reflect the recent accomplishments of Tulsa Tech alumna Kneisha Jones.

News From Tulsa Tech

For over 50 years, the state's oldest and largest CareerTech institution has provided quality technical education to thousands of high school and adult students. Each day, Tulsa Tech helps students make their own path and begin their individual journey toward a successful career.

One student, Kneisha Jones, began her journey back in the mid-nineties. "I attended Tulsa Tech my junior year of high school," Jones says. "I still remember how excited I was when I found out that I had been accepted into the Computer Technology program."

From the start, this 1996 graduate of Tulsa Memorial High School noticed a difference between the program and her regular high school classes.

"Tech was different than my high school classes; it made me feel independent," she says. "We were treated like adults, and our classroom was

set up like a real office environment. I really looked forward to jumping on the bus and coming to my class each day."

By today's standards, the curriculum for the program may seem dated. However, as Jones is quick to say, many of the skills she learned were invaluable.

"We learned DOS, if anyone remembers that," Jones chuckles. "We were also taught core office skills, like typing and ten-key. We had to achieve so many words-per-minute, and if you didn't make it, then you kept trying until you did. Not only did I learn how

to type fast and accurately, but many of the skills I learned in that program still serve me well today."

Before she began her current career in office support, this wife and mother of two had worked as a pharmacy technician for Saint Francis Health Center and a substitute teacher for Tulsa Public Schools, and she still helps manage a family-owned barber shop.

"Although I've had the privilege of working in several different careers, I find office work the most rewarding," says Jones. "I'm definitely a numbers person, and I really enjoy getting to work with

information and numbers each day."

Jones recently received her baccalaureate in Organizational Leadership from Northeastern State University, graduating Magna cum laude, and currently serves as the Senior Office Support Specialist for the Instructional Services Department at Tulsa Tech.

"My duties include supporting our instructional coordinators, who work with our instructors and help develop, modify and keep our curriculum up to date," Jones says. "The various applications I use each day include Microsoft Word, Excel, a scheduling software, and an application we use to process purchase orders and travel reimbursements."

Although her DOS skills might be a little rusty, Jones still gives credit to her former instructor, Nancy O'Hara, for all of the business knowledge she shared with each of her students, important skills that weren't necessarily listed in the program curriculum.

"I am truly grateful when I think back to how much I was able to learn from Mrs. O'Hara," Jones says. "Everything from office skills to how to interview for a job, how to look a person in the eye, and use a firm handshake. These are all skills that I learned at Tulsa Tech."

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Courtesy Tulsa Tech

COMPUTER TRAINING: Tulsa Tech's Senior Office Support Specialist for Instructional Services Kneisha Jones is a former student in Tulsa Tech's Computer Technology program. Jones credits her courses at Tulsa Tech for putting her on her current career path.

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▶ **Two OSU-Tulsa students talk about going from Tulsa to NASA at osuintulsa.com/engineering.**

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SPORTS

Tom Ososkie's Amazing Career Continues

Football Now Mixes With Algebra at TU

By **TERRELL LESTER**
Editor at Large

For Tom Ososkie, his is a life of numbers. A life divided by two.

One part of Ososkie is defined by his standing as a higher-education math instructor.

The other, more public annotation of Ososkie's being is that of football coach.

In the world of Tom Ososkie, football and math are the sum of two primes.

In the classroom, he deals with the abstract.

On the field, he deals with full contact.

He holds a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering. As an adjunct instructor, he teaches algebra at the University of Tulsa.

In three stints at TU, he has served in various assistant roles under eight head football coaches since 1969.

His manner and demeanor suggest a professorial predisposition.

He is soft-spoken. Precise in his delivery.

He is not a big man. He could be lost in a huddle of linebackers.

He is conversational. Engaging. Accessible.

The product of a suburban Detroit parochial school, a young Ososkie saw education as the key to a fulfilling life.

He played football at the University of Detroit, when its Missouri Valley Conference alignment placed the school alongside the

University of Tulsa.

It was during his senior year, after spending summers working in the realm of engineering, that Ososkie answered an advertisement for a high-school freshman football coach in Detroit.

He had found a new calling.

He had found a new passion.

Accepting the new job, he threw himself into the role of teacher-coach.

"I couldn't wait to get back (to the job) the next day," he said recently from his office in the TU coaches' complex.

He quickly worked his way up to the head-coaching level. He was coaching in Louisville when his Michigan roots helped lead him to Tulsa.

Vince Carillot, who had played and coached at Michigan State, was tabbed to succeed Glenn Dobbs as the leader of the TU football program in 1969. Through his association with a couple of Carillot's staff members, Ososkie was invited into the Golden Hurricane family.

Ososkie made an enduring impression on the program.

The city of Tulsa made an endearing impression on Ososkie.

Following a 1-9 season, Carillot was relieved of his duties, yet Ososkie remained as part of the staff of new coach Claude "Hoot" Gibson in 1970.

When F.A. Dry replaced Gibson in 1972, Ososkie again withstood the change and continued to aid in



GTR Newspapers photo

VERSATILE COACH: Tom Ososkie has served under eight head football coaches at TU since 1969 as he enters the 2017 season.

TU's turnaround. Under Dry, TU won four straight Missouri Valley Conference championships.

Dry left TU for TCU in 1977, yielding the program to incoming coach John Cooper. Ososkie remained in place through 1984.

He left the field that year for a position in the oil and gas industry.

Ososkie returned in 1991 under head coach David Rader. That stay lasted one season.

In year two of Todd Graham's tenure at TU, 2008, Ososkie rejoined the staff. He has been in place during the ensuing changes, from Bill Blankenship to Philip Montgomery.

Ososkie's role has changed through the years, from defensive position coach to offensive coordinator to recruiting coordinator to director of scouting.

Just as his roles have changed



YESTERYEAR WITH THE HURRICANE: Tom Ososkie poses with TU football players in this 1977 photo. Upper left, number 10 is former TU head coach Dave Rader. On the front row, number 11, is former Union High School and TU and now Owasso High School head coach Bill Blankenship. The head coach of the 1977 team, front row center, was John Cooper.

since his arrival in 1969, so, too, has the University of Tulsa campus and its football environment.

Skelly Stadium, in 1969, had recently been renovated and seating capacity had been increased to 40,385. The head coach and four assistants were crammed into small offices across the street.

Today, an extensive makeover has turned Chapman Stadium into a 30,000-seat gem in the shadows of the grand Case Athletic Complex. Montgomery's staff now includes nine full-time assistants, plus a roster of support divisions.

"I walk out to practice and look around. It's beautiful," Ososkie said.

"There's a lot of pride around the whole campus.

"The school has a rich tradition," he said as he walked among the photographs of TU's halcyon days

that line the halls of the coaches' complex.

One of those athletes from Dry's championship run, Mark Wojciehowski, was recruited to Tulsa in 1971 by Ososkie.

