



BROKEN ARROW EXPRESS

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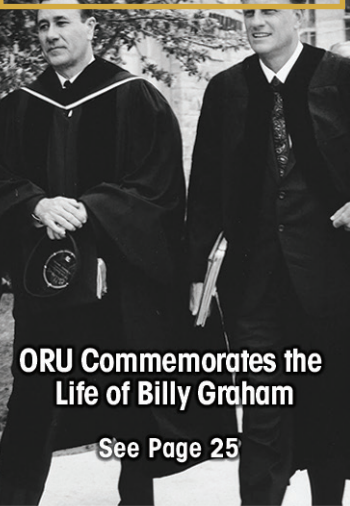
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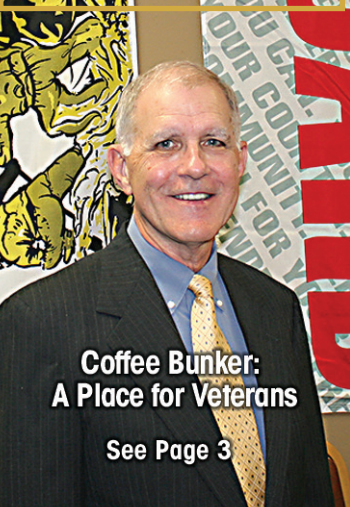
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Rose District Named 'Charming Main Street'

USA Today Recognizes Downtown Broken Arrow For Its Nostalgia, Popularity

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

Broken Arrow's Rose District was recently recognized by USA Today as one of 50 Charming Main Streets across the country.

According to its website, the list features a "nostalgic and cozy" Main Street from each of the 50 states. Other cities on the list include Breckenridge, Colorado; Holland, Michigan; Franklin, Tennessee; and Park City, Utah.

"The national recognition is really awesome to see because of all the hard work the Broken Arrow City Council, staff and the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce and the Broken Arrow school district have put into revitalizing Main Street," says Broken Arrow Mayor Craig Thurmond. "Our residents and business owners should also be proud. They supported the public initiatives that allowed our Main Street to become successful."

In 2017, over \$400,000 in tax revenue was collected from the Rose District, an increase of \$11,000 five years ago.

"The Rose District has become a place to come and take in the sights and enjoy the atmosphere that has been created here," says Alisa Inglett, who opened her art and framing shop Your Design in downtown Broken Arrow seven years ago.

The three picture windows at the front of her store allow her



EMILY RAMSEY for Broken Arrow Express

LOCAL FESTIVITIES: Individuals enjoy the fourth annual Shamrock the Rose, a St. Patrick's Day block party held along Main Street on March 10. Broken Arrow's Main Street was recently highlighted in USA Today as one of 50 Charming Main Streets across the country.

ample opportunity to view the regular line of vehicle and pedestrian activity that takes place outside, she says.

"People love to come downtown and make a day of it here, visiting the restaurants and shops."

The revitalization of the Rose District began seven years ago. The city created a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District for downtown Broken Arrow to begin funding improvements; voters later approved General Obligation bonds in 2011 and 2014 to continue improving key infrastructure.

Public projects, worth over \$65 million, included the renovation of historic buildings, the construction of the 1,500-seat Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center, a new pavilion to hold a farmer's market and community gather-

ings, a 1,200-square-foot interactive water feature, brick paved sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, decorative street lamps and landscape planters.

Several months ago, city officials added speakers and music that plays continuously along Main Street in an effort to create further ambiance in the district, says Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Wes Smithwick.

As the city and chamber put their focus on downtown, private sector funding followed, as many new business, with expenditures of over \$25 million, relocated into the once-declining district. An additional \$60 million in private development is currently on its way, including an \$18-million mixed-use development located on the northern end of Main Street

that will break ground later this year, through a partnership with Milestone Capital. The four-story facility will feature 31,000 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor with approximately 90 luxury apartment units on the three upper levels.

"In the beginning, we believed this project would be a success, and it has been. We are far from seeing the end of all that will come to the area, and that is exciting for the entire community," continues Smithwick.

He expects in the future to see the start of many residential projects—"There's a pent-up demand for people who want to move downtown"—and additional offices opening along and around Main Street in order to increase the amount of daytime activity in the area.

KUDOS OF THE MONTH: Spartan College

Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology is celebrating its 90th year in operation.

Established in 1928, Spartan has produced over 100,000 technicians and pilots. Trainees have included military personnel, as well as those in Spartan's various educational programs.

The school's main campus sits near Tulsa International Airport, with a second campus at Richard Lloyd Jones Jr. Airport.

Tulsa oilman and Founder of Spartan William G. Skelly believed that the changing trans-

portation industry would soon need more skilled aircraft pilots and technicians, leading to the birth of the aviation school.

Skelly was also instrumental in building Tulsa International Airport, originally named Tulsa Municipal Airport.

J. Paul Getty took over the school in the 1930s and remained in charge during World War II. Through the school and Spartan Aircraft Company, Getty presided over Spartan's manufacturing of military aircraft during that era.

Spartan offers academic pro-

grams ranging from certificates to bachelor's degrees with focuses on aviation electronics, aviation management, aviation maintenance, non-destructive testing, HVAC and pilot studies.

The school's mission is "to provide a supportive educational environment for students to actively participate in learning and to provide quality career-oriented higher education programs to a diverse student population."

In addition to its two Tulsa campuses, Spartan has two campuses in California and one in Colorado. The Tulsa campus recently named a new president. Please see page 24.



GTR Newspapers photo

SINCE 1928: Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology is celebrating its 90th year in operation. Pictured from left are Spartan consultant Dave Blankenship, Vice President of Flight Operations John Fitzpatrick and Spartan CEO Dan Peterson.

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COFFEE BUNKER A PLACE FOR VETERANS TO CONNECT



The mission of the Coffee Bunker is to "To offer opportunities that support our service members and veterans toward successful reintegration with their families and communities."

Coffee Bunker is here to meet veterans "where they are" and help with the transition to family and community life. The Coffee Bunker is Tulsa's only peer run drop-in center and provides a family-friendly, alcohol-free and drug-free environment. The 3,500 square foot facility, located at 6365 E. 41st St., is set up for veterans and their families to get together, use computers, enjoy games and group activities, watch TV or movies and just hang out.

In its continued efforts to reach all veterans, Coffee Bunker representatives find it important to meet them right where they are in their lives. Staff strives to connect veterans with the resources and advantages the Tulsa community has for them. The mission statement says, "We believe in bringing Coffee Bunker to our veterans in order to give them an opportunity to know there is a special place for them to call their own and to find how we and our sister resources can help them. "We provide a safe and relaxing atmosphere that welcomes all military servicemen and women, as well as their family members. Our services are provided free of charge. "Our troops have fought for us ... It's our turn to fight for them." Coffee Bunker is the flagship program of Honor Bunker, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in Tulsa.

Coffee Bunker was founded by Mary Ligon. According to the Coffee Bunker website, her heart and mind took a stark change of direction concerning our military and their families after her own 24-year-old son, Cpl. Daniel Y. Ligon, USMC, returned from his second deployment in Fallujah, Iraq. After his honorable discharge, he returned to Tulsa, clearly disturbed. Struggles with PTSD, depression, sheer exhaustion, and a crumbled marriage all culminated in his death by suicide on June 10, 2007. Mary's passion is to redeem the tragedy of Daniel's devastating death, reaching out to others facing the same silent wounds of war.

Mary is a native Tulsan. Her life has been colored in part by living 23 years in the Arab World, as well as three years in England. The countries she has lived in include Cyprus, Egypt, Tunisia, England,



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Michael Horton (USAF) is the executive director of the Coffee Bunker, and vice president of the board of directors.

and Lebanon. Mary has her Certification in Pastoral Counseling from St. John's Anglican College in Nottingham, England. Mary and her husband have been married 35 years and have two grown children, one being Daniel's older sister, the other his younger brother, who served five years in the U.S. Marines. Mary has received the Community Education Award from Mental Health Association in Tulsa and 2010 Annual Award from Community Service Council in Tulsa.

For more information, see www.coffeebunker.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.



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Direct Flights a Key Factor for Tulsa's Economy

Since Tulsa's first beginnings, we were fortunate to have pioneers who embodied a spirit of high expectations for their new hometown. They built one of the first airports in the world, which led to the growth of the aviation industry right here in our beloved city. Much of our success was a result of the public/private collaborations that continue today to ensure Tulsa's successful growth. Air service connectivity is a key driver for Tulsa to grow and thrive in the global marketplace. Last year, Frontier Airlines announced its intent to start service here in Tulsa. This is great news for us since our

From Tulsa's Mayor



By G.T. BYNUM
Mayor of Tulsa

city is growing, and the need for direct flights to and from Tulsa is crucial to our continued growth.

That's why I am pleased to tell you that starting April 11 – for the first time in our history – Tulsa will offer non-stop service to the Bay area through San Jose, CA, as well as service to Washington D.C. through Dulles. San Jose International Airport is the easiest and most accessible airport in the region, and Washington D.C. is the eighth most popular destination for Tulsa travelers. The nonstop service into Dulles will offer easy access for Tulsans traveling to and from the nation's capital. With the



addition of these two nonstop services, it will bring the number of nonstop flights to 22 cities from the Tulsa International Airport.

I greatly appreciate Frontier Airlines for recognizing the value of investing in Tulsa. They are providing a valuable service and more opportunity not only for you and the Tulsa business community, but for our entire region. Frontier will also serve Tulsa's growing tech

sector, which continues to increase its link to the Silicon Valley.

Businesses in Tulsa rely on direct flights to improve their access to the global marketplace and Tulsans depend on air travel to take them to their next adventure. In addition to Frontier's non-stop services, Via Airlines' three new nonstop flights from Austin, Texas, will offer service to Tulsa, beginning May 6. I'm

thankful to both of these airlines for making this investment in our city.

So what are you waiting for? Why not book a flight to the east or west coast today or explore new vacation options down south to Austin, the live music capital. I encourage you to visit www.tulsaairports.com and choose the destination of your dreams or next business venture. Happy air travels.

Tulsa County is Taking a Lead to Combat Opioid Abuse

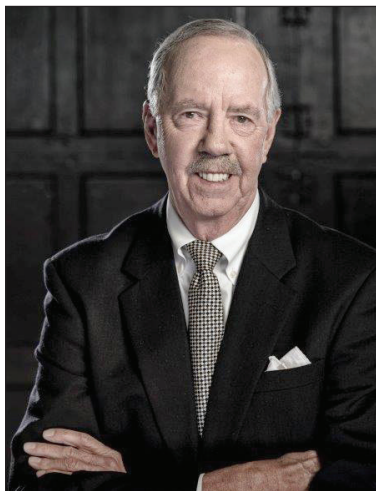
From Tulsa County

By RON PETERS
Tulsa County Commissioner

Over the past year the opioid epidemic has affected every state in the country including Oklahoma. In Oklahoma there were almost three million opioid prescriptions dispensed in 2017. More than half of all opioid prescriptions are issued to patients suffering some form of mental condition that limits their ability to cope or function successfully without taking the medication. Back pain is one of the other more common reasons for adults, and opioids given by dentists and oral surgeons is often the first time a young adult is introduced to opioid painkillers.

Verified statistics indicate that between three percent and nine percent of diverted opioid prescriptions are actually forged prescriptions. If those statistics are applied to Oklahoma, that would mean between 86,000 to 260,000 prescriptions could be forgeries.

To address this contributing cause to the epidemic, Tulsa County initiated conversations about this issue with representatives from local, state, and federal law enforcement, the Oklahoma At-



COMMISSIONER
RON PETERS

torney General's Office, the pharmacy association and businesses, veterinarians, MD's and DO's, the Health Department, and Tulsa County's Social Services Agency.

In December, we presented to the Attorney General's Commission on Opioid Abuse the recommendation that there needed to be legislation that would make it mandatory that all prescriptions for controlled drugs and opioid medication be electronically prescribed. No more paper prescriptions that can be forged or altered. Based on this presentation, the Attorney Gener-

al's Commission in its final report recommended mandatory electronic prescribing as a top priority.

At the beginning of 2018 there were six states with mandatory electronic prescribing on the books and 11 more had filed legislation in 2018. Oklahoma is one of those eleven with the filing by Rep. Glen Mulready of House Bill 2931, which passed the House of Representatives on March 6.

Oklahoma is fortunate to have over 94 percent of its pharmacies already prepared to use electronic prescribing which is above the national average of 90 percent. Prescribers aren't as current with the technology. Of the nearly 14,000 prescribers in Oklahoma, less than 60 percent are equipped as active e-prescribers. Since most physicians' offices already have the electronic medical records software, this can be adapted to include the necessary electronic prescribing software.

Besides eliminating the opportunity to forge opioid prescriptions, there are many other benefits from electronic prescribing. It can prevent prescription drug errors, lost prescriptions, faster refilling of prescriptions, eliminating handwriting errors on prescriptions, provides the physician with better monitoring of controlled substances prescriptions, and improve in-

surance verification.

Combating the opioid epidemic and helping those affected by it is going to take a multi-facet long-

term commitment by many people and organizations. I'm pleased that Tulsa County has taken the lead in this effort.

BETTER WAY LAUNCHED



GTR Newspapers photo

HELPING THE HOMELESS: Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum explains the Better way Program during a news conference at the Denver House in Tulsa. From, left are Tulsa City Councilors Vanessa Hall-Harper, Karen Gilbert, David Patrick and Connie Dodson; Mayor Bynum; Councilor Phil Lakin; Alison Anthony, Tulsa Area United Way president and CEO; and Michael Brose, MSW CEO of Mental Health Association Oklahoma.

Mayor G.T. Bynum, Tulsa City Councilors and officials from Mental Health Association Oklahoma and the Tulsa Area United Way held a news conference March 7, at the Denver House to officially launch the Better Way program in Tulsa.

Inspired by a groundbreaking

employment program in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Bynum introduced the Better Way program in Tulsa, which gives individuals experiencing homelessness an alternative to panhandling by offering a day's wages to beautify the community while connecting individuals to life-changing services in the community.

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Anna America Stays Busy Working for Tulsa

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

Editor's Note: Child Abuse Network CEO and Tulsa District 7 City Councilor Anna America is one of Greater Tulsa Reporter's "10 to Watch in Greater Tulsa 2018," as announced in its January 2018 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 to Watch," with next month's issue to feature Hannibal Johnson, who will become 2018 president of the Rotary Club of Tulsa in July.

Anna America remembers the first time she heard someone refer to her as a busybody do-gooder. She didn't take kindly to the label at the time, but now, she admits, she wears it as a badge of honor.

That vision, desire and follow through in bringing about improvement is a constant theme in America's life.

She has led neighborhood development projects, served as a member of the PlaniTulsa community team, volunteered for the PTA, coached youth soccer, served as a Girl Scouts leader and has volunteered as a driver for Meals on Wheels.

She has served as the executive director of Up With Trees and with Communities in Schools and been a member of the Tulsa Public Schools Board of Education.

She worked on former Mayor Kathy Taylor's successful run for office in 2006.

She has served as Tulsa's District 7 city councilor since 2014 and plans to run for a third term later this year.

In late 2017, America was announced as the new CEO of the Child Abuse Network.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

NEW CEO: Anna America stands outside of the Child Abuse Network's (CAN) offices in Tulsa. In late 2017, America was announced as CAN's new CEO. America also serves as a Tulsa city councilor and is active in many community volunteer efforts.

All of her decisions, America says, have revolved around three core areas that she is particularly passionate about: children, community and green space.

"I'm fortunate because I have never had to compromise my personal and family principles for my job," she says.

