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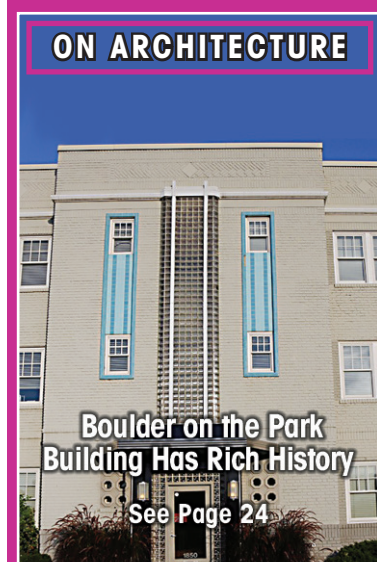
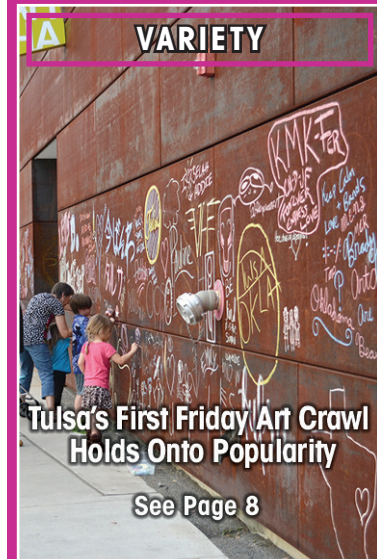
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Owasso to Vote on October School Bond

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

On Oct. 10, Owasso Public Schools patrons will go to the polls regarding passage of the largest school bond issue to date: \$57 million.

The bond issue, if passed, will include construction of a new elementary school, the addition of two safe rooms to existing schools, and technology and facility upgrades.

In the order of dollar amount, the bond issue items are:

New school — Morrow Elementary

Cost: \$23,500,000

Morrow Elementary will sit on 116th Street North between 129th East Avenue and Highway 169 and help to alleviate continued student growth, Owasso Superintendent Dr. Clark Ogilvie says.

Currently, Owasso Public Schools has about 9,800 students with a current total capacity of 10,400.

The school's name comes from the previous owners of the land, who sold the acreage to the school district in 2006 for well below market price, continues Ogilvie, with the only condition that the school be named after the family.

"The land is a historic landmark, with the house being built around the time of Oklahoma statehood."

The school would include an F-5 safe room gym, with safe rooms being a continued focus of the school district through both new construction and building renovations.

"While adding a safe room to any school project adds about 15 percent to the price," Ogilvie says, "safe rooms have become an expectation of the community."

If the bond issue is passed, construction on the elementary school would begin in spring 2018 and open in fall 2019.

Construction of High School West Campus (Mid-High) Science Wing and F-5 Safe Gym

Cost: \$8,700,000

"These safe gyms are built to withstand a direct hit by a tornado," says Ogilvie.



PROPOSED ELEMENTARY: A rendering of Morrow Elementary, the school district's ninth elementary school, which would be funded by the Oct. 10 bond issue, if passed by Owasso patrons. The school would be located on 116th Street North between 129th East Avenue and Highway 169.

The Mid-High's existing gym would be kept in order to provide additional gymnasium space.

Turf Replacement and Installation

Cost: \$5,450,000

Turfs will be added or replaced, including replacement of the High School football field turf and adding turf to a portion of the High School's track area, to allow for a practice area for the band.

Administrative Center Renovation/Expansion

Cost: \$4,710,000

"Our current service center does not represent our district adequately," Ogilvie says.

The center would be expanded and renovated, including the construction of a two-story building to replace the existing pre-fab buildings.

Smith Elementary F-5 Safe Gym Construction

Cost: \$3,330,000

Smith Elementary's current gymnasium would be preserved to provide additional gymnasium space.

Technology

Cost: \$3 million

"This is our first bond issue ever to have more funding going to technology than to textbooks," Ogilvie says.

The money would pay for various technology upgrades throughout the district, such as new equipment, security measures, and wifi improvements.

"Many of our students do not have wifi at home, so they need good access at school," says Ogilvie.

Regarding an example of facility upgrades, Ogilvie references the generators at the High School that were installed in summer 2016. In case of a power outage, the generators would provide back-up power for one week.

"We want to put more things like that in place throughout the district."

Facility Upgrades

Cost: \$2,500,000

Upgrades include windows, HVAC and electrical systems.

Textbooks/Materials

Cost: \$2 million

Transportation—replacement of aging school buses

Cost: \$2 million

Bond Issuance Fee

Cost: \$500,000

Student Safety Needs

Cost: \$500,000

Library Materials

Cost: \$310,000

Band Instruments

Cost: \$250,000

The school district's largest extracurricular program is its band program, with over 1,000 kids in grades 6-12.

This will help us to provide instruments especially for those families who rely on the district to have the band equipment, because they can't afford to buy it, says Ogilvie.

Copiers

Cost: \$250,000

Since 2008, state education aid in Oklahoma has been decreased by 27 percent, and in the past three years, Owasso Public Schools has lost approximately \$3 million in state aid, but Owasso is growing in students, Ogilvie says.

"That's why the bond issues are more important than ever."

Owasso patrons will have the opportunity to make their voice heard on Oct. 10.

KUDOS of the MONTH: Tulsa State Fair

The Tulsa State Fair has returned, running Sept. 28-Oct. 8 at the Tulsa Fairgrounds, with its 2017 theme "Take a Spin!"

In addition to the fair's rides and food offerings, each year the Tulsa State Fair makes an effort to bring a variety of attractions with the goal to entertain and educate. This is done through its livestock shows and 4-H/FFA exhibits, culinary demonstrations, children's exhibits and grounds shows. Livestock shows and competitive exhibits are traditions that date back to the first fairs. The Tulsa State Fair features animals from all 77 Oklahoma counties as well as ones from out of state that compete during the fair's 11 days. Over 12,000 animals will be on site throughout the fair.



Also, competitive exhibits of handmade goods will be on display in Central Park Hall.

In the Just For Kids building, young ones can get up close to dinosaur fossils and reptiles with Little Ray's dinosaur exhibit and its daily shows.

Taking place along mid-way, a ground show new to the fair this year is Dark Knight Jousting, a medieval jousting event that will take place three times each day of the fair. Also new this year is Acrodunk, which will bring basketball stunts, reminiscent of the Harlem Globetrotters, to the mid-way.

Another acrobatic stunt show, Flight Crew, will take the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Stage three times each day of the fair.



ANIMAL INTERACTION: The Tulsa State Fair features animals from all 77 Oklahoma counties as well as ones from out of state that compete in livestock shows during the fair's 11 days.

hillcrest

Medical Center

Michelle B.

every moment is a gift.

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

To learn more about Michelle's life-changing experience with Hillcrest Medical Center, visit Hillcrest.com.

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Harbor Dash Benefits OK2Grow

Inaugural 5K, 10K Race Held at Port of Catoosa

Harbor Dash 2017, an inaugural 10K, 5K and fun run at the Tulsa Port of Catoosa, was held Sept. 23.

The race event benefited Dream It Do It Oklahoma under the non profit OK2Grow organization. Dream It Do It helps develop the workforce pipeline by creating understanding of careers in manufacturing and to increase economic wealth and quality of life for Oklahomans. There are opportunities for both men and women, and the industry is in need of its next generation of leaders.

The overall 5K winner was 11-year-old Eli Hopkins, and overall 10K winner was Brandon Payne. Port of Catoosa Director David Yarbrough handed out medals to 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishers in each gender and age group. All 10K finishers also got a finisher medal.

About the Tulsa Port of Catoosa

The Tulsa Port of Catoosa is a singular combination of a multi-modal shipping complex and 2,000-acre industrial park, resulting in an annual economic impact of \$300 million to Oklahoma. The complex hosts roughly 72 companies and employs nearly 3,200 Oklahomans.

Located at the head of navigation for the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System in northeast Oklahoma, it is one of the largest, most inland river-ports in the United States. The Tulsa Port of Catoosa's unique position allows companies to move millions of tons of bulk freight by barge each year and at a fraction of the cost and environmental impact of rail or truck. Just a few of the bulk freight industries utilizing the Tulsa Port of Catoosa includes portions of fertilizer distributors, industrial gas suppliers, wheat growers and manufacturers of consumer goods.

The Tulsa Port of Catoosa is managed and operated by the City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority and provides development services through Tulsa's Port of Catoosa Facilities Authority. To find out more about the Tulsa Port of Catoosa, visit tulsaoprt.com or follow the Port on Facebook or Twitter.

About OK2Grow/ Dream It Do It Oklahoma

The mission is to facilitate the development of Oklahoma's future workforce by creating awareness of careers and promoting pathways that build confidence and excitement for workplace success. OK2GROW is a small business driven workforce development nonprofit, founded by three small business leaders: Larry Mocha, Jerry Holder and Lynda Wingo in 2012. OK2Grow focuses on entrepreneurship, career awareness activities through three initiatives: Youth Entrepreneurship, Career Pathways and Dream It Do It Oklahoma.

Dream It Do It Oklahoma develops the workforce pipeline by creating understanding of careers in manufacturing to increase economic wealth and quality of life for Oklahomans. The manufacturing industry is high-tech, sophisticated, safe, provides great benefits and is well-paid. The average salary in Oklahoma for manufacturing positions is \$62,473. There are opportunities for both men and women, and the industry is in need of its next generation of leaders.



Photo by ROBYN AYDELOTT

HARBOR DASHERS: Enjoying Tulsa Port of Catoosa Harbor Dash fundraiser are, from left, Stephanie Cameron, state director of OK-2Grow/Dream It Do It Oklahoma; David Yarbrough, deputy director/operations manager, Port of Catoosa; Sheila Shook, maritime education coordinator, Port of Catoosa; Lynda Wingo, founding partner of OK-2Grow; and Jerry Holder, founding partner of OK2Grow.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

HAPPY DAYS: Tulsa City Councilor David Patrick found a new best friend recently at the Tulsa Animal Shelter Clear the Shelter pet adoption campaign. For more information, see TulsaAnimalWelfare.org.



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THE GREATER TULSA REPORTER NEWSPAPERS

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

The *Union Boundary*, the *Jenks District Gazette*, the *Owasso Rambler*, the *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.

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



CIVICS

County Government Responsible for Unincorporated Areas

From Tulsa County

By **RON PETERS**

Chairman, Tulsa Board of County Commissioners.

While most citizens of Tulsa County live in one of the 10 cities in the County, over 35,000 live in the unincorporated areas of Tulsa County, outside of any city limits.

People choose to live in the unincorporated areas for a variety of personal reasons. They enjoy a more rural setting, there are fewer people and less commercial development, they can acquire more land, and they aren't as limited in the development of their land by zoning and building codes.

For those who live in the unincorporated areas of Tulsa County, it is county government that is responsible for providing them with essential public safety and public health services.

Among those public health and safety services provided by the county in the unincorporated areas are the policing on how properties are taken care of and maintained by the property owners.

Typically, county governments don't have a department that some cities do, such as Working in Neighborhoods or Community Development, which have the responsibility to respond and remediate properties that pose health and public safety hazards. As a result, most of the time the county response to these condi-



**COMMISSIONER
RON PETERS**

tions is performed by the Tulsa City County Health Department.

The Tulsa Board of County Commissioners recognizes the importance of addressing these concerns by our neighbors in the unincorporated areas and the need for an enforceable and effective response when properties are not maintained and result in either public health or public safety concerns.

From the complaints received on properties that pose public health and public safety hazards most are in County Commission District 1 represented by Commissioner John Smaligo and District 2 represented by Commissioner Karen Keith.

This past summer, the Board of

County Commissioners formed a Property Maintenance Task Force whose purpose is to develop an effective and sustainable action plan to respond to the public health and public safety concerns created by neglected property in the unincorporated areas.

This Task Force is comprised of staff from the County Inspections Department, the City County Health Department, the Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's Office, and the Office of the Commissioners. The Task Force work has been focusing on three components of an action plan: (1) legally what can the county do; (2) administratively, how would the county do it; and (3) financially, how much will the effort cost and how will an effective response be funded?

It is clear that the legal authority to clean up properties and/or declare properties dilapidated is in place and rests with the County Commission. To date, the action taken under this authority has been handled by the Health Department within a very limited budget to do so. Because of all the other needs which the Health Department is required to address, tackling unkempt property issues has not received as high of a priority as the Commissioners believe is necessary.

The authority also is in place for either the Health Department or Sheriff's Office to issue citations where there are violations of the Health Department rules and reg-

ulations, which have been adopted by the Commission. For this to be effective it is necessary that there is a priority within the District Attorney's Office to enforce these rules and regulations and to prosecute violations.

Funding an effective response will have to begin with the County dedicating the funds necessary for the destruction and removal of

properties declared dilapidated. Once a property is removed, the costs necessary to do this becomes a lien on the property and will be collected from the property owner. Collected funds will then be placed in an account to fund more removals. The goal is eventually to have a revolving fund in place that is self-sustaining and can fund an ongoing effort.

TULSA AREA UNITED WAY SETS GOAL OF \$25 MILLION



GTR Newspapers photos

The Tulsa Area United Way unveiled a goal of \$25 million for its 2017 campaign at the Broken Arrow – Union High School football game in late August.

The goal was announced before 15,000 parents and fans at the game, which was televised nationally on ESPN. Members of the Broken Arrow High School Cheer Squad helped to reveal the goal.

Present at the announcement in the photo above are, from left, Dr. Kathy Dodd, Union associate superintendent; Dr. Kirt Hartzler, Union superintendent; John Hewitt, chair of this year's United Way campaign; Mark Graham, president and CEO, Tulsa Area United Way; Dr. Janet Dunlop, B.A. superintendent; and Chuck Perry, B.A. associate superintendent.

"Although this year's goal is impressive, the need in the Tulsa area is great and we cannot let down those who depend upon us," said Graham. "It is so important that we all come together to make our community a better place to live."

The local United Way provides funding to 59 of the region's top

non-profit organizations in the areas of education, health/safety and financial stability.

John Hewitt, president and CEO of Matrix Service Company, is serving as chair of this year's United Way campaign.

He will be assisted by 40 community leaders who serve on the United Way's Campaign Cabinet and have already begun raising funds toward the campaign. In addition, 25 loan executives will join the United Way staff and Campaign Cabinet to reach this year's goal.

This summer, 12 Trailblazer companies and organizations conducted early campaigns, in advance of the fall campaign. The goal of the early Trailblazer campaign was \$3,230,161. The Trailblazer campaign recently concluded and the results of their early effort were announced at the United Way's annual Day of Caring kick-off and breakfast, held at the downtown branch of the Tulsa City-County Library.

For more information on the Tulsa Area United Way, or to make a contribution, visit tauw.org.



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Tulsa Mayor Advances Initiatives Since Taking Office

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

Editor's Note: Mayor of Tulsa G.T. Bynum 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 is publishing 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.

Last year, Mayor of Tulsa G.T. Bynum campaigned to unseat incumbent Dewey Bartlett Jr., largely on a platform focused on elevating Tulsa to a nationally competitive level that the city has not experienced in a number of decades.

Now, after close to one year in office, Bynum, a fifth-generation Tulsan, has shown that his platform was far from a political ruse.

One of Bynum's ongoing efforts has been to identify entities that would be interested in coming to Tulsa, he says. The result so far? "We have had more site visits from major corporations in the first quarter of this year than we had last year in total."

Logistyx Technologies, a transportation software company, recently announced plans to locate its headquarters in Tulsa's CityPlex Towers.

In September, the Greenheck Group held a ground breaking for its manufacturing facility in north-east Tulsa.

Contributing to the increase in Tulsa's exposure, Bynum was invited in February to give a TedX talk in Washington, D.C., titled "Partisan Rhetoric is for Losers,"

where he discussed his current and past efforts to reduce partisanship in favor of uniting diverse points of view and solving problems.