Now a successful businessman in Tulsa, Wojciehowski elected to remain in the city following his graduation. He joined Cooper's staff as an assistant in 1977. Soon, Wojciehowski and Ososkie were recruiting together in Chicago.

"Coach Ososkie was instrumental in me getting on as a college coach, without question," Wojciehowski said.

"We developed a fabulous relationship," he said. "He was kind of a second dad."

"I am very thankful that I was afforded the opportunity to come to Tulsa with his guidance.

(Continued on page 19)

ORU

BASEBALL

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Scott Sutton's Release Ends a Family Legacy

The recent Oral Roberts University announcement by Athletic Director Mike Carter about the release of Scott Sutton as the University's Head Men's Basketball Coach came as a surprise to many Tulsa-area sports fans. For the first time in decades there will not be a Sutton coaching in Oklahoma.

"We appreciate Scott's outstanding record, his loyalty and his long term service to the university," said Carter. "He will forever be a part of our great history. We love Scott and his family and wish him the very best."

Carter named assistant coach Rodney Perry as the university's interim head coach. The search process is

underway for a full-time replacement.

"We are grateful that we have such a quality young coach to assume the reins at this time," said Carter. "We are excited about the future of this program."

This coming season, ORU will return one of the leading scorers in The Summit League in senior Albert Owens of Cedar Hill, Texas. Also returning will be the League's Freshman of the Year, Emmanuel Nzekwesi of Trophy Club, Texas. For the latest information on ORU men's basketball, follow @ORUMBB on Twitter or go to www.ORUAthletics.com.



SCOTT SUTTON

ORU photo



GTR Newspapers photo

HAPPIER TIMES: Legendary coach Eddie Sutton, right, the father of Scott Sutton, shakes hands with ORU Athletic Director Mike Carter in 1999 when Scott was hired to become the head coach at ORU. All smiles are Scott in the background at left with then-ORU President Richard Roberts, the son of founder Oral Roberts.



RICH CRIMI for GTR Newspapers

OPENING PITCH: Los Angeles Dodgers legend Ron Cey threw out the season's ceremonial first pitch during the Drillers opening night April 13 against the Frisco Rough Riders.



GTR Newspapers photo

CHASING DREAMS: The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art is hosting a baseball exhibit, "Chasing Dreams, Baseball and Becoming American" April 6-June 25. The exhibit is educational for baseball fans of all ages.



GTR Newspapers photo

SPRING FLING: The University of Tulsa football team walks off the field after an entertaining spring scrimmage at Chapman Stadium. TU opens the season at Oklahoma State on Sept. 2.

TU Coach Played Against Tulsa While at Detroit

(Continued from page 18)

"TU is blessed to have him."

The evolution of the university and its campus has mirrored that of Ososkie.

He has changed with the times. Rather than breaking down 16mm film of opponents, and charting statistics with pencil and paper, now he has all facets of a game on an iPad. Statistics now fall under the category of "analytics."

Ososkie credits Dry with being the first to encourage the expansion of scouting opponents, replacing X's and O's with "calculations" and "data."

Ososkie began to explore personnel and performance. "What do they run? Who do we have to stop? Who can we attack?" were the questions he answered for Dry.

Eventually, Ososkie was analyzing and organizing the data he collected. Measurements, he called them.

"It's how tall, how fast, how strong, and so on," he said. "I'll set up a standard and now I've got something to measure our kids against, and supply that information to the staff."

Ososkie became so adept at analyzing data, during the early years of the tech revolution, that he caught the eyes of the National Football League.

While working at TU, and in the span away from the college campus, Ososkie spent 12 seasons on scouting staffs of the Los Angeles Rams, New Orleans Saints,

New England Patriots and New York Jets.

He honed his skills in the field of football analytics. Charting. Measuring. Watching. Evaluating.

He worked preseason camps. Scouted regular-season games. Became a sideline staple at the NFL Scouting Combine. Became a trusted, coveted personnel analyst.

All the while, he retained his base in Tulsa, providing a comfortable lifestyle and home in south Tulsa. He even obtained a master's degree from TU in education administration.

He had two high-school coaching stints, combined with teaching assignments, at Cascia Hall before returning to TU in 2008.

At the high-school level or at the collegiate level, Ososkie smiles when he says, "coaching is still coaching."

With a cup of coffee in his hands, he said: "You're going to coach more at the lower level than you are at the upper level. You will drill more, I think, at the upper level, but you may not tutor as much as you do at the lower level."

During TU practice sessions and scrimmages, Ososkie attends to his duties of recording and compiling massive amounts of data on quarterbacks and receivers. Detailed numbers that include such categories as completions, bad throws, dropped passes.

He is on the field with iPad in hand, but he years for the days when he was coaching position players with whistle in hand.

Still, as he said, coaching is coaching. And teaching is teaching.

The game might have changed. From three yards and a cloud of dust to the hurry-up offense of Philip Montgomery.

But it's still football. And Tom Ososkie is still involved. Those numbers never change.

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Great Crowds See Oilers' Topsy-Turvy Season

By GLENN HIBDON
GTR Sports Writer

This is a classic tale of two seasons. For the Tulsa Oilers, it was the best of times and the worst of times.

The ECHL saw coach Jason Christie put together perhaps the league's best team when the 2016-17 campaign began in October. By April, the Oilers were sixth from the bottom, losing 12 of their final 13 games.

"When we started out, we had a lot of talent here. We were probably the team to beat," reflected long-time season ticket holder John Horton.

"We had high expectations coming into the season. They had us believing we would be wearing championship rings in October," added veteran fan Victor Reynolds.

"From the beginning of the season until December, we played damn good hockey. We were in first place most of the time," chimed in season-ticket holder Kevin Kittell.

What happened?

Many of the franchise followers pointed toward the Manitoba Moose scooping up the Oilers' talent and giving back little in return. Ace scorer Dan DeSalvo departed in November and became an offensive mainstay in the AHL. Emerson Clark, Kale Kessy and Phil Brewer went up and down and goalie Jamie Phillips was called up in January after starting in the All-Star Game.

Injuries to key players, such as goal scorer Adam Pleskach missing 22 games, proved disastrous. The personnel revolving door wreaked havoc on the morale of both the team and fans alike. The major loss was that of

Phillips, a rookie who won his first 10 games and finished 19-10-2 with the Oilers. After he departed, Tulsa sank to 4-21-4 and limped across the finish line.

"This was by far the worst season (I've had) all around," said Christie, the ECHL's winningest coach, who arrived in Tulsa with glowing credentials in 2015. "We lost key pieces and then not having guys step up, that hurts you a lot in focus and consistency."

"Some guys were put in bigger roles that were hard to sustain. Anytime you lose your No. 1 (goalie) it hurts you. I think losing Phillips, Clark and Kessy, guys who were a big piece of the puzzle, hurt because they gave us the opportunity to win every game."

"I take responsibility for that (the goalie problem) and not having a No. 1 to step in when Philly was gone. We were playing catch up, trying to find the right guy."

