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JENKS DISTRICT GAZETTE

One of Six Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers

Oklahoma's Largest Monthly News Group

Volume 24

April 2018

www.gtrnews.com

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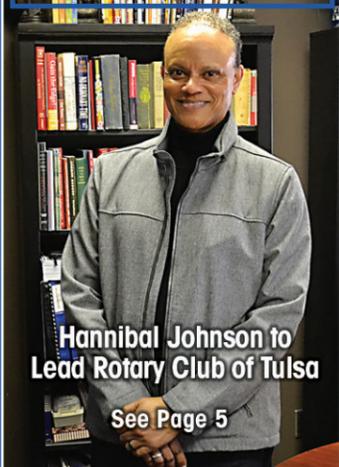
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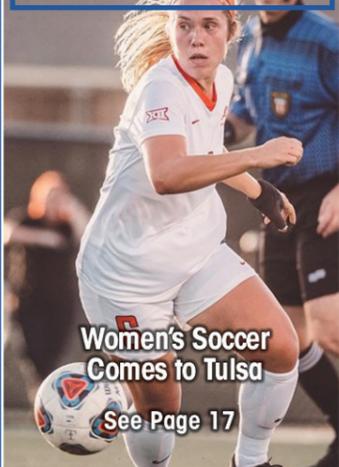
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'Feeding Our Trojans' Supports Students, Staff

Volunteers Work To Provide Free Meals To More Than 4,400 Students In Jenks Public School System

By **RAEGAN DOUGHARTY**
Contributing Writer

As the Oklahoma teacher walk-outs continued into their second week, a movement at Jenks Public Schools was formed to make sure that students received food to eat while school was closed. Liz Wright, organizer of the Feeding Our Trojans program, is a Jenks High School Marketing teacher and a board member at the Jenks Community Food Bank.

Wright said that there are over 4,400 students in the Jenks Public School system that "rely on school being in session to get breakfast and lunch." These students receive either free or reduced-cost meals while at school. Students' families depend on the breakfast and lunch that is provided by the schools.

"Our worry was, with school not being in session, they would not be eating because families can plan for things like spring break, winter break, fall break, that kind of stuff," Wright says. "But this was not planned."

Volunteers worked to put together bags of groceries, which were distributed twice a week at a number of bus stops for JPS.

"You can't know who those kids were for privacy reasons," Wright says. "So it was hard to guess how many kids at each bus stop would be needing them."

Wright also explains that parents were able to bring these students to the Jenks High School Dining Hall in the evenings to pick up food as well. According to the program's webpage, food was available at the Jenks High



RAEGAN DOUGHARTY for Jenks District Gazette

HELPING HANDS: Two volunteers at the Jenks Community Food Bank sort through various grocery items, checking expiration dates before food is distributed. The facility was buzzing with volunteers working to prepare the food for distribution.

School Dining Hall every evening of the teacher walkout. The Feeding Our Trojans webpage featured a list of the foods used in the distribution process. Items for donation included canned food such as ravioli, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, granola bars and other items.

"The community was amazing and they really came out gave us even more food than we needed," Wright says. "Any of the food that was left over, or funds that were left over, we had already earmarked that the Jenks [Community] Food Bank would get it."

As she stood among busy volunteers of all ages sorting items at the food bank, Wright said she estimated that around 2,000 volunteer hours were put in by about 700 volunteers during the Feeding Our Trojans program. She explains that food was donated by individuals, families, businesses, churches, the Jenks Pom squad and others.



DONATIONS ABOUND: The Jenks High School Dining Hall held pallets of food to be distributed to students and Jenks Public Schools support staff during the school closures. All unused food was given to the Jenks Community Food Bank, according to Feeding Our Trojans organizer Liz Wright.

"This was something that's never been attempted. Our first day we realized there were kids that were already in day camps, maybe at work with their parents, and probably, most likely, home by themselves," Wright says. "So we opened the dining hall in the evenings for them to come and be able to get the food. The parents [were able to] drive them."

Wright says JPS staff such as bus drivers, child nutrition professionals and administrative assistants were offered food through the program throughout the month of April.

"We were also feeding the support staff that were not getting paychecks because they are hourly," Wright says. "And with us not being in school, they were not getting paid."

These Jenks staff have the ability to receive the food regardless of whether they live within the district. Wright said about 50 families were able to benefit from the food distribution.

Regarding where the majority of Jenks teachers were, Wright

said they were doing a number of activities to benefit their students during the school closure.

"I think they were either at the rallies, obviously, or were doing something like this, or they were tutoring," Wright says. "I know there were a lot of teachers that were trying to help their students."

Wright said that during the walk out several teachers met with students in classrooms or at school playgrounds to check out books or offer academic help.

She says her goal is to try to also implement "backpack programs" for older students in the future. These programs would allow students on free and reduced lunch plans to receive a backpack full of snack foods every other Friday to help with getting through the weekend until school the following week.

"Some of the good things that have come out of this is now our district has a plan if there is a disaster of some sort, and we need to rally the troops so to speak, we have something kind of already in place," Wright says.

KUDOS OF THE MONTH: OK2Grow

The mission of OK2Grow is to facilitate the development of Oklahoma's future workforce by creating awareness of careers and promoting pathways that build confidence and excitement for workplace success.

OK2Grow began with three business people: the late Larry Mocha, Lynda Wingo and Jerry Holder.

As business owners, they became concerned with the quality of applicants approaching them for jobs from the public school system. The applicants lacked basic math and reading skills and were unable to complete an application cor-

rectly. Mocha, Wingo and Holder found that other small businesses shared the sentiment, and they felt compelled to act.

The trio's concerns produced the 2011 Governor's Conference on Small Business, and they brought businesses and organizations from across the state to join them for work-

shops and seminars addressing small business issues. With the surplus funds from the conference, they created a 501(c)3 called OK2Grow with the mission of creating collaboration between the education system



JERRY HOLDER



LYNDA WINGO



LARRY MOCHA

and business. OK2Grow is the umbrella for three initiatives to address these issues:

Youth Entrepreneurship
Career Awareness

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For more information, visit www.ok2grow.org.

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Little Free Libraries Booming

*City of Tulsa, TCC
And Local Nonprofit
Aim to Advance
Literacy and
Education Initiatives*

The City of Tulsa Parks and Recreation Department and Tulsa Community College have partnered with local nonprofit Transporting Education and Literacy into Open Spaces, Inc. (T.E.L.O.S., Inc.) for the grand opening events for the Tulsa Little Free Libraries Project.

In addition, neighborhoods are beginning to offer the Little Free Libraries.

T.E.L.O.S., Inc., aims to advance literacy and education initiatives in community settings. The Tulsa Little Free Libraries Project is a nationally-known "Take a book, leave a book program" that will open at 15 Tulsa City parks and playgrounds.

"I'm thrilled that Tulsa Parks is involved in making these little libraries accessible to children. We want to do our part to help close the literacy gap in Tulsa by placing little libraries in our public parks," said Lucy Dolman, Tulsa Parks Director. "It's also a great way we can make a positive difference in their young lives and inspire them to be life-long readers."

Two grand opening events took place in April when the first little libraries in the project were built. The public was invited to events to help install each little library, participate in story time and additional activities for the kids at Reed Park, 4233 S. Yukon Ave. and Turner Park, 3503 E. 5th St.

For more details about the Tulsa Little Free Libraries Project, visit: www.telosinc.wixsite.com/mysite or follow on Facebook @TELOSInc

Tulsa Little Free Libraries Project is made possible by Tulsa Community College Foundation, The Potts Family Foundation, David Poth, The Pollination Project, B'Nai Preschool, Holland Hall, and Service Learning Students at Tulsa Community College.



NEIGHBORHOOD FREE LIBRARY: Neighbors in the Holland Point and Minshall Park neighborhoods in south Tulsa worked together to install a Little Free Library in April. From left are Jeannie Sacra (with Grayson), Richard Holmes and neighborhood youngsters, all ready to enjoy their reading. For more information, visit littlefreelibrary.org.



PRESS CLUB PRESIDENTS: Current and several past presidents of the Tulsa Press Club gathered at the club during Presidents Day in February. From left are Val Fimbres, 2002; Melani Hamilton, 2001; Michael Overall, 2017; Mercedes Millberry-Fowler, 2013; Tom Gilbert, 2015; Nicole Amend, 2018; and Nicole Burgin, 2014. The Tulsa Press Club is located in the Atlas Life Building in downtown Tulsa. For more information, visit tulsapressclub.com.