His disdain for partisanship is clearly seen in his choice of members of his cabinet, including former Mayor and democrat Kathy Taylor, as chief of economic development.

Bynum also created the Office of Performance Strategies and Innovation, led by James Wagner formerly from INCOG (Indian Nations Council of Governments), with the concept being to increase government transparency and to use data gained by the City to create citywide strategies that align with its established priority goals, Bynum says.

For example, the Community Policing Dashboard, found on the City of Tulsa website, allows residents to track the implementation of 77 recommendations made by the City Council regarding community policing. These recommendations include police body worn cameras, citizen advisory boards, police training sessions and town hall meetings.

"This allows citizens to measure our progress and to hold me accountable," Bynum says.

Because very few cities around the country are doing this, "it has spurred significant interest in Tulsa," he continues.

Additionally, Bynum credits the 2016 passage of Vision Tulsa for drawing further attention to Tulsa because "it shows that citizens are willing to invest in our city."

The City of Tulsa is also working with the University of Tulsa to capitalize on the university's cybersecurity program and its graduates in order to establish Tulsa in the growing cybersecurity industry.

"Cyber is only going to grow in importance in the future, so we



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

CITY ADVOCATE: Mayor of Tulsa G.T. Bynum took office in December 2016. Since then, Bynum is proving true on his campaign promise to makes efforts to reposition Tulsa as a nationally competitive city. He is doing that by drawing new businesses to the area, pushing through party lines to address problems and campaigning for public education improvements.

need to capitalize on that," he says.

In addition to higher education, Tulsa's standard of public education needs to be improved upon for Tulsa to compete on a higher level, Bynum notes.

For that reason, on his first day in office, Bynum created the Mayor's Education Cabinet, which brings together the superintendents of Tulsa, Union and Jenks public schools plus other area education leaders.

He also created the City's partnership with Reading Partners in an effort to improve the number of Tulsa Public Schools third graders who are reading at grade level, because reading is related to graduation rates, which then has an effect on the local workforce, he says.

For the 2016-2017 school year, 89 percent of participating students mastered key foundational reading skills needed to read at grade level. Overall, the program

sees a 90-percent success rate.

He signed an executive order that allows city employees to use their lunch breaks to read to a third grade student.

Still, Bynum continues to cry out for additional volunteers for the program: "We don't need money; we just need volunteers who are willing to read with students."

More than 1,300 students were matched with 1,468 community volunteers who delivered a total of 47,602 Reading Partners tutoring sessions over the course of the 2016-2017 school year.

In the future, Bynum plans to open dialogue regarding the possibility of taking public education into the hands of citizens and advocating on the state level for changes that would give communities more control over their education systems and how money from bond issues is used, he says.

While Bynum's plans for his next three years in office are lengthy and ambitious, that was his plan all along, to bring "a renewal of energy to City Hall and heightened expectations for Tulsa," he says.

And with his family history including many city servants—his great-great grandfather, grandfather and cousin are all former Tulsa mayors—Bynum was not hard up for advice regarding his current job.

However, he has still dealt with some surprises in his new position.

"I have been most surprised at the sense of personal responsibility that I feel when bad things happen in the city," he says.

"I feel a strong sense of responsibility for citizens and employees that I am doing everything I can to create the best place to work and live for them.

"I don't want to let anyone down."



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Entertainment Is Your Ticket to Happiness

Are you on a quest for health and happiness? A current issue of "Time" magazine carried an article titled "New Ways to Become Happier — and Healthier." Among the suggested approaches for feeling better fast, without a drastic revamp of your life, is to attend events. "People get more joy from experiences than things, and many memories sweeten with time," advised the article. I couldn't agree more.

Because I write about entertainment, I seek out a fair sampling of what's being offered locally. Admittedly, much of the music that comes to Tulsa-area venues is not from my era, but that doesn't stop me from trying something new. I usually strike up a conversation with people I am sitting (or standing) next to, and when the music starts, we're all in the moment together. I've had a blast at some landmark concerts and met a few fascinating people that way. You don't have to be part of a group or a twosome if you're dying to see Bad Company or "Faust" and no one else is available to go. Most times it's easy to get a single ticket, and often it's in a better location than a pair of seats might be.

At the BOK Center this month, check out Jason Aldean (Oct. 12) and The Weeknd (Oct. 21). A charismatic country music artist, Aldean will be highlighting hits from his seventh album "They Don't Know." He's twice won the Academy of Country Music's biggest prize, "Entertainer of the Year," and racked up 17 no. 1 songs on country music charts.

The Weeknd is not a band but Grammy Award winner Abel Tesfaye ("Can't Feel My Face," "Starboy," "Earned It"). He's a Canadian singer of Ethiopian descent who found fame via YouTube in 2010. His chart-topping string of hot R&B hits keep coming.

The Tulsa Performing Arts Center hosts a packed roster of shows, including the contemporary dance group TU Dance, Oct. 13-14, presented by Choregus Productions. This 10-member group hails from St. Paul, Minnesota. The TU name references its founders, former Alvin Ailey principal dancers Toni Pierce-Sands and Uri Sands. The troupe incorporates classical ballet, modern dance, African-based and urban-style movement in pieces that address connectivity, diversity and social change.

There is only a handful of opera performances every season and only one opera company in our entire state. If you're a fan of opera or of music and theatre in general, mark Tulsa Opera's "Faust" on your calendar, Oct. 20 and 22. Sung in French with English subtitles, Charles Gounod's grand opera is about an aging scholar, wannabe romantic, who trades in his soul to become a youthful suitor once again. Except in maybe "Damn Yankees," the devil always triumphs in deals like this.

Two upcoming theatre productions at the

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN

PAC are "How I Became a Pirate," presented for young people by the PAC Trust, Oct. 6, and "Fun Home," staged by American Theatre Company, which is not for kids, Oct. 21-28. "Fun Home" won five Tonys, including the 2015 Tony for Best Musical, adapted from Alison Bechdel's graphic novel. This is a deeply emotional, multi-layered story about family and coming to terms with who you are.

Also at the PAC is the return of the popular Danish String Quartet for Chamber Music Tulsa, Oct. 15. The "New York Times" deemed one of DSQ's concerts to be a highlight of the year. They will perform music by Haydn, Schnittke and Beethoven.

Tulsa Town Hall returns to the PAC Oct. 27 with Dr. Bennet Omalu. He courageously pioneered work that investigated trauma-induced brain disease in American football players. Closing out the month, Tulsa Symphony will perform Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique," among other selections, Oct.

28.

I'm glad that my husband and I saw Steely Dan at the Brady Theater when songwriter/guitarist Walter Becker was still alive. Becker passed in September, but band co-founder Donald Fagen and the Steely Dan Band will perform the scheduled show at River Spirit Casino Resort on Oct. 12. We have tickets. The Tulsa stop is the first of nine U.S. concert dates in October before Fagen and company join the Doobie Brothers on tour through the U.K. Becker and Fagen's songs are timeless. Smart. Esoteric. Wry. I'm a fan. If you like bands from yesteryear, you might want to add Bad Company to your must-see list this month. They appear at Hard Rock's The Joint, Oct. 26.

River Spirit Casino Resort hosts comic T.J. Miller, Oct. 14. He's a hoot in HBO's "Silicon Valley" series. Country music's Chase Rice performs at River Spirit, Oct. 27, and "An Evening You Will Forget for the Rest of Your Life," with Steve Martin and Martin Short, is slated for Oct. 28. The Grammy-winning bluegrass band Steep Canyon Rangers joins their fun.

It is difficult to forecast which band will be the hottest ticket at the Brady Theater and Cain's Ballroom in October, but Marilyn Manson at the Brady is a candidate, Oct. 17. Alaska's Portugal The Man will attract a big audience at the Cain's Oct. 5, along with the Blues Traveler 30th Anniversary Tour, Oct. 30.

You may have caught one of Portugal The Man's performances on Conan O'Brien's show. The band's music has been included in several popular TV series: "The Walking Dead," "Shameless," and "Silicon Valley," and in iPad Pro commercials. Their feel-good "Feel It Still," was a breakthrough hit in 2017.

Come on along, get happy. Before holiday time gets too hectic, select a show or two and go! There's joy to be found in the most unexpected places.



JASON ALDEAN: Academy of Country Music's two-time "Entertainer of the Year" comes to the BOK Center Oct. 12.



TOWN HALL: Dr. Bennet Omalu was the first doctor to probe trauma-induced brain injury in football players. He addresses Tulsa Town Hall on Oct. 27.



TU DANCE: Founded by two former principal Alvin Ailey dancers, the St. Paul-based, 10-member TU Dance performs Oct. 13-14 at the PAC, presented by Choregus Productions.



CHAMBER MUSIC: The highly acclaimed Danish String Quartet returns to the Chamber Music Tulsa series, Oct. 15, performing music by Haydn, Schnittke and Beethoven.



T.J. MILLER: The "Silicon Valley" comedian will perform at River Spirit Casino Resort on Oct. 14.

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Authenticity Reigns Supreme; Legendary Leon Delivers

Currently topping my list of favorite YouTube clips is a seldom viewed op-doc (opinion documentary, I guess?) from the New York Times titled, "Why Didn't J.J. Cale Become a Superstar?"

The three and a half minute, hand-drawn animated tale begins with the narrator recalling discovering J.J. Cale's 1971 album, *Naturally*, in his parents' record collection as a teenager.

He'd never heard of J.J. Cale and, like many, had always assumed that After Midnight was an Eric Clapton song and Call Me the Breeze was a Leonard Skynyrd song.

His familiarity with the music combined with his ignorance of the artist leads him on a search for an answer to the question, why isn't J.J. Cale famous? Ultimately, the op-doc poses a theory based on a story told by luthier and friend of J.J. Cale, Danny Ferrington.

As Ferrington tells it, Cale had a hit with another track from *Naturally*, *Crazy Mama*, and the studio wanted him to play *American Bandstand* to promote it. As Cale and his band showed up and began setting up and plugging in their guitars, the director came over and told them not to bother, that they were just going to play the record and the band was to lip sync.

According to Ferrington, Cale flatly refused and began loading up his equipment to leave before a frantic Dick Clark ran down to the studio to persuade him to stay. Clark assured him he'd have a number one hit with *Crazy Mama* if he'd "play" it on *Bandstand*. "I don't care," replied Cale. "I'm a musician, I'm not going to act like I'm playing music."

It's possible that elements of Ferrington's version were stretched a bit. There are a few other sources close to J.J. Cale who claim the whole thing happened over the phone

and perhaps lacked the drama of one of TV's most iconic figures running frantically down to the studio to beg some Oklahoma boys to not load up their pickup and leave, but the main gist of the story is corroborated and well documented. He did refuse to lip sync the song and never performed on *Bandstand*.

And, inconsistent details aside, the message is clear: J.J. Cale puts a heavy premium on authenticity.

That theme continues today in the Tulsa Sound. There is and always has been a high standard for real, authentic, original material. It's a standard that I strive to uphold with this column.

Authenticity comes at the expense of expediency. I bring this up because, as I compile my list of possible topics for this, the third installment of SFTS, the list keeps growing with people and organizations that are absolutely essential to the

evolution of the Tulsa Sound as well as its current vitality.

It kills me that I haven't even mentioned Church Studios, essentially the epicenter of the Tulsa Sound which, on Sept. 8, officially earned its designation on the National Register of Historic Places. Or Horton Records which has been such an invaluable resource for supporting, promoting and helping area musicians realize their potential.

It seems almost criminal that I haven't mentioned Tulsa Sound pioneers like David Teegarden, Rocky Frisco and Jamie Oldaker; Red Dirt legends like Bob Childers, Randy Crouch and Jimmy LaFave; and relative newcomers like Jacob Tovar, Levi Parham and Jesse Aycock. Especially since Aycock was jamming on stage with Tedeschi Trucks Band in Dallas a few nights ago. Way to go Jesse, keep livin' the dream!

I admit, it's tempting to list them all and give you the quick, Wikipedia bio/history of

Searching for The Sound



By BRYAN CANTRELL



ON A DISTANT SHORE: The swan song album of Tulsa icon Leon Russell was released on Sept. 22.

each and be done. But that would be like lip syncing.

I'm a writer, I'm not going to act like I'm writing.

The Tulsa Sound has a rich history and a vibrant present, which means there are many stories to tell. We'll get to them but we'll be unfolding this tapestry on Tulsa Time.

So, keeping that in mind, I'm choosing to devote the rest of this column to a topic which, sadly, will never be available to me again: the new Leon Russell Album.

The Tulsa icon finished recording *On a Distant Shore* a few months before his death last November, and it is a beautiful, and at times emotionally painful, farewell. It's a mixture of emotions to hear his daughters Sugaree Noel Bridges and Coco Bridges singing backup vocals on the title track while Leon sings, "I hear the sound of violins / Is this how the story ends?"

Russell was not trying to reinvent himself at age 74. *On a Distant Shore* is the same blend of rock & roll, soul, country and jazz that he's always been able to mix so perfectly. He gets some help on the horn and string arrangements on the orchestra-backed and brilliantly reimagined *A Song for You*, first recorded on his debut album 47 years ago. That song has been covered and recorded more than any

Weeknight Jams

Can't wait for the weekend to get your live local music fix? I know the feeling. Check out some of these regular weeknight gigs:

Sunday:
Paul Benjamin's Sunday Nite Thing, The Colony

Monday:
Chris Blevins, Mercury Lounge

Tuesday:
Dustin Pittsley, Soul City

Wednesday:
Tom Skinner's Science Project, The Colony

Thursday:
Grazz Duo, Soul City

other Leon Russell song. None of them are this good.

He revisits two more Leon classics: *Hummingbird* from the debut album as well and 1972's *This Masquerade*.

Although he deals with some pretty dark subject matter (*Sounds like a funeral for some person here/And I might be the one, he sings*), there's an up beat quality to many of the songs that keeps the album from becoming morose. Reportedly, this project was a labor of love for Russell in the final months of his life, and it's clear he put his heart and soul into every track. I like to think of it as a victory lap rather than a sad farewell.

Rolling Stone gives it four stars. For me, it's like the last day of vacation. As good as it is, it's hard to really enjoy because it's a sad reminder that there is no more to come. I still give it five stars, but I'm a little biased. I really miss that guy.

A few other local musicians released albums in September that were a little more under the radar. Check out Chris Blevins' *Better Than Alone*, available at hortonrecords.com, and Randy Crouch's *Turn Off Tune Out Drop In*, available at cdbaby.com.

There are so many more Tulsa Sound topics to cover that I can hardly wait until next month when the journey continues.

Until then, keep searching, keep listening.



Courtesy photo

OKTOBERFEST AWAITS: Linde Oktoberfest returns for its 39th year, Oct. 19-22 at River West Festival Park. Standing with the 2017 Oktoberfest poster are, from left, Mattie Gilliland, 2017 poster artist; Tonja Carrigg, Oktoberfest festival director; Joe Rohr, German-American Society of Tulsa president; and John Hickey, board member of Tulsa Oktoberfest Inc.

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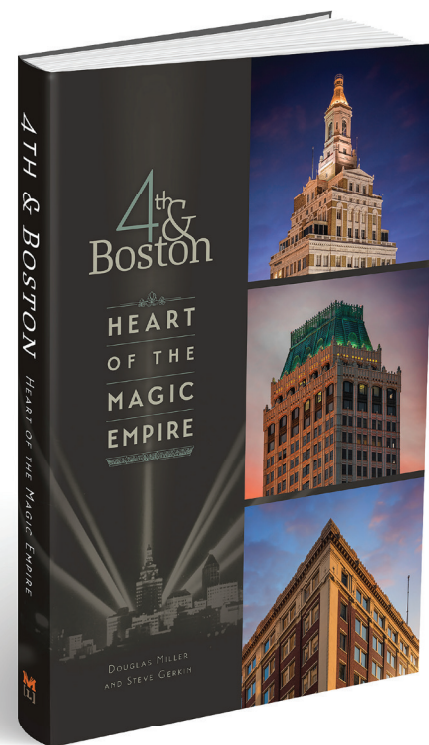
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Tulsa's First Friday Art Crawl Holds Onto Popularity

In September, I attended my first First Friday Art Crawl in a long time.