Her love of community as well as "getting things done" were what moved her to run for city council, despite her dislike of politics.

"I follow the mantra, 'If you're going to gripe about things, then work to change them,'" she smiles. "I wasn't seeing any changes (in my district). That's why I ran."

America's district, District 7, encompasses a large portion of mid and south Tulsa, including along highway 169 from 31st to 101st streets and along Memorial Drive from 41st to 101st streets.

One recurring issue that America has found herself championing for is the success of small business owners through years of perpetual street construction projects, such as

in the areas of 51st and 61st streets and Sheridan Avenue and 61st Street and Memorial Drive.

America was responsible for creation of the blue "Business Access" signs in order to draw attention to the fact that businesses are still open during construction, she says.

Another district need that she has advocated for is funding for street improvements. This proved especially true in the Vision Tulsa package, after District 7 was left out of funding projects in the Improve Our Tulsa package that was passed in 2013.

She, therefore, pushed for funding to be included for the widening of Mingo Road between 71st and 81st streets. With the construction of a number of multi-family developments in that area, America knew that this was a top need for her district to ease traffic congestion.

She expects work on that project to begin later this year.

As America begins her tenure with CAN, she plans to focus on heightening the organization's profile.



Courtesy CAN

EXPANDED FACILITY: Many community members attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for CAN's Tulsa Police Department Child Crisis Unit. Pictured with CAN CEO Anna America, center, include Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum, City Councilor Karen Gilbert and Tulsa Police Chief Chuck Jordan. They are standing with a box filled with artwork created by Tulsa Public Schools kindergartners that will be used to decorate the new building.

The Child Abuse Network began in 1988. The nonprofit organization is located at 2829 S. Sheridan Rd. and brings together under one roof all agencies that investigate and prosecute child abuse, including law enforcement officers, forensic investigators, the department of human services social workers, Oklahoma University medical pediatric staff and Tulsa County prosecutors.

"My job is getting those groups the resources they need so that they can continue their work," America says.

One area America hopes to address in the future is CAN's need for more space because so many groups are housed at the facility. Space had become such an issue that, in 2015, Tulsa Police officers had to move back to the downtown police courts facility.

However, in February, CAN celebrated the completion of its Tulsa Police Department Child Crisis Unit, which sits in a separate building that had been in disrepair but was renovated thanks to donations by Charles and Lynn Schusterman

Family Foundation, Ross Group and AAON Inc.

America's interest in advocating for CAN also involves advocating for all of Tulsa's social service organizations.

"We have great social services in Tulsa," she says. But just as our many education groups have all come together to advocate for themselves on a state level, "I would like to see social service organizations gain a cohesive voice in advocating for ourselves."

CAN Annual Fundraiser

CAN will hold its fifth annual CAN Superhero Challenge on Sunday, April 8 at 1 p.m. at the POSTOAK Lodge & Retreat, 5323 W. 31st St.

The event will feature two obstacle courses: a half-mile course for children seven years old and younger and a one-mile course for ones ages eight and above. Both courses include jumping, climbing, crawling, pulling, throwing and trail running.



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VARIETY

Music Highlights Spring Lineup of Shows

Humanitarian rock star Bono once said, "Music can change the world because it can change people."

I've traveled for many years and recognized that music as its own language can create a shared emotion. Bonding with strangers over music is gratifying, whether you are singing along to a tune everyone knows or listening thoughtfully to jazz. Music touches common ground within us.

Many upcoming shows I am writing about this month are concerts. They range from Sarah Coburn soloing in Mahler's 4th to tunes by Three Dog Night. Tulsa-area residents support music at several major venues, along with an abundance of live music at clubs and restaurants. Our love for music is becoming a Tulsa brand. That's exciting to watch and experience.

The BOK Center continues its 10th-anniversary year with Lorde, Mar. 21. The singer's real name is Ella Marija Lani Yelich-O'Connor, and she comes from New Zealand. She was only 17 when her song "Royals" became an international hit. Now, at age 21, she has a new Grammy-nominated album, "Melodrama," which explores aspects of heartbreak and the state of solitude. Next up at the BOK, American Country Music's "Male Vocalist of the Year," Thomas Rhett, launches his 30-city "Life Changes 2018 Tour," Apr. 5.

Olivia Newton-John bops into The Hard Rock's Joint, Mar. 22. She's most famous for her role in "Grease," and as a four-time Grammy winner with songs like "Physical." What I didn't know was that this British-born, Australian-bred beauty is the granddaughter of Nobel Prize-winner Max Born, one of the greatest physicists of modern times. What I'd forgotten is that she developed breast cancer in the 1990s and became a strong advocate for cancer "thrivers." It was announced last spring that her cancer has returned after 25 years, but here she is again, singing her heart out.

Also appearing at The Joint will be a familiar face, or chin. Former "Tonight Show with Jay Leno" host and star of "Jay Leno's Ga-

rage," entertains on Apr. 5. Another well-known celebrity Garrison Keillor comes to the Brady Theater on Apr. 10.

Following the St. Patrick's Day-flavored Riverdance, Mar. 18, River Spirit's next headliner event is Three Dog Night, Apr. 19. "One" (is the Loneliest Number), "Mama Told Me Not to Come," "Joy to the World," "Never Been to Spain," and "An Old-Fashioned Love Song," are just a few of their hits. They've been part of the music scene for 50 years and sold

more than a million records over the past decade alone.

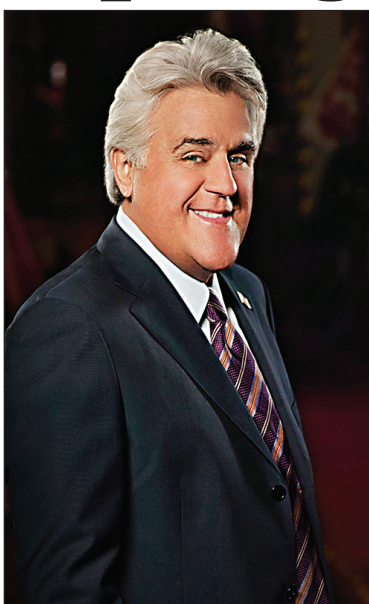
I interviewed travel guru Rudy Maxa for a recent article and was surprised to learn that he was once an investigative reporter for the Washington Post during the Pentagon Papers days and former editor of Spy Magazine. He's an interesting guy with stories to tell about his world travel, along with providing hints to help make your trips painless and rewarding. Tulsa Town Hall hosts Maxa as guest speaker on Mar. 23 at the Tulsa PAC and closes its season with "Orange is the New Black" memoir author Piper Kerman, Apr. 13. In addition to being a bestselling author, she's a prison and criminal justice reform advocate and communications consultant. The Netflix adaptation of her book is an award-winning hit.

More music comes our way Mar. 24 with Tulsa Symphony Orchestra featuring the work of John Adams and Edward Elgar, and an appearance of Tulsa's favorite soprano Sarah Coburn. This internationally recognized singer, who makes her home here, will be the soloist for Mahler's Symphony No. 4. You can learn more about the program by attending a free conversation with the conductor, Daniel Hege, before the concert in the PAC's Westby Pavilion. The public is invited to a reception following the performance. TSO's next Pops program, Apr. 14, is titled "Voyage of Discovery—Space—the Final Frontier," with high-definition video from NASA, Holst's "The Planets," and music from "Star Wars" and "Star Trek."

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN



JAY LENO: The former "Tonight Show" host brings his brand of comedy to the Hard Rock, Apr. 5.



OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN: The four-time Grammy winner bops into The Joint at the Hard Rock Casino on March 22.

Two-time Grammy winner Jason Mraz is freshly off Broadway and headed to the PAC on Mar. 29 for an acoustic solo performance. Broadway standout Sara Bareilles asked him to be part of her hit show "Waitress" for 10 weeks, beginning in Nov. 2017, and then extended his run. Among the many honors for this self-described "coffee shop acoustic singer and writer" is the prestigious Hal David Songwriting Hall of Fame Award. In addition to his many talents, he's a surfer, avocado farm owner, semi-vegan and humanitarian activist.

A sparkling new "The Sound of



CLASSIC MUSICAL: Rodgers and Hammerstein's "A Sound of Music," comes to the Tulsa PAC Apr. 3-8, presented by Celebrity Attractions.



THE PRODUCERS: Theatre Tulsa stages the hilarious musical comedy Apr. 13-21, featuring, from left, Sean Patrick Rooney, Travis Guillory, Mark Frie and Kaye Brownlee-France.

Music" comes to the PAC with music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, and book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse. Julie Andrews spinning with abandon on top of the mountain while singing the title song is etched in our minds. The film was 50 years old in 2015, but still the music and the inspirational story charms and endears. Celebrity Attractions presents, Apr. 3-8.

Theatre Tulsa takes on musical comedy's "The Producers," Apr. 13-21. PAC Director Mark Frie, whom we enjoyed immensely in "Les Misérables" and "Fiddler on the Roof," joins the cast. The show promises to deliver a big dose of fun.

I hope you can take advantage of the live entertainment available locally. It may not change you, but it can uplift, inspire, give you something interesting to think about or simply coax you to smile.



SARAH COBURN: On March 24, Tulsa's favorite soprano is guest soloist of Tulsa Symphony for Mahler's Symphony No. 4.

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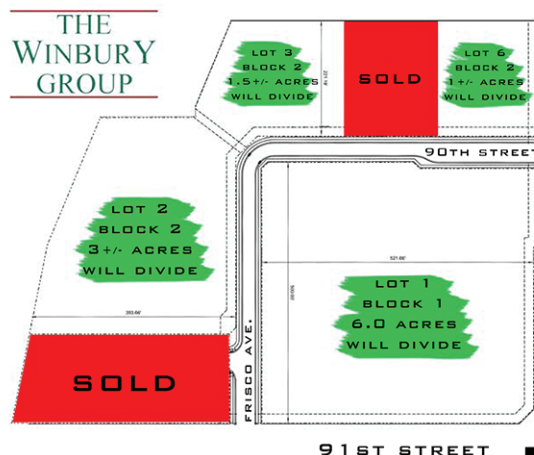
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Red Dirt Music Community Loses a Legend

Complications from Heart Surgery Claim the Life of Brandon Jenkins

Memorial Benefit is March 18

This was never the plan. My job is easy. At least, that's what I thought. That's what it's supposed to be. I write about music. Local music that I love and want to listen to and talk about, learn more about and introduce to people.

This month, I feel like I'm in over my head. I find myself searching for words to assign meaning to the loss our music community has suffered, and honestly, it's beyond my expertise.

I can't put this tragedy into words, much less eulogize this 48-year-old Central High School graduate and Red Dirt Legend.

I need help. I need a true wordsmith; someone who can capture feelings and emotions and articulate them beautifully and concisely. I need Brandon Jenkins.

Perhaps I can lean on Brandon a little and use his words to get me through this column.

"I'm runnin on empty, my options are few."

— *Finger on the Trigger*, album: *Down in Flames*

The way I feel right now, it's not surprising that's the first line that comes to mind. It's not true, however. I have many options. I could reminisce through personal memories like seeing Brandon for the first time in the 1990s at a place I'd never heard of called Miss Tee's (still going strong on West Edison Street). What a great double discovery that was for a new-to-the-scene 20-something. I could talk about my favorite Brandon Jenkins songs or why I love a guy who can sing about the Lord sending down angels, then follow it up with a song about "Red Dirt, Bluegrass, Green Country White Trash." I could talk about his gentle nature, his focus and work ethic, his authenticity, his brilliant and often overlooked guitar skills (considered a songwriter foremost, but the guy could flat out play).

No, my options are many, so, clearly, that's not the line to lift. Let's try another.

Searching for The Sound



By BRYAN CANTRELL

"Lift your eyes and see through the sorrow, muster all the strength you can borrow."

— *Be the Revival*, album: *Tailights in a Boomtown*

That's more like it. I knew he'd have the right words. Yes, let's all see through the sorrow, and borrow strength from each other. And let's do it on Sunday, March 18 at the Shrine, 18th Street and Boston Avenue, for Brothers and Sisters of the Dirt, a memorial benefit for Brandon Jenkins.

Fans, friends, family, musicians, and all of the above will gather to raise money and pay respects. Doors open at 2 p.m. There will be a silent auction, raffles, food, and, of course, music.

The long list of acts to perform include Monica Taylor, Scott Evans, the Red Dirt Rangers, Brad James, Dylan Stewart and many others. All proceeds go to the Jenkins family. Speaking of the Jenkins family...

"In this life, you gotta give what you can give."

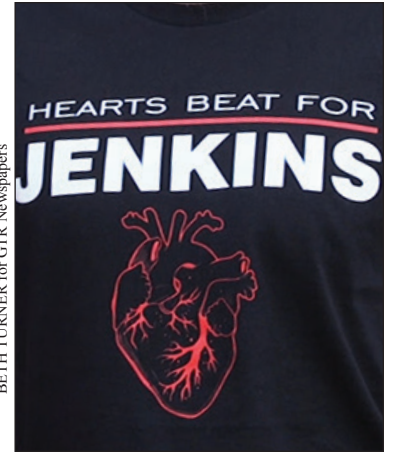
— *Get Down in the Mud*, album: *I Stand Alone*

Although financial concerns seem trivial when dealing with the loss of life, medical costs are still a very real problem for musicians and their families. Jenkins' family (he is survived by his wife Michele and his parents Wilma and Dean Jenkins), in addition to being overcome with grief, is simultaneously burdened by medical bills and related expenses. Please consider easing that burden by purchasing an album or two or donating to the family via PayPal at paypal.me/BrandonJenkins682. Hearts Beat for Jenkins shirts are also still available at topcottonprinting.bigcartel.com.

This issue of financial burden is not unique to the Jenkins' situation. Red Dirt Relief Fund is a



1969 – 2018: Tulsa native Brandon Dean Jenkins passed away on March 2 from complications arising from heart surgery. Above left, John Cooper and Brad Piccolo of Red Dirt Rangers and Scott Evans join Brandon Jenkins at Guthrie Green in August 2016. Evans and the Red Dirt Rangers are among the many acts slated for Brothers and Sisters of the Dirt, a memorial benefit for Jenkins at the Shrine at 18th Street and Boston Avenue on March 18 at 2 p.m. Hearts Beat for Jenkins shirts are still available, with proceeds going to the Jenkins family.



501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides a safety net for musicians. Since 2012, Red Dirt Relief Fund has given out more than \$75,000 to 48 music people in 20 Oklahoma cities and towns.

Consider making a donation at reddirtrelieffund.org to strengthen and expand that safety net.

"Don't get caught up in the race."

— *Song title from 1996 album Faded*

Life is not a race. The race is what interferes and distracts us. Our lives are moments spent doing what we love, and when we face grief, we're reminded to never take those moments for granted.

For me, those moments are often centered around music. Whether it's a weekend festival or a Wednesday night at my favorite watering hole, nothing gets me away from the race better than live music. I know many of my readers feel the same way, so I'm going to conclude this month's column with a few upcoming shows. It is my job after all. The easy part.

Just as we can borrow strength from each other at the benefit concert, we can continue to lean on each other and draw strength in the weeks and months to come from the rich community we are fortunate enough to have in Tulsa.

Just as with Bob Childers, Tom Skinner, Jimmy LaFave and other Red Dirt legends that we've lost, we can take comfort knowing that Brandon Jenkins' music lives on. I'm betting there will be a spike in Brandon Jenkins covers at some of these gigs, so it may be just the comfort we're looking for.