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P.O. Box 470645 • Tulsa, OK 74147-0645
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APRIL 2018
Vol. 26, No. 4 (Union Boundary);
Vol. 24, No. 4 (Jenks District Gazette, Midtown Monitor);
Vol. 22, No. 4 (Owasso Rambler, Broken Arrow Express);
Vol. 17, No. 4 (Bixby Breeze)

COPY DROP-OFF: 7116 S. Mingo • Suite 103 • Tulsa, OK 74133

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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.

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CIVICS

'A Better Way:' A Strategy to Reduce Panhandling

Last fall I shared with you the idea of an innovative pilot program called "A Better Way" as a strategy to reduce panhandling. I'm pleased to tell you through the collaborative efforts of the City of Tulsa, Mental Health Association Oklahoma and the Tulsa Area United Way, we have officially launched the Better Way program to give panhandlers the opportunity to change their lives for the better.

The City budgeted for the program this fiscal year. Mental Health Association Oklahoma will help us by operating the program and addressing a broad range of needs, such as job placement and connecting people with the various services that are available. Tulsa Area United Way will fund an employment specialist who works with participants.

Panhandlers are not on the side of

the road because panhandling is an easier way to make money. They are there because they need assistance but don't know how or where to get it – or it's just too hard to ask. That's where A Better Way program comes in: to give hope to those who are struggling and to empower them to change their lives.

A Better Way gives panhandlers the dignity of a day's wages cleaning up city parks or other public spaces. In exchange for their work and beautification efforts, they'll receive \$65 a day in cash and lunch where they'll also learn about life-changing services in the community, such as housing, mental health and addiction treatment, and other sustainable employment services.

Inspired by a similar program in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Tulsa's A Better Way program utiliz-

From Tulsa's Mayor



By G.T. BYNUM
Mayor of Tulsa



Courtesy City of Tulsa

REAL CHANGE: The above van makes targeted stops that are known for panhandling and homelessness.

es a marked City van wrapped in bright green with white lettering. It goes out Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to make targeted stops at areas within our community that are known for panhandling and homelessness, including pedestrian walkways, medians, and overpasses.

A Better Way is not only a message to people panhandling here, it's a message to our communi-

ty that there's a better way than handing out money from the window of your car. Instead, we can give a hand up to those in need by supporting this program – giving them their dignity and making a tremendous difference in their lives. I invite you to check out the Better Way website, where you can contribute to this great program at: www.abetterwaytulsa.org.

A Better Way Tulsa is made possible through the collaborative efforts between the City of Tulsa, Tulsa Authority for the Recovery of Energy (TARE), Mental Health Association Oklahoma, Tulsa Area United Way and the Maxine and Jack Zarrow Family Foundation.

You can also view last year's video when I introduced the program at youtube.com.

Organizational Assessment of County Operations is Due

From Tulsa County

By RON PETERS
Tulsa County Commissioner

In 2008, the Tulsa Board of County Commissioners decided that it would be good to periodically evaluate the divisions within their purview to determine if the services to the citizens of Tulsa County were being delivered competently and effectively.

Since then, there have been changes with the election of new county commissioners and the appointment of new division directors. There have also been changes in the level of county services provided and expected and new best practices within county governments across the country. For these reasons, I believe now may be a good time to complete another organizational assessment of county operations.

While the administration of county government is divided between eight elected county officials, the Board of County Commissioners is responsible for the operating departments that provide both support



COMMISSIONER
RON PETERS

services for the elected officials as well as some external services provided directly to the citizens of Tulsa County.

The operating departments include human resources, information technology, administrative services, purchasing, building operations, and fleet management. Meanwhile, external services, provided to the citizens of Tulsa County, are delivered by three highway

districts, engineering and inspections, social services, parks, and court services. In total, 17 internal and external divisions are staffed by over 500 employees supported by over \$40,000,000 of taxpayer funding.

The potential benefits of an organizational assessment could include the development of a long range cost savings and productivity plan, improving the accountability and transparency of county government, and finding new opportunities to implement validated best practices in the management of

county government.

While conducting a performance audit may very likely highlight improvement opportunities that should not diminish the many positive aspects of county government and the employees who serve the public every day. Rather, the performance audit will offer solutions and innovative ideas, which can help county government meet the challenges of the future. The public expects, and rightfully so, for their elected officials to be good stewards of their tax dollars. The results of these performance audits can af-

firm the good work that is currently being done as well as pointing out ways to do things better.

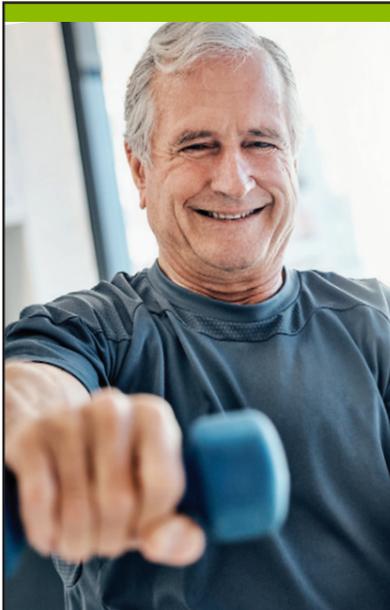
Performance auditing of government services shouldn't occur as a reaction to identified problems, rather they should be completed proactively so Tulsa County is prepared in advance to meet future changes and challenges. so we can continue to provide the best service possible.

Delivering future services efficiently and effectively to Tulsa County residents starts with today's planning.



Courtesy TGA and City of Tulsa

JAPANESE SISTER CITY: Tulsa Global Alliance hosted 20 middle school students and three adults from Tulsa's Sister City of Utsunomiya, Japan in March. This is an annual exchange between Tulsa and Utsunomiya. The students live with host families, attend local schools, and take part in cultural activities, sightseeing and meetings with Tulsa's leaders.



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Hannibal Johnson Advocates for Tulsa's History, Future

Nationally Known Author to Lead Rotary Club of Tulsa Starting in July

By **EMILY RAMSEY**
Contributing Editor

Editor's Note: Hannibal Johnson 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 Susan Neal of Gilcrease Museum and the University of Tulsa.

Though Hannibal Johnson may not be a native Tulsan, his passion for the legacy of Tulsa's Black Wall Street and diversity and inclusion has made him a well-known advocate both locally and nationally for diversity and improved community race relations.

Johnson will further that advocacy in July, when he assumes the role of 2018-2019 Rotary Club of Tulsa president.

Johnson, an Arkansas native, holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Arkansas and a law degree from Harvard School of Law.

He is the author of numerous published books, all with the common theme of race and diversity. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University and the University of Tulsa. He is an attorney, consultant regarding diversity and inclusion, and national speaker regarding Tulsa's Black Wall Street history, the

Tulsa Race Riot and other themes. In addition to his professional endeavors, he has been a long-time active community member.

Johnson is past president of Leadership Tulsa, the Metropolitan Tulsa Urban League and the Northeast Oklahoma Black Lawyers Association. He served as chair of the board of directors of The Community Leadership Association, an international leadership organization, during 2001 – 2002, is a founding director of the Oklahoma Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, and is past chair of the board of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

Annually, he speaks to the class of Leadership Tulsa in an effort to help them understand the current dynamics of race in Tulsa and how they were formed.

"These people are leaders in the area or aspiring leaders, and they need to be aware of Tulsa's history including our legacy of the Race Riot and Greenwood's amazing entrepreneurial past."

Currently, Johnson is involved with two initiatives focused on fostering police and community relations: the Community and Police Leadership Collaborative (CAPLC) and the Mayor's Police and Community Coalition (MPACC).

The aim of these programs is, first and foremost, to build relationships that enhance trust, he says. "Both MPACC and CAPLC also help us process racially-charged events, such as the Terence Crutcher and Robert Bates shootings, and make them less likely to reoccur."

CAPLC, a joint venture between the Tulsa Police Department and Leadership Tulsa that began in 2017, offers an opportunity to bring together police and citizens in one-on-one and group settings to communicate about issues in the community in an effort to build relationships and help officers and citizens better understand each other, Johnson says.

Police officers and local citizens share with one another an experience that is unique to his or her life or profession, helping to open up each other's eyes to their individual experiences. "It's about knowledge and information sharing. The more we understand a person and the situation, the less likely we are to make rash judgments," he says.