I am embarrassed to relate how long it actually has been, so I will leave that a mystery.

As I weaved through the crowds, walked among the rows of cars, consulting my long list of exhibits and events to attend, my "eureka" moment came quickly.

What has kept me from the Crawl for so long? It is partly because of "what used to be."

My memories of the Crawl span back to its fledgling days, when city art crawls had already established themselves across the country as fully functioning community cultural events.

When Tulsa's Crawl was still in its very early stages, I remember scowring online for information and finding very little.

Yet, though I remember feeling frustrated at Tulsa's habitual turtle-like speed in catching up with other parts of the country, I dare say now that those times will remain in my mind as the best times: where the fun was in the finding, in the secret and, then, in the victory when stumbling upon something that feels like solely your own.

Of course, with the victories came disappointments.

But that only made the victories feel that much more, well, victorious and sweet, as the saying goes.

Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor



CHALK CREATIONS: Children draw chalk art on the side of the Hardesty Arts Center, 101 E. Archer St., during downtown Tulsa's First Friday Art Crawl in September.



SYMPHONY PERFORMANCE: Crowds packed the Guthrie Green lawn to listen to the Tulsa Symphony during the September First Friday Art Crawl in downtown Tulsa's newly renamed Tulsa Arts District.

Of course, reflecting on the present popularity of the monthly Crawls, it has been a long time coming for downtown Tulsa and the former Brady Arts District (recently renamed the Tulsa Arts District). And it is well deserved.

On the night that I attended the

Crawl, the Tulsa Symphony was performing at Guthrie Green, and an open spot on the lawn was hard to come by, equally so was a nearby parking place. Local musicians were performing on street corners. Vendors were selling their wares. Children and families meandered

the sidewalks.

The Crawl brings together a wide range of community members and offers a chance to gather.

As for me, I will take these opportunities to enjoy but still always be on the lookout for the next hidden gem, waiting to be discovered.

TULSA POP COMIC CON: OCT. 14-15



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

SUPERHERO POWER: Chick-fil-A restaurant operator and Tulsa Pop Culture Expo and Tulsa Pop Kid founder Arthur Greeno stands with superhero characters in anticipation of the first annual Tulsa Pop Culture Expo Comic Con, to be held Oct. 14-15 at the Wyndham Hotel, 10918 E. 41st St. The event will benefit Tulsa Pop Kids Inc.

TULSA'S RAFT RACE EXPANDS



DANIEL CAMERON for GTR Newspapers

INAUGURAL SAND SCULPTURE CHALLENGE: Tulsa's Great Raft Race returned for its third year on Sept. 4, with the addition of the Sand Sculpture Challenge. The Arkansas River Sand Castle Contest was another historical event that began nearly four decades ago and ended in 1993.



DANIEL CAMERON for GTR Newspapers

POPULAR EVENT: In its third year, Tulsa's Great Raft Race continues to grow in popularity and size. This year, in addition to the Raft Race and the Sand Sculpture Challenge, the event included food trucks, live music and children's lagoon activities.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

GATHERING PLACE EYE-CATCHER: Jeff Stava, executive director of Tulsa's Gathering Place LLC, discusses one of the newest features to take shape at A Gathering Place for Tulsa: the Four Seasons Garden, which will sit near 31st Street and Riverside Drive and include 3,000 tons of rock from a quarry in southeastern Oklahoma. The rock is being stacked to form walls and columns along Riverside Drive.

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DINING OUT IN GREATER TULSA

Mi Cocina Continues to Delight on Cherry Street

Local Dining

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

Mi Cocina, 1342 E. 15th St., opened in 2011 along midtown Tulsa's Cherry Street. I remember the struggle of getting a seat there on many evenings in the first year following its opening.

While the fanfare may have slowed down over the years, the restaurant's popularity and food quality remain.

Recently, the restaurant underwent renovations that extended its outdoor patio, closed off its bar area from the main dining area and relocated its entrance to provide for a private event space.

The restaurant's elegant interior feel is still intact, however.

My party visited on a lazy Sunday afternoon, ordering from the dinner menu and starting off with an appetizer of Ceviche de Camarones, with shrimp, jicama, mango, avocado and red onion, topped with a cilantro lime marinade. We were drawn to the dish because it sounded so fresh.

I was also drawn to the jicama ingredient, having recently been turned onto jicama, a vegetable I never knew much about. (Yes, I said vegetable.) It is part of the legume family. But depending on how it's prepared, it can taste almost like a type of melon.

The jicama and the dish did not disappoint. The various fla-

vors came together to create a bright, fresh starter before our meal.

For my entree, I chose the Tilapia de Mojo, a tilapia fillet covered with an orange-garlic mojo sauce and served with sautéed kale, mushrooms and bell peppers. The tilapia was perfectly flaky, and the vegetables were plentiful and crisp. While I was worried that the sauce would add a sweetness to the dish, I was happy to find that the sauce was mild enough that it only enhanced the flavor of the fish.

My two friends chose to share the Fajitas with a combination of Portobello Mushrooms and Chicken.

This is the menu item that I usually choose due to my love of mushrooms.

The fajitas came out steaming with sides of cheese, guacamole, sour cream and pico de gallo plus the traditional beans and rice and tortillas.

One thing I admit that I enjoy about Mi Cocina is the authenticity of its food and menu, including the use of Spanish throughout its menu—not something that I would expect from a restaurant chain.

Mi Cocina's dinner menu consists of appetizers, soups, salads, tacos and traditional Mexican entrees, including enchiladas, Carne Asada and chicken dishes, with an average meal price between \$10 and \$14.

Mi Cocina also offers a lunch menu Monday through Friday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., a weekend brunch menu and gluten-free options.



FRESH TILAPIA: Mi Cocina's Tilapia de Mojo—a tilapia fillet covered with an orange-garlic mojo sauce and served with sautéed kale, mushrooms and bell peppers.



PRIME LOCATION: Mi Cocina, 1342 E. 15th St., opened along midtown Tulsa's Cherry Street in 2011. The restaurant recently underwent renovations that extended its outdoor patio, closed off its bar area from the main dining area and relocated its entrance to provide for a private event space.

The Vault Celebrates Five Years



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: The Vault Restaurant Owner Libby Billings stands outside of the restaurant's Tom-Tom Room in downtown Tulsa.



HISTORIC BASEMENT: In September, Libby Billings, owner of The Vault Restaurant, 620 S. Cincinnati Ave., held tours of the building's basement, which used to function as part of the First National Auto Bank. The building was built in the late 1950s. The tours were conducted in honor of the restaurant's fifth anniversary.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

CTCA and NFL Alumni Team Up for Prostate Lab Screening

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men. In an effort to increase awareness of the disease and the benefits of early screening, the National Football League Alumni Association (NFLA), Cancer Treatment Centers of America (CTCA) and LabCorp have teamed up to educate men and increase access to screenings.

A national kick-off press conference to call attention to prostate cancer was held in August at various locations, including at CTCA in Tulsa where former NFL greats Steve Largent and Ed "Too Tall" Jones appeared along with patients, local college and high school coaches, cancer support organization representatives, and local community leaders.

Beginning in September through Oct. 15, 2,000 men, ages 40 and older, who meet eligibility require-

ments, may sign up to receive a free Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) screening by LabCorp at any of its 1,750 locations throughout the U.S. After the first 2,000 free PSA screening spots are filled, eligible men may still schedule a screening at the discounted price of \$25 throughout the sign-up period. Screenings must be performed within six months of the sign-up date.

With one in seven men predicted to be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime, the American Cancer Society estimates there will be 161,360 new prostate cancer diagnoses in 2017. Experts recommend that men who are considered high-risk get screened beginning at age 40. Risk factors include family history and race, with African-American men having a more than 70 percent higher

likelihood of developing prostate cancer.

For more information, visit Prostate Pep Talk.

Cancer Treatment Centers of America Global, Inc. (CTCA), headquartered in Boca Raton, Florida, is a national network of five hospitals that serves adult patients who are fighting cancer. CTCA offers an integrative approach to care that combines advancements in genomic testing and precision cancer treatment, surgery, radiation, immunotherapy and chemotherapy, with evidence-informed supportive therapies designed to help patients physically and emotionally by enhancing their quality of life while managing side effects both during and after treatment. CTCA serves patients from around the world at its hospitals in Atlanta, Chicago, Philadelphia, Phoenix and Tulsa.



Courtesy CTCA

FIGHTING CANCER: Present at the kick-off press conference at CTCA in Tulsa to call attention to prostate cancer are, from left, prostate cancer survivor Richard Smith, former NFL football player Steve Largent, CTCA Radiation Oncologist Dr. Michael Payne, NFL football legend Ed "Too Tall" Jones and CTCA President and CEO Jay Foley.

Coalition Receives Grant for Statewide Database

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

The federal government recently selected Oklahoma's Route 66 Coalition to receive a \$4.5 million grant to create an Accountable Health Community, which will create a statewide database that will address patients' social issues and needs, in addition to medical needs.

The idea behind the healthcare database, or health information network, named MyHealth Access Network, saw its beginnings in 2009, when executives from the regional healthcare organizations assembled at the request of then-Mayor Kathy Taylor to discuss Oklahoma's very low public health profile.

The result was the creation of MyHealth, a non-profit coalition of more than 400 health-related organizations in Oklahoma that enables patients to have their com-

plete health records securely available whenever and wherever they need it. The MyHealth database provides doctors, hospitals and other care providers a way to better coordinate patient care, identify needed preventive services, prevent mistakes, and save patients money by avoiding unnecessary tests and copays, says MyHealth CEO Dr. David Kendrick.

In 2016, the Route 66 Consortium was formed to bring together the Oklahoma City-County and Tulsa Health Departments and more than 200 other Oklahoma health care and social service organizations into the MyHealth database.

Oklahoma's Route 66 AHC program will screen more than 75,000 Oklahomans each year for social needs in five areas that often lead to poor health outcomes: housing insecurity, food insecurity, utility assistance, interpersonal violence and transportation. Patients seeking medical care will be asked

questions related to these five areas and, if necessary, will then be connected with community social service "navigators"—a new role in the city-county health departments funded by the AHC grant. The navigators will work with patients and their families to evaluate their needs and to help them select the best organizations to improve their situation.

"MyHealth's role in the program is to serve as the project's bridging organization, connecting and coordinating all of the moving parts of the program," notes Kendrick. "In addition, MyHealth provides the technology to connect and securely exchange data and enable electronic referrals to social service agencies and other providers when needed."

"By linking prevention and wellness efforts with sick-care we can create a forward thinking approach to preventing illness, saving money and most importantly saving



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES: MyHealth CEO Dr. David Kendrick speaks about the MyHealth Access Network and the \$4.5 million grant that was recently awarded to Oklahoma's Route 66 Coalition to create an Accountable Health Community, which will create a statewide database that will address patients' social issues and needs, in addition to medical needs.

the lives of Oklahomans," says Oklahoma City-County Health Department Executive Director Gary Cox.

Oklahoma's AHC pilot program will begin in January of next year, with the program being fully implemented in May 2018.

Nurse Brings Sunshine To Her Patients at CTCA

Cancer Treatment Centers of America (CTCA) in Tulsa is a proud DAISY Award Partner, recognizing one nurse each quarter. The DAISY Award is an international program that rewards and celebrates the extraordinary, compassionate and skillful care given by nurses every day. Amy Susan, who is a nurse in the Infusion Center at CTCA and lives in Owasso, recently received the

DAISY Award.

Susan's sunny personality comforts her patients and family inspired her professional skills. "When I was nine years old, my grandma passed away from lung cancer," says Susan. "We were extremely close. Before she passed, I used to give her what I called 'medicine hugs.' I knew from that point on that I wanted to be a nurse in oncology to help

others battling cancer.

"For those considering a nursing career," Susan adds, "Some days will be challenging and exhausting. But nursing offers unique emotional fulfillments, and it is truly the most rewarding experience I've ever had. Remember to never lose your joy or compassion. It's true that when your heart is in it, it's less of 'work' and more of a calling."



Courtesy CTCA

DAISY AWARD PARTNER: From left, Tammi Holden, RN, BSN, CTCA chief nursing officer and VP of oncology patient services, joins Daisy awardee, CTCA nurse Amy Susan, and Margaret Holt MS, RN, CTCA director of quality.

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EDUCATION

OSUIT Commencement Speaker Encourages Graduates

Pushing yourself and rising to your potential was a theme expressed throughout the two commencement ceremonies held Friday, Aug. 25, in Covelle Hall on the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology campus in Okmulgee.

Mike Hayes, director of distributor development for Komatsu America Corp., addressed more than 300 OSUIT graduates, telling students in both ceremonies the story of how he came to learn about OSUIT and how he became a part of its mission of educating the future workforce two decades ago.

Working for Komatsu America Corp., the second-largest manufacturer and supplier of earth-moving equipment in the world, Hayes said he found the company had no structured training in place. Technical knowledge was learned on the job—not taught, and that the entire process from apprentice to journeyman took about five years to complete.

“This was the first area that I wanted to change. I wanted to make sure apprentices were taught with the latest technology, that they understood the importance of safety and personal protection. I wanted to make sure we improved on the GED or high school diploma, as these individuals would someday be running the departments they started out in,” he said.

Hayes presented the idea to management and they allowed him to start a pilot program.

“After several campus visits to different colleges, Komatsu found one that could deliver the results we were striving for. That school being right here at OSUIT,” he said.

But the 20-year partnership between Komatsu and OSUIT would never have happened if he hadn’t challenged himself and the company to do things differently.

“Be creative, be innovative and try new things. Just because something is done one way doesn’t mean it is the right way.”

Hayes addressed the 207th graduating class of OSUIT during two ceremonies Friday, one at 2 p.m., and another at 7 p.m. Of the 318 graduates, 195—or 61 percent—graduated with honors.

Lindsay McClain, who graduated with an Associate in Applied Science in Graphic Design from the School of Visual Communications, served as student respondent during the first ceremony Friday.

McClain’s path to OSUIT wasn’t a straight one. She first earned a bachelor’s degree in zoology from OSU Stillwater but found her initial plan to become a veterinarian wasn’t what she really wanted.

“I felt most fulfilled when I was being creative,” she said.

So after researching program options online she found OS-

UIT’s Graphic Design program.

“I knew that I wanted to pursue a creative career. After the campus tour, I knew that OSUIT’s School of Visual Communications was the place that could make that happen,” McClain said. “The fact that I’m standing here giving this speech today is only further proof that it turned out to be one of the best decisions I’ve ever made.”

Miguel Martinez, who graduated from the School of Automotive Technologies with an Associate in Applied Science in Automotive Service Technology from the Toyota T-TEN program, spoke during the evening graduation ceremony.

He told his story of how growing up the oldest of three sons, his father pushed him to be better.

“He always pushed me to my very limit physically and sometimes emotionally. My goal was to make my family proud but most importantly to make my father proud because as many of you know, the first born in a family has the biggest responsibility,” he said.

“It always felt like my best was never good enough. I never understood why he was like that with me until I reached my teenage years,” Martinez said. “I realized he wasn’t doing that to punish me or make me feel bad or hurt me as his son. He wanted me to make sure I chose a different life that he did. To make sure I made the right choice to reach true success.”