As always, there's no shortage of great local music on the horizon. Here are just a few that stand out to me:

- March 31 – Hosty at The Colony

- April 6 – Brad James Band at Blackbird
- April 8 – Leon Russell Birthday Celebration at Cain's Ballroom featuring Ann Bell, Jamie Oldaker, Jimmy Markham, Frank Padilla, Beau Charron, Don White, Wink Burcham, Brandon Holder, Jim Paul Blair, Casey Van Beek, Brian Lee, Charles Tuberville, and Paul Benjamin
- April 12 – The Soup Kitchen with Dane Arnold at The Colony
- April 26 – Kalo at Blackbird
- April 27 – Red Dirt Rangers at Guthrie Green
- Every Sunday at The Colony –

Paul Benjamin's Sunday nite Thing

- Every Wednesday at The Colony – Tom Skinner's Science Project
- Every Tuesday at Soul City – Dustin Pittsley and Friends
- Every Sunday at Soul City – Sunday Dinner Show with Bruner & Eicher

As I always do, I want to end my column by reminding you to keep searching, keep listening, but this month, I have a different sign off. Raise a glass, say a prayer; be thankful to have crossed paths with the great Brandon Jenkins. Rest in peace Red Dirt Legend.

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Signature Symphony at TCC Hosts Annual Gala

By **RAEGAN DOUGHARTY**
Contributing Writer

With the 2017-2018 concert season quickly approaching, Signature Symphony at TCC and the TCC Foundation hosted the annual Signature Symphony gala on March 3 at the Bond Event Center in downtown Tulsa.

"Overture: A Speakeasy Experience" gave guests the chance to enjoy an evening with a 1920s theme, echoing times when flappers and bootleggers abounded and prohibition reigned. The theme tied the evening to the Signature Symphony's upcoming concert season, which features Tulsa connections to food and music. The night served to support the music education and community outreach provided by Signature Symphony at TCC. Those in attendance enjoyed dinner, drinks and a program along with a



OVERTURE 2018 CHAIRS: Cathy Campbell, Overture auction chair; Susan Harris, Overture committee member; Andrés Franco, Signature Symphony at TCC music director; Jane Primeaux, Overture committee member; Marcia Brueggjenjohann, Overture event chair.

live auction, silent auction and a wine pull. Annually, the group provides 4,000 students with a chance to experience classical music. The Signature Quartet's Seedling Symphony program serves by working

with early learning centers.

"Music education readies children for learning by helping develop their basic mental skills and capabilities," said Marcia MacLeod, Overture honorary chair in a press



OVERTURE 2018 SPEAKEASY: On March 3, individuals stepped inside a speakeasy experience at Signature Symphony at TCC's annual gala, Overture, as vocalist Cynthia Simmons entertained guests with music from the 20's along with Signature Symphony musicians. Pictured, Henry Primeaux looks on decked out in a pinstripe suit, cigar and fedora.

release. "With limited school funding, private funding of music education has become a necessity, and it is the reason why I am involved with Signature Symphony's annual gala, Overture."

Signature Symphony at TCC's upcoming concert season will celebrate its 40th year, beginning with its first concert on Sept. 7. For more information about Signature Symphony, visit signaturesymphony.org.

Tulsa Opera 71st Season to Exemplify 'Era of Inclusion'

By **RAEGAN DOUGHARTY**
Contributing Writer

Tulsa Opera returns for its 71st season, set to open in October. The opera's 2018-2019 season is set to include three Latin American conductors, along with Lucia Lucas in the female baritone's U.S. operatic debut. The upcoming season is intended to model the company's "commitment to casting without regard to ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation."

"Making history, Tulsa Opera presents baritone Lucia Lucas in her American operatic debut as a transgender woman," Director Tobias Picker says in a release from the opera.

The season will encompass three fully staged opera productions, beginning in October with The Barber of Seville. The Little Prince is set to follow in February, and Don Giovanni will close the season in May.

"This is a season that reflects our community as well as our belief that opera is an art form to touch people from every walk of life — including children and families," says General Director Greg Weber, in a release from the opera.



AARON BLAKE: A tenor last seen in *The Pearl Fishers*, "Blake will return as Count Almaviva, an aristocrat who falls in love with the lovely Rosina," according to *Tulsa Opera*.

The Barber of Seville, "a relentlessly madcap pursuit of love through twists and turns, hidden motives and true intentions," includes tenor Aaron Blake as Count Almaviva. Sarah Coburn returns as Rosina, the love interest of Count Almaviva. Oklahoman Peter Strummer plays Dr. Bartolo,



SARAH COBURN: In *The Barber of Seville*, Coburn will portray Rosina in the October performances.

the third character in the love triangle.

The Little Prince by composer Rachel Portman will give those in attendance an "enchanted tale of adventure, friendship and love in an adaptation of the much-beloved book by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry." In the story, a prince and pilot (Will Liverman) whose plane crashes become friends and "take the audience on a magical journey of discovery."



LUCIA LUCAS: The transgender opera singer will perform the title role in the May production of *Don Giovanni* at Tulsa Opera. The performances are set for Friday, May 3, 2019, and Sunday, May 5, 2019.

According to a release from the opera, "Mozart's *Don Giovanni* blends a dazzling combination of stark human tragedy and poignant comedy, as Giovanni pursues the innocent Donna Anna played by

former Tulsa Young Artist Karlye Whitt." The title role of *Don Giovanni* will be filled by Lucia Lucas.

Performance dates and tickets can be found at www.tulsaopera.com.

Theatre Tulsa Announces 96th Season Titles

Theatre Tulsa is celebrating its upcoming 96th season with its annual season announcement celebration on March 29. The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Dennis R. Neill Equality Center in downtown Tulsa, and guests will have a chance to hear what shows will be produced next season, as well as enjoy catering, a cash bar, raffles and a karaoke contest. Theatre Tulsa is a non-profit organization and has been part of Tulsa

since 1922. Hundreds of productions have been performed by the organization, and it is the "longest continuously-operating community theatre west of the Mississippi River, and the seventh oldest in the United States" according to the organization.

"This is always an exciting moment, when we get to announce the next season's titles to our patrons and the theatre community," said Jarrod Kopp, executive

director of Theatre Tulsa. "It's also a great excuse to throw a springtime party for our loyal fans."

According to Theatre Tulsa's website, "12 amazing titles" will be featured in the upcoming season. Tickets can be purchased at eventbrite.com by searching 'Theatre Tulsa.' Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 on the day of the celebration. For more information, visit theatretulsa.org.

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Tulsa Samantha Isler Becomes Hollywood Star

By **RAEGAN DOUGHARTY**
Contributing Writer

Samantha Isler, an 18-year-old Tulsa native and resident, has been growing in popularity in Hollywood since her feature film debut in the 2013 film Home Run.

The Bishop Kelley High School alumna has gone on to pursue roles in both television and film. She made her television debut in Sean Saves the World, an NBC sitcom that ran in 2013 and 2014; she also had roles in the 2016 film Captain Fantastic and 2017 film Molly's Game.

Isler's acting career has also provided her the opportunity to meet well-known figures in the film-making scene, such as Meryl Streep.

When asked what she enjoys most about acting, Isler says, "The experience that comes with it. I love the challenge of having to portray a completely different person's life. Through acting and researching different characters, you get a better understanding

of yourself and the world around you."

Isler currently attends college, majoring in Applied Behavioral Science.

Isler's earliest memories of acting were at home with her younger sister, she remembers. "I was very animated and theatrical, singing and dancing, putting on shows at two years old."

She and her sister would perform shows at family events.

As Isler grew older, a turning point for her was when she realized that she could audition and gain acting roles. She, then, became immersed in the acting world after she attended an acting workshop with her acting coach in Oklahoma City, she says.

Isler marks that experience as the true beginning of her acting path.

She went on to secure a lead role in the 2014 award-winning film Dig Two Graves and later, appeared on well-known television shows, such as Grey's Anatomy and Supernatural.

In 2017, Isler attended the Screen Actors Guild Awards as part of the cast from the 2016 film Captain Fantastic. The film was nominated for "Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture."

It was at this event that Isler met Meryl Streep, her favorite actress, and remembers crying when Streep told her she liked one of the movies that Isler played a role.

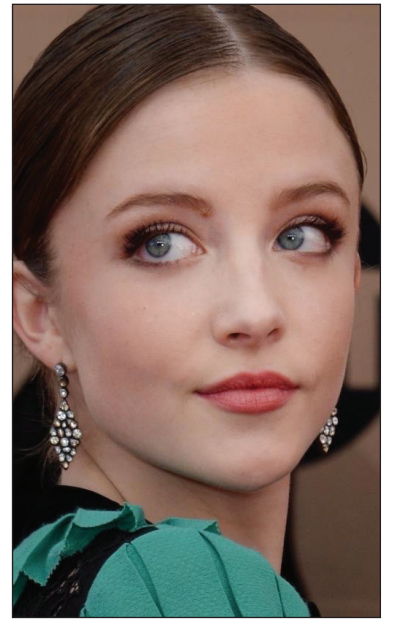
Isler's acting jobs have allowed her to build relationships with many big-name actors, such as her Sean Saves the World co-star Sean Hayes, known for his role on Will and Grace, and writer, director, producer and actor Aaron Sorkin, who has worked on many projects, including The West Wing, A Few Good Men, Moneyball and Steve Jobs.

Although Isler has spent time with more famous people than most 18-year-olds, she is still a normal teenage girl doing "normal teenage girl stuff," she says, "like yoga, reading, journaling, and hanging out and going to dinner with my girlfriends."



Courtesy photo

FAMOUS FACES: Samantha Isler worked alongside well-known actor Kevin Costner in the 2017 film Molly's Game. The film was based on a true story, and Isler portrayed the teenage version of Molly Bloom, an Olympic-class skier sought by the FBI for running a high-stakes exclusive poker game.



Courtesy photo

TULSA TALENT: Isler, a Bishop Kelley High School graduate, has had roles in films such as Captain Fantastic (2016) and has appeared on popular television shows such as Supernatural and Grey's Anatomy.

Tulsa Dream Center Hosts Night of Dreams Gala

The Tulsa Dream Center recently hosted the Night of Dreams gala to raise money for the L.I.F.E. (Literacy Is For Everyone) program, an after school and summer reading program for students in north Tulsa. In the photo at right are, from left in the back row, Denise Geuder, Katy Schmelz, Carmen Cavanaugh, Lauren Beach, Sarah Ingle, Molly Ford, Jodi Conneely and Bethany White. Front row from left are Tim Newton, Amber Johnson and Aaron Johnson.

The Tulsa Dream Center is a community center that strategically provides programs and ser-

vices to the people of north Tulsa and operates to improve health, implement education and create opportunities for men, women and children.

Since opening in 2000, the center has continued to empower and equip the community of north Tulsa to rise above and foster sustainable change. In 2017 alone, the Tulsa Dream Center reached over 40,000 community members.

One of the primary areas of focus at the Tulsa Dream Center is education. Research has shown the ability to read and the hope of a successful future are direct-

ly linked. The center is confident that education will be the pipeline that breaks generational poverty.

In 2011, the Tulsa Dream Center created the Literacy Is For Everyone (LIFE) Program, an after-school and summer reading program targeted for at-risk children.

This program has proved to significantly elevate the reading levels and learning abilities of the boys and girls in north Tulsa.

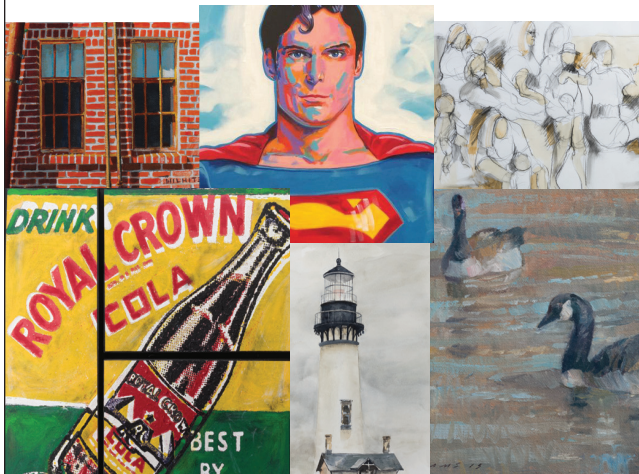
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DINING OUT IN GREATER TULSA

Lone Wolf Keeps Up with Demand in Downtown Tulsa

Local Dining

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

Like most Tulsans, I have memories of standing in what felt like mile-long lines at the Lone Wolf Banh Mi food truck years before founders Phillip and Danielle Phillips appeared on CNBC's Restaurant Startup and before their brick-and-mortar restaurants joined the Tulsa restaurant scene.

Yes, the Phillips have been making a name for themselves in the local food scene with their Vietnamese fusion creations for many years.

The first Lone Wolf location opened in 2016 at 3136 E. 11th St.

Fortunately, for all of the long-time Lone Wolf fans, the latest restaurant location, which opened in 2017 in downtown Tulsa at 203 E. Archer St., continues to hold to the same level of quality and uniqueness.

The restaurant sits in the Archer Building on the corner of Cincinnati Avenue and Archer Street. The restaurant follows the quick service concept, with patrons ordering at the counter and retrieving their own drinks, a concept that is spreading through Tulsa, with a number of QSR-concept restaurants opening throughout Greater Tulsa recently.

The menu, which is posted on a wall next to the order counter, consists of banh mi sandwiches, fried rice bowls and kimchi fries.

There are also a few beer and dessert offerings.

I chose the Ginger Fritter Banh Mi and the popular Kimchi Fries. My friend ordered the Pesto Fried Rice.

Banh Mi is the Vietnamese word for bread. Banh mi sandwiches traditionally come as baguettes.

The Ginger Fritter Banh Mi is a chickpea-based vegan option, filled with cucumber, jalapeño, pickled daikon, carrot slaw, cilantro and a choice of three aioli sauces—thai chili, cilantro pesto, roasted jalapeño.

I appreciated how the breading did not take over the flavor of the dish, and the ginger and freshness of the sandwich were still able to come through.

The Kimchi Fries stood up to their long-time popularity—a large bowl of fries with jack and cheddar cheese, onion, jalapeño, cabbage kimchi, cucumber kimchi, cilantro and the choice of aioli sauce. This could definitely serve as a full meal.

I have not had kimchi fries before so I was not expecting the strong spiciness and the generous toppings of kimchi and cilantro. But the dish's flavors came together so well that even when the spiciness became a bit much for me, I still wanted more.

My friend's Pesto Fried Rice had me at its cilantro and freshness. Add to it the pickled daikon and carrots, which add crunchiness, and the bean sprouts, chicken and aioli sauce, and you have one addictive, delicious dish.

My friend did comment that over time, the dish lost its element of moistness, so she was forced to add some additional sauces.



BLAKE AUSTYN for GTR Newspapers

KIMCHI FRIES: Lone Wolf's Kimchi Fries are a popular item and for good reason, topped with cheese, jalapeño, cabbage kimchi, cucumber kimchi and cilantro.



SECOND LOCATION: Lone Wolf Banh Mi, which began as a food truck frequenting local festivals, has since grown to two brick-and-mortar restaurants. Its first location opened at 3136 E. 11th St. in 2016. Its most recent restaurant opened last year in downtown Tulsa in the Tulsa Arts District.

The restaurant ambiance is basic but accommodating. I particularly enjoyed our seat along a bar that faced south and offered a nice view

of downtown, perfect for people watching.

Lone Wolf's downtown location is open Monday-Thursday 11 a.m.-

10 p.m., Friday-Saturday 11 a.m.-11 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Visit lonewolfutulsa.com for more information

POLO GRILL AWARDED: Tulsa's Polo Grill recently earned a AAA Four Diamond designation. This is the 18th consecutive year that the Polo Grill of Utica Square has earned the prestigious rating.