Christie pointed toward a lengthy road trip in January that helped ruin the Oilers' early-season momentum. It seemed as though the ECHL schedule worked against the team with most of the home games coming early and road games later in the year when winning was at a premium.

"We had a great start, then the whole month of January we were using that as a bumper," said Christie, whose team was No. 1 in the league at 15-6-2 on Dec. 6. "It wasn't as though we were getting our butts handed to us."

Tulsa's offensive production did suffer some during a seven game losing streak and one-goal losses started piling up. In the

end, there were simply too many narrow defeats to overcome.

One glaring problem for the Oilers was special teams. The power play unit finished last in the league, and the penalty kill corps was third from the bottom. Christie said maybe he had players on those units that weren't capable of taking on the role. They didn't perform up to the level he anticipated. And that was just part of the problem.

"We've got to be better on the backend, and we were soft at times," he said. "At times, we were soft throughout our whole lineup. We've got to have a couple of older guys who can help out. We're looking for guys who are a proven factor."

Christie said youth was a reason in how the team struggled in the second half of the season. There was no veteran captain like Nathan Lutz there to calm the storm. There was no on-ice presence to take players to task for lackadaisical play.

"We didn't give up, but we lost our killer instinct," Christie admitted. "There was no one in the room to help us fight through adversity. The guys felt defeated before they went out on the ice."

"You never want to make excuses, and I will stand by what I do. We weren't getting outplayed in every game. But there was a snowball effect by the time we were pushing Kalamazoo (for the final playoff spot)."

For the second straight season, the Oilers failed to reach postseason play, and fans were left wondering why teams like Allen keep their core players season after season. The Americans are title contenders every year with stars like Chad Costello and Gary Steffes leading the way.



Courtesy Tulsa Oilers

SELLOUT: On a historic fan appreciation night in Tulsa March 31, the Tulsa Oilers saw a sellout crowd of 16,759 at the BOK Center, the second highest-attended game in ECHL history. The Oilers lost the game to Wichita, 4-1. Tulsa drew excellent crowds all season, averaging nearly 7,000 fans a game.

Christie said Allen has a different salary scale than the Oilers (more to pay its stars?) and older players who are not likely to be called up by its parent franchise. Tulsa's great young players were ripe for the picking, and it works against the team winning consistently.

It's a double-edged sword. The entire purpose of the ECHL is supposed to be developing players to go up to the AHL and NHL. It's good for them, but horrible for fans of the minor league team. What's the answer?

Christie said after two seasons in Tulsa, he's still trying to build a base of players who will return season and season. He wants to create depth so when a Clark, DeSalvo or Phillips is called up, there will be someone there to replace them. He said Pleskach, Brewer and Dennis Brown en-

joy playing in Tulsa and could be the beginning of that base.

In the meantime, there were positives to take away from the 2016-17 season. The Oilers enjoyed their best attendance since joining the ECHL and placed third in the league with an average of 6,110 fans a game. Interest in the Oilers continues to rise.

At the end of his two-year contract, Christie said he wants to return next season.

"Tulsa is a great city and a great hockey market. My family loves it here," he said. "And the fans are unbelievable here."

All they want is a championship team like the one 25 years ago. They hope winning will become the norm and provide an end to the good, the bad and the ugly they experienced this year. Is that too much to ask?

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THE ECONOMY

Pregler Lawn and Garden Grows with New Owners

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

A long-time, beloved Glenpool business is changing hands, but the new owners are hoping that the change goes unnoticed. "We want to carry on the great service and traditions that customers have come to know at Pregler Lawn and Garden," says new Owner Jay Stout.

Jay and Tina Stout bought Pregler Lawn and Garden, 13200 S. Elwood Ave., in February.

Long-time Owasso residents, the Stouts were interested in a new business venture as they transitioned into a new stage of life, Tina says, as their children moved out of the house, and Jay and Tina began looking for a business that they could work at together: a dream they have had since marrying 25 years ago.

Jay has always been the "go-to guy" for friends and family to fix anything from cars to remodels,

Tina says, so doing something he loves now only makes it more rewarding.

Former owner Rick Pregler has been working with the Stouts over the past months to ensure the proper transition of the business.

Pregler's father, Kenneth, opened Pregler Lawn and Garden at its current location in 1971.

When Pregler took over the family business, he expanded brand offerings to include Stihl, Echo, Honda power equipment, Cub Cadet, Shindaiwa, Scag and Dixie Chopper. The shop is a full-service dealership that carries handheld equipment, zero turn mowers, and equipment for commercial and residential projects, and offers full-service repairs.

"I am happy the Stouts will continue to carry on the tradition of good service and high quality products," says Pregler.

For all of your "Stout" Lawn Equipment, visit preglerlawn.com.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

CONTINUING TRADITION: Jay Stout, left, and his wife Tina took over ownership of Pregler Lawn and Garden in February. Previous owner, Rick Pregler, took over the family business from his father who started the business nearly 50 years ago.

Estate Planning Seminar Planned at OU-Tulsa

For the majority of Americans, estate planning is an important but often neglected element of family and financial planning. Understandably, it is easy to delay considering uncomfortable issues such as what happens to our property after we pass or providing for end of life care. While estate planning may not be as fun as planning one's next vacation, it does not have to be a dreaded endeavor. In fact, it can be a positive process that allows individuals to best provide for both themselves and those they care for most.

A common misconception is that estate planning is only for the super wealthy. Regardless of the size of a person's bank account, without a plan in place, many negative situations there could arise.

In reality, with a smaller estate, final expenses can have an even greater effect on a family's financial resources. By taking the time to implement an estate plan, individuals will be able to better instruct who they want (or do not want) to end up with their assets, direct how assets would be cared

for in the event of a tragic circumstance, reduce the financial and administrative costs of settling affairs, and minimize discord between family members. For these reasons, many express a great degree of relief once their plan has been put in place.

Various plans exist, with not a one-size-fits-all solution; each person has particular needs and desires to plan for. Estate planning can be as simple as signing a Power of Attorney document, or it may involve executing a Last Will and Testament or Liv-

ing Trust and incorporating other more complicated tax planning strategies.

With more than 40 years of combined experience, the attorneys of Entz Lewis & McCullough have developed the knowledge and skill to assist Oklahomans with all aspects of estate planning, oil and gas law, business formation, and social security disability claims.

Honest and experienced attorneys J. Michael Entz, Amy Lewis, Kimberly McCullough, and Jeff Burton always strive to provide their clients with the best counsel

and are conscious about educating communities about the significance of estate planning.

For more information on estate and tax planning, Entz Lewis & McCullough will be hosting a free, no-obligation seminar on Thursday, May 4, 6-8 p.m., at the OU-Tulsa Schusterman Center (4502 E. 41st St., Room LC-138). The event is open to the public and includes a free dinner.