Courtesy photo

MIKE HAYES: The director of distributor development for Komatsu America Corp. addressed more than 300 OSUIT graduates, telling students in both ceremonies the story of how he came to learn about OSUIT and how he became a part of its mission of educating the future workforce two decades ago.

Hayes told the graduates to be persistent, passionate and creative and to be the creator of change, not the reason for change.

“Whatever industry you represent whether it is construction technologies; culinary arts; engineering technologies; information technologies; watchmaking; auto-

motive or diesel; find something that you’re passionate about,” he said. “Don’t be afraid of change, make fear your friend, be passionate and creative, and don’t let anyone else tell you ‘no it can’t be done’ when you know it can. And challenge yourself by asking ‘If not now, when?’”

Street School CEO Appointed By Gov. Fallin for Youth Program

Governor Mary Fallin has appointed Dr. Lori McGinnis-Madland to serve as a Commissioner for the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY). McGinnis-Madland will serve for a minimum of two years and work with 18 other commissioners who

will work to develop and improve services to the children and youth of Oklahoma.

McGinnis-Madland serves as the president and chief executive officer of Street School in Tulsa, a position she has held since 2003. Prior to Street School she was a field coordinator for the Oklahoma Technical Assistance Center and began alternative education programs for Sand Springs Public Schools. Early in her career, she was a special education teacher at Sand Springs Public Schools.

“Lori understands at-risk youth and the challenges they often face in urban areas,” says Lisa Smith, director of OCCY. “She realizes that agencies working together only improve the services our state can provide when children need a voice. As a commissioner, Lori will help consider proposals, approve budgets, hear staff reports and submit recommendations to the Governor, Legislature and Su-

preme Court in her role as a commissioner.”

McGinnis-Madland has a doctorate in educational administration from Oklahoma State University.

“It is an honor to serve the people of Oklahoma, and I appreciate the governor’s confidence in my abilities to perform the duties as Commissioner with the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth,” McGinnis-Madland says.

About the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth

The mission of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth is to improve services to children by facilitating joint planning and coordination among public and private agencies; independent monitoring of the children and youth service system for compliance with established responsibilities; training of professionals and entering into agreements to test models and demonstration programs for effective services.



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Angela Morris, an Instructional Coordinator who works with university and college partnerships, says that thanks to a new agreement with Eastern New Mexico University - Roswell, both faculty and students who hold a current FAA Airframe and Powerplant license (A&P), will be able to get a head start on earning either an associate or bachelor's degree in Aviation Science.

"Eastern New Mexico University offers up to 59 hours of college credit toward a degree for individuals who have earned their FAA airframe and powerplant license," Morris says. "And all of the courses are available online."

In addition to aviation credentials, students may transfer up to a maximum of 64 total credit hours into the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science program at ENMUR, with a major in Aviation Science.

Since students may go straight to work after receiving their A&P License, this may not be the path for

everyone; however it does provide an option for those who want to move into supervisory roles in the future.

"Eastern New Mexico University is a fully-accredited university," says Morris. "And students who enroll in at least six hours per semester qualify for in-state tuition."

Bryan Abbott, an Aviation Maintenance Technology instructor, is utilizing this unique partnership to resume his goal of earning a bachelor's degree.

"I started at Northeastern State University to become a teacher," Abbott says. "But shortly afterward, I decided I wanted to work a little more hands-on, so I got my A&P license along with my private pilot license and began working in aviation for several years. I've always wanted to return to school and finish my bachelor's degree, and this is a great opportunity for me to achieve that goal."

Abbott began to research several local colleges, but none of the schools offered advanced degrees in aviation, or at least not on the maintenance side of the industry.

"I feel like an advanced degree in aviation will certainly make me more knowledgeable, and therefore, a better qualified instructor for my students," he says. "I enjoy teaching, and pursuing a bachelor's degree in aviation science is not only my personal goal but a goal that aligns with the mission of be-

ing the best instructor I can be at Tulsa Tech."

The husband and father of four spent five years working in Indonesia, managing a helicopter flight program and believes the most rewarding part of being an instructor is having an impact on his students' lives.

"To be able to invest in those individuals is always a good feeling," Abbott says. "Regardless of whether that happens to be a younger student, just beginning a new career, or an older student, who wishes to explore a new path."

Brian Vandiver, an Aviation Maintenance Technology instructor with over a decade of industry experience, is also taking advantage of this unique agreement to earn his degree.

"Continuing my education has always been a personal goal for me," says Vandiver. "But once I began working in the industry, I never really had the right incentive or thought I had the time. This type of course allows me to continue to teach and also be a student at the same time."

The former inspector for Allegiant Airlines feels that the program will not only provide him with a chance to achieve his personal goals but also sends a powerful message to his own students.

"I feel strongly that continuing my education shows my students that you should never stop learning, and especially if you are given an opportunity to improve your education, I believe it is never too late to reach for a new goal," he says.

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News From Tulsa Tech



By DR. STEVE TIGER
Superintendent



Courtesy Tulsa Tech

AVIATION ADVANCEMENT: Tulsa Tech Aviation Maintenance Technology instructors Brian Vandiver, left, and Bryan Abbott are utilizing a unique partnership with Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell to pursue advanced aviation degrees.

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OWASSO NEWS

Getting to Know the Owasso Schools Board of Education

By **EMILY RAMSEY**
Managing Editor

The Owasso Public Schools Board of Education is responsible for establishing the policies under which the district operates. The board must act within the framework of state and federal laws and still be responsible to the needs of the Owasso community.

The school board is made up of five members: Gail Ballinger, Brent England, Rhonda Mills, Frosty Turpen and Pat Vanatta.

Pat Vanatta is a retired 25-year educator and represents Ward 1.

She holds a bachelor's degree from Baylor University in elementary education and a master's from Northeastern State

University in reading education.

She enjoys serving with the other board members to "guide the course of our school district to succeed in accomplishing the best educational environment for our students, staff members and support personnel," she says.

Vanatta is hopeful that Owasso patrons will vote to approve the proposed October bond issue. (See front page story.) "All of the projects included in the bond are necessary for our school system to continue offering excellence in education for our students," she says.

Rhonda Mills represents Ward 2. Her reason for running for a board seat in 2011 was directly related to impacting the overall educational experience for her children and all Owasso students.

"I wanted to ensure our students get the best possible education while incorporating our community's views and using my expertise in leadership to help guide the district," she says.

Mills holds an associate in accounting and a bachelor's in business.

Her background is in executive level management and she is currently the vice president of operations for Clifford Power Systems.

Gail Ballinger took over the Ward 3 school board seat in 2003 and has held it ever since. She will, however, retire from her board position next year.

Ballinger is a 30-year educator, who spent 18 of those years with Owasso Public Schools as a sixth



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

EDUCATION FOCUSED: Owasso School Superintendent Dr. Clark Ogilvie, right, stands with members of the Owasso Schools Board of Education. From left are Brent England, Frosty Turpen, Pat Vanatta, Gail Ballinger and Rhonda Mills.

grade social studies teacher.

She holds an elementary education degree from Northeastern State University with a minor in biology.

"Being on the school board has offered me a way to continue to serve and to be involved in education after my professional retirement," Ballinger says.

Ballinger has also enjoyed her time on the school board with her long-time friend Pat Vanatta. They met in college during their freshman year, says Ballinger, and their shared background as teachers binds them together and brings an educator's perspective to the board.

Brent England, who has represented Ward 4 since 2004, comes from a family of educators who instilled in him a "deep desire that students get the best education possible," he says.

His three daughters all graduated from Owasso Public Schools.

England brings an accounting background to the school board.

He holds an MBA in accounting and has worked in the field for more than 30 years. He is a partner at the SES Group.

Representing Ward 5, **Frosty Turpen** is an Owasso High School graduate and has served on the school board for more than 20 years.

Turpen holds a degree from the University of Tulsa, and has a business background, including owning his own business, Turpen and Associates, Inc.

He is currently considering running for another term on the school board and has enjoyed "seeing the Owasso district grow and become one of the best, if not 'the' best, district in the state," he says.

OWASSO CARES BEAUTIFIES NEIGHBORHOODS



Courtesy City of Owasso

COMMUNITY PRIDE: The Owasso Strong Neighborhood Initiative (OSNI) coordinated its Owasso CARES (Community And Residents Encourage Service) 2017 Fall Day of Service on Sept. 23. Volunteers spent the morning painting fire hydrants in the Country Estates neighborhood, Hale Acres neighborhood, and Meadowcrest neighborhoods; trimming and cleaning out tree debris along the fence line and pond area near 116th Street North; trimming trees and brush debris along 114th Street North; and trimming trees along 76th Street North. OSNI currently has close to a dozen community programs, all with a focus on maintaining the quality of the city of Owasso and its neighborhoods.

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OWASSO SPORTS

Owasso's Wayne Jones Headed to Kansas State

Defensive Star Praises Coach Blankenship

By MIKE MOGUIN
Sports Correspondent

There's more than one Division-I college football player in Owasso's secondary. You have Ohio State commit Josh Proctor and there is Wayne Jones (6-0, 195, senior), who is verbally committed to Kansas State and is another force to be reckoned with for the Rams.

Jones, who announced his decision to make the Little Apple his college gridiron destination in May, felt like he was a good fit for the Wildcat family when he made his visit.

"Everything about Kansas State, the school just fits me," Jones says. "After praying about it, talking to my family, it was just the best fit. The coaching staff, the academics, it just fits my personality in a way."

One thing that excites Jones is the privilege of playing under Bill Snyder, the man known for building the Wildcats into the program they are today.

"He's a legend," Jones says. "Getting to play underneath him, not very many kids get to do that. So, I'm just taking in as much as I can and cherishing it."

Jones chose Kansas State over Louisville, Oklahoma State, Illinois and Michigan State.

While he looks forward to play-

ing under one coaching legend, Jones is enjoying playing for another at the prep level in his final year with Owasso. The Rams (3-0 as of Sept. 15) have been a surprise in Class 6A high school football through its first three games this season. It did not take long for them to thrive under first-year coach Bill Blankenship.

"It's totally different," Jones says. "There is more energy during practices. We're flying around the ball more. The whole culture has changed. We just hope to go 1-0 each week for this season. If you go 1-0 each week, the 1-0's will stack up, and you're at the big dance in December."

Owasso has shown the looks of a contender for that big dance as it afflicted routs to Jenks (48-10) and Bartlesville (56-14) on the road and Broken Arrow (49-27) at home. The Rams beat Bartlesville last season but have often finished on the short end of the score in previous years to the Trojans and Tigers (except for 2014, when Owasso beat both teams).

No one saw its domination of Jenks coming, but it was no surprise to Jones and company.

"We know how we play," he says. "We expected to come out and dominate and the scoreboard showed it."

"We knew going into the game that we were going to come in and

just do what we do and dominate," Jones says. "Everybody did their job. Whenever everybody does their job, everything else happens. Overall, it was just another game to us. We have to put it behind us. We can't just make this a one-game season."

Jones has made his share of plays, including an end zone interception against Broken Arrow that foiled a trick play.

He enjoys sharing the defensive backfield with Proctor.

"It's good because you don't have to worry about anything," Jones says. "You always know that he's got your back. All my DBs got my back regardless of what happens on the field. Josh and I have been playing since we were like six, so we have chemistry."

When he started playing flag at age three, Jones played defensive line. But as a freshman, he was moved to linebacker and eventually, safety, where he plays now.

"I was just sick of being a big dude," he says, laughing. "I wanted to get my hands on the ball somehow, and I wanted to stay on defense."

"By playing defensive back, you can hit, catch the ball, go score, you can do just about everything and hit people," Jones says. "The best part of football is you get to hit people without getting in trouble. Just running full-speed and



WAYNE JONES: The senior defensive back is a key component to the Rams' secondary.

making a big hit on somebody is the best feeling in the world."

While Jones is a Dallas Cowboys fan, he likes to model his play after retired NFL stars such as Brian Dawkins, Ed Reed and Ray Lewis.

Through October, the Rams host Putnam City North (Oct. 6), have back-to-back road games at Southmoore (Oct. 13) and Norman North (Oct. 20) and return home to meet Moore (Oct. 27).

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SPORTS

Minor League Basketball Plans for Area Return

By **GLENN HIBDON**
GTR Sports Writer

Minor league professional basketball will try to take root in the Tulsa area once more when the Tulsa Titans are born for the 2017-18 season.

A member of the American Basketball Association, the semi-pro Titans will try and succeed where the Tulsa Fast Breakers, Zone, 66ers and Twisters failed. The brainchild of Claremore businessman Mike Muhle, the team will play in a new facility with a first-year head coach and a burning desire for a positive future.

"I love basketball," says Muhle, who owned the now defunct ABA franchise in Bartlesville. "I had heart failure two and a half years ago and I thought, why wait? It got me motivated because I didn't know if tomorrow was coming. I thought why keep working when I can work my passion."

Muhle, a concert promoter and a previous school counselor at Cooper Elementary in Tulsa, is filling the void left by the departure of the Twisters for Fort Worth this season. Gaylen Springer is the Titans' head coach, with former Twisters staff member Mark Creed serving as general manager.

Springer, a 60-year-old member of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe, is said to be the first full blooded Native American to reach this level in basketball coaching. He served at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, as an assistant coach for both the men's and women's team.

Since 2010, Springer had been coaching men's independent teams and helping with high school programs.

"I still want to coach and my goal is to win the ABA championship for the Titans and Tulsa," says Springer, who lives in Stillwater. "I bring consistency, determination and overall continuity, some of the things I've learned. I know Bill Self and I've met Roy Williams and Frank Martin by doing a lot

of clinics. I've learned a lot from different coaches about the philosophy of basketball."

Although Springer has never served as a head coach before, confidence is not a problem for him entering the ABA. The Titans will play 20-22 games in the Great Plains Division, consisting of the Topeka Steel, St. Louis Spirit, St. Joseph Shield, Kansas City Soul, Colorado Kingz, Colorado Cougars and Salina Saints.

The Titans will play the Oklahoma City Outlaws, a member of another minor league, in preseason games. The ABA has more than 100 teams also playing in foreign countries and 64 qualify for postseason in the USA with 32 automatic bids. Playoffs begin in March.

Creed, a Wellington, Kansas, native, says the Titans will begin play before Thanksgiving, but the home opener may not come until January when the new Ultimate Performance Complex is completed in Jenks. Creed says the \$8 million facility will contain eight basketball courts, one with grandstand seating for the Titans, indoor soccer fields and a gymnastics arena.

Creed, a former high school coach, says the team is currently holding tryout camps at the UPC facility at 56th Street and Garnett Road. Camp starts the first week in October. ABA players must be at least 18 and receive no pay for play.

"This is an opportunity for players to improve their skills and possibly get a contract in the D-League or overseas," says the GM. "A lot of the players are able to go internationally. There are no salaries, but they can make money by what they bring to the team, selling t-shirts, tickets and promoting themselves. It's a chance for them to learn the business side of the ABA."

Both Muhle and Creed agree that the secret for the Titans to survive where other teams have failed is through community involvement. The plan calls for players to interact with kids through promotions and clinics.



Courtesy MARK CREED

TITAN MANAGEMENT: The Tulsa Titan front office team includes, from left, Head Coach Galen Springer, General Manager Mark Creed, Director of Operations and Marketing Scott Hansen, Team Owner Michael Muhle and Director of Entertainment Jordan Bradley. The Titans plan to play their first two home games at the MVSKE Dome in Okmulgee with the remaining home games to be played in the brand new Titan Center located in Jenks.

"The key is to bring in good, quality players who are doing things with their lives like working and going to school," Muhle says. "A lot of our players might have lost scholarships or dropped out of college. They may not have been seen in high school, and the ABA gives them a chance to be seen all over the country."

"They can learn how to make money and they will be running teams as we go along. They can be GMs and they can help teams grow. They take those skills back to communities. We're (the ABA) getting a reputation about what we're doing with our players. I talked to a player last night who had a tryout with the D-League."