According to AAA, restaurants earning this distinction offer a unique fine-dining experience and attentive service. Menu offerings are typically distinguished by highly creative chefs using top-quality ingredients and an upscale ambience.

"This rating acknowledges the hard work and dedication of our staff," says Robert Merrifield, proprietor and chef. "At Polo Grill, we are committed to exceeding guest expectations and providing a premier dining experience."



GTR Newspapers Photo

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Hillcrest and BCBSOK Reach Agreement

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma Maintains Partnership

Hillcrest HealthCare System (HHS) and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma (BCBSOK) have reached a multi-year agreement that maintains access to BCBSOK's PPO and HMO networks for HHS patients.

BCBSOK members can seek services at HHS facilities throughout northeastern Oklahoma, including Hillcrest Medical Center, Hillcrest Hospital South, Oklahoma Heart Institute and Tulsa Spine & Specialty Hospital in Tulsa; Bailey Medical Center in Owasso; and Hillcrest hospitals in Pryor, Claremore, Cushing and Henryetta. In a separate agreement finalized

in 2017, Utica Park Clinic and its physicians also maintain participation in BCBSOK's PPO and HMO networks.

HHS facilities and clinics participate in the following BCBSOK networks: Blue Traditional, Blue Choice PPO, Blue Preferred PPO, BlueLincs HMO, Blue Advantage Blue Plan 65 (Medicare Supplement) and Medicare Advantage PPO.

"We are pleased that our patients with Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage will continue to have in-network access to our hospitals," said Kevin Gross, chief executive officer of Hillcrest Health-

Care System. "We have partnered with BCBSOK for many years and work closely together to coordinate health care and provide access to our thousands of mutual patients across northeastern Oklahoma. This new agreement is one step further in our mission to provide high quality, cost effective care to our patients."

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma values its relationship with Hillcrest and looks forward to continuing it long into the future to provide our members access to quality, cost-effective care," said Ted Haynes, president of BCBSOK.



Courtesy BCBS

HEALTHCARE PARTNERS: Celebrating the continuation of the BCBSOK and Hillcrest HealthCare System partnership are, from left, Donald Baker, Hillcrest CFO; Kevin Gross, Hillcrest CEO; Ted Haynes, BCBSOK president; Joseph Cunningham, M.D., divisional SVP of Health Care Delivery and chief medical officer with BCBSOK.

Gynecologic Oncologist Joins Team at CTCA

Cancer Treatment Centers of America at Southwestern Regional Medical Center in Tulsa (CTCA) recently announced the addition of David McIntosh, MD, as a gynecologic oncologist. Board certified in gynecologic oncology, as well as obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. McIntosh is dedicated to using evidence-based cancer treatments to fight gynecologic malignancies on multiple fronts. He is also trained in robotic surgery and has the ability to fully diagnose and treat GYN cancers.

After completing his premedical training at the University of Texas in Austin, Texas, McIntosh earned a medical degree from Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. Following medical school, he completed his internship and residency training in obstetrics and gynecol-

ogy at the University of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City. McIntosh also completed a fellowship in gynecologic oncology at the UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles, California.

McIntosh has held many academic teaching positions and has received the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics Teaching Award from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, as well as the Oklahoma State University Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Excellence in Resident Surgical Teaching Award. Throughout his career, McIntosh has been involved in serving disadvantaged and rural populations by improving access to care.

McIntosh has held leadership positions on several committees and has had his work published in a

number of journals. He is a member of numerous medical organizations, including the American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, the Society of Gynecologic Oncology and the Georgia Obstetrical and Gynecological Society.

Coming to CTCA from Georgia, McIntosh is no stranger to the Tulsa area, having previously worked at another area hospital.

"With the addition of Dr. McIntosh, we will be able to expand our clinical offerings to include more specialized treatments for patients with gynecologic cancers," said Jay Foley, president and CEO at the Tulsa hospital. "Dr. McIntosh recognizes the importance of compassionate care and works closely with his patients to achieve goals they set together. Equally as important, he is committed to helping



DAVID MCINTOSH: Dr. McIntosh is able to diagnose and treat gynecologic cancers and is trained in robotic surgery. CTCA Tulsa currently treats a variety of cancers, and 71 percent of its patients travel from out of state to receive care.

patients maintain the best possible quality of life during and after treatment, by proactively man-

aging side effects and addressing the challenges of cancer survivorship."

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EDUCATION

Groundbreaking Held for TCC Student Center

Mayor G.T. Bynum, City Councilor Anna America, Tulsa Community College officials including President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson, and Board of Regents Chair Paul Cornell held a groundbreaking Feb. 27 for the newest Vision Tulsa project – the Student Success and Career Center at the TCC Southeast Campus, 10300 E. 81st St. The \$5.3 million facility is part of the Vision Tulsa package approved by voters in 2016.

“Tulsa’s future workforce starts by giving individuals the tools they need to graduate from college with a degree or certificate and to start a career,” said Mayor Bynum. “Through the strong support in our city for the Vision Tulsa program, the investment is being made and TCC will help shape Tulsa’s future workforce.”

The Student Success and Career Center is designed with the student in mind by removing stumbling blocks such as long lines and providing personalized service to increase the student’s success. More than 90 percent of TCC graduates remain in the Tulsa area and invest



TCC CAREER PLACEMENT AND STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER: Construction of the new 48,250-square-foot TCC facility on the Southeast Campus is underway. It is designed by GH2 Architects and construction is expected to take 12 months.

their careers in Tulsa businesses, according to a 2017 study by TCC. This means more citizens who are completing post-secondary education and better prepared to enter the Tulsa area workforce.

“This facility will have a direct impact on student success by creating an area where key support services are integrated and attention

is individualized for each student,” said TCC President Goodson. “This will be a comprehensive one-stop location from the first time a student enters TCC until the time they graduate and enter the workforce.”

TCC serves approximately 25,000 annually. The Southeast Campus, the largest of the four main campuses, routinely serves about half



SEAN CAPSHAW/Resoluseum Photography

EDUCATION LEADERS: The Tulsa Community College Foundation hosted a VIP event to reveal the design of the new Student Success and Career Center. From left are Phil Lakin, Jr., Tulsa city councilor; Leigh Goodson, TCC president & CEO; Stacy Schusterman, Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation co-chair, and Ron Looney, TCC regent.

of those students. The new facility will expand key student services considered essential for graduation and job attainment by offering wrap-around services from college application to completion.

“This Vision Tulsa economic development project contributes to carrying out the City of Tulsa’s mission stated in our strategic plan:

to build the foundation for economic prosperity, improved health and enhanced quality of life for our community,” Councilor America said. “TCC is a great regional asset, and this will strengthen the entire program.”

Construction of the 48,250-square-foot facility is expected to take 12 months.

Tulsa Tech Career Academy Expands in Region

Tulsa Tech’s Career Academy is a comprehensive alternative education program that seeks to recover Tulsa-area high school dropouts and those at risk of dropping out. The Career Academy has been serving the region’s at-risk youth between the ages of 17-20 for nearly five years, and the success of the program has led to a growth in applications for enrollment as well as an expanded partnership with all 14 regional school districts.

The Career Academy is the only

alternative program in Tulsa County that combines a half day of high school curriculum and a half day of career and technical training and one of nine similar programs across the state of Oklahoma. The ultimate goal of this program is to increase the employment opportunities of at-risk youth through educational support and training, while creating self-sufficient young adults who contribute to growth and economic development in the Tulsa area.

“This program serves students

that would otherwise fall through the cracks and expanding the Career Academy so that it is available to all school districts in Tulsa County ensures that every kid has a chance to succeed,” said Tulsa Tech Alternative Education Director, Dr. Richard Palazzo. “I am so proud of the dedication of our staff and of the students who are here to make a better life for themselves.”

The success of the program is measured by graduation rates, increased grade point average (GPA), earned

certifications for career training, job placement, and the number of completed applications to either Tulsa Tech or other higher ed institutions for further education.

The success of the Career Academy has been due to the small, personal and one-on-one instructional format that is supportive for high-risk youth. This approach has led to an extraordinary high school completion rate, including 16 current students that have already met requirements, along with another

22 well on their way towards graduation in May.

About Tulsa Tech

Tulsa Tech, the oldest and largest in Oklahoma’s CareerTech System, is a career and technology center school district dedicated to educating people for success in the workplace. Tulsa Tech helps high school and adult students from across the Tulsa region explore new careers, upgrade their training and skills, and pursue their dreams. More information can be found at tulsatech.edu.



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Tulsa Tech Alum Forms Student Chapter at OSU

In addition to the many exciting programs available to students, Tulsa Tech provides opportunities for students to participate in a variety of career and technical student organizations (CTSO) related to their particular career interest. These essential groups allow students to develop leadership skills, network with professionals across the nation, and get involved in numerous projects for the betterment of our community.

Students begin by participating at the local level in various CTSO activities and competitions, with many participants advancing to district, state, and possibly national ranks.

Tulsa Tech is a proud host to several chapters of CTSO's, including Business Professionals of America (BPA), DECA Association of Marketing Students, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Future Health Professionals (HOSA), Oklahoma Society of Radiologic Technologists (OSRT), SkillsUSA, Technology Student Organization (TSA), and the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS).

Jordyn Davis, a former student who studied pre-engineering and biomedical sciences while at Tulsa Tech, discovered that she missed many of the benefits and activities

related to her involvement in a career-related student organization after she began attending Oklahoma State University.

"At first I didn't think much about it, but the more I thought, I began to realize how I missed having those connections and how valuable many of the activities were as a student," Davis says. "That's when I started to explore the possibility of forming a HOSA chapter here at OSU and began to see what steps might be involved."

The HOSA student organization provides a unique program of leadership development, motivation, and recognition exclusively for

secondary, postsecondary, adult, and collegiate students enrolled in health science education and biomedical science programs across the nation.

The former Bixby High School student discovered there were several steps involved with the formation of a new chapter and also that the final phase would involve approval by the university.

"The entire process of forming the chapter and getting approval took about four months," says Davis. "The requirements included finding a professor from Oklahoma State who could serve as our advisor, along with four officers, a president, vice-president, secre-



Courtesy Tulsa Tech

BLAZING A TRAIL: Jordyn Davis, a former Biomedical Sciences student at Tulsa Tech, was instrumental in forming a new Future Health Professionals (HOSA) chapter at Oklahoma State University.

tary, and treasurer, in addition to 10 active members currently registered with the organization."

Davis, currently a sophomore at OSU majoring in Human Development and Family Sciences, with a goal of eventually becoming a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, worked diligently to meet those requirements before meeting with university officials for final approval.

"After our group had obtained an advisor and chosen our four officers, I had to appear before both the Student Organization Committee and the Student Government Association Senate for OSU," Davis says. "The entire process was challenging and a lot of work. I

was very happy and somewhat relieved once our chapter at Oklahoma State had been approved."

The future pediatrician nurse hopes that other students in health-related degree paths at OSU will also benefit from their involvement with HOSA.

"My involvement with HOSA has helped me both as a student and as an individual," she says. "I used to be really shy, and now I am able to speak up within a small group or even speak to a large group. My involvement in HOSA has also given me the opportunity to meet other members within the state and across the country. I would not have gained those skills

or had those types of friendships and network without HOSA."

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students, Tulsa Tech thanks amazing individuals like Jordyn Davis for their exceptional service and for being such incredible ambassadors and advocates for our state and all of Oklahoma Career and Technical Education.

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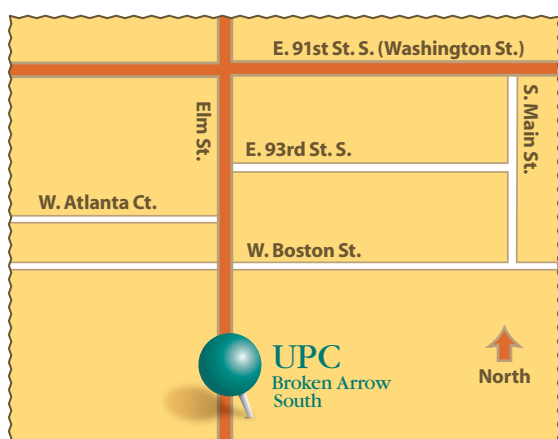
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Dr. Battles is board certified in family medicine and has been practicing since 2007.

"I'm a big believer in preventative care and having patients take an active role in their health," she says. "When they do, better outcomes are often achieved."

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== B.A. EDUCATION ==

Student Named All-Stater

Broken Arrow High School senior Hunter Janway has been named a 2018 Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence (OFE) Academic All-State winner. He is one of 100 winners, selected from 536 nominations throughout Oklahoma.

Janway holds a 4.97 cumulative GPA and is a National Merit Semifinalist and a Rotary Club Student of the Month and holds a Mathematics League Certificate of Merit.

He is a member of Key Club, Student Council, Mu Alpha Theta, team captain of his soccer team and a National Honor Society officer.

Janway will receive a \$1,000 merit-based scholarship and a medallion. He and the other winners throughout the state will be recognized at the foundation's 32nd annual Academic Awards Banquet on May 19, to be held in Norman.

The 2018 Academic All-State Class is the 32nd to be selected by the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence. Since the award program's inception in 1987, some 3,200 high school seniors from 322 school districts have been named All-State scholars.

David L. Boren, chairman and founder of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, describes the selection of the scholars as "Oklahoma's most rigorous academic competition."

To be nominated for Academic All-State, students must meet one of the following



Courtesy BAPS

HUNTER JANWAY

criteria: an American College Test (ACT) composite score of at least 30; a combined SAT evidence-based reading & writing and math score of at least 1340; or be selected as a semi-finalist for a National Merit, National Achievement or National Hispanic Scholarship.

BAPS Gala to Support District

The Broken Arrow Public Schools (BAPS) Foundation will hold its fundraising gala and auction, "Back to Basics: Celebrating 25 years of supporting classrooms in Broken Arrow," Saturday, April 7 at 7 p.m. at the Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center.

All proceeds from the event will support the foundation's mission of positively impacting education in Broken Arrow by providing funds for incentive grants to teachers.

Sponsorship opportunities are available, and single tickets can be purchased for \$75 at bitly.com/BABack2Basics. Attendees can save \$25 until March 6 by using promo code 25YEARS.

In the past 10 years, the foundation has awarded 672 grants totaling more than \$300,000 to Broken Arrow teachers and provided monetary support for additional initiatives like Project Graduation.

"In light of the current financial situation for public education in Oklahoma, we are committed to doing everything we can to raise money to continue to support our teachers and provide the world-class education our students in Broken Arrow deserve," BAPS Foundation President Sharon Whelpley says.

The event will include dinner, dancing, and live and silent auctions. News On 6 Chief Meteorologist Travis Meyer and Emmy award-winning news anchor Terry Hood will serve as emcees.

"Our goal is to provide a night to remember as well as to celebrate the great things our Broken Arrow teachers are accomplishing," BAPS Foundation Advisory Member Charlie Hannema says.

For more information about corporate and table sponsorships, call 918-510-5454 or email ajgrace82@gmail.com.

BAND DIRECTOR EARNS HONOR



Courtesy BAPS

Broken Arrow High School Director of Bands Darrin Davis has been elected into the membership of the American Bandmasters Association for his accomplishments and contributions to the advancement of the Wind Ensemble and its literature.

ABA membership is by invitation only and offered to approximately 300 leaders in the profession. Of the active members, only 30 are high school band directors.