Those interested in attending or who have questions about estate planning, please call 800-633-7230, or visit elmlawok.com.

Oklahoma Oil and Gas Producer Group Wants Tax Restoration

A new association of small oil and natural gas producers held a rally at the State Capitol April to advance their strong support for two issues facing lawmakers this session.

The Oklahoma Energy Producers Alliance (OEPA) is comprised entirely of small, privately-owned oil and natural gas producers from all corners of the state, according to co-chair Lee Levinson, Tulsa attorney and oilman.

"We are the traditional oil and natural gas producers. We are a new group but not new to the industry or to Oklahoma," Levinson says. "Our companies, owners, employees and vendors are spread out all across our state. We are Oklahomans first and many of us have been in business for several decades."

OEPA leaders said the fledgling group's agenda may come as a shock to most Oklahomans. Former Tulsa Mayor Dewey Bartlett Jr., a lifelong advocate for small oil producers, will join the list of speakers at the rally.

"Our new group supports restoring the gross production tax to seven percent across-the-board," Bartlett, owner of Keener Oil and Gas in Tulsa, says. "The fact that Oklahoma — a state with prolific oil and gas reserves

and the nation's best oil industry regulatory climate — already has the lowest tax rate in the nation at the historical seven percent rate should be good enough. But letting horizontal drillers tap into oil we have found and upon which we pay seven percent tax, and in many cases destroying those wells, replacing them with wells paying only two percent tax, makes no sense. We must face the stark reality that state government is bankrupt. We are staring at a second straight billion-dollar deficit in state funding. Our schools are in a funding crisis. Other state services are being decimated. We believe the

oil industry should stand up and agree that returning the oil and gas production tax to its historical level demonstrates our commitment to help solve this serious state budget crisis."

Bartlett said restoring the gross production tax from two percent to seven percent on all oil and natural gas would generate an additional \$200-250 million/year. "Perhaps it's ironic that this proposed tax restoration could cover the cost of the teacher pay raise. Or perhaps not."

Bartlett says he and many traditional producers have been in the oil business for generations. "We don't take it lightly that our industry, once the bulwark of the state

economy and the state tax base, has been out here cutting special deals. Our group will support what is best for all Oklahomans. We can

be profitable with restoring a seven percent gross production tax, even with relatively depressed oil prices."

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'StartUp' Winner Prepares to Launch Spring Noodles

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

Since winning the StartUp Series' food and retail live pitch competition in 2016, Cecilia Wessinger, creator of Spring Noodles, is preparing to see her food concept become a reality.

Wessinger's road to Spring Noodles has been long and varied with her love of food nurtured from an early age, growing up in New York in a family of restaurant owners. Because of that, she spent her early years working in her family's restaurants, which started her in the industry, and she continued in it for many years.

Over the years, her idea for Spring Noodles began to form. "Every so often, I would pull the idea out and make some changes," she says. "I would ask myself, 'what would my brand look like?'"

Wessinger has always been drawn to healthy, high quality, unprocessed food and liked the idea of adding an element of her Asian heritage to her concept. Wessinger was born in Japan but is of Taiwanese descent.

"Asia is an interesting continent with a wide range of flavors and types of noodles," she says.

Her idea for Spring Noodles remained an idea as she moved around the country with her husband and children, eventually ending up in Tulsa.

In 2015, Wessinger left her job in the travel industry, asking herself what was next.

"I took time to focus on what's important," she says, "and that answer included food," and Spring Noodles came back to her mind.

She, next, delved into Tulsa's food and entrepreneurial scenes, attending 1 Million Cups meet-

ings at 36 Degrees North and nurturing relationships with local chefs, including Miranda Kaiser, Justin Thompson, Michelle Donaldson and Mike Bausch.

At the beginning of 2016, she joined the inaugural development class of Kitchen 66.

In July, she participated in and won the StartUp Series' food and retail live pitch competition, which garnered her \$2,500, plus other prizes.

It was then that she began looking for restaurant space, and her path crossed with Lambrusco's Owner Nancy Bruce. Wessinger had heard that Bruce might consider sharing some of her deli's space in downtown Tulsa.

Bruce was intrigued by Wessinger and Spring Noodles for a number of reasons.

For one, since designing her downtown space, Bruce had hoped to see her deli turn into a small food market of sorts, a concept found around the country, featuring multiple food vendors under one roof, Bruce says.

Bruce was also drawn to Wessinger's interest in locally-sourced, seasonal, healthy ingredients and dishes.

"Lambrusco's is right in line with my philosophy: creating good food from good ingredients," says Wessinger.

Bruce agreed to allow Wessinger to use her kitchen to conduct taste testings with the plan to eventually add Spring Noodles to Lambrusco's daily offerings.

"There will be noodles on Lambrusco's menu in the coming weeks," promises Wessinger.

She and Bruce plan to make sure the noodle concept is up and running by the time Mayfest and the Blue Dome Arts Festival arrive in mid-May.



FOOD PARTNERSHIP: Nancy Bruce, left, owner of Lambrusco's, stands with Cecilia Wessinger, creator of Spring Noodles, in Lambrusco's, 114 S. Detroit Ave., in downtown Tulsa. In May, Wessinger will begin selling her customizable noodle bowls at the downtown deli.

Spring Noodles will offer customizable noodle bowls featuring various broths, noodles and other ingredients that customers can tailor to their preferences.

While the noodle bowls will be served quickly, Wessinger cringes at defining her food as "fast food."

"We are slow food served quickly," she says. "This will be an alternative to fast food, which is expensive and unhealthy, filled with high sodium and low-quality ingredients."

Spring Noodles will incorporate seasonal produce and meats from local farmers, including

free-range chicken from a farm in Adair.

The noodle bowl combinations are endless, Wessinger continues.

However, because so many combination offerings can be overwhelming to those unfamiliar with noodle bowls, Wessinger plans to first offer a few bowls made up of ingredients predetermined by Wessinger. This will allow her time to learn and gauge what customers respond to and also to educate her customers about the wide world of noodles.

"Noodles are the original fast food, go-to dish," she says.

However, Wessinger realizes

that noodles are still new in this country and particularly in the midwest.

Even though Tulsa has recently seen two Ramen restaurants open in downtown and is home to a number of Pho restaurants, Wessinger is confident that there is plenty of room in the market for other offerings.

Ramen originated in Japan and Pho in Vietnam, but Asia is a huge country, and there are so many other flavors and noodles on the spectrum, she says.

"I don't want to be pigeonholed into creating just one kind of dish."

TU Ad Program Receives National Attention

By HANNAH KLOPPENBURG
TU Student

Early on the morning of April 5, students from the University of Tulsa Ad Program loaded up into two vans and began the four-hour drive to Ft. Worth, Texas, where they would participate in the National Student Advertising Competition.

NSAC is an annual competition in which teams from universities across the country present 20-minute pitches for a volunteer corporation. This year's client was Tai Pei frozen Asian food, a branch of Ajinomoto Windsor.