Muhle, a Wynoka native, said 30 percent of ABA players signed contracts last season and the league maintains a website broken down into statistical categories where high-

er franchises can search for help in particular areas of the game.

After all is said and done, the Titans must obviously provide entertaining basketball on court to attract and please its prospective fans. Springer is confident he can provide what's needed to make the franchise successful.

"We will have a quick team, a fast team with players who are disciplined and hard workers," Springer says. "We want them to play at a high level because this is a starting block, a foundation. This is the first stop for them and they will know it's an opportunity."

This is the chance not only Springer, Muhle and Creed have also been waiting for but perhaps the final go-round for professional basketball in Tulsa. The ball will soon be bouncing, but in which direction?

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Baseball Ranks Among Oklahoma's Top Exports

By **TERRELL LESTER**
Editor at Large

At one time, it was widely embraced as "America's Pastime."

Some today claim that baseball is "past its prime."

Too slow, critics wail. Lack of action. Too many games.

Their excuses and criticisms outnumber strikeouts in a Sandy Koufax shutout.

But in Oklahoma, it can be argued that baseball remains the state sport. Oklahoma's Pastime, perhaps.

It dates back before statehood.

Scores of major-leaguers took their first swings, threw their first pitches in Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Historical Society counted 37 state towns and cities that fielded professional baseball during the first half of the 20th century.

Today, that number is down to two: Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

Still, baseball ranks among the state's chief exports.

Check the major-league rosters. There are so many Oklahoma-born pitchers and fielders performing at baseball's highest levels. Draftees straight from state high schools and colleges.

Matt Holiday is up there. Along with Dallas Keuchel, Dylan Bundy, Matt Kemp, Archie Bradley.

There's also Pete Kozma, Jon Gray, J.T. Realmuto, Matt Reynolds.

And more.

With others just a phone call away.

As another Major League Baseball season winds down to its final weeks, working its way to its Fall Classic, take a moment to recall those Oklahoma-bred baseballers who have made a lasting impact on the sport.

Several big-leaguers made their off-season or retirement homes in Oklahoma. They are not listed here.

As for the dozen or so currently playing in the bigs, they are not listed, either. They will have their day when they retire.

This focus is solely on Oklahoma-born big-leaguers who once dominated the sports pages. Players and managers.

Two players are listed at each infield and outfield position. Four pitchers, a typical rotation back in the day, were selected. Even the manager has a backup.

Seven are members of the Baseball Hall of Fame. Many were All-Stars.

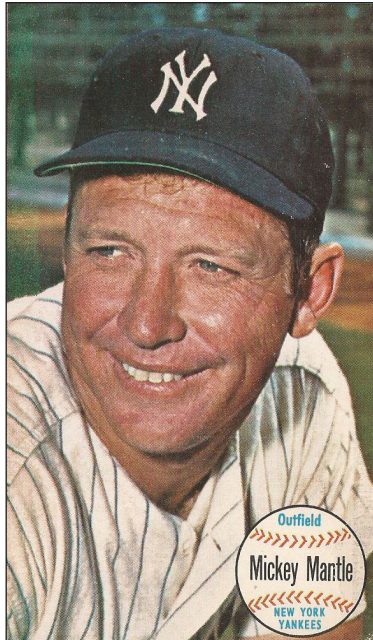
Each left his mark on baseball.

Each called Oklahoma home.

Players listed with birthplace, followed by year of birth, and, if applicable, year of death.

First Base

Willie Stargell, Earlsboro, 1940-2001. Hit .282, 475 home runs in



MICKEY MANTLE

21 years with Pittsburgh, 1962-82. Seven-time All-Star. MVP in National League, 1979. Hall of Fame, 1988.

Joe Carter, Oklahoma City, 1960. Hit .259, 396 home runs in 16 years, 1983-1998. Five-time All-Star. World Series champion, 1992, 1993, Toronto.

Second Base

Jerry Adair, Sand Springs, 1936-1987. Hit .254 in 13 seasons with four teams. Set three major-league records for fielding. Played in 1967 World Series, Boston.

Johnny Ray, Chouteau, 1959. Hit .290 in 10 seasons with Pittsburgh and California. NL Rookie of the Year, Pittsburgh, 1982.

Shortstop

Alvin Dark, Comanche, 1922-2014. Hit .289 in 14 seasons, 1946-60, with six teams. NL Rookie of the Year, Boston Braves. Manager, 13 seasons, five teams. World Series champion as player, New York Giants, and manager, Oakland.

U.L. Washington, Stringtown, 1953. Hit .251 in 11 seasons, 1977-87, with three teams. Played in 1980 World Series, Kansas City.

Third Base

Pepper Martin, Temple, 1904-1965. Nickname Wild Horse of the Osage. Hit .298 in 13 seasons, 1928-44, with St. Louis Cardinals. Three-time All-Star. World Series champion, 1931, 1934. Associated Press 1931 Athlete of the Year.

Hank Thompson, Oklahoma City, 1925-1969. Hit .267 in nine seasons, 1947-1956, with New York Giants and St. Louis Browns. World Series champion, 1954, New York Giants.

Catcher

Johnny Bench, Oklahoma City,



PEPPER MARTIN

1947. Hit .267, 389 home runs, in 17 seasons, 1967-85, with Cincinnati. Two-time NL MVP, 12-time All-Star, 10-time Gold Glove winner. World Series champion, 1975, 1976. Hall of Fame, 1989.

Mickey Tettleton, Oklahoma City, 1960. Hit .241, 245 home runs, in 14 seasons, 1984-97, with four teams. Two-time All-Star.

Outfield

Mickey Mantle, Spavinaw, 1931-95. Hit .298, 536 home runs, 2,415 hits, 1,509 RBIs, in 18 seasons, 1951-68, with New York Yankees. Three-time AL MVP, 16 All-Star games. Hit 18 home runs in 12 World Series. Seven-time World Series champion. Won Triple Crown, 1957. Hall of Fame, 1974.

Lloyd Waner, Harrah, 1906-82. Nickname Little Poison. Hit .316, 2,459 hits in 1,993 games, in 18 seasons with Pittsburgh and three other teams. Struck out 173 times in 18 seasons. Hall of Fame, 1967.

Paul Waner, Harrah, 1903-1965. Nickname Big Poison. Hit .333, 3,152 hits in 2,549 games, in 20 seasons with Pittsburgh and three other teams. Three-time NL batting champion, hitting .380 in 1927. Hall of Fame, 1952.

Outfield Reserves

Paul Blair, Cushing, 1944-2013. Hit .250 in 17 seasons, 1964-80, with Baltimore and two other teams. Eight-time Gold Glove winner, two-time All-Star. Four-time World Series champion, two with Baltimore, two with New York Yankees.

Bobby Murcer, Oklahoma City, 1946-2008. Hit .277, 252 home runs, in 17 seasons, 1965-83, with New York Yankees and two other teams. Five-time All-Star. Five-time Gold Glove winner.

Rip Radcliff, Kiowa, 1906-1962.



JOHNNY BENCH

Hit .311 in 10 seasons, 1934-43, with three teams. Hit .342 with 1940 St. Louis Browns.

Pitchers

Harry Brecheen, Broken Bow, 1914-2004. Left-hander. Nickname The Cat for his fielding prowess. In 11 seasons, 1940-52, with the St. Louis Cardinals and one year with the Crosstown Browns, 1953, compiled 133-92 record with 18 saves and 2.92 ERA. In three World Series, had 4-1 record, including three wins in 1946, yielding one earned run in 20 innings.

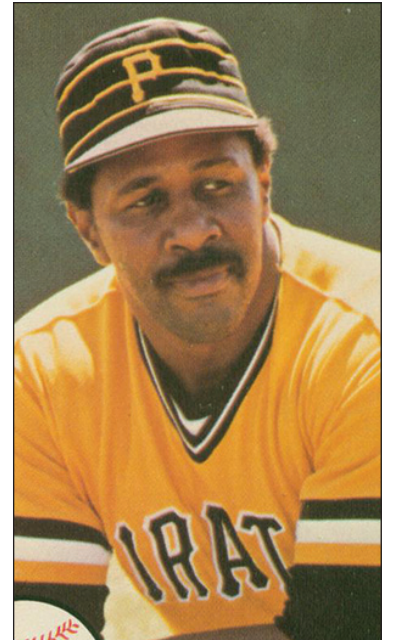
Lindy McDaniel, Hollis, 1935. Righthander. In 21 seasons, with five teams, compiled 141-119 record with 172 saves, 3.45 ERA. Appeared in 987 games, struck out 1,361. In 1960 and '63 with St. Louis, named Fireman of the Year as top reliever.

Allie Reynolds, Bethany, 1917-1994. Righthander. In 13 seasons, 1942-54, with Cleveland and New York Yankees, compiled 182-107 record, 49 saves, 3.30 ERA, 1,423 strikeouts. In six World Series, had 7-2 record, four saves, 2.79 ERA. Pitched two no-hitters. Six-time All-Star, six-time World Series champion.

Joe Rogan, Oklahoma City, 1893-1967. Righthander. Nickname Bullet Joe. After eight-year hitch in the Army, pitched, hit and managed Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro League, 1920-1938. Records are sketchy from that period, but he reportedly won more games than any pitcher in the Negro League, 116, with a reported 2.59 ERA. Never played in Major Leagues, but was inducted into Hall of Fame in 1998.

Manager

Bobby Cox, Tulsa, 1941. Won 2,504 games with Atlanta, 1978-



WILLIE STARGELL

81, 1990-2010, and Toronto, 1982-85. World Series champion, 1995. Four-time Manager of the Year. Hall of Fame, 2014. Played infield, New York Yankees, 1968, 1969.

Les Moss, Tulsa, 1925-2012. Was catcher for 13 seasons, 1946-58, with four teams before becoming coach and manager until retiring in 1995. Managed briefly Chicago White Sox, 1968, and Detroit, 1979. Minor League Manager of the Year, 1978.

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Victory Christian Gets Off to Hot Start

Conquerors Win First Four Games

By **MIKE MOGUIN**
Sports Writer

Memories of the painful loss in last year's Class 2A state championship game were on the minds of Victory Christian football players as they prepared for the upcoming season. The Conquerors seem to have total concentration for success this season, as they have won their first four games.

In the 2016 title game, Victory led by one point against Oklahoma City Millwood in the third quarter. But five touchdowns down the stretch gave the Falcons a 56-33 win.

"It was awful," Victory Christian quarterback RJ Wakley says. "I remember getting back at home, probably about 12:30 or 1 a.m., and I don't think I went to bed until 5 o'clock. I couldn't watch film. It hurt just to look at the film because it probably wasn't one of my better games. When you lose something like that, everything runs through your head and you just want to do everything you can this upcoming season to never feel that pain."

Wakley says, "We want to push a little harder and dig a little deeper. We think about winning every day. It's just a mindset in our heads, like, what are we going to do today? So, we plan to get that gold ball this upcoming year."

Wakley (6-2, 200, senior), listed as being among the top quarterbacks in the area, threw for 2,608 yards on 169 completions of 279 attempts and 28 TDs last season. He also rushed for five TDs and logged 79 tackles as a linebacker. He has spent a lot of time work-

ing out with the quarterback coach through the offseason.

"I've worked with him at least once a week, sometimes twice, improving my mechanics, footwork and my arm swing, just so I can read plays and read the defense a lot better," Wakley says.

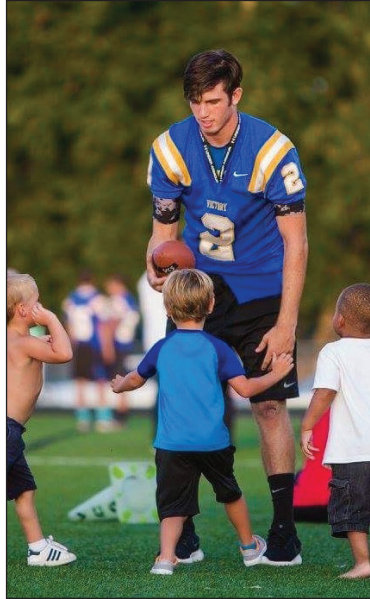
Wakley has been playing football since age six. He began playing behind center snap in the third grade. He is also a member of the Conquerors' basketball team. What he likes about being quarterback is that "everything flows through you, especially on the offensive side."

"At quarterback, you run the offense," Wakley says. "I like being in charge. I want my teammates to count on me. I want that trust. I want that accountability, and the accountability doesn't just come through being the quarterback; it comes in the offseason working hard."

"As for (football), nothing is better," Wakley says. "The adrenaline rush you get, you're just out here doing the best you can. I'm out here competing with my brothers, dudes that I've been growing up with, that I've been so close to, and going out there and getting that win every night, there's nothing better."

The experience of having Ron Smith, a veteran coach, who is the father of former Tulsa quarterback Paul Smith, has been unbelievable, he says.

"He makes playing quarterback a heck a lot easier. You're just out there, and the play he is calling is going to work. Very rarely does he call a play and it not work. If it doesn't work, it's probably one



HELPING YOUNGSTERS: Victory Christian quarterback RJ Wakley visits with young boys about the game of football.

of our faults on the field for messing it up. I'm extremely blessed to have him coach me on the field and he also helps me off the field in my character," Wakley says.

In addition to Wakley, returning are Tyler Hicks (5-10, 168, senior), Caleb Calhoun (6-2, 192, senior), Trey Colbert (5-9, 164, senior) and Josh Sirleaf (5-10, 150, junior). Lineman such as J.P. Hook (5-11, 220, senior) and Braiden Murray (6-3, 265, junior) return.

So far this season as of this writing Victory Christian has defeated Bristow 42-18, Sperry 26-21, NOAH 42-0, and Kansas 63-13.

In the district, the regular season finale against Holland Hall is anticipated it to be the Conquerors' biggest game. It should be a battle for the district championship.



IMPRESSIVE PASSER: Victory's RJ Wakley begins to throw a pass while being pursued by an OKC Millwood defender in the Class 2A state championship game last year.



OILERS OPEN OCT. 13: The Tulsa Oilers begin their fourth ECHL season and tenth season of hockey at the BOK Center on Friday, Oct. 13, when the club hosts the Kansas City Mavericks. Above, Oklahoman Kyle Sharkey has signed with the Oilers. Additional signees are forward Daniel Vernace, goaltender Devin Williams and forward Samuel Rice. Visit www.tulsa Oilers.com for more information.



SHAMARI BROOKS: The Union High School graduate from last year is already a star for the Golden Hurricane. Above, he gains valuable yardage in the win over Louisiana.