MPACC was instituted under Mayor Kathy Taylor's leadership and has a similar goal of bridging the gap between police and community members.

Racial wounds exist all over our country, including in Tulsa, says Johnson, driving home the vital need for programs like these.

MPACC includes the Mayor, Police Chief, and various police officers and diverse citizens. Members participate in bi-monthly informational sessions, retreats and police ride-along opportunities in order to build stronger relationships "so that when something happens we can keep ourselves in check and have better communication."

One example of this initiative's positive effects is in June 2016, when the shooting occurred at Pulse, a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida: "After that event, Tulsa



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

DIVERSITY PROPONENT: *Hannibal Johnson is an attorney, author, consultant regarding diversity and inclusion, and national speaker regarding Tulsa's Black Wall Street history, the Tulsa Race Riot and other themes.*

Police Chief Chuck Jordan contacted Toby Jenkins, executive director of Oklahomans for Equality and MPACC member, regarding how the police department could support the LGBTQ community."

Johnson is also looking forward to another initiative that is soon to launch, a collaboration involving the Rotary Club of Tulsa, Tulsa Police Department and Tulsa Public Schools. The core concept is the creation of something akin to the police athletic leagues that a number of police departments sponsor, he says. The Tulsa version will be broader in scope, focusing on developing children and youth while simultaneously building better community police relations. Details will be forthcoming.

Johnson has been a member of the Tulsa Rotary club for 13 years but has only recently become involved with leadership within the over 100-year-old organization.

"Rotary brings together people with passion and resources for the betterment of the community

through community-focused initiatives," says Johnson.

He credits 2015-2016 Rotary President Jeff Hassell for first involving Johnson in Rotary leadership.

"I was first impressed by Hannibal by the respect he paid to me and all his colleagues by being prepared," wrote Hassell in an email.

"I was also impressed by his respect for others' ideas and thoughts," Hassell continued. "You can genuinely see him listen, absorb and consider others' thoughts. And when it is his turn to speak, his thoughts are always delivered with eloquence and with care—he considers each opportunity to speak as important and deserving of careful thought and his best efforts."

Johnson plans to use his presidency to carry out many of the items in the organization's strategic plan, including the upcoming initiative with TPD and TPS. He also hopes to heighten awareness of the many projects that Rotary does in the community and to grow its member base, particularly in the area of diversity.



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VARIETY

U2 and Justin Timberlake Top Spring Lineup

Concert entertainment, anywhere, can't get much better than U2 and Justin Timberlake in the same week. Our BOK Center, which was rated by Pollstar as the seventh most successful arena in the nation based on ticket sales, has delivered on its promise to have a knock-out 10th-anniversary year of headliners. Spring is bustling around our area with music, dance and theatre. Here's the lineup:

Kudos to the River Spirit Casino Resort for cornering the market by presenting such an assortment of beloved bands from the last five decades. Following Three Dog Night, Apr. 19, the Doobie Brothers take the stage Apr. 21 at Paradise Cove to revive the 70s and more. If you're a rock music fan, you will know "Taking It to the Streets," "Minute by Minute" and "What a Fool Believes," among so many Doobie Brothers hits.

What I'd forgotten from the 70s was the band Foreigner. This one group was responsible for "Feels Like the First Time," "Waiting for a Girl Like You," "Cold as Ice," "Hot Blooded," "I Want to Know What Love Is" and "Double Vision." Formed by English and American musicians, and still with an original member or two, Foreigner is one of the world's best-selling rock groups of all time. They perform at River Spirit on Apr. 26.

For a taste of country, River Spirit presents The Eli Young Band, Apr. 28, followed on May 2 by Lyle Lovett and His Large Band. A multi-faceted Grammy winner, Texas-born Lovett sings folk, swing, blues, jazz and gospel. He's a musician, and person, with depth.

Keeping the action turned up, the power of love rules Paradise Cove when Huey Lewis and the News performs on May 10.

Back to the BOK, the English heavy metal band Judas Priest, formed in 1969 and having sold 50 million records worldwide, appears Apr. 26. Fifty million is impressive but compare that to the accomplishments of the juggernaut Irish band U2 with \$170 million sold. Still with the origi-

nal members from the 1970s, they claim 22 Grammys. Their 2009-2011 360° Tour, which came to Norman, Oklahoma, is the highest grossing concert tour of all time. Led by front man Bono, U2 combines a steadfast and sincere political and social consciousness with great tunes. Their Experience and Innocence tour is part of the BOK Center's 10th anniversary celebration, May 2.

J.T.'s 20/20 concert tour at the BOK Center might be my favorite concert of all time, and my experiences go back to the Stones' first U.S. appearance in the 1960s. A multiple Grammy and Emmy-award winner, Timberlake has been a stellar singer, dancer and actor most of his life. A veteran of the Mickey Mouse Club that included Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, Ryan Gosling and Keri Russell, he later was a star of the greatest boy band ever NSYNC. If you don't have tickets for his May 5 concert, you can always try the BOK Center website on show date. Sometimes a handful of tickets are released late in the day.

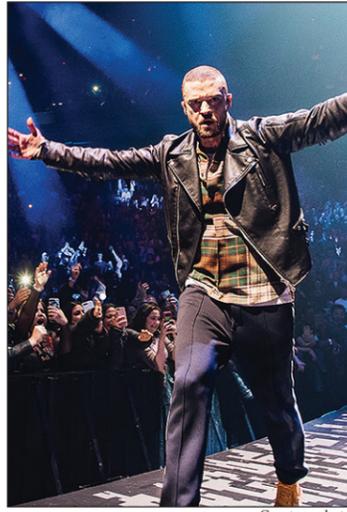
In the area of the performing arts, I'm excited to see Tulsa Ballet's upcoming presentation of "Green Table," "Rassemblement" and "Glass Figures." I recently attended a gathering to watch choreographer Jeanette Vondersaar set "Green Table" on Tulsa Ballet dancers. Three male members of the company were learning the role of Death, which is the centerpiece of this 1932 work by German choreographer Kurt Jooss. He certainly saw what was coming in the years ahead for his country. "Green Table" is living history. For many years, the only person who could train dancers for this ballet was Jooss' daughter. She then passed that honor and responsibility on to Vondersaar, who set the ballet on the company both in 1999 and currently. I remember well when the work was performed here last. It is riveting and relevant.

Also on the Ballet's program is Nacho Duato's "Rassemblement." Duato continues to be my favorite contemporary choreographer, with strong competition from Tulsa's

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN



Courtesy photo

JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE: The pop star returns to the BOK Center May 5, as the arena continues its 10th anniversary celebration.



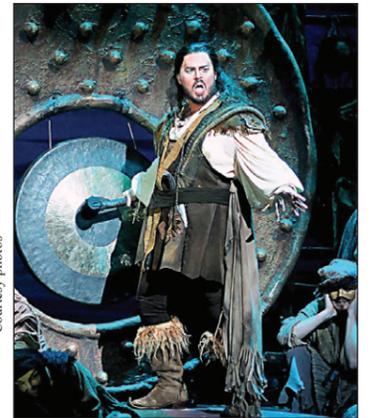
Photo by SAM JONES

U2: One of the best-selling bands of all time appears at the BOK Center on May 2 for its first-ever concert in Tulsa.



Courtesy photos

TAKÁCS QUARTET: Among the top chamber music groups in the world, the Takács Quartet performs the work of Mozart, Mendelssohn and Dohnanyi for Chamber Music Tulsa, Apr. 22 at the Tulsa PAC.



TURANDOT: Tulsa Opera stages Puccini's luscious "Turandot" at the Tulsa PAC Apr. 21 and Apr. 29.

Ma Cong. Ma is actually from China and was principal dancer with Tulsa Ballet for many years before finding phenomenal success in choreography. He most recently took on Broadway's "M. Butterfly," starring Clive Owen and directed by Julie Taymor. Tulsa Ballet's Signature Series is hosted at the University of Tulsa's Lorton Hall May 3-6.

Anyone who has an interest in chamber music will not want to miss the Takács Quartet Apr. 22 at the Tulsa PAC. The Takács is one of the top chamber music groups in the world. Formed 43 years ago, the last of its founding members, second violinist Károly Schranz, will retire on Apr. 30. This is arguably the chamber music event of the year.