TU typically assembles a hand-picked team of students in the fall to take a spring semester class focused solely on creating an NSAC campaign. The 2017 team was led by advertising professor Bill Hinkle, with additional guidance from instructors Josh Butts and Teresa Valero. Karoline Newell and Adrianna Catalanotto directed the team as student leaders.

This year's client was a challenge for the TU team — Tai Pei's main directive was to create a campaign that targeted millennials, with the caveat of a very limited budget. In response, the students developed

a campaign to make Tai Pei a lifestyle brand that was based around social media exposure and a cross-country tour.

The highlight of the campaign was the Dragon Wagon, a 50-foot truck outfitted to look like a dragon pulling three boxes of Tai Pei packaging, and four brand ambassadors who would take the Dragon Wagon to college campuses and Walmart locations across the nation. The brand ambassadors would distribute coupons, interact with customers and make donations to food banks in order to garner positive



TAI PEI PITCH: From left, Grace LaFerry, Jonah Townsley, Brooke Randels and Hannah Kloppenburg present the TU NSAC campaign to communication faculty and Tulsa advertising professionals.

earned media for Tai Pei.

Hours of research, copy-writing, video production and graphic design went into the development of the campaign and the creation of a plans book. This plans book was presented to judges at the competition in Ft. Worth, accompanied by a 20-minute pitch and a 10-minute question-and-answer session.

Eight students tried out for a speaker position. Of those eight, Jonah Townsley, Grace LaFerry, Brooke Randels and Hannah Kloppenburg were chosen to represent the team in the regional competition in Ft. Worth.

When the day of the competition arrived, the speakers took to the stage dressed in Tai Pei letter jackets which were meant to mimic the outfits that would be worn by the brand ambassadors and delivered months worth of work in a single 20-minute pitch.

The TU team placed seventh in their division. While only first-place teams advance from the regional level to the national competition, the Ad Program students are already anticipating next year's NSAC campaign.

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BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES



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MERGER CELEBRATION: In April, Propeller Communications held an open house at its new office in Tulsa's Pearl District to celebrate the merger of Propeller and Waller PR. From left are Meredith McDaris, Mary Waller, Barrett Waller, Amber Neville, Jesse Boudiette, Kristy White, Trina Kelly, Bria Moore and Adrianna Catalanotto. Fellow firm members not pictured include Kayte Spillman, Rebecca Fast and Vanessa McLearn.



GTR Newspapers photo

SUCCESSFUL WOMEN: On March 30 at the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce Successful Women's Luncheon, Sangita Patel Chatterjee, right, COO of 3S Hospitality, spoke about her business experiences. Also pictured at the event are, from left, Cindy Morrison, founder of SocialVention; Lynda Wingo, executive director of Miss Helen's Private School; and April Sailsbury, Broken Arrow Chamber senior vice president.

NORDAM CEO Meredith Siegfried Madden has announced organizational changes in the company's Tulsa- and Wales, U.K.- based repair divisions.

T. Hastings Siegfried, vice chairman of the company's board of directors, chief operating officer of its Transparency Group, and sales development leader for Asia-Pacific, is now also responsible for the firm's repair facility in the U.K. A joint venture of NORDAM and GE Aircraft Engine Services, Ltd., NORDAM Europe, Ltd., repairs or overhauls thrust reversers, nacelles, engine and exhaust components.

Phil Marshall, vice president and general manager of the NORDAM Interiors & Structures Division, is now also responsible for its Repair Division. The Tulsa facility repairs a wide range of aerospace parts, including thrust reversers, nacelles, flight control surfaces, engine and exhaust components and radomes. Customers include commercial airlines, air-freight carriers and the military.

"The added assignments align well with existing skills and responsibilities of the two leaders," Madden says. "Phil brings significant manufacturing experience to our repair division, which not only repairs parts but also manufactures radomes and spares, while Hastings' international sales and operation experience meshes well with our U.K. division and international joint-venture activities."

The reorganization comes after Basil Barimo, former NORDAM Repair Group executive vice president, resigned to accept a position with a non-competing, Florida-based company.

Media veteran **Vic Bailey** was recently appointed corporate underwriting representative for OETA Foundation Tulsa. The Tulsa native will be responsible for securing financial support for OETA, Oklahoma's only statewide PBS service. This includes support for national, regional, and local PBS programming, web and other activities such as annual giving campaigns and special events. OETA is the most watched PBS network in America, reaching 4.3 million people and serving close to 2 million weekly viewers.

Bailey is a University of Tulsa graduate with over 40 years of media sales experience including stints in radio, broadcast and cable television, B-H Media and vice president of advertising sales for GTR Newspapers.

The OETA Foundation is a 501C-3 non-profit organization.



SIEGFRIED



MARSHALL

The Tulsa Regional Chamber has announced the appointment of **Kuma Roberts** as the interim executive director of its Mosaic and workforce efforts.

Roberts previously served as the chamber's program manager for education. In that capacity, Roberts drove engagement between the Tulsa business community and area school districts.

In the interim role, Roberts will direct the chamber's efforts in the realm of workforce development, including the areas of training and degree attainment, as well as the chamber's diversity and inclusion programming.

Roberts is a native Tulsan who graduated from Booker T. Washington High School and went on to study English and theatre at the University of Tulsa. Prior to joining the chamber, Roberts worked at Volunteers of America, where she developed her desire to work in a community betterment capacity.

In addition to her chamber work, Roberts serves on several local boards, including those for the Tulsa Debate League and Leadership Tulsa. She is on the program committee for LEAD North, and she is a graduate of Leadership Tulsa Class 51.

Tulsa-based **Woodrum, Tate & Associates, PLLC**, a full-service financial consulting and accounting firm, announces the following hirings:

Amber Small was hired as an associate. She brings more than 12 years of experience from work at several different firms in Indiana. She has professional associations with the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Institute of Certified Public Accountants. She received both her bachelor's of accounting and her master's of science degrees from Indiana University. Small is currently a CPA candidate.

Austin Metts was hired as a staff analyst. He previously worked in debt capital markets with an investment bank in Memphis, Tennessee. Metts' areas of expertise include business valuation, regarding specific companies and comparable data and research of business valuation standards adherence. Metts earned his Bachelor of Finance and Bachelor of Economics from Missouri Southern State University.

Haley Williams was hired as an associate and CPA candidate. She brings more than 12 years of experience in supply chain management, energy management, contract negotiation and commercial real estate. She is an associate member of the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Williams received her bachelor of business administration from the University of Oklahoma.

Patricia Mendoza was hired as an associate. She was previously employed as a tax manager at a local firm affiliated with an international alliance firm. She has professional affiliations with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Tulsa Chapter of Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants. She volunteers her time with Junior Achievement as a classroom volunteer. She earned her bachelor of accounting degree from Langston University and her master's of business administration degree from Oral Roberts University. She also is recognized as an Oklahoma Certified Public Accountant/Oklahoma Chartered Global Accountant.