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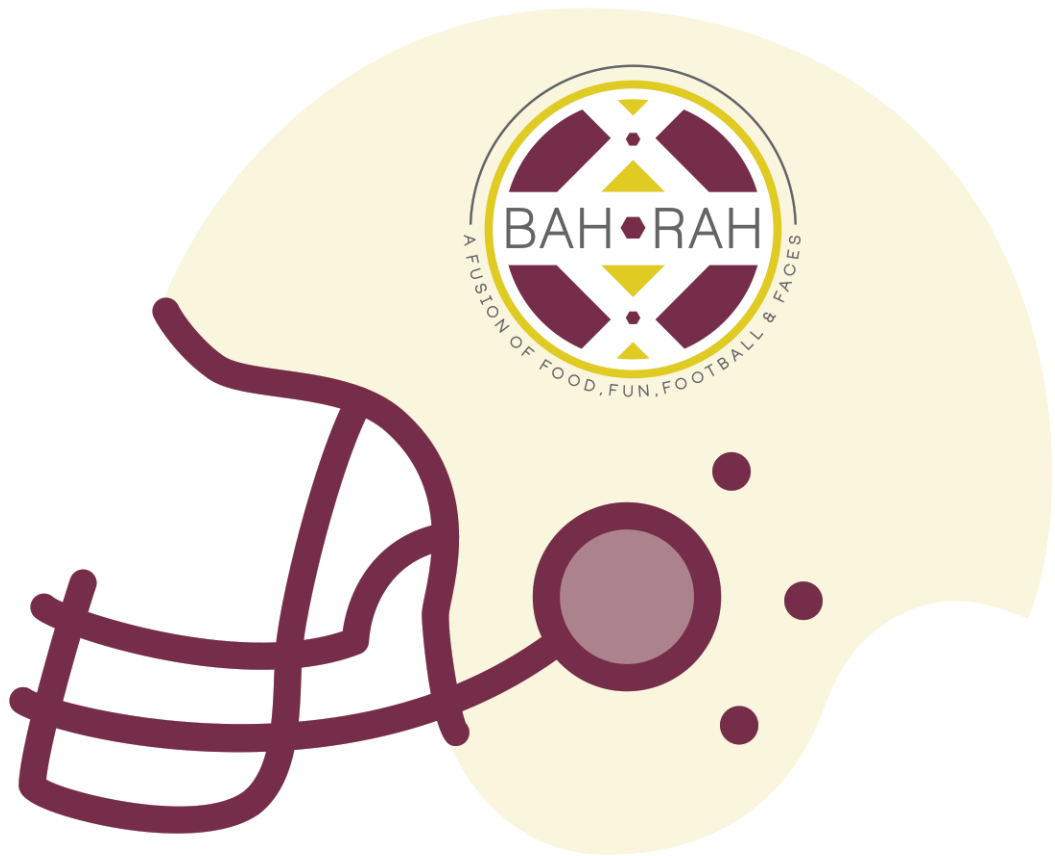
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THE ECONOMY

Downtown Tulsa Revitalization Continues

Plans for Mixed-Use Development, Apartments Move Forward

The Tulsa Performing Arts Center (PAC) Trust approved the sale and development contract of the PAC surface parking lot located directly east of the PAC at Second Street and Cincinnati Avenue, paving the way for mixed-use development, including a proposed market, retail shops and apartments.

Flaherty & Collins, an experienced developer from Indianapolis, Indiana, was awarded the development contract from the PAC Trust for \$5.5 million. Construction is scheduled to start in summer 2018, and the project is expected to be complete by the first quarter of 2020.

"This project is a big win for our city," Mayor G.T. Bynum says. "The sale proceeds will be used for the long-term benefit of the Tulsa Performing Arts Center, while we are also bringing a proven developer of quality projects to further enhance the vibrant experience that downtown Tulsa has become."

Along with retail shops and a proposed market, the 12-story structure will feature 240 apartment units and a multi-story parking garage.

"The Tulsa Performing Arts Center Trust gave lengthy, careful deliberation in its decision to sell this significant property downtown," says former Tulsa Mayor Robert J. LaFortune, who co-founded the Trust with the

late John H. Williams and continues to serve as a Trustee. "Our primary concern was its potential to provide funding for expanded, exciting programming at the PAC by local performing arts groups as well as touring productions. The Trust has long emphasized that the PAC is 'everyone's place.' In speaking for the majority of the Trustees who approved the sale, it's our hope that this project will create even more awareness, participation, and support of events at the PAC."

"This new development will bring energy and vitality to the corner, which will help the Tulsa PAC in so many ways," Mark Frie, Tulsa PAC director says. "I believe this development positions the PAC Trust to have an even stronger presence in the Tulsa arts community while inspiring the next generation of artists and patrons of the arts."

Flaherty & Collins is actively working with a grocery operator in the design of a unique urban format and fresh themed market, specializing in top notch meats, produce and prepared foods. The market will have a limited assortment of grocery items with ample specialty and healthy lifestyle departments. The market will also have craft beers, specialty spirits and wines.

"We are so excited to take the next step in delivering a great

project in downtown Tulsa, Ryan Cronk with Flaherty & Collins says. "The completion of this contract is the result of months of hard work by the Tulsa Performing Arts Center Trust and the City of Tulsa to ensure that both the project is developed in a first-class manner but also the ongoing needs of the theatre and public parking in downtown Tulsa are preserved and enhanced."

Before construction begins next year, the City of Tulsa will be working with the Tulsa Public Facilities Authority to explore visitor parking options, and the Tulsa PAC staff will clearly communicate those options to all community partners and patrons prior to events.



Courtesy photo

SW Airlines Donates to Spartan

Southwest Airlines donate a CFM56-3B1 engine to the Tulsa-based Spartan College of Aeronautics & Technology. The CFM56-3B1 is a high bypass turbofan engine featured in Southwest's 737-300 and 737-500 series aircraft. Spartan will house the engine at its north Tulsa campus, using it to enhance student-learning outcomes in Turbine Engine classes.

The Spartan College North Tulsa Campus is located at 7304 E. Apache St.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

FLYING HIGH: Present at the announcement of the Southwest Airlines gift to Spartan College are, from left, Lamar Haynes, president of Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology – North Campus, and Bryan Swalell, Fleet Transactions Program Manager, Southwest Airlines (and former Spartan graduate).



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Osage Casino Hosts Topping Off for Tulsa Location

Osage Casino and Crossland Construction Company recently hosted a ceremony to top off the Tulsa Casino and Hotel, 951 W. 36th St. N., a \$150 million project with full construction expected to be completed in fall 2018. The project, once complete, will create a 240,000-square-foot casino and new 75,000-square-foot hotel, designed by Marnell Architecture, the firm that designed The Bellagio and Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

The traditional construction event took place as the final beam, signed by members of the project team, was hoisted onto the building to signify that the structure has reached its maximum height.

"The Osage Nation maintains a long-standing commitment to our tribal members and the surrounding community," said Osage Nation Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing

Bear. "This casino development will positively impact Tulsa and the surrounding areas and will contribute to the economic growth of our nation."

The new and updated casino will offer 16 table games, 1,550 state-of-the-art electronic gaming machines, and five poker tables. The casino will also house a full-service sports bar and grill, a café, and a full brewery and brew pub. The new casino will feature a totally redesigned interior with bright lights and colorful décor along with new signage, landscaping and stone exterior.

"The progress of the construction on the Tulsa Casino and Hotel is exciting," Osage Casino CEO Byron Bighorse said. "We are thrilled with the development so far and the possibilities this casino will bring."

The 141-room, full-service hotel

will house six suites and four hospitality suites in addition to standard guest rooms, a fitness center and resort-style pool. The hotel will also be home to a 10,000-square-foot ballroom and three breakout rooms for conferences and conventions along with a 25,000-square-foot conference and multi-purpose space.

"The newly designed expansion of the Tulsa Casino, along with the addition of the hotel, offers great opportunity for the people of Tulsa and the surrounding communities," Mayor G.T. Bynum said. "The positive effect on employment and the contribution to economic growth will create a significant impact in the Tulsa area."

The Osage Casino and Hotel in Tulsa, one of seven casinos owned and operated by the Osage Nation, will employ approximately 430



FINAL BEAM: Osage Casino CEO Byron Bighorse, center, signs the final beam for the Tulsa Osage Casino and Hotel. At right is Osage Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear. Behind Bighorse is Tulsa Mayor G. T. Bynum.

people and is expected to contribute an economic impact of \$131.7 million in the regional production

of goods and services with potential earnings of \$99.5 million in wages and salaries.

Chris Wallace to Speak at Tulsa Business Forums

Award-winning journalist and host of FOX News Sunday Chris Wallace will come to Tulsa to present at the 2017-18 Tulsa Business Forums speaker series from 10-11:30 a.m. Nov. 1 at the Mabey Center.

Oklahoma State University's Spears School of Business along with corporate sponsors are hosting Wallace as the first of three speakers during this three-part series. Wallace will kick off the speaker series by presenting his "America Under President Trump: A View From Washington."

Wallace is a well-respected name among political spheres and for good reason. In addition to his work as a journalist and morning show host, Wallace is a best-selling author with his book, "Character: Profiles in Presidential Courage." Wallace also worked as a moderator for the third presidential debate and was the first FOX News anchor to ever moderate for a general election presidential debate. Jennifer Rubin of the *Washington Post* declared Wallace to be, "...among the best in the business."

"We are very excited to be bring-

ing in a journalist with Mr. Wallace's credentials," says Ken Eastman, dean for Spears Business. "We are fortunate that along with our sponsors we're able to provide the Tulsa business community with the opportunity to hear his views."

The Tulsa Business Forums speaker series is coordinated annually by OSU's Center for Executive and Professional Development. The program brings in distinguished business leaders, authors and policymakers to speak in Tulsa.

Visit cepd.okstate.edu/tbf for more information.



CHRIS WALLACE

Courtesy photo

Meeting the Energy Challenges in the Nation's Future



By **MARK A. STANSBERRY**
Energy Advocate and Chairman
of The GTD Group

I write the column today, America has faced two major hurricanes, Harvey and Irma. One of the first concerns about a hurricane is the impact on energy markets along with infrastructure.

Also, I am writing this column from Washington, D.C., just a few blocks from the U.S. Capitol. I believe that it is up to the people to create a vision, a pathway to America's energy future. Therefore, National Energy Talk is underway, www.nationalenergytalk.com

The impact of a hurricane is only a part of what should be discussed in a national energy dialogue. I am a strong supporter of our American oil and gas industry. I believe that a strong U.S. oil and

gas industry will lead us to our real energy options.

One area of concern is transportation. Electric cars: It appears that the auto industry is moving quickly toward electric cars. However, are there other options that should be explored? Is there a place for fuel-cell technology?

Hyundai has announced a hydrogen-fuel-cell powered SUV with a range of 360 miles. Compared to electric cars with a distance of 200 miles per charge, fuel cell cars are capable of over 300 miles.

Infrastructure: the lack of infrastructure is a major factor. Can we meet the challenge? Have we carefully looked at all options? Consumers, what do you think?

Let's look at natural gas. Some of the questions and areas of concerns confronting natural gas and its energy future are:

- Will the economics of natural gas in the long run really be sound?
- What is happening in the legislatures regarding legal and regulatory issues nationwide that could have an impact on natural gas?



MARK A. STANSBERRY

- How does the transportability of natural gas affect its marketability in the global arena?
- What is the environmental impact of natural gas?
- What are the obstacles that affect us from utilizing natural gas as a fuel for our vehicles?

So what is your true vision of a strong energy industry, one year, five years, 20 years from now?

For too long we in America have been wasting time blaming the energy industry or the government for failure to adopt a national energy strategy when we should be responsible for creating the plan. As consumers of energy we must drive the process, evaluating how we can best leverage our natural resources here at home to ensure a long-term vision and security.

In this column, I have touched on electric cars, hydrogen fuel-cell

cars and natural gas. There are so many other areas to discuss as part of our national dialogue. In the upcoming columns, I will continue to challenge each one of us to look at all energy options.

Natural Gas is definitely a viable option.

What do you think? It is time for National Energy Talk at www.nationalenergytalk.com

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Tulsa County in Need Of Precinct Officials

Help from Business Sector Asked

By **TERRY A. SIMONSON**
Director of Governmental
Affairs Tulsa County

Every time there is an election in Tulsa County, the Tulsa County Election Board is responsible for making sure the voting process is flawless. Preparing for a smooth process, which is free of any doubt about the integrity of the results, requires more than just properly working machines. It primarily relies upon the precinct officials who are there from the time the polls open until they close.

In a sense these workers are the glue to the process and the managers of the integrity. That is why the Election Board is concerned that we don't have enough citizens stepping forward to serve as precinct officials to man over 180 precincts in Tulsa County for the elections coming in 2017 and 2018.

Historically, precinct officials have primarily been retired senior citizens because they have the time. But the availability of reliable seniors has been diminishing, and this is why the Election Board is sounding the call for citizens to help them.

Each precinct has three officials: the Inspector, the Judge, and the Clerk. Each has a specific duty in the voting process. To serve in any one of these capacities requires a one day training program at the Election Board. Each official is paid for their service at the polls on election day.

Its time for our business community to consider how they can help with the importance of these responsibilities. Just as our business and corporate citizens have recognized the Day of Car-

ing and allow their employees to serve one day helping others, they should now consider recognizing a Day of Citizenship and allow employees to serve as precinct officials with no loss of pay or loss of personal leave time.

If an employee is allowed to participate as precinct officials, the pay they receive for serving as a precinct official could be returned to the employer, who in turn could pledge this money to a nonprofit agency of their choice.

This new approach to serving our community on election day is a win-win-win-win for all involved: The company wins a "gold star" for citizenship; the employee wins with the satisfaction of having played a key role in the election process; the nonprofit chosen by the company to donate what the employee is paid wins because this would be an unexpected yet welcome financial help; and the Election Board wins because it has the certainty of knowing it has a reliable force of precinct officials.

The Election Board has ten training classes scheduled for dates throughout October. Training is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Election Board and those who attend the training are paid \$25.

This is an important opportunity of citizenship. Just as the Day of Caring benefits our community, so would a Day of Citizenship benefit one of the most important freedoms we have: the freedom and privilege of voting.

For business and individuals interested, the Election Board's professional staff is standing by ready to help you help them by calling 918-596-5762 or electionboard@tulsacounty.org.

BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES

The Oklahoma Business Roundtable, at its recent annual meeting in Tulsa, elected **Rob Martinovich**, ONEOK, Inc., Tulsa, as chairman of the organization for 2017-2018.



MARTINOVICH

The Oklahoma Business Roundtable was founded in 1991 and serves as the state's key economic development support organization. The non-profit business group works to promote new jobs and investment in Oklahoma through business expansion, start-up and recruitment efforts. There are approximately 160 member companies.

Other officers elected for the upcoming year are: Chairman-Elect, Governor Bill Anoatubby, The Chickasaw Nation, Ada; Secretary/Treasurer, Brenda Rolls, Frontier Electronic Systems, Stillwater; and Immediate Past Chairman, Renee Porter, Cristo Rey, Oklahoma City.

New members elected to the Board of Directors are: Scott Dewald, Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc., Durant; Steve Hahn, AT&T-Oklahoma, Oklahoma City; and Steve Hendrickson, The Boeing Co., Tulsa.

Continuing on the Board of Directors are: Michael Ming, GE Global Research, Oklahoma City; Chris Scully, Dell, Inc., Oklahoma City; Stuart Solomon, PSO, Tulsa; and Sean Trauschke, OGE Energy Corp., Oklahoma City.

Ann Ackerman serves as president/CEO of the Oklahoma Business Roundtable.

Cox Business Center announces **Holly Beal** as communications manager. She has over 15 years of public relations experience and started her career in media before working with clients in the corporate, non-profit, and performing arts sectors. She will develop and implement marketing and public relations initiatives for the facility, while expanding media relations and digital marketing efforts.



BEAL

Cox Business Center, formerly Tulsa Convention Center, is a 310,625 square-foot facility hosting a 7,000 seat arena with event suites, Oklahoma's largest ballroom, 34 meeting rooms, and a 102,600 square foot, column-free exhibit hall. Cox Business Center is managed by SMG-the world leader in venue management, marketing, and development-and owned by the City of Tulsa. In the fiscal year 2015-16, the economic impact of events held at the CBC was more than \$33 million.

The **CEXP Board of Standards**, the professional organization that upholds the standards of excellence for business in exit planning, confirmed **David A. Cole**, CPA, PLLC, as a Certified Exit Planner.



COLE

Throughout a process that took a year, Cole completed nine courses, wrote two case studies and passed a background check to meet the standards associated with the CEXP Board of Standards.

Cole began his financial studies at the University of Tulsa, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major in accounting. Since 1969, he has been involved in the financial services industry.

Ted Rieck has been named general manager for **Tulsa Transit**. He began his duties for the The Metropolitan Tulsa Transit Authority (MTTA) effective Sept. 1. Rieck leads Tulsa Transit's efforts in providing a sustainable and efficient public transit system for Tulsa.