Davis is in his 25th year of teaching in Broken Arrow and ninth year as director of bands at Broken Arrow High School. Bands under his direction have performed at Carnegie Hall, the Tournament of Roses Parade, the Midwest Clinic and have won multiple Bands of America Grand National Championship awards.

"Darrin Davis is one of the true gems of our Broken Arrow community," Broken Ar-

row Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Janet Dunlop says. "He has dedicated his life to leading our kids with passion and an unwavering commitment to excellence. We are all so proud of this incredible honor."

The Broken Arrow band program was also awarded the prestigious Sudler Shield in 2015 from the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

"I am so fortunate to work in the Broken Arrow school district and am incredibly grateful to my colleagues and my students for giving me this opportunity," Davis says.

In addition to his duties at BAHS, Davis has been a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States.

"I never imagined so long ago that I would be able to stand alongside so many amazing conductors and composers from America's rich heritage of concert band performances," he says.

B.A. Wrestler Celebrates First Place Finish

By MIKE MOGUIN
Sports Writer

Reece Witcraft made his mark in Broken Arrow's wrestling legacy with a first-place finish in the Class 6A state wrestling tournament last month in Oklahoma City.

Witcraft, a junior who finished the year with a record of 36-6, was one of three state champions for the Tigers, who finished second in the team standings with 129.5 points, 8.5 behind Choctaw, who won with 138. Witcraft won the 126-pound championship bout with a win over the Yellow-jackets' Colt Newton, pinning at the 3:22 mark into the match. The other two state champions were fellow juniors Gavin Potter (195) and Zach Marcheselli (220).

It wasn't the first time Witcraft faced Newton. They also battled for the same weight-class in dual-state two weeks earlier. Witcraft finished on the receiving end of an 8-5 decision in the match. That brought motivation.

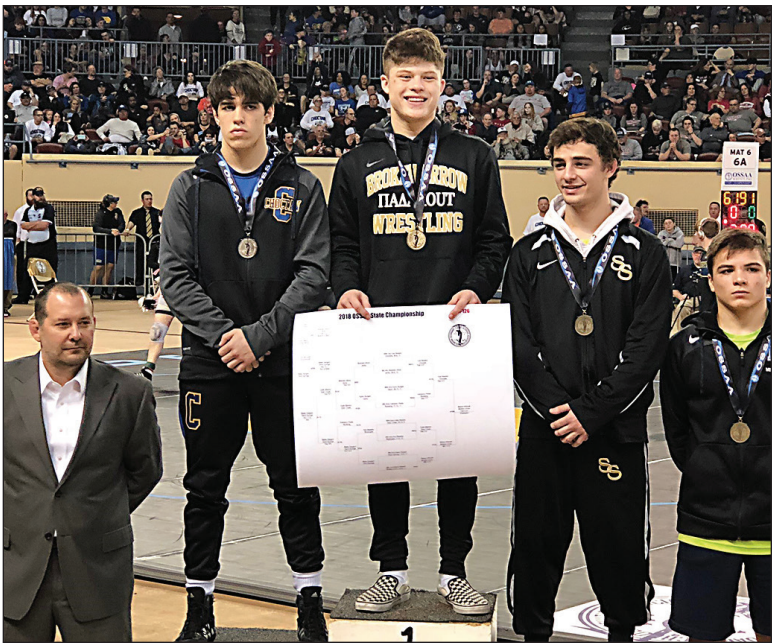
"After I lost, I started looking at the match, picking out what I needed to do when I wrestle (Newton) again," Witcraft says. "I knew I was going to wrestle him in the finals, so I switched up what I did."

It paid off.

"He shot at me and I whipped him to his back, then I got on top," Witcraft says. "It felt great. After losing to him in dual state, it felt a lot better to beat him in the finals."

Another spark of motivation came from losing by fall in the 5A 126-pound final when he was a student at Coweta.

Witcraft relocated with his family from Coweta to Broken Arrow, which led to the change of schools.



THE WINNER: Broken Arrow wrestler Reece Witcraft, center, is honored as the 126-pound champion at the Class 6A state wrestling meet. His coach, Sean Jones, left, stands with the placers.

"Last year was a rough year, I thought," he says. "I wasn't wrestling like I should have been, and I went to the state finals. I got in an awkward situation, I landed on my back and I got pinned. After that, I spent the offseason wrestling and I got better."

As for the other state winners, Potter (34-4) won state for the second straight year. He became a two-time state champ, beat Choctaw's Easton Rendleman in a 1-0 decision. Marcheselli became a three-time state champ as he took a 3-2 decision over Mason Lancaster (34-3) of Putnam City.

Other Broken Arrow wrestlers who placed were Caleb Wise (160, runner-up), Bryce Mattioda (176, runner-up) and Brady Mattioda (152, third).

Meanwhile, Witcraft and his teammates would have liked to have the team championship as well.

"It was tough because we think we should have won," he says. "We just had a couple of bad performances, not bad, but could have done better and we could have won it. We'll win it next year."

The Tigers do have all their state champs back and only have two seniors leaving.

What Witcraft likes most about wrestling is the winning.

"I like all the hard work it takes to win, and after winning a hard match, how it feels," he said. "I think it offers a lot of discipline with the weight management and I think it's very mental."



NUMBER ONE: Broken Arrow's Reece Witcraft, left, celebrates after pinning Choctaw's Colt Newton in the Class 6A 126-pound championship.

The headlock is his favorite move.


"If I get it, they're pinned," he adds.

Witcraft's favorite wrestler is Yianni Diakomihalis of Cornell. The key to repeating next sea-

son, Witcraft said, is just working harder.

"I got to keep the same hunger as I had this year," he says.

Being involved in freestyle wrestling is in Witcraft's plans this summer.



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SPORTS

NHL Exhibition Has Local Hockey Fans Abuzz

Tulsa Classic Features Dallas Stars, Florida Panthers at BOK Center Sept. 22

The Dallas Stars are bringing the first ever NHL game to BOK Center on Saturday, Sept. 22 at 7 p.m. with the Tulsa Classic - Dallas Stars vs. Florida Panthers, presented by SemGroup. The marquee neutral site event will be televised live and is part of the venue's 10-year anniversary celebration.

"We're excited to bring our team to the city of Tulsa so that our wonderful fans in Oklahoma can see the Stars live," says Jim Lites, CEO and governor of the Dallas Stars. "As an organization, the Stars are committed to growing the game throughout the entire southwest region, and there is no better way to show that than by bringing the NHL to a tremendous facility like the BOK Center."

Tickets went on sale March 16 and will be available online at www.bokcenter.com, Arby's Box Office at BOK Center, or by calling 1-866-7-BOKTCTR. Tickets will NOT be available for purchase at the Arby's Box Office at BOK Center on the first day of ticket sales. Remaining available tickets will be available for purchase at the BOK Center Box Office on the next business day that the box office is open.

The Stars' full pre-season roster will be in Tulsa for the game potentially including NHL All Stars Tyler Seguin and John Klingberg, Captain Jamie Benn, Alternate Captain Jason Spezza, and goalie Kari Lehtonen. Fans will also get a chance to see the Dallas Ice Girls and team mascot Victor E. Green. The Florida Panthers will

also be making their first trip to Oklahoma from Sunrise, Florida.

"We are excited to bring more professional sports action to downtown Tulsa" says Jeff Nickler, BOK Center general manager. "This arena was built to host world-class live entertainment and sporting events, and we are looking forward to welcoming the Dallas Stars and NHL to Tulsa for the first time ever."

Both teams are currently in playoff contention for this season with the Stars looking to compete for their second Stanley Cup. The NHL Draft is slated for this June in Dallas at American Airlines Center, which will mark the first time the Stars and the city of Dallas will host the event. Stars fans in Tulsa will get the first chance to see new players coming out of



the draft and on the roster in action in Tulsa.

Several upgraded VIP experiences are available for purchase for this event. VIP package amenities range from tickets in the first three rows to commemorative posters to a meet-and-greet with the Dallas Stars General

Manager, coach and 1-2 players and a private pre-party with catered food and beverage. For more information on group sales opportunities for groups of 10 or more, contact Connie Lytle, group sales coordinator, at 918-894-4264 or cllytle@smgtulsa.com.

TU and ORU Soccer to Meet at ONEOK in October

The battle for the Mayor's Cup in men's soccer is coming to downtown Tulsa. The University of Tulsa Golden Hurricane will

face the Oral Roberts University Golden Eagles at ONEOK Field on Tuesday, October 23. It will mark the first year of a two-year commitment to play the rivalry game at ONEOK Field, home of the Tulsa Roughnecks.

"We are really excited to be able to bring Tulsa's two Division I teams together to meet at ONEOK Field," says Roughnecks executive Brian Carroll. "The Roughnecks organization is always striving to grow the game of soccer in our community, and being able to put a spotlight on

this rivalry match will help to do that. We hope that our fans will take the opportunity to come out and support these two fine programs and to support soccer in Tulsa."

Roughnecks season ticket holders will receive tickets to the match as part of their 2018 season ticket packages. In addition, both TU and ORU soccer season ticket holders will also receive tickets to the match.

"This was an idea discussed by my assistant coaches Ryan Pore and Daniel Cheronnier, and we thought it was a no brainer to have the TU/ORU game hosted by the Roughnecks at ONEOK Field," says University of Tulsa Men's Head Soccer Coach Tom McIntosh.

"Our goal is to create an environment like some of the other local rivalries in the country. California Santa Barbara played Cal Poly in front of nearly 15,000 fans, and Creighton played UNO in front of 5,000 fans. We know we can do something similar and showcase the two NCAA Division I programs in the state. We need to raise the awareness of the strength of our programs in Tulsa, and I believe this is a vehicle to help achieve that goal."

The atmosphere at matches at California Santa Barbara and other top collegiate programs is unique with university bands and vocal student, supporters groups. The hope is to replicate some of those features with the Mayor's Cup match.

Oral Roberts University Men's Head Soccer Coach Ryan Bush is looking forward to the change and the chance to gain further exposure for college soccer in the area.

"We are excited to partner with the Roughnecks at ONEOK Field, and I be-

lieve this is an excellent opportunity for soccer in Tulsa to showcase some of its talent," says Bush. "I'm excited to see the Tulsa Soccer community unite to support this cross-town rivalry and help to grow recognition for both programs."

Kickoff for the match is slated for 7 p.m. Individual ticket prices and the on-sale date will be announced shortly.

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HARRY LENTZ for GTR Newspapers

MEMPHIS BLUES: Though the Tulsa Hurricane was able to beat Memphis in Tulsa, the Tigers stunned TU with a last second three-point shot in the AAC Tournament to end the 'Cane's season.

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OSU's Dave Hunziker to M.C. the Iba Awards

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Dave Hunziker, in his 17th season as "Voice of the Cowboys" for Oklahoma State University football and men's basketball, will be the master of ceremonies at the 25th Annual Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Awards.

The prestigious black-tie-optional event will be held at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa on June 18. Its presenting sponsor is Tom Rinehart. Proceeds benefit the Rotary Club of Tulsa Foundation, which supports local and area non profits benefitting young people and the club's International Projects Committee.

Hunziker's "Pistols Firing, touchdown Oklahoma State!" call has become a nationally recognized exclamation of Cowboy scores. His exciting, yet conversational style has made him popular with Oklahoma State fans of all ages. He was named the 2013 Oklahoma Sports-caster of the Year by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association and also earned the 2010 Bill Teegins Excellence in Sports-casting Award.

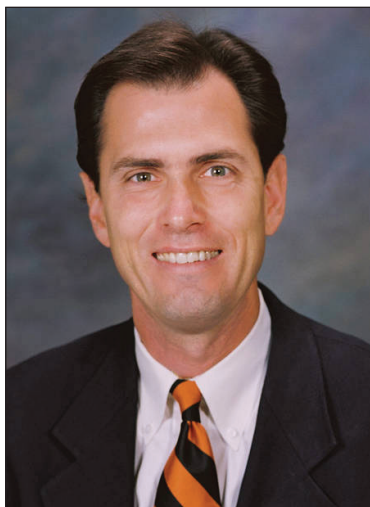
Hunziker has enjoyed more than 28 years on the air in college athletics, including the past 25 seasons at the NCAA Division I level. He served as "Voice of the Highlanders," at Radford University in Radford, Virginia, from 1992-2000, and served as the first television play-by-play voice of the Big South Conference from 1996-2000. He spent the 2000-01 season as the "Voice of the Hilltoppers" at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Hunziker is also adjunct instruc-

tor in the Paul Miller School of Media & Strategic Communications at Oklahoma State. He teaches the advanced level course, "Sports Announcing," which focuses on the basic elements of play-by-play announcing and emphasizes the importance of excellent writing skills as a precursor to success as a sports announcer. The course also offers instruction regarding network organization, broadcast sales, and television anchoring and reporting. He also serves as camp director for the Oklahoma State University Sports Media Camp, which offers a weekend of broadcasting and writing experiences for high school and first-year college students from across America.

He has also served as the official spokesperson for the Oklahoma State University Coaches vs. Cancer campaign. The OSU campaign has raised more than \$1 million during its existence and annually tops the Big 12 Conference in dollars raised. Hunziker was one of the founders of the OSU Coaches vs. Cancer "Cowboy Classic" golf tournament, which brings together OSU coaches and celebrities each year. The tournament has raised more than \$200,000 during its brief existence.

Also, Hunziker has served as spokesman for Oklahoma Genetics, Inc., an organization that markets Oklahoma State's world-class wheat varieties to the farmers of the plains. He has traveled to various locations in the state to help spread the message regarding OSU's outstanding wheat breeding program.



DAVE HUNZIKER

He was recognized by Oklahoma Genetics with its "Legacy Award" recognizing his dedication and unrelenting commitment to production agriculture and the seed industry of Oklahoma.

Hunziker earned his first broadcasting position at age 17 as a part-time sports announcer and disc jockey at KMEM-FM in Memphis, Missouri. He covered local news events and got his first taste of radio sports play-by-play during his three years at KMEM, working primarily in the summer, on weekends and during college breaks.

A 1988 graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, Hunziker landed his first full-time announcing job at KFRU-AM in Columbia, Missouri. He served as play-by-play announcer for Columbia Rock Bridge High School sports and Columbia College athletics. He was also the host of a nightly sports talk show.

For table sponsorship information, contact the Rotary Club of Tulsa at 918-584-7642 or online at ibaawards.com.



GTR Newspapers photo

FUN TIMES: The Annual Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Awards event is a prestigious black-tie-optional affair. Above at last year's event are, from left, Tim Colwell, Patty Colwell and Jeff Hassell. This year's Iba Awards will be held at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino on June 18.



GTR Newspapers photo

BIG 12 WRESTLING: The Big 12 Conference announced Tulsa as the host site for the Big 12 Wrestling Championship at the BOK Center, March 9-10 of 2019 and March 7-8 of 2020 during a recent press conference at the BOK Center. "On behalf of the Tulsa Sports Commission and our regional partners, we appreciate the Big 12 Conference for believing in our ability to host the coveted Big 12 Wrestling Championship for another two years," said Vince Trinidad, executive director of the Tulsa Sports Commission.

Watch

OKLAHOMA SPORTS SCENE

Sportscene is hosted by, from left, Tulsa Public Schools Athletic Director Gil Cloud, local and national TV sportscaster Chris Lincoln, and Tulsa sports legend J.V. Haney.

OKLAHOMA SPORTS SCENE

Upcoming Shows will feature:

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Bishop Kelley Brothers are Swimming Champions

By MIKE MOGUIN
Sports Writer

Brothers Patrick and Jack Callan are a big part of why Bishop Kelley is successful with its swim program. They were victors in the Class 5A state swim meet in February in Edmond.