ROBERTS

KJRH 2 Works for You has hired two experienced media leaders for the newsroom and sales team: **Warren Stewart**, who will serve as news director for 2 Works for You; and **Stephanie Knight**, who will work as local sales manager.

Stewart has more than 17 years of news experience, and for the past month has served as interim news director at 2 Works for You. He arrived in Tulsa from Cleveland, Ohio, where he was the executive producer at WEWS, another station owned by The E.W. Scripps Company. Prior to that he was assistant news director in New Orleans at WDSU. He was promoted into newsroom management during his years at WOFL in Orlando, Florida. He was an executive producer in Columbus, Ohio and senior executive producer in Hartford, Connecticut.

Knight brings more than 17 years of experience in strategic planning, business development, and management of client accounts and revenue to her new position as local sales manager at 2 Works for You. A Tulsan for her entire life, she worked most recently as regional digital sales manager at the Tulsa World and has also been a top performer at Cox Media, winning the prestigious Top Sales Manager award two times.

Rupe Helmer Group announces the addition of several key members to their growing team of professionals:

Rick Courtney leads the ranks of Rupe Helmer Group's affiliate organization, NAI Rupe Helmer, as president and managing broker. He is responsible for strategic planning and all aspects of operations and works closely with the NAI team to ensure customer satisfaction, operational excellence and employee growth.

Charlie Strauser is Chief Financial Officer for Rupe Helmer Group. His responsibilities include providing direction and leadership for the financial operations of the company, both internal and external. His essential functions include assisting and instructing top management in all areas involving finance and treasury functions.

Wade Siebert, senior project manager, was born and raised in Stillwater before moving to Broken Arrow in the 8th grade. He later returned to his roots in Stillwater where he graduated from Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor of Science in engineering technology/construction management. He has more than 17 years of experience in construction project management, supervision, project coordination, and inspection with large and small construction firms including his own company.



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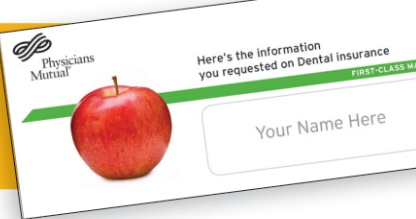
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WALKING FOR WATER: On April 4, the Ihloff Salon and Day Spa team joined Aveda Water Warriors around the nation in walking six kilometres in recognition and support of the average distance women and children walk every day in rural, developing cities worldwide to collect water. Reports show that one in seven people lack access to clean water.



GTR Newspapers photo

EMPOWERING CHILDREN: From left, Chad Roberson, Happy Hands Education Center Board vice president; Jan Pride, Happy Hands executive director; Audrey Schwyhart, Happy Hands alumna; and LeAnne Taylor, emcee, pose during the nonprofit organization's March fundraising luncheon, "Be the Story." Proceeds from the luncheon support children, birth to age 6, who are deaf, hard of hearing or with communication disorders at Happy Hands.



Courtesy Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma

GIRL SCOUTS LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON: On April 20, the Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma held its 2017 Tulsa Juliette Low Leadership Society Luncheon where 12 Girl Scouts who have received higher education scholarships were recognized. Scholarship recipients include Emily Anderson, Katelyn Butler, Anna Palmer, Laurel Bolding, Kaitlyn Cole, Torey Henderson, Madison Hines, Lauren Kerr, Kailyn Merchant, Victoria Monroe, Imani Owens and Heather Thompson. Also pictured is event speaker Jen Bricker, center.



GTR Newspapers photo

AQUARIUM BREWER: Eric Marshall of Marshall Brewing Company is all smiles as he serves his beer during the recent opening of the Sea Turtle Exhibit at the Oklahoma Aquarium.



Courtesy PEGGY STRIEGEL

ROSES FOR B.A.: AVB Bank recently donated \$2,000 plus two billboards for two months to Keep Broken Arrow Beautiful's Rose Festival, to be held May 6 at the Broken Arrow Farmers Market. At the donation ceremony are, from left, AVB Bank Vice President Ben Dejene, KBAB Rose Festival CoChair Shane Hickey, Rose Festival CoChair Sharon Atcheson and AVB Bank Marketing and Public Relations Executive Cooper Rash. The festival will have live music, food trucks and lots to do for children.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

MASTER GARDENERS: The Tulsa Master Gardeners and shoppers enjoyed the master gardeners' April Spring sale, held at Central Park Hall at the Tulsa Fairgrounds. Proceeds from the event benefited area charities.

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Food Bank Raises Hunger Awareness

The Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma held its 21st annual Empty Bowls Hunger Awareness Dinner and Auction on April 25, with the goal of raising enough money to provide 2.4 million meals to feed those in need in Oklahoma and raise awareness of the hunger issues in the state.

For each dollar raised, the Food Bank can distribute the equivalent of four meals.

The event included a soup and salad dinner with a keep-sake bowl, a raffle, restaurant and wine pulls, and a live auction.

The bowls serve as an event focal point each year, and as a way to highlight the artists, a potter from Waterworks Art Studio was on hand to provide a live pottery demonstration.



21ST ANNUAL EMPTY BOWLS: The Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma Executive Director Eileen Bradshaw, left, stands with the honorary chairs for the food bank's Empty Bowls Hunger Awareness Dinner and Auction, the Coretz family: Rob, Kim and Amy Coretz.

Courtesy photo

PARENT CHILD CENTER HONORED



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

INFANT HEALTH: On April 12, the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome honored the Parent Child Center of Tulsa for its implementation of the Period of Purple Crying Program. Pictured at the celebration are Parent Child Center board members Carole Huff Hicks, left, Jamie McCoy, center, second row, and Catha Studebaker, right. Also pictured are Parent Child Center Executive Director Kristine Bridges, holding plaque; Julie Noble, third from left, with the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome; and Parent Child Center nurses Jennifer Bartley, Shelly Hopper, Chandra Jimenez, Courtney Cothren, Mildred Ramsey, and Jennifer Hagans.

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Tulsa's Original City Hall Still Iconic in Downtown

The Tulsa Municipal Building Housed City Hall Until 1969

Anyone who thinks that Tulsa hasn't grown over the years has only to look at our present City Hall located at Second Street and Cincinnati Avenue and then at the Tulsa Municipal Building, our World War I vintage City Hall at 124 E. 4th St.

This small four-story rectangular building was built in 1917. The architects were the well-known local firm of Rush Endicott and Rush, and according to the engraved cornerstone at the northeast corner, the General Contractor was Beers Construction. W. W. Harris was the superintendent of construction.

The City of Tulsa occupied this building until it outgrew it in 1969. For four years, it stood vacant until the architectural firm of Coleman, Ervin and Associates Inc., and some like-minded preservation investors bought the building and restored it in 1973 to professional office occupancy. It was listed

ed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. Since

then, ownership has passed through several groups. Today, a law firm is the principal tenant.