RIECK

He has over 20 years of transit experience spanning operations, planning, technology, and community partnerships.

"I am excited about joining the Tulsa community because of the commitment of the MTTA Board and Mayor Bynum to a dynamic transit system as well as by the dedicated professionalism of the employees," Rieck said.

Prior to Tulsa Transit, Rieck served a successful tenure as the chief executive officer of the Indianapolis Transit System (Metro). Rieck has played lead roles in 16 transit facility projects that included feasibility and environmental studies that led to advanced design and construction. He also served as vice-chair of the Kansas City Regional Transit Alliance and currently represents the third district on the Johnson County Transportation Council.

Rieck holds a Master of Business Administration from Rockhurst College in Missouri, Master of City and Regional Planning from Ohio State University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of New Hampshire.

YWCA Tulsa has selected **Julie Davis** as its next chief executive officer. A University of Tulsa graduate alumna, Davis has left her mark on Tulsa's non-profit community through strategic planning and rigorous engagement, ensuring growth and structure in the organizations she has served. Davis assumes her role Sept. 6.



DAVIS

Most recently Davis has served as the associate director of Up With Trees, where she has served since 2013. Additionally, she has a great deal of knowledge about Tulsa's philanthropic community, as she served as the community development manager at American Cancer Society from 2009 to 2012.

A native Missourian, Davis relocated with her husband, Paul, in 2007 to accept a scholarship at the University of Tulsa, where she acquired her Master of Arts in English Literature. Davis received her bachelor's degree from Drury University in English Literature, Business and Global Studies. Married for eight years, Julie and Paul have two children.

Sparks Reed Architecture and Interiors has hired Project Designer Emily Chambers.

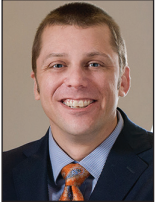


CHAMBERS

Chambers recently graduated from Tulsa Community College's three-year design program. She will pursue her National Council for Interior Design certification while tackling Sparks Reed's commercial projects.

Sparks Reed Architecture and Interiors was founded in 2011 by principal David Reed, Gary Sparks and Jill Selman. To learn more about the firm and its past projects, visit sparksreed.com

Hall Estill, Oklahoma's leading law firm, with offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Denver, north-west Arkansas and Nashville, announces the addition of **David T. Potts** to the firm's tax practice in the Tulsa office.



POTTS

Potts joins as special counsel. His practice focuses primarily in the tax field, assisting clients

in the areas of federal, state and local taxation, including controversy and litigation matters. Prior to joining Hall Estill, Potts was a partner at James, Potts & Wulfers. Potts earned his J.D. from the University of Tulsa College of Law and is involved in the Tulsa County and Oklahoma Bar associations, as well as the International Society of Primerus Law Firms and Tulsa Tax Club.

Hall Estill also announces the addition of **Matthew S. Campbell** as a shareholder in the firm's Tulsa office.

Joining the firm as a 20-year attorney with experience in private practice and in a Fortune 500 Corporate Tax department, Campbell's practice at Hall Estill will concentrate on tax and international tax law, as well as corporate services, specifically in the mergers and acquisitions area, serving clients nationwide. Prior to joining the firm, Campbell was a tax director for TechnipFMC plc in Houston and previously worked at professional services firms Ernst & Young, BKD LLP, Aronson & Company, and KPMG LLP. Campbell earned his J.D. with distinction, from the University of Iowa College of Law and received his LL.M. in Taxation from the Georgetown University Law Center. In addition, Campbell is on the advisory board for Arts for Healing, a 501(c)3 entity.

The Jenks Chamber of Commerce announces the hiring of **Jessica Stacy** to serve as the director of communications.



STACY

Stacy is a recent graduate of Oklahoma State University where she earned a bachelor's in journalism. A Jenks Public Schools alum, Stacy has lived in the Jenks school district nearly her entire life.

"I'm very excited to be back in Jenks," Stacy said. "I am looking forward to working with business leaders in the community I call home."

Stacy will be responsible for public relations and communications to current and prospective chamber members, members of the public and the media. Stacy will plan, promote and enhance programs that achieve the chamber's mission and goals.

When she's not working at the Chamber, Stacy said she's likely to be outdoors. She enjoys jogging, lounging by the pool, and walking her rescue pup, Kit. Stacy is training for her third half-marathon in October.

For questions about the Jenks Chamber, see jenkschamber.com or call 918-299-5005.

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Boulder on the Park Enjoys Rich Tulsa History

As with many architects, Lanny McIntosh had a deep-seated goal to buy an old building and utilize his talent to improve it for use as his architectural office. When an adjacent building at 1850 S. Boulder Ave. came on the market, he and neighbor interior designer Susie Woody jumped at the opportunity, purchasing the building in 2000 and, after a year of remodeling, moved in.

Boulder on the Park, as the building is known today, has an interesting history. It was built in 1923 by contractor brothers Charles A. and Roy Wesley Sanderson for \$24,000. Among its original financial backers were Waite Phillips, W.G. Skelly and George S. Bole. Tucked into the side of a hill, its ground floor is actually a walkout basement. Although only 8,000 square feet, it appears to be much larger.

The first tenant was the newly formed private girls school Holland Hall, which occupied the

building from 1923 to 1932. The school had nine classrooms, a shop, a gymnasium, an assembly auditorium, offices and a chemical laboratory. Class sizes were held to eight students supervised by the indomitable principal Miss Mooney. My mother and her sisters, who lived nearby, all attended school there.

The Sandersons continued to own the building until 1936 when Tulsa County foreclosed on it. In 1938, Aero Exploration Company (an aerial mapping pioneer) bought the building at a Sheriff's Sale and began using it as a laboratory and offices. In 1948, Griffin and Leake, owners of Tulsa Broadcasting Company and KTUL Radio, bought the building. KTUL, with its iconic large, free-standing vertical sign, broadcasted from its new studio, which on the air called the building Boulder on the Park. Thus emerged the current building name.

KTUL, with the help of archi-

tect Joe Koberling, converted the relatively plain exterior to an "Art Moderne" theme. The exterior brick was painted and the central glass block shaft was added along with an art deco entrance canopy. Also included were new flooring, insulation and a second-floor rear entrance. Perimeter clay tile bearing walls, central corridor, east-west bearing walls, and second and third floor wood floor framing remained.

KTUL moved in 1955; in 1957, Holway Engineering Company (responsible for the design of the Grand Lake Dam and Spavinaw water supply structures) bought the building and occupied it until 1977. During this period, the stair tower to the north, which ignores the building's original frontal symmetry, was added. In 1977, the building was converted to commercial office space and later purchased by Pan Western Energy (owned by Sid Anderson).

When McIntosh and Woody purchased the building in 2000, it was in disrepair. The important architectural elements had been either covered up or removed. The entry canopy had been altered, and the vitrolite glass portal had been destroyed and covered up with plywood. Important retaining walls were on the verge of collapsing.

With the help of various historic photos, restoration back to



Courtesy photo

BUILT IN 1923: The building Boulder on the Park sits at 1850 S. Boulder Ave. It received its current name after KTUL Radio referred to the building by that name on the air in the late 1940s. Griffin and Leake, owners of Tulsa Broadcasting Company and KTUL Radio, owned the building from 1948 to 1955.

the KTUL period began. Fragments of the cobalt blue vitrolite were found in a front planter and a source for this scarce material found in St. Louis.

Retaining walls were rebuilt and front windows were replaced with ones to match the originals. A tall vertical glass element was added to de-emphasize the unfortunate mass of the north stairwell addition. Lanny McIntosh drove around Tulsa looking at entrance canopies that would be an appropriate partner to the late 1940s

period and had a new one made in stainless steel.

A supportive banker made the project possible. The new owners moved in and interior work proceeded as finances permitted.

In 2008, McIntosh bought out his partner, and today, his 26-person firm occupies the entire building. When asked about his future plans, McIntosh replies that he is always on the lookout for another building to save. He knows there is one out there with potential that can give him more space for future growth.

Cleaning Up Our Recycling Bins A High Priority for Tulsa

In 2012, the City of Tulsa provided citywide single-dwelling curbside recycling free of charge and a choice of small to large trash bins at increasing prices. From then to today, homeowners have been able to reduce their trash waste and cost, thanks to the easy-to-use recycling system. But as interest in recycling increases, so do contamination levels. Meaning, once people see how much of our trash can be recycled it feels like everything should be able to be recycled!

City of Tulsa Refuse and Recycling Manager Maureen Turner, no relation that we yet know of, says, "When we took on curbside recycling, we entered an agreement to maintain contamination rates at 15 percent. However, we're at about 21.93 percent. We've got to get

that rate lowered, which we certainly can do with the community's help."

Trash Talk



By BETH TURNER
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

Here's is what can go in curbside recycling bins:

- Aluminum and steel cans
- Paper and cardboard
- Rigid plastics no. 1-7
- Glass jars and bottles

Here are a few tricks Turner offers to help figure out into which bin to toss unwanted items:

"You can recycle tubs, buckets, jars and containers from your kitchen, laundry and bath. If it's from the garage, take it

to the Hazardous Waste Drop-off Center.

"If you can wad it up or roll it up, throw it out (in the trash)." This includes items such as plastic bags, (which can be dropped off at any Walmart store), plastic wrap,

aluminum foil, electrical cords, wire and garden hoses.

Lastly, "If in doubt, throw it out." Turner says it's better to lose a little recycling than to contaminate the whole bin.

In an effort to figure out how to better serve Tulsans, Turner met with community members for advice on what holds people back from easy recycling. Many said their kitchen space is too small for multiple trash and recycling bins, so the city is bringing to town strengthened plastic bags with handles on the bottom so they can be hung on a door handle, and easily emptied into the blue bins. I will alert you when these new bags are available.

This fall, up to 15 bags of yard waste placed next to the trash and recycling bins will also be picked up free of charge. "Each season, we see an increase in contamination because bagged leaves are placed in the recycling bins. These bags go next to the bins, not in them. Easy mistake, but a costly one for the city. Just leave them on the ground, and they'll be hauled off for you."

Lastly, Turner or someone from her team is available to come speak to your group or organiza-



BETH TURNER for GTR Newspapers

KIND REMINDERS: Lids must be fully closed for the truck to pick up the bin. Say no to bags in the recycling bin, just let it all hang out loose in there! Bags gum up the recycling machines and cause costly repairs. Plastic bags can be dropped off at any Walmart location entryway.

tion. From homeowners to scouts, Turner says meeting with people creates great memories and involvement. "You know, this all sounds overwhelming at first. But after we get to present to groups and people get to learn about how our trash system works and the ways it keeps us healthy as a city, I

find people appreciate what we're working towards a lot more and that's what brings me happiness – when people see we're working for them and for a healthier, cleaner city while saving all of us a little money along the way." To book your appointment, contact Turner at 918-596-9777.

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UNCORKING THE CURE: The National Multiple Sclerosis Society will host the 16th Annual Uncorking the Cure for MS premier fundraising event on Thursday, Nov. 2 at Cain's Ballroom. From left are Dr. Randall Webb, 2017 MS Hope Award recipient, and his wife Dr. Insung Kim along with 2017 Uncorking the Cure for MS event Chairs Pat and Newton Box. See uncorkingthecureforMSok.org for more information.



DRESSING FOR SUCCESS: Dress for Success Tulsa announces its 16th Annual Fashion Show and Fundraising Event, "An Evening of Empowerment Gala." The event will be held at the Mike Fretz Event Center, 11545 E. 43rd St. in Tulsa on Oct. 5. Ready for the event are, from left, Executive Director Jeanette North, President Katherine Skorvaga, Secretary Tracy Stevensen, and Advisory Board members Pat Simmons and Patti Freeman.

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TCC Vision Dinner Sets Fundraising Record

Event Honored Alison Anthony

The 2017 Vision in Education Leadership Award Dinner set a fundraising record as the evening honored Alison Anthony, the newly named chief operating officer of the Tulsa Area United Way. In addition to honoring Anthony, the event also marked the 10th anniversary of Tulsa Achieves, a program that serves as a nationwide model for public higher education.

Presented by the Tulsa Community College Foundation, the Vision Dinner raised more than \$370,000, the most successful in its 18-year history. The 2017 Vision Honorary co-chairs were Michael and Libby Johnson. Jim Langdon and Steve Turnbo served as the Dinner Committee Co-Chairs. This year's dinner also marked another first with six \$25,000 Visionary sponsors. The Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation issued a corporate sponsor challenge and that challenge was matched by the George Kaiser Family Foundation, ONE Gas, ONEOK, TCCU Federal Credit Union and Williams.

"We are a stronger, more successful community because of Alison Anthony's unwavering support of education and her contributions to diversity and inclusion," TCC President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson said. "She believes passionately that everyone

deserves the same opportunity. Not only does she believe this, but she speaks it and consistently puts it into practice."

The evening also showcased the success of Tulsa Achieves and highlighted how it has shaped the community. Created in 2007, Tulsa Achieves is a gap-funded program that has assisted 17,722 students in attending college and covers tuition and fees after federal student aid is exhausted.

"As a first generation college graduate, this program served as a financial blessing at the right time. I was conflicted about college and questioned if it was a good fit for me. TCC and Tulsa Achieves gave me hope and the tools I needed to survive the 'college world,'" said Keondra Doyle Hampton, a Tulsa Achieves student who spoke during the Vision dinner. Since being part of the first Tulsa Achieves class, she has earned three degrees and is currently applying to pursue a Ph.D.

Funds raised from the TCC



Courtesy TCC

VISIONARIES: Alison Anthony (center), the 2017 Vision in Education Leadership Award honoree is photographed, from left, with the Vision honorary co-chairs Michael and Libby Johnson; Alana R. Hughes, COO, Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation; Leigh B. Goodson, TCC president and CEO; and Vision Dinner co-chairs Jim Langdon and Steve Turnbo.

Foundation Vision Dinner provide TCC students with scholarships, leadership development opportunities, engagement and mentoring with academic scholars and leaders, and technology

and equipment necessary to prepare for today's work force. The TCC Foundation 2017 Board Chair is Alana R. Hughes, chief operating officer, Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation.

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Castle of Muskogee Welcomes Halloween

The Castle of Muskogee's Halloween Festival has returned, running Sept. 29 – Oct. 28. Visitors will find a collection of culinary creations, over 30 craft, home décor and clothing shops, and entertainment for the entire family, including 11 Halloween attractions for all degrees of thrill seekers.

For the major thrill seekers, the Trail of Blood takes visitors into the depths of the castle grounds with new menacing creatures to be found on the wooded walk. Guests may gather courage before their entrance or count survivors afterwards at the trail's pub, The Rack. The hideaway's host, Elvira, may not offer sanctuary from the trail's ghouls, but she'll be there to serve up drinks and entertaining tales before guests' return to the Castle Village.

For a full immersion scare, the Dark Tower Zombie Hunt provides guests opportunity with a mission and weapons to clear the area of zombies and rescue survivors.

Other activities include the Haunted Hayride, a stroll through the Casa Morte labyrinth, and Domus Horrificus, similar to Casa Morte, only scarier.

Visitors are encouraged to use the Castle's Skull Rating as a guide when choosing rides; the number of skulls represents the degree of terror – five skulls indicating an extreme scare.

For those looking for more mild



Photo by CLIFF MOORE | slphotosonline.com

CASTLE HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL

amusement, live entertainment will be offered at the Castle's Halloween village on the Chessboard Stage with the comedy of the Jester Rejects and Escapologist Mark Logsdon. New this year is David Smith the Hypnotist and Topsy Turvy Acrobats.

Families with little ones are encouraged to visit Halloween Land, a carnival-themed area ideal for kids ages eight and under. Activities include kid-friendly games, face painting and prizes with absolutely no scares.