Patrick, a senior, who is bound for Michigan, took first in individual and relay races, marking him a winner in state swimming events in his high school career. This year, he won the 50 (20.78) and 100-yard (44.82) freestyle events, along with other Kelley swimmers, including his brother, in the 200 (1:29.08) and 400-yard (3:15.62) freestyle races.

Jack, a sophomore this year, won the 200 (1:44.08) and 500-yard (4:40.86) freestyle races. He had also won them last year as a freshman.

Patrick won the races his younger brother competed in during his freshman and sophomore seasons. As a junior last year, Patrick won the 100-yard butterfly, 200-yard individual medley and the same relay meets.

At this year's meet, the siblings were joined by freshman Sam Duda and senior Rafael Serrano Meneses in the 200 relay, along with freshmen Matt Hunt and Tyler Huang in the 400.

"It meant a lot to (win) individually and see all the workouts I've done the past couple of years pay off," Patrick says.

"But, the relays were a lot more important to me, because it was all these guys coming together and showing what we can do as a team.

"We had one senior who graduated last year who was a big part of our relay," Patrick says. "To be able to replace him with these new kids coming in, it really showed that we can lose someone and be just as good."

Both brothers, who are involved with USA club swimming in the offseason, enjoyed being able to swim together in the relays.

"It was really cool to be able to race and train with him and just seeing him get really good," Patrick says. "He's going to be an incredible athlete. Just being able to race with him has been awesome, plus winning all these state titles with him. It's been special."

"It was awesome," Jack says. "He was a lot of fun to swim with. He is a great guy. He is really humble. It's fun having him at the anchor too. It's just fun swimming with him being my brother, and training with him all those years; we finally get to do great things together. So, it was fun.

However, as a team, the Comets came up two points shy to Booker T. Washington (289-287) in the team standings and had to settle for a second-place finish.

"It was really hard at first, knowing that we got that close,"

Patrick says. "We knew coming into this year that we were going to be really good and that we had a chance to win. But we gave it a heck of a fight, and it was really a great meet. A lot of people put up best times and we gave all we had."

"It was hard to take, especially by two points," Jack says. "I felt worse for the seniors, knowing that this is their last shot. So next year, we're thinking we're going to do it for them. They deserve it."

What the older Callan likes most about swimming is that a person can stay involved in the sport as long as he or she wishes.

"There are people in their 80s and 90s who still compete at the national level, and that's one thing that most sports can't give you," he says. "Also, whatever work you put in is what you're going to get out. In swimming, you either work hard and swim fast one race day or you don't and get beat."

For the younger Callan, his favorite part is just the racing and having fun.

"I think the most beneficial part is it helps you stay healthy. It's a sport that works all muscles in the body and it's easy to stay in shape," he says.

Next year, Patrick, who graduates in May, will be in Big 10 country, swimming for the University of Michigan, whom he recently signed with.



Photo Courtesy of Sean Callan/Trident Aquatics

JACK AND PATRICK CALLAN: Bishop Kelley swimmers and brothers Jack, left, and Patrick Callan celebrate after winning individual and relay races with their team at the Class 5A boys swim meet on Feb. 17 in Edmond.

"They were really focused on being a real big family," Patrick says. "The other schools I visited, some of the guys are focused more on their individual goals, and at Michigan, it was all about the team. They have a saying, 'The team, the team, the team.' It was really evident when I visited there. That was their biggest focus."

Patrick chose Michigan over

Florida and Notre Dame.

Although he will have to adjust without his older brother around, Jack is looking forward to what Kelley can accomplish in the pool next year.

"It will be hard (to be without him)," Jack says. "But we're having a lot of talent coming in, and with the talent we already have, I still think we'll be able to do great things next year."

Tulsa Roughnecks Unveil New Uniforms for 2018

The Tulsa Roughnecks FC officially unveiled their uniforms for the 2018 season during a recent event at ONEOK Field. Three new match kits during the upcoming season were unveiled, and it was also announced that Osage Casino & Hotel has become the official jersey-front sponsor for the team.

All of the kits were designed and produced by New Balance, the official uniform supplier for the Roughnecks.

For the first time in club history, the primary kits will be all

white with orange trim. They will feature orange numbers with the player's name in orange letters on the back. The white kits will be ideal for matches played during the summer months.

The fronts of the jerseys feature the Roughnecks official crest along with a black Osage Casino & Hotel logo.

"We are grateful for our partnership with the Osage Casino & Hotel," says Roughnecks Executive Vice President Jason George. "We truly appreciate their support of professional soccer in Tulsa, and

the confidence they have shown in the club. They have been a sponsor with us from the very first season, and it is invaluable to the success of our team."

The secondary kit features the return of the color navy with the jersey featuring alternate orange and navy horizontal striping with orange numbers and letters. The bright white Osage Casino & Hotel logo is on the front. The shorts are navy with orange trim.

The final kit pays tribute to Tulsa's history as the Oil Capital of the World. It is a special black and gold uniform that is similar in design to the navy version. It will feature gold numbers and letters and a white Osage Casino & Hotel logo on front. This ensemble will be worn for selected matches.

All of the kits have a new feature this season. The new Tulsa flag emblem has been placed on the right-hand sleeve.

The club also unveiled a new warmup kit that will be worn during pregame activities. It is a white top with orange piping down each side. These jerseys



Courtesy Tulsa Roughnecks

OSAGE AND ORANGE: The new Roughnecks uniforms highlight the team's partnership with Osage Casino.

also have a new sponsor with TulsaRecycles.com on the fronts. The slogan Reduce, Reuse, Recycle is listed beside the logo. The warmup jerseys feature the Tulsa flag on the back, just above the number.

The kits are now available for

purchase at the Roughnecks Team Store at ONEOK Field. The navy as well as the black and gold kits are in stock and can be purchased now. There is a special preorder for the white kits. Each of the kits can be customized with name and number personalization.

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THE ECONOMY

John Smaligo Looks Forward to New Position

Carl Williams, president and CEO of Associated Builders and Contractors of Oklahoma (ABC), has announced his retirement. John Smaligo, Tulsa County commissioner, will assume his position in April of this year.

ABC is the nation's leading commercial construction trade association, representing 22,000 members nationwide in 70 chapters. Fortune Magazine rated ABC as one of the "most influential" organizations in the United States.

Williams served as acting president and CEO of ABC for 25 years and is now looking forward to the next stage of life. Williams feels privileged to have served ABC and is anxious to see what is to come for the organization in

the future. Williams is confident in the search committee's selection of Smaligo to take over his role at ABC and believes Smaligo's leadership skills and experience will take ABC to the next level, according to sources.

Though Williams will miss ABC, he is looking forward to enjoying his retirement and is planning on dedicating more time to things he loves. "I'm looking forward to retirement and I plan on getting re-acquainted with my fly fishing gear and spending more time with my grand and great grandchildren," says Williams.

Smaligo has 11 years of experience as Tulsa County Commissioner and served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives for

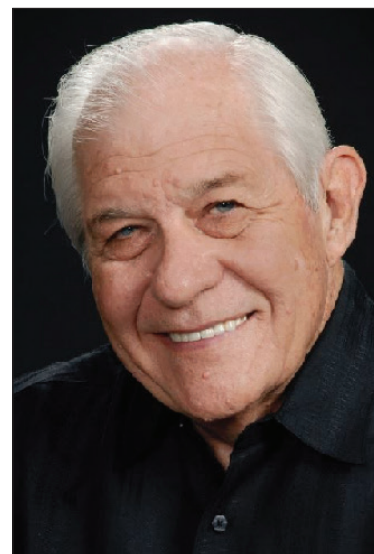
three terms. His background prior to taking on this position will allow him to achieve great success as a leader for ABC's future.

Williams is looking forward to what lies ahead for ABC under the leadership of Smaligo. Williams states, "I am confident in Smaligo's ability to take ABC to the next level in being the leading commercial construction association in the nation." Smaligo will officially resign from his position with the Tulsa County Commissioner April 2 in order to assume his new position at Associated Builders and Contractors of Oklahoma.

For more information about Carl Williams, John Smaligo, or ABC of Oklahoma, contact the ABC corporate office at 918-254-8707.



JOHN SMALIGO



CARL WILLIAMS

DoubleShot Coffee Co. Celebrates 14 Years

Brian Franklin, owner and roaster-master of the DoubleShot Coffee Company, celebrated 14 years of business with a birthday party at its 18th Street and Boston Avenue location March 4.

Current and future Double-

Shot customers and fans were welcomed at the event which featured complimentary coffee, light snacks from the DoubleShot kitchen, craft beer and birthday cake, along with music from violinists Jocelyn Rowland

Khalaf and Patricia Davis and cellist Tia Jubly.

"I'm proud of what we've been able to accomplish in these 14 years, and I'm excited to celebrate with the customers and staff who make it happen every day," said Franklin.

DoubleShot Coffee Company opened in 2004 as a small craft coffee roaster. Over the years, DoubleShot has grown in size and reputation as Franklin has continued to deepen his personal relationships with coffee farmers all over the world, working directly with the growers to bring unique coffees to his customers. DoubleShot sells a wide variety of whole bean coffee, roasted in-house twice-weekly in a vintage Italian coffee roaster,

as well as coffee drinks, baked goods and breakfast items, coffee brewing equipment and supplies and DoubleShot-branded merchandise.

Franklin and DoubleShot have been the inspiration for a skit on the comedy television series Portlandia and have been featured in Wine Spectator Magazine, Mark Pendergrast's Uncommon Grounds: The History of Coffee and How It Transformed Our World and the documentary The Perfect Cappuccino. This summer, DoubleShot will relocate to its new home in a mid-1800s Amish barn, transported from its original location in Berne, Indiana, to where it is currently being reconstructed at 17th Street and Boulder Avenue.



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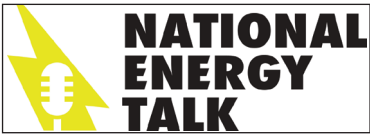
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Technological Advancements and our Energy Future



By MARK A. STANSBERRY

There are several presentations on energy that I will be making in the upcoming weeks including PenWell's Pipeline and Energy Expo in Tulsa, the Pre-Conference on National Council of Undergraduate Research, the Digital Transformation in the oil and gas markets conference in Houston, and the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Royalty Owners Convention in Oklahoma City.

Here is an excerpt from my March 8 speech at the 25th anniversary annual meeting of the Louisiana Oil and Gas Association in Lake Charles, Louisiana:

"I recently became advisory board chairman of a company

named IngenuitE based in Oklahoma City. IngenuitE is a leading provider, an Oracle Gold Partner, of end-to-end e-business application solutions, offering complete application implementation services, outsourcing, support and training for enterprise systems. I was excited about the opportunity to learn more and to see that it is applied to the oil and gas industry.

iCloud and Technology

I suggest for your reading that you add to your collection a New York Times bestselling book entitled: "The Inevitable" written by Kevin Kelly. The book describes understanding the 12 technological forces that will shape our future.

In regard to storage of your information and documents, make sure you have the proper security and backups in place. This applies not only to the large com-



MARK A. STANSBERRY

panies but also for the "mom and pop" small companies.

If you think we aren't changing at a fast pace, note the following, for

example, we are all routinely being tracked. Pages 252 to 254 of "The Inevitable" book goes on into more detail. I will highlight a few:

Ride share taxis: Uber, Lyft, and other decentralized rides record your trips.

Utilities: As you know, your power and water usage patterns are kept by utilities.

Smart home: Smart thermostats detect your presence and behavior patterns and transmit these to the cloud, and the list goes on.

Robotics, Drones and the World of Artificial Intelligence

We are already seeing robotics being used and introduced into our industry along with drones.

As Daniel Burns in his book "The Anticipatory Organization" states, "Technology driven change is accelerating at an exponential rate but moving fast in the wrong direction will only get you into trouble faster. Reacting

to problems and digital disruptions no matter how agile you and your organization are is no longer good enough."

According to HBR Onpoint, "Constant change in markets, strategy, best practices, technology and more...Means your skills can become outdated quickly. You can't afford to coast on previous accomplishments and established competencies alone. To stay competitive, you need to pay attention to trends and actively plan where you want to go." And I add with your career, with your company, with your board.

Are we up to the challenge? Of course, we are!

Future generations are depending on us to keep the American dream alive. It's time to tell our story! It's time to tell your story!

Mark A. Stansberry is Chairman of the GTD Group, an award winning author and energy advocate.

PSO, Walmart Reach Agreement on Wind Catcher

Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) and Walmart, Inc. have reached a settlement agreement on PSO's proposed Wind Catcher Energy Connection project (Wind Catcher). PSO and Walmart are requesting the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (Commission) approve the project under the terms of the settlement agreement.

Wind Catcher is expected to save PSO customers around \$2 billion over the 25 years the project is in service. The new wind energy will complement PSO's existing power resources, which include natural gas, wind, power purchases, and coal.

The \$4.5 billion Wind Catcher project includes acquisition of a 2,000-megawatt wind farm under construction in the Oklahoma Panhandle near Guymon, and a dedicated generation tie line to the Tulsa area, where the energy will be delivered to customers. The project is a partnership between PSO and sister company, SWEPCO. PSO's share of the project investment is \$1.36 billion.

In the agreement with Walmart, PSO made additional guarantees beyond those initially

offered to further demonstrate the company's commitment to deliver extraordinary benefits to customers. Those additional guarantees include new reporting requirements, a lower cost cap on project construction costs, and an assurance that Oklahoma customers will receive, at a minimum, the same benefits afforded SWEPCO customers.

"We appreciate the opportunity to work with Walmart, one of our valued customers, to advance the Wind Catcher project," said Stuart Solomon, PSO president and chief operating officer. "This agreement recognizes the tremendous benefits Wind Catcher will deliver to Walmart and all of our other customers across Oklahoma."

"Projects like Wind Catcher help Walmart meet our goal to be supplied by 100 percent renewable energy," said Mark Vanderhelm, vice president of energy at Walmart. "As a PSO customer, we look forward to seeing this important project move forward to provide the renewable, affordable energy we need to help meet our business goals."

When it comes on line in late 2020, Wind Catcher will be the lowest cost energy on

PSO's system. Customers will see savings primarily through a reduction in the fuel portion of their bills. With Wind Catcher, PSO customers will receive 40 percent of their energy from Oklahoma wind resources.

"At PSO, we're committed to meeting our customers' expectations for clean, affordable and sustainable energy sources, and Wind Catcher will provide those benefits to customers," said Solomon. "Oklahoma is blessed with abundant, high quality wind resources, and Wind Catcher will turn that wind into low cost energy, while also providing jobs and new revenues for schools and local governments."

Wind Catcher will add thousands of jobs to the Oklahoma economy and provide \$60 million in state and local taxes during construction. The project will provide an estimated \$300 million in property taxes and 80-90 permanent jobs while in service.



Courtesy photo

PSO CREWS RETURN FROM PUERTO RICO: Following a nearly a month of 16-hour days working to restore power to the Hurricane Maria-battered island of Puerto Rico, a dozen workers from Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) are now back home. Maria struck Puerto Rico Sept. 20, leaving 3.6 million people without electricity.



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BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES



Courtesy photo

PROMOTIONS AT KKT ARCHITECTS: KKT Architects is pleased to announce the promotion of four long-time architects to principals at the architecture firm. In addition, the full-service architecture, interiors, structural and civil engineering firm is announcing seven employees' promotion to associate. This growth and advancement represent a continued commitment to providing clients with quality service while encouraging development among employees and clients alike. In the photo, back row from left, are Associates Heidi Sherrell, Sarah

King, Melissa Perry, Shannon Darnell, Lindsay Farr, Carol Henderson and Angela Sexton. Front Row from left are Principals Liz Rohrbacker, Kate Cofer and Brandon Hackett.