Neo-classical in style, this building was built with quality materials. The exterior is clad in polished limestone on its main elevations. The south elevation is a stucco finish on masonry. The east and west elevations feature four rectangular Tuscan pilasters articulating the second and third floors. The

north (frontside) elevation displays 10 iconic Greek columns capped by an architrave with intaglio letters spelling "Municipal Building." The first-floor limestone has deeply raked horizontal joints and is terminated by a Greek key frieze. The top (fourth) floor is recessed from the main façade almost as if it were a later addition, although it was part of the original structure. Spandrels between second

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

LOBBY VIEW: A view into the lobby of the Tulsa Municipal Building, 124 East 4th St. Under each staircase is a window that used to be used for citizen utility payments for the city.



MUNICIPAL BUILDING: The Tulsa Municipal Building at 124 East 4th St. was built in 1917 and served as Tulsa's City Hall until 1969. It sat vacant for four years until it was restored to professional office occupancy. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

or remains as initially built.

At the interior, public area walls are faced with gray Carthage marble. Floors are gray terrazzo with black borders. But, it is the main entrance lobby that is worth further comment.

Upon entering the building, one faces a double staircase, one each along the west and east walls with first floor entry between them. These are grand marble statements with massive wrought iron railings beginning with the torchieres rising from the newel at the first step. Under each stair is a small window

for citizen utility payments. (The contrast between these and the customer utility payment area in the current City Hall is amazing.)

The special feature in this lobby is the north wall treatment. East and west walls are faced with Carthage marble to within three feet of the two-story ceiling. But, the north wall is a colorful mural depicting the building as it looked in 1919. Commissioned by the restoration architects, it is titled, "Class of 1919." The artist was Delbert L. Jackson.

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Oklahoma Aquarium Sea Turtle Exhibit Opens

The Oklahoma Aquarium's long anticipated Sea Turtle Island, presented by The Oxley Foundation, is approaching completion. After a private ribbon-cutting ceremony and donor event, the new immersive and educational exhibit opened to the public on March 5.

The exhibit features two 300-pound loggerhead sea turtles, reef sharks and tropical fish in a 56,000-gallon tank. Visitors will be able to view the turtles from three different viewing levels and a unique underwater observation station while walking up the boardwalk alongside an underwater world.

"The innovation and dedication of our employees and volunteers has reached a new level on this exhibit," said COO/Executive Director Teri Bowers. "They are not only creating a beautiful permanent home for our turtles that have been living here behind-the-scenes, they are also building an immersive, educational experience that will literally make our guests feel like they've traveled to a tropical island."

Loggerheads are one of seven species of sea turtles in the world. Loggerheads can live approximately 50 years and weigh more than 300 pounds. Their diet includes jellyfish, conchs, crabs and some species of fish. Sea Turtle Island will highlight the endan-



PSO SUPPORT: Representing the AEP Foundation and PSO at the special public debut of the Oklahoma Aquarium's new Sea Turtle Island exhibit were, from left, Dana and Stuart Solomon, PSO president; Danielle and Steve Baker, PSO vice-president of distribution operations; Carole Huff Hicks, PSO external affairs manager-Tulsa; Stan Whiteford, PSO corporate communications; and Esther and John Harper, PSO vice-president of external affairs.

gered status of sea turtles and what can be done to protect the species, even from inland Oklahoma.

"We are all connected by water no matter where we live, from our lakes and streams and rivers to the ocean," said Bowers. Numerous private donors and Tulsa County's Vision 2025 funding support Sea Turtle Island. Donors include The Oxley Foundation, American Electric Power Foundation, Founders of Doctors' Hospital Foundation, Inc., Hardesty Family Foundation, Inc.,

Herman Kaiser Foundation, and Ruth K. Nelson.

"The citizens of Jenks have always been thankful for the Oklahoma Aquarium, but with this addition, we now have a world-class facility right on our doorstep," said Jenks Mayor Kelly Dunkerley.

"Sea Turtle Island, with its educational opportunities, is great for the schools in our community, a wonderful adventure for families to experience together, and a catalyst for river front development."



NEWEST EXHIBIT: Konnie Boulter, program director for The Oxley Foundation, cuts the ribbon during the opening of the Sea Turtle Island exhibit as contributing foundations and community and city leaders look on.



WELCOME TO THE ISLAND: From left, Oklahoma Aquarium COO/Executive Director Teri Bowers and Splash event chairs Matthew Griffin and Diana Beaulieu stand in front of Sea Turtle Island, which features two 300-pound loggerhead sea turtles, reef sharks and tropical fish in a 56,000-gallon tank.

When Community Partners Together, Everyone Wins

A new composting pilot program at McAuliffe Elementary in the Union School District is reducing trash waste, feeding local animals and empowering students as leaders. It's all thanks to a partnership with local powerhouse Katie Plohocky.

I recently viewed the process in action. Nutrition Specialist Lauren Bradley explains the set-up:

"We have a compost crew that we started here at McAuliffe with the idea to reduce the amount of food waste that's going in to the trash," says Bradley.

The pilot targets lunch clean-up for grades third through fifth. Teachers selected crews of five students from each grade, who, each day, oversee the process.

Here is the crew breakdown: The trash tosser oversees trash waste, the compost and processed foods leaders ensure the right foods make it into the right bins, a tray processor ensures the reusable trays make it

back to the kitchen, and a team leader records the weight of discarded foods. "We've seen a huge decrease already in the amount of trash that's taken out because the only things going into the trash now are milk cartons and sporks!" says Bradley. FYI: milk cartons do not recycle because they are wax coated, and our local recycling services currently only recycle plastic containers #1, 2, and 5.

Trash Talk



By BETH TURNER
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

The rest of lunch goes into one of two bins: one for processed foods, which will feed pigs, and one for fruits, vegetables and paper napkins, which will feed chickens. The chicken's waste will then become compost, which in turn will come back to McAuliffe to be added into the soil in their Global Gardens beds.

Bradley says that when implementing the pilot program, Building Engineer Jose Valdez was reluctant about the idea, stating concerns of more mess and interrupting lunchroom efficiency. But Valdez reports

that when well-run, this pilot could benefit every school.

"I think for the building engineers, they're going to have less back injury. The crew takes the heaviest stuff ... and now, one or two classrooms, you use only one bag [of trash]... I think it'll save some money for the district, too," says Valdez.

Students are also big fans of the new process, like Spencer Cupps. "It's much easier so that way we can help Mr. Jose with the trash and he doesn't have to take, like, 16 bags out." Fellow student Talasia Scott agrees. "It's great because it's easier to sort out our, you know, our fruits and vegetables and stuff like that. So, we can compost some of it, and we can feed it to some of the animals."

It's nice that they're getting to go through the line and see like, 'Oh this is how much I'm wasting.' The crew is definitely getting to see what their classmates like and don't like cause they're seeing what's getting thrown away," says Bradley.