Coming to the PAC Apr. 21 and Apr. 29 is Tulsa Opera's staging of Puccini's luscious "Turandot," sung in Italian. The well-known,



Courtesy photo

SIGNATURE SERIES: Tulsa Ballet presents a politically engaging and relevant Signature Series concert May 3-6 at TU's Lorton Hall, featuring the contemporary works "Green Table," "Rassemblement" and "Glass Figures."

gorgeous aria "Nessun Dorma" from "Turandot" is music even non-aficionados will know. This is the story of the illusive and quixotic Princess Turandot who is pursued by Prince Calaf with mixed results.

Whether you are savoring J.T. and U2 in a sold-out arena, or the glories of chamber music and contemporary dance in an intimate space, enjoy the selection of entertainment choices available in our area over the weeks ahead.

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One of a Kind Musician, One of a Kind Venue: Randy Crouch Goes to Church for Birthday Party

There's only one Randy Crouch, and he's ours. You hear that, Texas? He came here of his own free will, and we're not giving him back.

145 artists and musicians come here," explains Taylor, "I know them. Almost all of them are friends."

Fortunately for us, Taylor, a wonderful musician in her own right, has some very talented friends whom she often joins on stage.

For example, let's get back to Crouch's birthday. On stage, playing to roughly 50 people, was an all-star band made up of Randy Crouch, Dustin Pittsley, Jesse Aycok, Mark Lyon, Donnie Wood, David Teegarden Jr., and, occasionally Taylor. You will not find a better audience-musician ratio anywhere.

That intimate setting is what makes the Cimarron Breeze Concerts special. The line separating musician from fan becomes faint, blurred as we break bread together, sing happy birthday to a friend together, go to church together.

"This church has been filled with the spirit of good people and amazing music," says Taylor. "Not just the musicians but the people who come to listen."

Or, to put it in Randy Crouch's words, "We're all in the same band. The rest is bull—."

There are some great shows coming to the Old Church this spring, including Parker Millsap, Chuck Dunlap (more on him shortly) and Don White. For a complete list of upcoming shows, visit cimarronbreeze.com.

As for Randy Crouch, the world's greatest Rock & Roll fiddler has some shows coming up as well, including April 22 at Guthrie Green and April 29 at Hunt Club. For all upcoming gigs, check out randycrouch.com.

As for the legendary folklore surrounding Crouch, that will have to wait for another column. I've been working on one called, "Tales from Randyland," but I've encountered a paradox in which remembering enough to write about Randyland means never truly being in Randyland. The legend continues...

Speaking of legends, let's talk about the May 9 Cimarron Breeze Concert featuring Randy's good friend Chuck Dunlap. I've tried to explain Red Dirt music as a combination of Country, Rock, Bluegrass, Gospel, Folk, etc., but the best way

Searching for The Sound



By BRYAN CANTRELL



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Randy Crouch avoids a facial inferno as he blows out the candles.



ALL-STAR BAND: From left, Jesse Aycok, David Teegarden Jr., Monica Taylor, Dustin Pittsley, Randy Crouch, Donnie Wood and Mark Lyon close the show with "Peace on Earth," from Crouch's 2014 album, *No Good Reason*.



IN SESSION: Sunset at the Old Church Center in Perkins, Oklahoma, during Randy Crouch's birthday celebration.



OLD CHURCH: The Methodist Episcopal Church held services for nearly 100 years in Perkins. Today, the 126-year-old structure holds "church" in the form of outstanding concerts.



FLYING HORSE: Monica Taylor shows a beaded necklace featuring a "cosmic flying horse" that was part of a fundraising auction for Red Dirt Relief Fund. "We keep it in the church hanging above Tom Skinner's family Bible," says Taylor.

have never flown his space ship here. The May 9 show is the last of several that he's playing in the area to promote his new album *Full Circle*, which is outstanding. Visit chuckdunlapmusic.com for the album and a full list of shows.

I hope you can make it to the Old Church Center to experience one of the Cimarron Breeze Concerts in the near future. But, whether you find yourself in Perkins or closer to home, remember: keep searching, keep listening.

to understand Red Dirt music is to listen to Chuck Dunlap for five minutes. I don't have enough space left in this column to get into just how influential Dunlap is, but let's just say if Bob Childers is Godfather of Red Dirt music, Chuck Dunlap might be the actual father. Or at least the cool uncle.

If not for Dunlap, Bob Childers may have never settled in Stillwater, Tom Skinner may have pursued baseball, and Randy Crouch may

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23rd Annual Oklahoma Renaissance Festival Approaches

Visitors can step back into 1569 England to spend days with Knights as The Castle of Muskogee hosts a festival featuring the royal quest for knighthood, a full-contact jousting tournament, birds of prey exhibitions, as well as travelling acrobats.

This festival embodies the science and arts of the times so it is of no surprise that Queen Elizabeth has invited nobles, merchants, pirates and most importantly, visitors from greater Tulsa to celebrate.

Visitors can be prepared for the energy of the Celtic corner this season. The Castle has several new entertainers inside the cave for 2018. Groups include The Craic, who is back for the entire season, and Pictus, who will set the beat for Scottish Weekend.

Music the Gathering will also be joining the cave lineup. Entertainment for the entire family will include Scotty Fox who will delight and entertain the crowds from the Red Ram Stage. In addition to the newest performers, visitors will find all the favorites appearing on one of the 15 stages on the Castle grounds.

Each weekend will host a theme to celebrate the visiting kings. To honor the history of 1569, Queen Elizabeth shall entertain royal suitors seeking her hand in marriage. Check out www.okcastle.com for themes and events to coordinate with each weekend.

The Oklahoma Renaissance Festival is proud to include new artists in Castleton. Located in the tournament area of the village, Siren

Song Art creates beautiful pieces of Stained Glass.

In the Castle Keepe, the newest masonry artist, Stone Wick, provides guests of the festival with a unique collection of statues, furniture and wall décor.

With more than 135 merchants, there is truly something for everyone in Castleton, including hand-carved toys and games to drinking chalices made of horns.

Dates and Hours:

Saturday and Sunday: April 28 – June 3, plus Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 10:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Student day is May 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on discounts and purchasing online tickets, visit okcastle.com.



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Association for Women in Communications Honors Four

Newsmakers Luncheon is May 2 at Southern Hills

The Tulsa Chapter of the Association for Women in Communication will celebrate excellence in Oklahoma Women on May 2 at the 45th annual Newsmakers Awards luncheon at Southern Hills Country Club.

Each of the 2018 honorees blazed a trail for other women to follow:

Saidie Award Winner Carole Lambert

Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award winner Carole Lambert said, "that's a wrap," in 2011 after nearly 30 years as news anchor for KTUL NewsChannel 8 in Tulsa.

She didn't hang up her microphone or love of broadcasting after returning to her hometown of Springfield, Missouri. Instead, this Emmy award winning broadcaster gave a gift that allowed her Alma Mater Drury University to upgrade its broadcast studio to "state of the art" for teaching future broadcasters. Lambert also coaches students, judges competitions, and volunteers in the Drury Women's Auxiliary supporting female students through scholarships and other programs.

In 1990-2011, Lambert hosted and produced KTUL's "Waiting Child" weekly reports profiling special needs children in Oklahoma Department of Human Services custody looking for permanent families. Since its inception in 1980, these stories have resulted in more than 4,000 children finding adoptive homes. KTUL continues the series today.

Among her "Waiting Child" honors are the Congressional Angel Adoption Award, Adoption Excellence award by US Health and Human Services Dept., and Friend of Children award from OK Institute for Child Advocacy.

Lambert's broadcast honors also include Oklahoma Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, Tulsa Press Club Media Icon Award, Silver Circle Society of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Best of Broadcasting professional achievement award from American Women in Radio and Television, and a permanent collection/exhibit of her professional life at the Pioneer Women Museum, Ponca City, in the exhibit of Oklahoma Women in Journalism.

Receiving a lifetime achievement award named after Saidie



CAROLE LAMBERT



ANNA AMERICA



CINDY HULSEY



KAYSE SHRUM, D.O.

Adwon is fitting for Lambert who was interviewed for employment by and worked closely with Adwon at KTUL. Lambert's career embodies the spirit of Adwon who was the first female general manager of an Oklahoma TV station in the early 1980s.

Anna America

Anna America has a long personal and professional commitment to making Tulsa a better place to raise her family.

A University of Tulsa graduate, America started her career as a Tulsa Tribune reporter and City Hall was one of the areas she covered. She worked as a journalist for several publications, then in communications for the City of Tulsa, and eventually moved to the nonprofit sector.