"I am so pleased to announce these promotions at KKT," says Andy Kinslow, KKT Architects founder. "Each one of these people have been wonderful additions to our staff over the years, serving and creating so many of our most beloved projects. I am excited to see what the future holds for them with KKT, and I'm looking forward to seeing their contributions to KKT's continued success."

Mabrey Bank announces that **Bill Thomas** has been elected to the board of directors of Mabrey Bancorporation, the holding company for Mabrey Bank. Thomas joins Andy Johnson and Terry Carter.



THOMAS

"I am honored to serve on the board of a bank that is thriving and provides high-quality financial services to its clients, all while supporting the community in meaningful ways," says Thomas. "I have enjoyed watching Mabrey soar to new levels over the last few years and am honored to be a part of this great team."

Bill and his brother Bob co-founded Gemini Properties, a real estate operating and investment company, in 1976. The company's focus evolved toward senior housing in 1989 with the founding of Senior Star. Today, Senior Star provides independent living, assisted living and memory support across six Midwestern states with over 2,000 residents.

Bill currently serves on boards of trustees for the American Seniors Housing Association (ASHA), the National Alzheimer's Association, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Sooner Chapter, Philbrook Museum of Art, and the University of Tulsa. Bill earlier served as board chair for ASHA, Philbrook Museum of Art, as well as Tulsa Community Foundation, the largest community foundation in the nation during his tenure. Bill co-chaired the Tulsa Area United way campaign and served as co-chair of its board. He also co-chaired two LIFE Senior Services capital campaigns, providing capital to build three state-of-the-art adult day centers.

Greater Tulsa Association of Realtors selected immediate past president of the association **Axay Parekh** the 2017 Realtor of the Year. Parekh is the operating partner at RE/MAX Life in South Tulsa and is an industry leader and breakout speaker who has spoken about real estate issues at industry meetings throughout Oklahoma and the U.S.



PAREKH

Parekh served as the 2017 president of the Greater Tulsa Association of Realtors and led the 4,000-member organization as it increased its membership in 2017 and helped oversee the implementation of new electronic keybox systems designed to increase safety for the consumer and the real estate professionals in the market. Parekh also served on the Oklahoma Association of Realtors Executive team in 2017 and served as the chairman of the Emerging Business Issues and blockchains.

Parekh is a member of the prestigious Council of Residential Specialists and carries the designation of Accredited Buyer Representative, EPro, and Internet Marketing Specialist along with completion of the At Home with Diversity. Parekh speaks regularly to both local, and national audiences on marketing, social media, technology and real estate industry issues.

Parekh currently serves on the board of directors at the National Association of Realtors, Oklahoma Association of Realtors, Greater Tulsa Association of Realtors and MLS Technology.

Andrew Marshall has joined the **First National Bank of Broken Arrow** as vice president-commercial lender.



MARSHALL

A graduate of Oral Roberts University, Marshall began his financial services industry career in 2006 at American Heritage Bank. From there, he moved to Arvest Bank where he served as a credit analyst II and in 2009 as a loaned executive to the Tulsa Area United Way, helping that organization surpass its \$24 million goal. In 2011, he joined Regent Bank, initially serving as assistant vice president, senior credit analyst and most recently as vice president, commercial lender.

Marshall says he was drawn to First National Bank of Broken Arrow "because of the reputation of the institution in general and its chairman (Greg Graham) and president (Mark Poole) in particular."

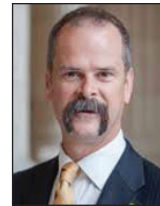
"I have been given a chance to help this bank grow and make a significant difference in the community. I am looking forward to making the most of this opportunity," he says.

Gregory Graham, chairman and chief executive officer, says he is especially pleased that Marshall accepted the invitation to join the bank's leadership team.

"Andrew has an outstanding record of accomplishments within the financial services industry and brings to our bank considerable experience in the commercial lending area along with a solid commitment to provide the highest level of service to our customer base," he says.

First National opened its doors in 1902 in what is now downtown Broken Arrow. In more than 115 years of providing trusted banking services to the community, only four chairmen have headed the institution.

Brainerd Chemical Chairman and Owner **Mathew Brainerd** was recently appointed to the Surface Transportation Board Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC). He will serve a three-year term.



BRAINERD

RSTAC advises Congress, the secretary of transportation and the Surface Transportation Board on regulatory and legislative matters affecting small shippers and railroads. The council focuses on rail-car supply, rates, competition and procedures for addressing claims.

"When industry and government work together, it increases safety and efficiency for everyone," Brainerd says. "Serving on RSTAC affords me the opportunity to represent small businesses and their rail transportation interests."

Brainerd has worked for nearly 40 years to expand his company's product line into new markets. His leadership helped transform Brainerd Chemical from a local chemical supplier to a major regional supplier and distributor.

He is a past chairman of the National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD) Board of Directors, where he worked with in legislative and regulatory processes in the chemical industry to promote safety and environmental protection.

U.S. Sen. James Inhofe, U.S. Rep. Markwayne Mullin and the NACD recommended Brainerd for

the position.

Elyse Mullins has been promoted to the position of bank officer by the **First National Bank & Trust Co. of Broken Arrow**.



MULLINS

Mullins joined First National of Broken Arrow as commercial client services coordinator in January 2015 after helping initiate and grow a similar position at Tulsa's F&M Bank. In her new position, she will retain her present duties while becoming more involved in the bank's internal reporting system.

Mullins points with pride that she is a 100 percent hometown girl and a product of Broken Arrow Public Schools. She went to elementary school at Wolf Creek, was in the first 8th grade class at the newly opened Oliver Middle School, attended South Intermediate and graduated from Broken Arrow High School.

"Today, I'm working with many of the kids I attended classes with by helping introduce them to the array of new commercial products and services we continue to roll out," she says.

Bank Chairman and CEO Gregory Graham said that is a job Mullins is doing exceptionally well.

"In the short time she has been with us, Elyse has proven herself to be a real asset to this organization and our customers. We are delighted to recognize her accomplishments and give her an opportunity to expand the horizons of her career," he says.

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Spartan Tulsa Campus Names New President

Officials at Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology have announced the selection of Kari Pahno as the new president of Spartan College, Tulsa Campus. Pahno will be the first female president in Spartan's 90-year history. She will oversee all operations of the aviation maintenance technology, aviation electronics technology, non-destructive testing, quality control and aviation technology management programs in Tulsa.

Pahno comes to Spartan from South University in Savannah, Georgia, and brings invaluable experience in higher education. At

South University, Pahno was the dean of student affairs and assisted in vision and strategy for the university and had proven results in student retention and student career placement upon graduation.

"Kari has an excellent track record with her leadership in higher education," says Dr. Dan Peterson, CEO of Spartan. "Her experience in student retention and job placement is the perfect fit for our long-term strategy and growth plan."

Pahno received her Bachelor of Arts in psychology from the University of Southern Maine and her Master of Arts in educational



KARI PAHNO

leadership from Argosy University. She was a board member at the United Way Agency, Abilities Unlimited and a member of the Chatham County workforce development taskforce.

About Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology

Since 1928, Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology has provided training to more than 90,000 pilots and technicians throughout the United States and 62 foreign countries. Spartan is an aviation technology college offering students diploma, associates programs in the areas of

Aviation Flight, Aviation Maintenance (Airframe and Powerplant), Aviation Electronics Technology, Nondestructive Testing, and Quality Control as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree completion program in Aviation Technology Management. Spartan is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) and has Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approval for both the Flight and Aviation Maintenance programs. Spartan Education Group, LLC is the parent company of Spartan College with six campuses among Denver, Los Angeles and Tulsa.

Street School's Street Party Raises \$335K

Street School's annual fundraiser held at the Cox Business Center's Assembly Hall on Feb. 23 raised \$335,000. A capacity crowd of more than 400 people were on hand to participate in the live auction, silent auction, raffle, wine pull and dancing to the music of Charlie Redd and the Full Flava Kings.

Money raised supports Street School which provides therapeutic counseling and educational support for at-risk students in grades 9 through 12 who want to overcome the odds and become high school graduates.

Event auctioneer Rick Miller and emcee Adam Paluka, a Street School board member, were an energizing duo. A total of eight items were auctioned off that included trips to Ireland and Honduras and

a RV getaway compliments of Bob Hurley RV.

The chair of the event was Dana Weber, CEO, Webco Industries.

Top Sponsors included AAON, the Canada Company, the Joseph and Virginia Dibert Foundation, Direct Energy, Ruth Kaiser Nelson Foundation, OMNI Air International, Opportune, QuikTrip, TMA Systems, Webco Industries, Williams and the Zarrow Families Foundation.

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

Street School is located at 11th Street and Yale Avenue in Tulsa, which at one time was the site of Franklin Elementary School.



Courtesy photo

SUCCESSFUL EVENING: From left, Dana Weber, CEO of Webco Industries and chair of Street Party 2018; Dr. Lori McGinnis-Madland, president and CEO of Street School; and Todd Martin, president of the Street School board of directors enjoyed the Street School evening of success.

Holland Hall Students Volunteer for a Day of Service

Holland Hall Middle School students participated in a Day of Service Feb. 23 during the second annual event helping nine Tulsa area organizations.

The day kicked off with a pep rally at the school led by the up-

per school students. More than 375 middle school students then set out and volunteered their time at a variety of Tulsa-area organizations. Duties ranged from cleaning and organizing to removing graffiti and planting trees.

"Helping in the community helps build character and leadership in these students," said Heather Brasel, Holland Hall director of communication and Marketing. "Volunteering at an early age will keep them involved as they get older, and it gives them the chance to learn that helping where there is a need is the ultimate community partnership."

Holland Hall students volunteered at the following locations: Dream Center - cleaning, organizing and general preparations for those in need;

EduRec - cleaning, fixing, organizing;

Tulsa Youth Ranch - general upkeep and organization of ranch (no equine), gardening, landscaping;

Happy Hands - partnering with teachers to work in classrooms with students, along with light cleaning;

YMCA West - preparing campgrounds - building steps, raking,



Courtesy photo

HELPING OTHERS: These Holland Hall students are among a total of 375 who volunteered in a Day of Service Feb. 23 to help others throughout Greater Tulsa.

gardening, cleaning;

Crosstown Learning - graffiti removal and partnering with teachers to clean rooms and interact with students;

Up With Trees - planting 30 new

trees and general earth care;

HOW Foundation - organization of donations for thrift store;

Tulsa Youth Services - building snack packs and cleaning activity center.

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FAITH

ORU Commemorates the Life of Billy Graham

By **RAEGAN DOUGHARTY**
Contributing Writer

Reverend Billy Graham, the famous Christian evangelist who spoke at the 1967 dedication of ORU, died on Feb. 21 at the age of 99. According to the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association website, his ministry included Graham's preaching of "the Gospel to nearly 215 million people in 185 countries and territories."

Graham's ties to Oral Roberts University have existed throughout the 50 plus years of ORU's existence, and the university released a statement last month regarding the death of Graham.

The release included a piece of Graham's dedication speech:

"...If this institution ever moves away from faith in the Bible and faith in God and putting God first, then let us this day pronounce a curse on it. This institution was built by the prayers and dedication

of men and women who loved God and believed His Gospel and [that] the Bible is the Word of God."

According to the release, ORU "continues to take on his challenge to stay true to the founding vision of the university with passion."

The school's founder, Oral Roberts, was friends with Graham, and the release included a quote from Roberts in August 2009.

"Billy was the most generous man in the ministry I've ever met. He accepted me as a brother. He said he fell in love with my ministry. I counted him the number-one evangelist in the world. We became very close friends."

The release also included a similar statement from Graham after Roberts died in December 2009:

"Oral Roberts was a man of God and a great friend in ministry. I loved him as a brother. We had many quiet conversations over the years."

"On behalf of the ORU board



Photos courtesy Oral Roberts University

EVANGELISM LEGACY: Oral Roberts, left, walks with Reverend Billy Graham to the dedication ceremony of Oral Roberts University. The men were friends, speaking highly of each other's ministries.



HALF-CENTURY MESSAGE: Reverend Billy Graham speaks to the first graduating class of Oral Roberts University at the university's dedication in 1967.

of Trustees, students, faculty and staff, we are praying for the Graham family and are thankful for the shared legacy of Billy

Graham," Dr. William M. Wilson, president of Oral Roberts University, said, according to the release.

Editor's note: The writer, Raegan Dougharty, is a student at ORU and is serving as an intern at GTR Newspapers during her senior year.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Partners with Life.Church

Big Brothers Big Sisters celebrated another year in partnership with Life.Church recently. At the celebration, BBBS accepted a \$20,000 grant that will help them continue their mission to provide children facing adversity with strong and

enduring, professionally-supported one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better.

"We partner with Big Brothers Big Sisters because we share the same passion for connecting people to each other," said Ash-

ley Karimi, Life.Church Broken Arrow LifeGroups/LifeMissions pastor. "They help meet needs in our community, and we love connecting them with our volunteers to increase the impact we make together."

Restore Hope Ministries is 40

Restore Hope Ministries, with a mission of preventing homelessness, alleviating hunger, supporting education, and promoting hope for families recently celebrated its 40th anniversary with the traditional 40th anniversary gemstone, the Ruby, considered the stone of love, energy, passion, power and a zest for life. At Restore Hope, there is love, energy, passion and zest for life in its mission is to restore families in financial crisis to economic and spiritual vitality.

As part of its 40th anniversary celebration, Restore Hope hosted the Ruby Gala event Feb. 9 at Venue 68 near 71st Street and Mingo Road.

"I'm excited to celebrate 40 years of helping Tulsa area families in need move toward a better future," says Jeff Jaynes, Executive Director of Restore Hope. "That's what this celebration is all about, to celebrate all that we've accomplished in the last 40 years and what we hope to accomplish going forward."

Ruby Gala Chair Jim Linn describes his service as one of the most gratifying experiences of his lifetime. "As a weekly volunteer, board member and supporter of Restore Hope, I get to see first-



Courtesy photo

RUBY GALA TEAM: The Restore Hope Ruby Gala fundraiser team is, from left, Jeff Jaynes, Restore Hope Ministries Executive Director; Susan Linn, Ruby Gala Co-Chair; and Jim Linn, Ruby Gala Co-Chair and Restore Hope Board Member.

hand the joy and hope of families who are able to meet their needs while facing hardship and life transitions."

Founded in 1978, Restore Hope Ministries seeks to restore families in financial crisis to economic and spiritual vitality. By reducing hunger, preventing homelessness

and promoting hope, this United Methodist affiliated agency works every day to fight poverty and restore hope for families in need in Tulsa County. To learn more about Restore Hope, go to www.restore-hope.org or follow them at @RHMTulsa on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.



Courtesy photo

SIGNIFICANT GIFT: Melissa Ramirez, Big Brothers Big Sisters CEO, left, with Ashley Karimi, Life.Church Broken Arrow LifeGroups/LifeMissions pastor. Life.Church has donated \$20,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters.

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Midtown Building is a 1960s Time Capsule

The building at 3202 E. 21st St. is one of the best examples of mid-century modern design in Tulsa.

On Architecture

Designed and built in 1962 by architect Donald Honn to be his architectural office, this structure has continuously attracted tenants from the design profession. After occupying it for a few years, Donald Honn built a new 1960s contemporary building on south Harvard and sold this one to Dick Schmitz, owner of Irving Productions.