In order to address the often-

times long lines at attractions, the Halloween Festival has added a new ticketing system, created by QLESS. The system allows guests to sign in for a certain attraction, and when it is their turn, they will receive a text, instead of being required to wait in line.

Parking and admission to the Halloween Village is free.

Ticket prices for each attraction range from \$3 to \$15, with combination specials available. Visit okcastle.com to find pricing, attraction packages and details on attractions.

St. John Zoo 5K, 10K Run Returns

The 48th annual St. John ZooRun at the Tulsa Zoo is slated for Saturday, Oct. 7. Tulsa's family-friendly race features a 5K and 10K, plus the St. John 1-mile Fun Run.

Until 10 a.m., family members of participants can enter the zoo for free to cheer on runners at the finish line. After the race, participants can enjoy this year's hospitality area with St. John family activities, face painting, Jupiter jumps and more.

For 48 years, the St. John Zoo-Run has benefited the Tulsa Zoo. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit the Building Beyond Your Wildest Dreams capital campaign, funding exhibits like the newly opened Lost Kingdom exhibit complex.

The annual run event would not be possible without generous sponsors, including Title Sponsor: St. John Health System; Packet Pick-Up Sponsor: New Balance Tulsa; Individual Sponsors: Becco Contractors, Linda Brown – Real Estate, Nabholz and Robert E. Patterson; Water Stop Sponsor: Admiral Express. Hospitality Sponsors: Brookside Nutrition, Java Dave's Coffee, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Panera Bread, Taste of the Wild Catering, The Donut Hole, Whole Foods Market.

Information for Runners

Whether participants are a strolling tortoise or a racing hare, there is a pace for all at this event. The St. John 1-mile Fun Run begins

at 8 a.m., the 5K begins at 8:30 a.m. and the 10K begins at 9 a.m. Registration before Oct. 1 is \$30 for the 5K and 10K, \$25 for the St. John Fun Run. Sept. 29 is the last day to pre-register to be guaranteed a t-shirt.

The 5K and 10K races are certified by USA Track & Field. The longer race courses go through Mohawk Park and end inside of the Tulsa Zoo. The St. John Fun Run takes place entirely on zoo grounds.

For the safety of the runners, the gates to Mohawk Park will close at 8:20 a.m. but will re-open to the general public at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 7. For more information, visit tulsazoo.org/run or contact the zoo at 918-669-6602.



CENTRAL BANK OF OKLAHOMA CALENDAR • OCT. 1 TO NOV. 4



Take a Spin at the Tulsa State Fair Through Oct. 8. at Expo Square

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 October GREEN DAY'S AMERICAN IDIOT Theatre Tulsa Next Stage 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. THE BODYGUARD Celebrity Attractions 2 & 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. DISNEY ON ICE: FOLLOW YOUR HEART Expo Square 6:30 p.m. seatsforeveryone.com for tickets.	2 BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Central Library 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. Dr. Mary Lee Townsend reviews, "America's First Daughter" by Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. YELLOW CLAW Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	3 NATIVE HEARTS: RESPOND AND REFLECT PAC Gallery Oct. 3 – 30 FREE exhibit. OKLAHOMA THUNDER VS. HOUSTON ROCKETS BOK Center 7 p.m. bokcenter.com for more information. New Name. Same Bank. Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	4 BROWN BAG IT: DEAN DEMERRITT WITH SARAH MAUD AND SEAN AL JABOURI PAC Trust 12:10 p.m. FREE event. MOVIE IN THE GARDEN: ADOPT A DOG EDITION WITH SPCA TULSA! Central Library, Tandy Garden 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. tulsalibrary.org	5 ARTIST TALK: MARK LEWIS 108 Contemporary 12 – 5 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. CONNECTED KIDS INAUGURAL GALA Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. Visit ConnectedKids.org for more information.	6 RESONANCE CENTER FOR WOMEN'S STACKED DECK Bond Event Center 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Visit resonancetulsa.org for more information. HOW I BECAME A PIRATE PAC Trust 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. GOV'T MULE Brady Theater 7 p.m. bradytheater.com for more information.	7 WWE LIVE BOK Center 7:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. TOM JONES River Spirit Casino 8 p.m. Visit riverspirittulsa.com for more information. NIGERIAN INDEPENDENCE & CULTURAL CELEBRATION Greenwood Cultural Center 7 p.m. – 1 a.m. Visit unatok.org for more information.
8 LECRAE Cain's Ballroom 6 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information. MUTEMATH Brady Theater 7 p.m. bradytheater.com for more information. RICK SPRINGFIELD AND RICHARD MARX Hard Rock Hotel and Casino 8 p.m. hardrockcasinotulsa.com for more information.	9 FITNESS ON THE GREEN: DEFEND TOGETHER Guthrie Green 6:30 p.m. guthriegreen.com for more information. More Bank for Your Buck Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	10 DRAWING ON MEMORIES Gilcrease Museum 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. alz.org for more information. POETRY WORKSHOP Central Library 6:30-7:30 p.m. tulsalibrary.org for more information. THE HEAD AND THE HEART Cain's Ballroom 8:15 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	11 FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY Guthrie Green 11:30 a.m. guthriegreen.com for more information. STONE SOUR Brady Theater 7:30 p.m. bradytheater.com for more information. SPOON Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	12 WINE FOR WATER Greenwood Cultural Center 6 – 9 p.m. justhope.org/w4w for more information. JASON ALDEAN BOK Center 7:30 p.m. bokcenter.com for more information. RYAN ADAMS Cain's Ballroom 8:15 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	13 TULSA OILERS vs. Kansas City 7:05 p.m. tulsadrillers.com for more information. TU DANCE Choregus Productions 8 p.m. • Oct. 13-14 myticketoffice.com for tickets. MOVIE IN THE PARK: FRIDAY THE 13TH Guthrie Green 8:30 p.m. guthriegreen.com for more information.	14 TULSA POP CULTURE EXPO - TULSA COMIC-CON Wyndham Hotel All Day Visit t-popexpo.com for more information. GOLDEN HURRICANE VS. HOUSTON • TIME TBD Football tulsahurricane.com for tickets. KIDZ BOP BOK Center 6 p.m. bokcenter.com for more information.
15 SHALOMFEST Temple Israel 12 – 4 p.m. templetulsa.com/shalomfest/ for more information. DANISH STRING QUARTET Chamber Music Tulsa 3 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. FALL FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP Tulsa Botanic Garden 2 – 2:30 p.m. tulsabotanic.org for info.	16 BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Central Library 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. tulsalibrary.org for more information. A DAY TO REMEMBER Brady Theater 6:30 p.m. bradytheater.com for more information. ASAP MOB Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	17 GLOBAL VISION AWARDS DoubleTree by Hilton Tulsa Downtown 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. tulsaglobalalliance.org for more information. MARILYN MANSON Brady Theater 7 p.m. bradytheater.com for more information. THE MAGPIE SALUTE Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	18 SHOPKINS Brady Theater 5:30 p.m. bradytheater.com for more information. MOVIE IN THE GARDEN: HALLOWEEN EDITION Central Library, Tandy Garden 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. tulsalibrary.org for more information. Ask us about fraud ID protection Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	19 LINDE OKTOBERFEST River West Festival Park Oct. 19 – 22 tulsaoctoberfest.org for more information. LUKE COMBS Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information. TU THEATRE PRESENTS THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW Kendall Hall's Chapman Theatre 8 p.m. utulsa.edu for more info.	20 NIMROD WRITE NIGHT Tulsa Garden Center 6:30 p.m. nimrod.utulsa.edu for more information. FAUST Tulsa Opera 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. JOSH ABBOTT BAND Cain's Ballroom 8:30 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	21 MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER Mohawk Park 7 – 11 a.m. makingstrideswalk.org for more information. THE WEEKND BOK Center 7:30 p.m. bokcenter.com for more information. FUN HOME American Theatre Co. 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.
22 FUN HOME American Theatre Co. 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. DACHSHUND DASH RACE River West Festival Park 2:20 – 3:30 p.m. tulsaoctoberfest.org for more information. FAUST Tulsa Opera 2:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.	23 CANDLELIGHT CONCERT: AN ENCHANTED EVENING Harveland Mansion 7 – 9 p.m. Visit candlelight-concertseries.com for more information. We Offer Health Savings Accounts Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	24 HIGHLY SUSPECT Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information. FABULOUS FALL: TREES AND SHRUBS Central Library 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. tulsalibrary.org for more information. GOGOL BORDELLO Cain's Ballroom 8:15 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	25 TULSA OILERS vs. Wichita 7:05 p.m. tulsadrillers.com for more information. BIXBY ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION Bixby Library 2 – 3 p.m. tulsalibrary.org for more information. GOGOL BORDELLO Cain's Ballroom 8:15 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	26 TWELVE ANGRY JURORS Riverfield Country Day School 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. FUN HOME American Theatre Co. 8 p.m. • Oct. 26-29 myticketoffice.com for tickets. BAD COMPANY Hard Rock Hotel and Casino 8 p.m. hardrockcasinotulsa.com for more information.	27 DR. BENNET OMALU Tulsa Town Hall 10:30 a.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TWELVE ANGRY JURORS Riverfield Country Day School 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. MAREN MORRIS Brady Theater 7 p.m. bradytheater.com for more information.	28 TULSA RUN West 6th Street and Boulder Ave. 7:5 a.m. – 12 p.m. tulsarun.com for more information. TULSA OILERS vs. Allen 7:05 p.m. tulsadrillers.com for more information. TCHAIKOVSKY'S SYMPHONY NO. 6 Tulsa Symphony Classics 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.
29 PUMPKINHEAD WORKSHOP Tulsa Botanic Garden 2 – 2:30 p.m. tulsabotanic.org for more information. CHICKS WITH HITS Hard Rock Hotel and Casino 5 – 7:30 p.m. hardrockcasinotulsa.com for more information. THE LACS: DEPLORABLES TOUR Cain's Ballroom 7:30 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	30 BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Central Library 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. Dave Rader reviews, "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. BLUES TRAVELER RE-UNION SHOW Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information.	HALLOWEEN FABULOUS FALL: WINTERIZING HOUSEPLANTS Central Library 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. tulsalibrary.org for more information. TRUNK OR TREAT First United Methodist Church of Owasso 6 p.m. fmcowasso.org for more information.	1 BROWN BAG IT: TRIO BALAN-KAN PAC Trust 12:10 p.m. FREE event. THEORY OF A DEADMAN Cain's Ballroom 7:30 p.m. cainsballroom.com for more information. Free Small Business Checking Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	2 MAGIC OF ART PAC Gallery Nov. 2 – 29 FREE exhibit. SIMPLE STEPS FOR STARTING YOUR BUSINESS Hardesty Regional Library 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. tulsalibrary.org for more information. BOOTCAMP Guthrie Green 5:30 p.m. guthriegreen.com for more information.	3 GOLDEN HURRICANE VS. MEMPHIS • 7 p.m. Football tulsahurricane.com for tickets. TULSA OILERS vs. Utah 7:05 p.m. tulsadrillers.com for more information. DON QUIXOTE Tulsa Ballet 8 p.m. • Nov. 3-4 myticketoffice.com for tickets.	4 TULSA OILERS vs. Utah 7:05 p.m. tulsadrillers.com for more information. NATURE TRAIL FULL MOON HIKE Tulsa Botanic Garden 8 – 9 p.m. tulsabotanic.org for more information. AMADEUS Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. • Nov. 3-4 myticketoffice.com for tickets.

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OWASSO NEWS

Tulsa Library Celebrates Anniversaries

In October, the Tulsa City-County Library system will celebrate two milestones: the one-year anniversary of the reopening of the renovated Central Library and 60 years of support from the Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries.

In recognition of the Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries, celebrations will be held during National Friends of Libraries Week from October 15-21.

Founded in 1957, Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries is a nonprofit organization dedicated to aiding and promoting the activities and goals of the Tulsa City-County Library system. Founding members of the organization played a role in rallying public support for the formation of Tulsa's metropolitan library system in 1961 and in the campaign to build the Central Library building that opened in 1965. The organization also provided tours of the renovated Central Library when it was unveiled last year.

National Friends of Libraries Week, an initiative of the American Library Association, held each October, recognizes the efforts of this group of committed volunteers and supporters that log over 2,000 hours annually in support of the library.

Activities undertaken by the Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries offset public library costs by providing additional resources for programming, staff support and special events. Some of the group's activities include funding scholarships for library personnel's ongoing education, hosting the Adult Creative Writing Contest to encourage and support budding authors, supporting early literacy through the First Book program, providing

food and hospitality to the Tulsa City-County Library system staff at their annual professional development day, and hosting an annual event to recognize the library system's dedicated volunteers.

Planned National Friends of Libraries Week activities will include:

Monday, Oct. 16

11:30 a.m. – Proclamation by Mayor G.T. Bynum, Central Library.

12:10 p.m. – Books Sandwiched In, a review of Laurie R. King's "The Beekeeper's Apprentice" from Catherine Gatchell, Central Library. (Started in 1967, Books Sandwiched In is Friends longest standing program. It runs Mondays from Oct. 2 – Nov. 27.)

Tuesday, Oct. 17

7 p.m. – Magic City Books will

host an author event and book signing with Brit Bennett, author of "The Mothers," Central Library. Visit magiccitybooks.com for event details.

Special giveaways will be on hand for those who join Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries during the week's activities.

"As our membership numbers grow, so can our ability to develop even more ambitious ways of supporting our local library system," says President Debora Riggs Grillo.

"Membership in Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries means championing this dynamic, invaluable community resource and ensuring that it will be here for generations to come."

Visit tulsalibrary.org/friends to learn more about the Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries and ways to join.



WELCOME TO OWASSO: In September, the Owasso Chamber of Commerce welcomed Chapman Automotive, 8151 N. Owasso Expwy., to the city. Chapman Automotive is a full-service automotive center that began in Skiatook in 2005.

OK Foundation for Excellence Seeking Nominations

The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, a nonprofit organization that recognizes and encourages academic excellence in Oklahoma's public schools, is seeking nominations for its 2018 Academic All-State Scholarships and Medal for Excellence Awards.

Scholarships and educator awards totaling \$125,000 will be presented at the foundation's 32nd annual Academic Awards Banquet on May 19, 2018.

Academic Awards nominations are being accepted at ofe.org in the following categories:

1. Academic All-State—honors 100 public high school seniors with a \$1,000 merit-based scholarship.
2. The Oklahoma Medal for Excellence in Elementary/Secondary Teaching—honors one public school elementary

teacher and one secondary teacher.

3. The Oklahoma Medal for Excellence in Elementary/Secondary Administration—honors an outstanding public school administrator at the elementary or secondary level.
4. The Oklahoma Medal for Excellence in Teaching at a Regional University or Community College—honors an outstanding teacher at a public regional university or community college.
5. The Oklahoma Medal for Excellence in Teaching at a Research University—honors an educator at a public research university.

Oklahoma Medal for Excellence honorees each receive a \$5,000 cash award. All Medal for Excellence nominations must be submitted by Nov. 28.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

75 YEARS OF LOVE: On Sept. 9, family and friends gathered to celebrate the 75th wedding anniversary of Sperry residents Charles and Edith Sager. They first met in Sand Springs in 1942 when Charles was 18 and Edith was 17. Charles did two tours during World War II as a U.S. marine. They have six children, 14 grandchildren, 29 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.



Amy Meisner was diagnosed with MS in 1997. For someone who has always danced, MS would seem like the end. But for Amy, it means the start of a new chapter. She'll never leave the floor, still dances from her wheelchair, and is a great choreographer. Embracing Amy's undying passion, the National MS Society teamed up with LaTonya Swann to create an entirely new and inspired dance experience through virtual reality. See their experience and find out how you can share yours at WeAreStrongerThanMS.org.

Together We Are Stronger.