America is the chief executive officer of the Child Abuse Network, working to help victims of abuse receive needed services and assistance. Previously, she was executive director at two other nonprofits, Up With Trees and Communities in Schools.

In 2014, she was elected to represent southeast Tulsa on the Tulsa City Council. In 2016, she was re-elected without opposition and served as City Council chair, leading the largest group of women - five - ever to serve on the nine-member council. Her previous elected office was on the Tulsa School Board.

An active community volunteer, America is the proud mom of two children. Her daughter is a sophomore at Booker T. Washington High School, and her son is a student at Washington University in St. Louis. She is also wife to Tulsa environmental leader Michael Patton who is the director of Land Legacy, an Oklahoma conservation nonprofit.

Cindy Hulsey

Longing for a new career path after 17 years in the securities industry, Hulsey began a journey that led to the innovative for-profit Magic City Book Store that provides financial support to the

nonprofit Tulsa Literary Coalition.

Magic City Books was one of the first stores in the country to adopt this hybrid model, recognizing that a good bookstore is much more than a place to buy books. It serves as a gathering place for the exchange of ideas and as a community event space for readings, book discussions, and other programs that illuminate important social and cultural issues.

A lifelong Tulsan and downtown enthusiast, Hulsey serves as executive director of the Tulsa Literary Coalition and general manager of Magic City Books. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from the University of Tulsa and a Masters of Library and Information Studies from the University of Oklahoma.

Before taking her current role, Hulsey's career path led to Tulsa City-County Library where she created a system-wide staff training and development program, one of the first of its kind in the nation. As Central Library manager, she won a Community Service Award from the Oklahoma Humanities Council for the "Novel Talk" program. During Central Library's remodeling, she served as adult services coordinator.

When the opportunity arose to team up with Jeff Martin and Booksmart Tulsa, Hulsey shamelessly recruited her husband, Shannon Hall, to donate his time and considerable talents to help her create the 501(c)(3) nonprofit called the Tulsa Literary Coalition. The Coalition raised money to open Magic City Books, a for-profit independent bookstore in the Tulsa Arts District. Sales from the store provide a revenue stream for the operation and programs of the Literary Coalition.

By adopting this innovative model, Hulsey hopes to bring the magic of books to the Tulsa Arts District and her fellow Tulsans for many years to come.

Kayse Shrum, DO

Under the leadership of Oklahoma native Kayse Shrum, OSU

Center for Health Sciences has experienced unprecedented growth with more than double enrollment and new academic programs.

Student enrollment has more than doubled as new academic programs have been established to meet the workforce needs of Oklahoma. To fuel the growth of OSU-CHS, President Shrum has raised more than \$22 million in private support, including an \$8 million transformative gift from the A.R. and Marylouise Tandy Foundation to support the construction of a state-of-the-art clinical skills simulation building.

Shrum is a native Oklahoman who earned her doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. She joined the medical school faculty at OSU Center for Health Sciences (OSU-CHS) in 2002 and served as chair of the Department of Pediatrics from 2004-2011. In 2011, she was named provost of OSU-CHS and dean of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. In 2013, she was promoted to her current position as president of OSU-CHS, becoming the youngest and first female president and dean of a medical school in the state of Oklahoma. Shrum holds the George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Medical Excellence and Service and the Saint Francis Health System Endowed Chair of Pediatrics.

Under her leadership, OSU Center for Health Sciences has experienced unprecedented growth. During her tenure, she has made addressing the healthcare workforce shortage in rural Oklahoma a top priority for OSU-CHS. A fervent champion of rural health and primary care medicine, Shrum led the strategic efforts to create a sustainable rural primary care physician pipeline program, which starts with rural high school outreach programs and culminates with rural-based residency training programs. President Shrum launched award-winning high school recruiting programs like Operation Orange and Blue Coat to White Coat, established

the Rural Medical Track (a rural-focused medical curriculum), and expanded the number of residency training programs in Oklahoma by securing a \$3.8 million grant from the Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust and a \$5.6 million grant from the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

Shrum is active in a variety of professional and charitable organizations. She currently serves on the Oklahoma State Regents' Task Force on the Future of Higher Education and holds leadership positions in osteopathic professional organizations, including vice president of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, chair of the American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics, and committee positions on the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Board of Deans and the American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates. She is also a board member of the Children's Hospital Foundation at Saint Francis, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma, Bank-SNB and Southwest Bancorp, PLICO, Oklahoma State University Medical Authority and Trust, and OSU Center for Health Systems Innovation.

Shrum has been recognized for her leadership and many contributions to improving health outcomes in Tulsa and Oklahoma. She was named a finalist for the Journal Record's 2015 Woman of the Year award and was inducted into Connors State College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013. She also received the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association's Outstanding & Distinguished Service Award in 2014 and the Tulsa Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women's Pinnacle Award for Health in 2012.

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DINING OUT IN GREATER TULSA

Bohemian Pizzeria Adds Charm to East Village

Local Dining

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

East Village Bohemian Pizzeria, 818 E. 3rd St., opened in downtown Tulsa's East Village at the end of 2014.

The district is an upscale, quaint diamond in the rough in downtown Tulsa. The area has recently seen a growth in its offerings with the opening of The Boxyard at 3rd Street and Frankfort Avenue, bringing a much-needed retail and services element to the district.

Further growth is coming with redevelopment nearing completion of the Hartford Building and construction coming soon on Hartford Commons, both to be located just north of the East Village at 1st Street and Greenwood Avenue. The developments are planned to include residential and restaurant and/or retail space.

But, for now, the area, specifically around Bohemian Pizzeria, at 3rd Street and Lansing Avenue, with a trendy Hodges Bend across the street, hanging twinkle lights and a nostalgic telephone booth, offers a nice and calm retreat compared to the frenetic energy that can often be felt next door in the Blue Dome District.

About two months ago, the restaurant expanded its long and narrow, yet cozy, space into the adjacent storefront in order to offer additional indoor seating. The restaurant also features a spacious and unique outdoor dining

area, which adds to the restaurant's seating options.

I remember coming to this restaurant soon after it opened. I enjoyed it then, and with the additional seating options, I was extra pleased with it this go-round.

The menu is mostly pizza-focused, featuring wood-fired Neapolitan-style pizzas. There are also salad options and a list of starters plus desserts.

My friend and I started with the spicy Shrimp Diavolo for our appetizer. The dish featured six jumbo shrimp mixed with slow-roasted tomatoes, calabrese peppers, bell peppers and chili flakes. Pizza bread for dipping accompanied the dish.

We then sprung to share two pizzas, each with about six slices.

My friend was intrigued by the ingredients of Craigie's Angry Bee pizza: BurnCo's Canadian bacon, San Marzano tomato sauce, pepperoncinis and calabrese peppers, topped with Fontina cheese and honey drizzle.

I am not a fan of sweet pizzas, so the honey portion of the pizza was not my particular choice. However, the ingredients and flavors paired together nicely, and I am always in favor of local entrepreneurs supporting one another, such as in this case with the use of meat from Tulsa's own BurnCo.

My pizza choice was the Isle of Capri largely because of the artichokes in the dish. The other ingredients were San Marzano tomato sauce, Prosciutto di Parma, olives, slow roasted red and yellow tomatoes, fresh basil, and mozzarella.

Bohemian Pizzeria offers an extensive cocktail list plus a full bar.



SHRIMP DIAVOLO: Six jumbo shrimp in a tomato sauce of calabrese peppers, bell peppers and chili flakes.



QUAINT DISTRICT: Downtown Tulsa's East Village has been home to East Village Bohemian Pizzeria, 818 E. 3rd St., since winter 2014. The upscale pizza restaurant sits near the corner of 3rd Street and Lansing Avenue in a quaint area of the district.

Weekly specials include a weekday happy hour, 3-5 p.m. with \$3 off pizzas and \$2 off appetizers.

Lunch is served 11 a.m.-3 p.m., with a lunch-sized pizza and Caesar salad for \$10.

Bohemian Pizzeria is open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m.-11 p.m.