For a while, Dick leased part of the building to an interior design firm, Sober Logston & Woody but essentially the building for many years became a production/sound studio for Schmitz's company, Irving Productions. A number of well-known media productions were designed there.



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

In 2012, Dick Schmitz retired and sold the building to a landscape architect, Dan Alaback. Today, his landscape design firm of seven people occupies 2,800 sq ft of the 4,000 sq ft building. The other 1,200 sq ft is occupied by an architect, Stan Espinoza.

So far, changes to the exterior have been minimal. Dan Alaback explains that the perimeter site needs to make a landscaping statement about his firm's capability and is a serious work-in-progress. Subtly placed retaining walls raise the building slightly from the adjacent street and parking lot. The exposed steel frame would delight Mies van der Rohe. It has been painted dark brown in contrast to the original white color. The exterior red brick has been cleaned. Otherwise the exterior is a 1960s time capsule.

But the inside is another story. With his wife, interior designer Robin Alaback's, help, the inside has been transformed.

Once through the glass entrance, you step into a sophisticated "Mad Men" 1960s interior.

The grid of steel columns and roof beams is exposed throughout. Tectum ceilings placed above steel beam framing are typical and have been painted flat black. Although the clear height to the tectum is slightly more than 9 feet, the black visually raises the room's volume and height. In some areas, wood trellises floating below the steel ceiling beams add extra interest.

The plan behind the initial remodeling was to move walls to the perimeter and open up the interior which then became the studio. Along with an enclosed office, there are five nicely designed U-shaped work stations for the staff. Original hardwood built-ins have been retained and augmented where needed.

At the north end of the building, interior partitions were removed to allow the studio to be flooded with natural light.

The "Mad Men" elegant theme



GTR Newspapers photo

MID-CENTURY MODERN DESIGN: The 1962 building at 3202 E. 21st St. was designed by architect Donald Honn to be his office and was later sold to Dick Schmitz, owner of Irving Productions.

continues throughout with appropriate furnishings, artwork, and accessories. A masterful use of color and materials subtly supports this theme.

Alaback Design has been in business for 31 years. It would be hard to find an area in Tulsa that has not been visited by this firm. Four significant projects are: The Williams

Center restoration, the ONEOK Plaza Grounds renovation, the OSU Tulsa Signature Gateway, and the grounds for the Owasso and Broken Arrow St. John's Hospital.

The high design home Alaback Design has made for itself compliments the work the firm produces.

Tulsa Home and Garden Show Draws 20,000 Attendees



SHANGRI-LA RESORT: Shangri-La Director of Sales Dana Able with guests at the popular Tulsa Home and Garden Show March 10.



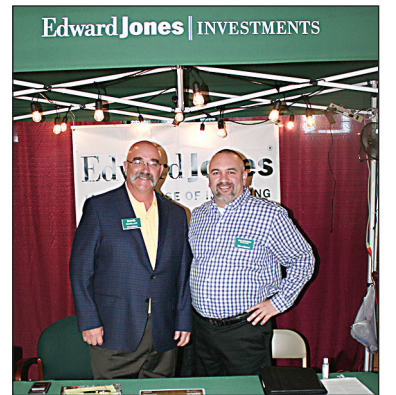
WE B TREES: Barbara and Tim Nall of We B Trees, at right, enjoyed their time with attendees at the Home and Garden Show.



MIDWAY: Attendees had a great time at the Home and Garden Show with sponsors such as Airco, as the sign attests. Reports say over 20,000 people attended the four-day event.



BURNETT WINDOWS AND SIDING: Neal Burnett, left, and Scott Burnett, right, host guests at their Burnett Windows and Siding display during the Home and Garden Show.



EDWARD JONES: Edward Jones representatives David H. McCollum, left, and Beau Driggers gave popular advice at the Home and Garden Show.



POPULAR DISPLAYS: The BA Lawn & Garden display was a busy place at the Show, as was Spectrum Paint.

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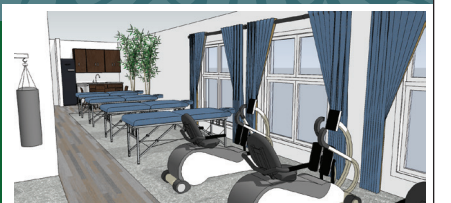
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
18 March FUNDAY SUNDAY Gilcrease Museum 12 – 4 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information. INTO THE WOODS Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. CINDERELLA Tulsa Ballet 3 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.	19 GAME DEVELOPMENT FOR TEENS Central Library 2:30 – 4 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. TEEN TECH ESCAPE ROOM: AN INVENTOR INVESTIGATION South Broken Arrow Library 6 – 7:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.	20 JAZZ NIGHT FEATURING LEON ROLLERSON Gilcrease Museum 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information. MEETING OF THE OKLAHOMA STRIPED BASS ASSOCIATION Zebco Cafeteria 7 – 9 p.m. 	21 SPRING BREAK FAMILY DROP IN DAYS Gilcrease Museum 1 – 4 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information. MINECRAFT GAMING Central Library 2 – 3 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. LORDE BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.	22 OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN Hard Rock Hotel & Casino 7 p.m. Visit hardrocktulsa.com for more information. SPRING BREAK MOVIE Owasso Library 2 – 3:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. We Offer Health Savings Accounts Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	23 RUDY MAXA Tulsa Town Hall 10:30 a.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA OILERS vs. Quad City 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information. JEEZY - COLD SUMMER TOUR Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.	24 TULSA OILERS vs. Quad City 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information. MAHLER'S SYMPHONY No. 4 Tulsa Symphony Classics 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. DARCI LYNNE AND FRIENDS Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.
25 TULSA OILERS vs. Quad City 4:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information. CAT AND KITTEN ADOPTION EVENT Central Library 3 – 4 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for info. BILL MAHER Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.	26 BOOKS SANDWICHED IN: "THE INVENTION OF NATURE" Central Library 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for info. SYLVAN ESSO Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information. More Bank for Your Buck Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	27 K.FLAY Cain's Ballroom 7:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information. ANXIETY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT GROUP Mental Health Association Oklahoma 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Visit mhaok.org for more information.	28 GARDENS FOR BEGINNERS Tulsa Garden Center 6:30 p.m. Visit tulsagardencent.com for more information.  BADFISH, SUBLIME TRIBUTE Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. • March 29 Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.	29 SMTULSA SOCIAL MEDIA & BUSINESS CONFERENCE Hard Rock Hotel & Casino All Day Visit smtulsa.com for more information. AN EVENING WITH JASON MRAZ, SOLO ACOUSTIC Tulsa PAC Trust 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.	30 AN EVENING WITH ZAKIR HUSSAIN AND RAKESH CHAURASIA South Asian Performing Arts Foundation 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. BILL BURR Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.	31 SYMPOSIUM: DISLOCATIONS AND MIGRATIONS Helmerich Center for American Research 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information. OVERVIEW OF COFFEE AT OSU-TULSA Topeca Coffee Roastery All Day Visit tulsa.okstate.edu for more information.
1 April DROP-IN STUDIO Gilcrease Museum 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information. INTER/ADV. MODERN DANCE TECHNIQUE Fly Loft Studio 3 1:15 – 2:45 p.m. Visit tumdance.org/ for more information.	2 BROKEN ARROW BUTTERFLY PROJECT South Broken Arrow Library All Day Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. 	3 THE SOUND OF MUSIC Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA MASTER GARDENERS LUNCH AND LEARN: TOMATOES – EASY VARIETIES Central Library 12:10 – 12:50 Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. Ask us about fraud ID protection Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	4 BROWN BAG IT: TSO WOODWINDS QUINTET PAC Trust 12:10 p.m. FREE event. TULSA OILERS vs. Idaho 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information. THE SOUND OF MUSIC Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.	5 THE SOUND OF MUSIC Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. JAY LENO Hard Rock Hotel & Casino 7 p.m. Visit hardrocktulsa.com for more information. COREY SMITH Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.	6 CURIOUS GEORGE: THE GOLDEN MEATBALL PAC Trust 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA SINGS! 100 YEARS OF SONG TCC Van Trease PACE 7:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information. THE SOUND OF MUSIC Celebrity Attractions 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.	7 THE SOUND OF MUSIC Celebrity Attractions 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. DISGRACED Theatre Pops 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA OILERS vs. Rapid City 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information.
8 THE SOUND OF MUSIC Celebrity Attractions 2 & 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. DISGRACED Theatre Pops 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. BROWNIES 5K/FUN ROOT BEER RUN Cascia Hall West Field 12:30 p.m. Call 918-906-4430 for more information.	9 PARTY AT THE LIBRARY! Bixby Library All Day Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. TULSA MASTER GARDENERS: EDIBLES IN THE LANDSCAPE Zarrow Regional Library 7 – 8 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. 	10 CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL SOIREE Philbrook Museum 6 – 8 p.m. Visit mcknightcenter.org for more information. GARRISON KEILLOR Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information. SLEEP Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.	11 SAVOR! AN INTERNATIONAL FOOD TASTING EVENT Tulsa Community College 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Visit tulsaglobalalliance.org/ for more information. INTRO TO 3-D PRINTING Central Library 5:30 – 6:30 Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. New Name. Same Bank. Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	12 TROUT UNLIMITED MONTHLY MEETING Hardesty Regional Library 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Visit tu420.com for info. JOHN MORELAND + DEER TICK Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for info. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Frisco 7:05 p.m. • April 12-14 Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information.	13 PIPER KERMAN Tulsa Town Hall 10:30 a.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. DISGRACED Theatre Pops 8 p.m. • April 13-14 myticketoffice.com for tickets. THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.	14 TULSA ROOTS GLOBAL BASH 2018 Guthrie Green 2:30 – 9:45 p.m. Visit tulsarootsmusic.org for info. THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY: SPACE, THE FINAL FRONTIER Tulsa Symphony Pops 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.
15 NEW LIFE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT Asbury United Methodist Church 6 – 7 p.m. Visit newlifesyphony-nv.com for info. DISGRACED Theatre Pops 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.	16 IDEA BOX: THE COSMOS Central Library All Day Visit tulsalibrary.org for info. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information. Free Small Business Checking Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™	17 DRAWING ON MEMORIES Gilcrease Museum 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Visit alz.org for more info. COOKING CLASS: ITALIAN MADE LIGHT CTCA 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Visit cancercenter.com for more information. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information.	18 HOMESCHOOL ART 9-12YR Philbrook Museum of Art 1 p.m. Visit philbrook.org for info. STOP MOTION ANIMATION Central Library 4 – 5 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. CHEFS: A SIZZLING KITCHEN SHOWDOWN Cox Business Center 6 p.m. • April 19 Visit bokcenter.com for more information.	19 THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND Brady Theater 7:30 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information. THREE DOG NIGHT River Spirit Casino 8 p.m. Visit riverspirittulsa.com for more information.	20 THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. THE IRISH CURSE Tulsa Project Theatre 8 p.m. April 20-21 myticketoffice.com for tickets. ALARM58 TO BENEFIT LEON RUSSELL MONUMENT FUND Cain's Ballroom 7:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.	21 THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. SMOKE AND GUNS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit tulsadrillers.com for more information.



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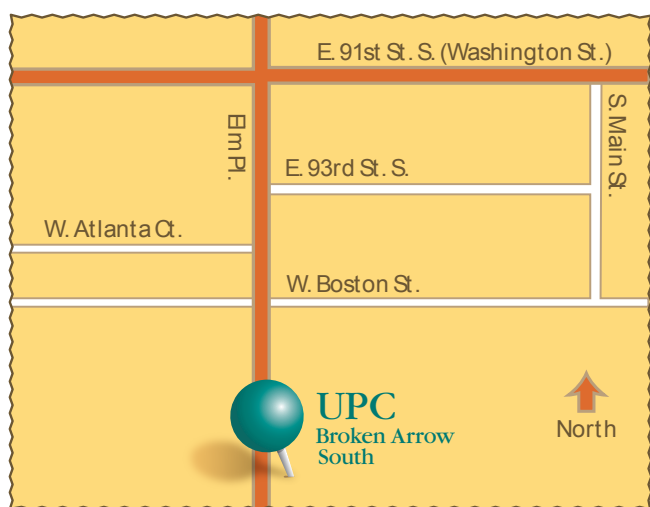


Taniesha Buffin, M.D. and Tana Stutzman, APRN-CNP

OB/Gyn Care in Broken Arrow

Dr. Buffin welcomes Tana Stutzman, APRN-CNP, to her OB/Gyn practice. Tana has been a women's health nurse practitioner since 2002. "I've always been passionate about women's health," she explains. Together, Dr. Buffin and Tana are committed to providing you with the best women's health care possible.

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B.A. NEWS

Utica Park Clinic in B.A. Welcomes Dr. Kristen Battles

Kristen Battles, D.O., has joined Utica Park Clinic's (UPC) family medicine practice in Broken Arrow.

Battles is currently welcoming new patients and accepts most insurance plans. Her office is located at Utica Park Clinic, 2617 S. Elm Pl.

Battles earned her bachelor's degree in health sciences at Southwest Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma, in 2002. She completed her master's degree in natural and applied sciences at Oklahoma State University in 2003 and obtained her medical degree at the OSU Center for Health Sciences in 2007. She completed her internship at Hillsdale Community Health Center in Hillsdale, Michigan, in 2008 and completed her residency in family medicine at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in 2010.

Battles is a member of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association and the American Osteopathic Association. Her personal interests include spending time with her family at the lake and traveling.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 918-455-4541 between 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Utica Park Clinic (UPC), a service of Hillcrest HealthCare System, is one of the largest physician groups in Oklahoma. UPC



Courtesy UPC

FAMILY MEDICINE: Kristen Battles, D.O., recently joined Utica Park Clinic's (UPC) Broken Arrow family medicine practice. Her office is located at 2617 S. Elm Pl.

offers over 200 primary and specialty care providers who practice in over 50 clinics throughout northeastern Oklahoma.

SENIOR HEALTH FAIR TO RETURN TO B.A. APRIL 27

*Annual Event Provides
Resources to Senior Citizens*



Courtesy B.A. Senior Center

STAYING ACTIVE: Women participate in a line dancing class at the 2017 Senior Resource & Health Fair. The annual event is one of the largest health and resource fairs in the state; this year's event will take place April 27 at the Central Park Community Center, 1500 S. Main St. in Broken Arrow.

The Resource & Health Fair, presented by Prairie House Assisted Living and Memory Care, is returning for its 28th year on Friday, April 27.

The event is hosted by the Broken Arrow Senior Center and held to benefit senior citizens and their families in Broken Arrow and surrounding areas. The fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Central Park Community Center, 1500 S. Main St.

"This annual event is one of the largest health and resource fairs in the state and the only event in Broken Arrow designed to help people ages 55 and up and their families discover resources that are available to them," says June Ross, B.A. Senior Center executive director.

Over 100 informational booths will be onsite including displays by Prairie House Assisted Living and Memory Care and platinum sponsors: Cedarhurst Senior Living, the City of Broken Arrow, Floral Haven Funeral Home & Cemetery, Harmon Insur-

ance, Hillcrest South, Humana, Life Senior Services, Rotary Club of Broken Arrow, and Values Magazine.

Other offerings will include:

- Free Health Screenings,
- Free Document Shredding,
- Used Medication Drop Off, and
- Hourly Door Prizes.

For those ages 55 and older who are interested in recreational activities, the Broken Arrow Senior Activity Center offers a safe place to remain active and engaged with more than 50 activities available each week to its members, including computer classes, yoga, tai chi, Zumba, line dancing, pool tables and tournaments, cards, Bible study, and arts and crafts.

The Center is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and is a partner agency with the Tulsa United Way.

To learn more, visit www.baseniors.org or call 918-259-8377.