"One of the things we found so far is that the classes that have recess first are wasting less food. We want them to eat their food and not just feed it to the pigs. That's another part of this project is to bring awareness so that they will be eating more of their food and wasting less."

We're really talking about picking your food choices, and about all the processes it takes to get food here because a lot of kids forget that, I'm



COMPOST CREW: From left, Joshua Zepeda, Amy Perez, Alejandra Revolorio, Perla Coeto, and Anyah Morrison, proudly known as The Compost Crew, ensure that their food waste pilot project runs efficiently, keeping the cleanup process at five minutes or less.

throwing away that orange, and that orange had to be grown, it had to be watered, it had to be transported and it had to be cut and I'm just gonna throw it away. So bringing some awareness as to all the steps it took to get it here so maybe if I'm not hungry I won't take that orange, and I'll leave it for someone who will want that orange."

Bradley says one of the greatest joys of the process so far is seeing the leadership within her Compost Crews. "The students are all still getting in and out of the cafeteria, the dismissal process still takes only five minutes or less. And [the Compost Crew] have really just taken ownership and it's been amazing."

We think so, too.

On a personal note, thank you to Katie Plohocky for this amazing program, and the hard work that must be involved on her end. Each day, she or someone from her team picks up the two containers of food then delivers them to her farm.

Noted for her work solving hunger issues throughout our area, Plohocky's most recently was named Significant Woman in Oklahoma Agriculture by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Food and Forestry.

Do you have an Eco Hero in your life? Tell us about it by emailing bethturner@me.com, or follow the conversation @TrashTalkTulsa.



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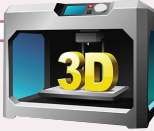




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<div>30</div> <div>TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas 1:05 p.m. Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information.</div> <div>LYSANDER PIANO TRIO Chamber Music Tulsa 3 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>ANDREW MCMAHON IN THE WILDERNESS Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div>	<div>1</div> <div>TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas 11:05 a.m. Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information.</div> <div>MACHINE GUN KELLY Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div> <div>MONDAY NIGHT MOVIE Peggy Helmerich Library 6 – 7:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div> <div></div>	<div>2</div> <div>ARTISTS BRIGID SPANIER AND JEAN KELLEY PAC Gallery May 2 – 28 FREE exhibit.</div> <div>TREY ANASTASIO BAND Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</div> <div>ROBIN TROWER Brady Theater 7 p.m. • May 3 Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</div>	<div>3</div> <div>BROWN BAG IT: STRINGS AND PEARLS BOK Center 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. FREE event.</div> <div>NEWSMAKERS: CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN OKLAHOMA WOMEN AWC Tulsa 11:30 a.m. at Southern Hills Country Club Visit awctulsa.com for more information.</div> <div></div>	<div>4</div> <div>DARYL HALL & JOHN OATES AND TEARS FOR FEARS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div> <div>ALICE COOPER Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</div> <div>CITIZEN COPE River Spirit Event Center 8:30 p.m. Visit riverspirittulsa.com for more information.</div> <div></div>	<div>5</div> <div>TOSCA Tulsa Opera 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>GERMANFEST GAST Center May 5 – 7 Visit gastulsa.org for more information.</div> <div>SILVERSUN PICKUPS Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</div>	<div>6</div> <div>TOUR DE TULSA St. John Health System 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Visit tulsabicycleclub.com/tdt for more information.</div> <div>SMOKE AND GUNS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div> <div>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information.</div>
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<div>14</div> <div>JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>IN THE NEXT ROOM American Theatre Co. 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>GOLDEN EAGLES vs. Omaha • 1 p.m. Baseball Visit mabeecenter.com for info.</div>	<div>15</div> <div>LEGO BUILD South Broken Arrow Library 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div> <div>ASK THE EXPERT: ALL ABOUT THE STOMA CTCA 5 – 6 p.m. Visit cancercenter.com for more information.</div>	<div>16</div> <div>COOKING CLASS CTCA 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Visit cancercenter.com for more info.</div> <div>THE CHAINSMOKERS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div> <div>BRIAN WILSON PRESENTS PET SOUNDS Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</div> <div></div>	<div>17</div> <div>FOSTER CARE INFORMATION MEETING All About Cha-Broken Arrow 6 – 7 p.m. Visit circleofcare.org for more information.</div> <div>INTRO TO LASER ENGRAVING Central Library 12 – 1 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</div>	<div>18</div> <div>JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>IN THE NEXT ROOM American Theatre Co. 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>TULSA ARTCAR WEEKEND Living Arts of Tulsa All Day Visit livingarts.org for more information.</div>	<div>19</div> <div>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information.</div> <div>JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>IN THE NEXT ROOM American Theatre Co. 8 p.m. • May 19-20 myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div>	<div>20</div> <div>JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</div> <div>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information.</div> <div>MAYFEST COMEDY JAM Cox Business Center 8 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</div>
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BIXBY NEWS

DAR AWARDS BIXBY SENIOR



Courtesy DAR Wealaka Chapter

GOOD CITIZEN: The Wealaka Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution recently presented its 2017 DAR Good Citizen Award to Bixby High School senior Grace Kramer. Also pictured are Wealaka member Jane Gibson, left; Wealaka DAR Good Citizen Chairman Marion Richardson; and Bixby High School Assistant Principal Dwayne Patterson. The DAR Good Citizen program is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. The selected recipients must demonstrate qualities of honesty, dependability, truthfulness, leadership, loyalty, service to others and patriotism.

CLUB FUNDRAISES FOR BIXBY



Courtesy photo

ANNUAL LUNCHEON: Members of the Bixby Garden Spot Garden Club hold the check given to the Bixby Outreach Center last year. Proceeds came from the club's fundraising efforts. On April 11, the Bixby Garden Spot Garden Club held its annual luncheon fundraiser at the First United Methodist Church, 15502 S. Memorial Dr. After lunch, Meryl Norman's of Bixby presented a fashion show with fashion accessories available for purchase. Proceeds from the luncheon will go toward benefiting families in need in the Bixby area.

Spring is Festival Season

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"Without God's love and overwhelming blessing, this event couldn't continue to serve the community as it has in the past."

Attendance for the event's inaugural year equaled approximately 5,000 and more than doubled in 2016.

For 2017, the celebration will feature additional food vendors, a larger Kids Zone, and a distinguished guest speaker line-up, including Congressman Jim Bridenstine and Dr. Everett Piper of Oklahoma Wesleyan University. The presentation will be emceed by KFAQ's Pat Campbell and will include a

public swearing-in ceremony of military recruits.

Organizers expect close to 20,000 attendees for the June event.

As in years past, admission into the event is free. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy the festivities.

The grounds open at 4:30 p.m., with food trucks to begin serving at 5 p.m. and the patriotic presentation to begin at 8 p.m. Fireworks will start at 9:30 p.m.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Visit bixbyfreedomcelebration.com or call 918-394-4330.

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