RIB CRIB DONATION: Rib Crib BBQ & Grill presented \$105,000 to five local Tulsa charities April 4 from proceeds of its 15th annual golf invitational, presented by Prosperity Bank and held at Oaks Country Club. More than 144 golfers participated in the event to support the five local nonprofit organizations: The Foundation for Tulsa Schools, The Children's Hospital at Saint Francis, Pet Adoption League (PAL), Emergency Infant Services, and 12&12. In the photo from left, back row, are Bill Andoe, Ranan Gangel, Tom Neff, Bryan Day and Clayton Woodrum. Front row, Mark Chastain, Danielle Palm, Sherri Hardy and Kacie Frazier.



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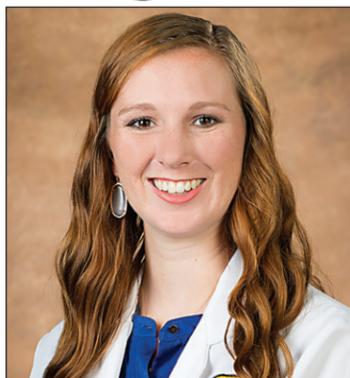
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HEALTH & WELLNESS

OSU Health Sciences Student to Receive Prestigious Scholarship

First year medical student Brook Cloud has been selected as a recipient of The William K. Warren Foundation-Saint Francis Health System OSU School of Medicine Scholarship. Cloud is a dual D.O./Ph.D. student at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa (OSU-CHS).



BROOK CLOUD

After earning her undergraduate degree at Oklahoma State University and working in childcare at the Stillwater YMCA, Cloud kept pursuing her passion for pediatric medicine by taking a position in the Saint Francis Pediatric Emergency Center. These experiences led her to realize that working with kids would be the path she would take for her future career, she says.

"I have come to understand that working in a health care setting with children is simply a different world," Cloud says. "Children smile even at their weakest, and it is a joy in medicine I would not want to miss."

As a Broken Arrow native, the decision for Cloud to return to Tulsa and to work for Saint Francis was not difficult. She plans to pursue her love of pediatrics after completing her dual degree and

hopes to provide quality medical care for Tulsa and the surrounding areas after focusing her research on pediatric development.

"I'm grateful to have the opportunity to study medicine at the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and even more grateful to receive this incredible scholarship from The William K. Warren Foundation and from Saint Francis Health System."

This scholarship, generously funded by The William K. Warren Foundation and Saint Francis

Health Systems, is awarded to full-time OSU-CHS medical students who have expressed an interest in practicing primary care medicine in Oklahoma, especially in the Tulsa area. Cloud will receive a \$30,000 scholarship award.

About Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences educates osteopathic physicians, scientists, allied health professionals and health care administrators for Oklahoma with an emphasis on serving rural and underserved Oklahoma. OSU-CHS offers graduate and professional degrees with over 1,000 students enrolled in academic programs in the College of Osteopathic Medicine, the School of Allied Health, the School of Health Care Administration, the School of Biomedical Sciences, and the School of Forensic Sciences. OSU Medicine operates a network of clinics in the Tulsa area offering a multitude of specialty services including cardiology, family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry and women's health.

OSU Medicine Doctors Honored

Doctors Damon Baker, Stacy Chronister, Christina Connel, Madhuri Lad and Johnny Stephens were honored at the recent Tulsa CARES Red Ribbon Gala for their work with those living with HIV/AIDS in Tulsa and Oklahoma over the years.

The theme of the gala was "shift" in an effort to shift awareness, per-

ceptions and compassion toward those affected by HIV/AIDS. Tulsa CARES' mission is to deliver social services to people who are affected by HIV/AIDS. It is committed to achieving quality health outcomes for those living with HIV/AIDS that will result in a greater quality of life, treatment adherence and reduction of HIV transmission.

"We are thrilled to recognize the contributions of several providers from OSU Center for Health Sciences who have dedicated much of their career to compassionately improving the quality of life for those living with HIV/AIDS," says Kate Neary, chief executive officer of Tulsa CARES.



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EDUCATION

Incoming OU President James L. Gallogly Visits Tulsa

The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents announced on March 26 the selection of James L. "Jim" Gallogly, 65, a leading American business executive and OU alumnus, as the university's 14th president. Gallogly will succeed OU's current president, David L. Boren, who is retiring on June 30, 2018.

"Jim Gallogly is a world-class, in-demand transformative leader, and we're honored to have him as our new president," said Clayton I. Bennett, chairman of OU's Board of Regents. "Throughout his career, he's been incredibly successful. He is a builder known for having strategic vision, for managing large and complex organizations, and for mentoring and inspiring great teams to achieve results — leadership qualities we value for the future. Jim's skill-set is a perfect match for this unique time in our history."

"I'm here because I love the University of Oklahoma," said President Designate Gallogly. "It's a privilege to be part of the university, and I will work tirelessly with our outstanding students, faculty and administration as we achieve new standards of academic excellence."

Boren, who is among America's longest-serving university presidents, is stepping down after leading OU over the past 23 years. His retirement will come after completing 51 years of public service in the Oklahoma Legislature, as Governor of Oklahoma, U.S. Senator and OU's president. Under Boren's leadership, the university emerged as a "pacesetter university in American public higher education," with 31 major new pro-

grams initiated during his tenure. Since 1994, more than \$2 billion in construction projects have been completed or are under way on OU's three campuses.

Said President Boren: "I have known Jim Gallogly for many years. He is a person of exceptional ability and has been a committed supporter of the university. He truly loves the university and our students. He and his wife Janet will be worthy leaders of our university family. Molly and I both wish them well and will do all that we can to help them and the university that means so much to all of us."

Bennett added that Gallogly impressed the Board of Regents as a charismatic and inspirational leader. "It's impressive to know that many leaders he's mentored and developed during his career have ascended to become CEOs," Bennett said. "He'll lead from the front, working with teams at every level and teaching in the classroom as he takes on his next major career challenge. While Jim may not come from the academy, we know he'll draw skillfully on OU's world-class faculty, who will be critical in assisting him during this transition."

Bennett said OU's search process was led by a recognized national search firm and a representative search committee composed of 17 faculty, students, staff professionals and community members. David Rainbolt and Dr. Gregg A. Garn, Dean of the Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education, served as chair and vice-chair, respectively, of the search. The committee initiated its work on November 13, 2017. It met six times, reviewed a

broad pool of applicants and ultimately selected 13 candidates for interviews. After robust debate, the committee presented seven finalists for the Board of Regents to review. The Board of Regents conducted in-depth interviews with all seven candidates who were a mix of traditional and non-traditional candidates, both internal and external to the university. Following this thorough evaluation process, Regents unanimously selected Gallogly to become president.

Gallogly was former chairman and chief executive officer of LyondellBasell, a company he joined while it was in Chapter 11 bankruptcy. He and his team guided the company out of bankruptcy in record time and successfully repositioned it as one of the world's largest petrochemical, polymers and refining companies, with 2014 revenues of \$45.6 billion and earnings of \$4.1 billion (the year preceding his retirement).

In addition to LyondellBasell, Gallogly also served for 29 years in executive roles with ConocoPhillips, Chevron Phillips Chemical Company and Phillips Petroleum Company, beginning his career in the energy business in Northeast Oklahoma with Phillips in 1980. Prior to that, Gallogly practiced law with a private firm in Denver, Colorado.

Gallogly received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 1974 and a J.D. degree from the OU College of Law in 1977. Gallogly also completed the Advanced Executive Program at the J.L. Kelllogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, in 1998.



GTR Newspapers photo

OU-TULSA WELCOME: University of Oklahoma-Tulsa President John Henning Schumann, M.D., right, welcomes incoming University of Oklahoma President James L. Gallogly to the Tulsa campus March 26.

He is a member of the OU Gallogly College of Engineering Board of Visitors and the University of Colorado Engineering Advisory Council, as well as an executive committee member of the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors in Houston, Texas. Healthcare industry experience he's gained through the private sector and his board service to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center will be integral to his work as

president with OU's Health Sciences Center.

Gallogly was born in St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, on September 1, 1952. He is one of 10 children of Tom and Margery Gallogly. He and his wife, Janet, have been married 43 years and have three daughters — Kelly Gray, Kasey DeLuke and Kim Gallogly; as well as four grandchildren — Ella and Vivian Gray and Tony and Benny DeLuke.

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Tulsa Tech Student Goes from Farm to Pharmacy

Students enrolled in Tulsa Tech's Pharmacy Technician program learn the science of pharmaceutical compounding, medication inventory procedures, and more as they prepare for careers in a retail, apothecary, clinical, or hospital setting.

Katsy Smalygo, a Collinsville High School senior, became interested in this challenging health-related program from the very first moment she heard about it. "When I first heard about the Pharmacy Tech program, I was very interested," Smalygo says. "And I began to think how this program would allow me to have a great job right after high school

but also provided me with a great opportunity to work in the industry immediately after I graduate high school."

Tulsa Tech's Pharmacy Technician program is the only nationally-certified American System of Health-System Pharmacist Association (ASHP), and completion of the program requires 600 hours of coursework and training, with 160 of those hours applied toward an externship, or on-site clinical work experience. "I really enjoy the program because it's so much hands on," Smalygo says. "And you actually get to do the work while you

of Tulsa Tech's Pharmacy Tech instructors, Walgreen's has been a supporting partner since the program began.

"Walgreen's has been there from the very beginning," Gibson says. "They have supported our students, they are very involved in our community, and they have hired many of our students once they complete the training program."

As a student, Smalygo feels her clinical work experience at Walgreen's has not only given her the opportunity to work hands-on within the industry, it has also provided her with added confidence while preparing for industry certification testing.

"I'm beginning to realize the training I have received is above and beyond," Smalygo says. "I currently spend three hours a day, Monday through Thursday, here at the pharmacy, and several times technicians have told me that much of what we are learning here at Tech, they didn't have the opportunity to learn until they attended college. So that gives me a lot of confidence as I prepare for both my national and state certifications, and hopefully a career within the industry."

Citing the Collinsville senior's performance to date, Gibson feels her student will definitely succeed in whatever path she chooses.

"Katsy is a class leader," Gibson says. "She never backs down from a challenge, she is a member of both FFA and HOSA-Future Health Professionals, and she has been awarded a scholarship from Bacone College Equestrian Program. Whether she is barrel-racing or making straight A's, I have no doubt she will go far in life and accomplish whatever she puts her mind to."

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News From Tulsa Tech



By DR. STEVE TIGER
Superintendent

and give me the option of pursuing a long-term career or possibly even help me pay for college later."

The former president and vice-president of Future Farmers of America (FFA) had already begun to develop a plan during her junior year, and she was hoping to find a program that would not only interest her but also fit into this plan.

"As a junior in high school I was interested in exploring several of the one-year programs offered at Tech," Smalygo says. "Something that I might be able to take advantage of during my senior year. The Pharmacy Technician program not only fit into my plan

are learning the concepts."

Students in this unique program began their clinical work experience in early February, and Smalygo is currently working on completing her externship at Walgreen's.

"My work experience here at Walgreen's has been very rewarding," Smalygo says. "Everyone, both in and outside of the actual pharmacy, everyone in the store has been extremely helpful, and it has been a great experience. I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to complete my clinicals here, and I have always felt like I am treated as a member of the team."

According to Kari Gibson, one



Courtesy Tulsa Tech

MEDICAL TECHNICIAN: Katsy Smalygo, a Collinsville High School senior, is learning the science of pharmaceutical compounding, medical inventory procedures and more through Tulsa Tech's pharmacy technician program.

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JENKS DISTRICT NEWS

JENKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INAUGURAL BANQUET INFORMATION



The Jenks Chamber of Commerce 2018 Inaugural Banquet was held in January at the Oklahoma Aquarium. The 2018 Banquet was presented by TTCU. Above in the photo from left are Jenks Chamber President Josh Driskell, Chair-elect Mark Tedford and Past Board Chair Greg Helms.

The banquet featured a presentation of awards and the swearing-in of the chamber's new board of directors. Attendees enjoyed dinner, a private tour of the Oklahoma Aquarium and a chance to bid on silent auction items.

There are seven award categories, including: Bar of the Year, Business of the Year, Community Impact Award, New Business of the Year, Restaurant of the Year, Retailer of the Year, and Young Professional of the Year. Additionally, two leadership awards are

presented to exceptional leaders in the community.

The nine winners included:

- Bar of the Year: The Cigar Box
- Business of the Year: Tedford Insurance
- Community Impact Award: Jenks Public Schools Foundation
- New Business of the Year: Innovative Air Pros
- Restaurant of the Year: Gaetano's Pizzeria and Creamery
- Retailer of the Year: The Pink Lily
- Young Professional of the Year: Eli Dean
- Ed Gerchman Leadership Award: Bonnie Rogers
- Tedford Memorial Scholarship: Beauchamp Jansen

Jenks Graduate Serves with the U.S. Navy Half a World Away

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Robert Zahn, Navy Office of Community Outreach

A Tulsa native and 2002 Jenks High School graduate is serving in the U.S. Navy with Commander, Task Force 70.

Chief Petty Officer Nicholas Heidingsfelder is a gunner's mate serving with Commander, Task Force 70, forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan.

Heidingsfelder is the force gunner. He manages the weapons systems and ordnance for the entire area of responsibility of the task force.

Heidingsfelder is proud to serve in the Pacific and fondly recalls memories of Tulsa.

"Being raised in a small town, people had a strong work ethic," says Heidingsfelder. "I've applied the same principles in the Navy."

Moments like that make it worth serving around the world ready at all times to defend America's interests. With more than 50 percent of the world's shipping tonnage and a third of the world's crude oil passing through the region, the United States has historic and enduring interests in this part of the world. The Navy's presence in Yokosuka is part of that long-standing commitment, explains Navy officials.

"I love being forward deployed here in Japan," says Heidingsfelder. "The life experiences here are second to none. It's definitely for those who enjoy hard work."

Heidingsfelder is also proud of being attached to the command. He believes that being handed his position gives him the opportunity to be a positive impact to his fellow sailors.

"You make a difference every day," says Deputy Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet Joey Dodgen. "We are the most prepared, highly trained and most capable force in the Indo Pacific. Our carriers, amphibious assault ships, aircraft and most importantly, our people, are ready today to face regional challenges and lead our Navy's forces in



CHIEF PETTY OFFICER NICHOLAS HEIDINGSFELDER

this theater, just as the officers and Sailors of 7th Fleet have done for 75 years. So thank you for all that you do."

As a member of one of the U.S. Navy's most relied-upon assets, Heidingsfelder and other sailors know they are part of a legacy that will last beyond their lifetimes providing the Navy the nation needs.

"It's an honor to serve in the world's finest Navy," says Heidingsfelder. "It's provided me an opportunity to defend my country and provide for my family."

Seventh Fleet, which is celebrating its 75th year in 2018, spans more than 124 million square kilometers, stretching from the International Date Line to the India/Pakistan border; and from the Kuril Islands in the North to the Antarctic in the South. Seventh Fleet's area of operation encompasses 36 maritime countries and 50 percent of the world's population with between 50-70 U.S. ships and submarines, 140 aircraft, and approximately 20,000 sailors in the 7th Fleet.

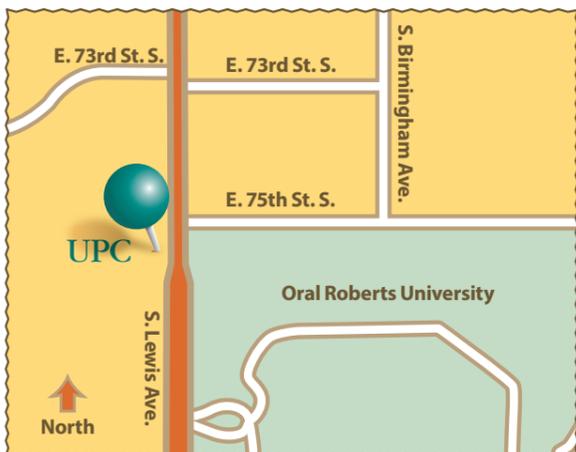


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JENKS DISTRICT SPORTS

Lauren Behnken Leads the Way for Lady Trojans

By MIKE MOGUIN
Sports Writer

One of the leading contenders for the Class 6A state championship in girls' golf in May is Jenks.

Leading the way for the Lady Trojans is Lauren Behnken who recently signed to play college golf at Oklahoma City University.

Jenks is off to a good start, placing first in three tournaments and a runner-up finish in its own event at South Lakes Golf Course. Jenks took second with 323 shots, nine more than Bixby (314), who took the championship and is one of the two teams expected to contend with the Lady Trojans for the state championship. The other is Edmond North.

Behnken tied for fourth with Bixby's Natalie Gough with each golfer carding 77 strokes. "My drives were pretty good," Behnken says. "My ball striking could have been better and my putting...I left a few putts out there I should have made. But, overall, it was a pretty good day with the cold and a little bit of wind."

Behnken has played the links for six years. She loves that golf is an individual, yet, also a team sport.

"You can go out there and shoot not so great as an individual, but your team may have a good score and the team can still place really good," she says.

A bad shot never gets Behnken down.

"I'm very focused on my golf swing and when I'm hitting, I don't let the bad shots affect my future shots," she says. "So, I just put those bad shots and bad holes



Courtesy Willie Braggs III

JENKS ACE: Jenks' golfer Lauren Behnken makes a putt on the green during a tournament.

out of my mind, so I can move forward.

The small-school atmosphere and coach Marty McCauley is what drew Behnken to OCU.

"I felt like he can help me improve my game, mentally," Behnken says.

Although Behnken is competing against Gough and Rachel Eckert, another Bixby player, she will be teammates with both next year at OCU.

"I feel like it's going to be a really good team because we're competing against each other this year and we already know each other, and I feel like next year, when we go play as a team, we'll be really strong," Behnken says.

She's met up with current OCU golfers too.

"I've been up there a couple of times and have talked with the girls and hung out with them a little bit, just to meet them and get adjusted to going there next year," she adds.

In the meantime, Behnken and the Lady Trojans are focused on their ultimate plan.

"These girls have put in a lot of

time, effort, practiced and played through all kinds of weather," Jenks coach Vicki Hughes says. "We have a lot of talent in our top five girls and we have the potential to win state."

"We have three juniors that are pretty good and one freshman that is doing good this year for her first year," Behnken says. "We are hoping for two 70s and at least three 80s at state, just so we can have a good chance at winning state. But I feel like we're still going to have to work hard to win state."

Hughes has watched her golfers develop since she took over the program four years ago.

"Their strengths are they can shoot consistently in the 70s and that is something we are consistently working on," Hughes says. "They're maturing, learning a lot more in course management and are adapting very well. In golf, it's all about the mental game and they are starting to see it's all about that second shot."

"I tell the girls, it's early in the season, and it's going to count come May," Hughes adds.

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SPORTS

OSU Diamond Promises to be a Real Jewel

Former OSU Player Calls \$60 Million Baseball Park A Wise Economic Decision

By **BOB LEWIS**
Contributing Writer

A new \$60 million baseball diamond under construction on Oklahoma State University's Stillwater campus promises to be a real jewel.

School officials say the new facility is scheduled to open in 2020. For now, it is being called OSU Baseball Stadium. Most observers, however, expect that name will change before the first pitch is made.

Reinforcing OSU's promise to have one of the top facilities in the country, it will feature a number of luxury boxes behind home plate and down both the first and third base lines along with permanent seating for up to 6,500 fans along with tailgating tents. There will be an adjacent indoor practice facility, sports medicine area, clubhouse and 7,400-square-foot locker room. A 2,000-square-foot video board will sit atop the practice facility down the left field line.

The center field bleachers will have a "batter's eye" which is comprised of a large piece of non-glare dark glass that fans can sit behind and have a full view of the field. The OSU park will be the only one in the nation with this type of setup, school officials note.

For the convenience of visitors, a 365-degree concourse is equally as impressive.

"It's time, actually a couple of years past time," says Mark Poole, a former Cowboy standout and now president and chief operating officer at the First National Bank & Trust Co. of Broken Arrow.

Following high school, Poole was persuaded to leave his Arizona home in 1979 to hold down the catcher position on some of legendary Coach Gary Ward's most successful teams. He played for two years and OSU fans still cheer his team's back-to-back Big Eight tournament championships and the day in 1981 when the Cowboys placed second in the College World Series.

That led to a contract with the Toronto Blue Jays and the start of a journey he hoped would lead him to the big leagues. A disabling injury dashed that dream but turned out to be the launch pad for the financial services industry career he cherishes today.

Still an avid OSU fan, Poole pointed out that in its day, the Reynolds stadium was one of the best in this part of the country. But times have changed and many top tier programs have invested in upgraded facilities leading him to believe the existing stadium no longer reflects the national status OSU is working hard to achieve.

"I have a lot of great memories from games played at that old



Courtesy GENIA HENDON

OSU COWBOY ENTHUSIAST: Mark Poole, president and chief operating officer of the First National Bank of Broken Arrow, is a former Cowboys player, avid fan and strong supporter of the school's decision to build a showcase baseball facility. He calls the \$60 million baseball complex a wise investment.

ballpark," he says. "But I firmly believe this was a long overdue move that OSU had to make to remain an elite program.

"To a large degree, college athletics have become showcases of facilities," he notes. "To attract the kind of quality athletes you need to keep your program at the top, you need facilities that are as good or better than the other guy's."

Recruiting aside, Poole points to some very real dollars and cents reasons to support OSU's new venture.



Courtesy OSU

HOME RUN: Oklahoma State University's new baseball complex will be among the finest in the nation when it opens in 2020.

In their American Freshman National Norms 2012 survey, for example, researchers found that some 40 percent of students chose their college partly for its social life and 30 percent planned on playing intramural sports. Schools with large athletic programs tend to be meccas of social activity. Most students not only want a college education — they want the college experience.

Team spirit and its derivative fan loyalty — often referred to as branding — can infect a campus and a community.

Poole says universities like Oklahoma State don't merely have sports teams — they have sports cultures that engulf surrounding towns and permeate their states.

For Oklahoma State, revenue from ads, sponsorships and branded novelty items nets the athletic department millions of dollars every year.

An added plus, researchers note, is the fact participants in athletic programs develop good habits of fitness, competitiveness, drive and discipline that follow them into their future as they become able employees and successful businesspeople. And the friendships they form with teammates often follow far off the field. Even students merely shouting from the sidelines can be united in a common bond and develop lifelong commitments to their fellow students and their school.

"The bottom line of all this is the undeniable fact that 'success attracts money and money attracts success. Alumni want to be associated with winning programs.' As a key piece of the athletics village concept that is a big part of OSU's dreams, this park is a very good investment," Poole says.

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Fortuna Tulsa Brings Women's Soccer to Tulsa

New Team Signs Former Union and OSU Star Anna Baffer

By GLENN HIBDON
GTR Sports Writer

Anna Baffer was nearing the end of her soccer career at Oklahoma State and her future in the sport appeared cloudy at best. Then she learned about an amateur league created for players just like her, the Women's Premier Soccer League.

Suddenly, the Tulsa Union product had hope and an opportunity to fulfill her ambition of playing beyond college. Her dream came true in March when the attacking midfielder became the first signee of the expansion franchise Fortuna Tulsa.

"I wanted to continue and play professionally in Europe, but this is a good transition for me," says Baffer, an academic first-team All-American on OSU's Big 12 Conference championship team in 2017. "Playing in Tulsa will keep me fit and ready to sign a professional contract at some point."

"I can give back to the community, and then I'd like to go abroad and experience other leagues and clubs. Women's soccer is growing in the U.S., and the competition level (in the WPSL) is really good. There are a lot of talented players here and a lot of interest in the league. I want to continue to play and keep getting better."

Starting its 22nd season in 2018, the WPSL is the largest amateur league for women and made up of 115 clubs from all across the United States. Fortuna Tulsa was the brainchild of co-owners Barry Williams and Dave Hibbard, business partners in The Evolutions Group, builders of outpatient surgery centers throughout the country.

"Barry's daughter plays at the youth level, and he realized that

outside of making it at the collegiate level, there is nothing more here," Hibbard says. "We want to establish connectivity between the city of Tulsa and women's soccer, whether it be youth or college level. We want to stand behind it and be proud of it. We're organizing a good base, and it will continue to grow."

Wayne Farmer, a Welshman who played at both TU and ORU, serves as the general manager of the franchise, and his first mission has been to publicize its formation and upcoming season. Fortuna opens play on May 25 and home games will be played at the TU Soccer Complex.

"Tulsa has the Roughnecks, but women's soccer has not been given as much love," Farmer says. "We will be the only women's team in town in all sports since the Shock are gone. Fortuna is the Roman goddess of good luck and good fortune. Fortuna Tulsa means 'Good Luck Tulsa.'"

Farmer says that he, along with Williams and Hibbard, wanted a name that was both memorable and fortuitous. They are banking on Fortuna enjoying more success than the recently departed FC Tulsa Spirit, a member of the WPSL through 2017.

Fortuna will play in the Southwest Division along with Oklahoma City FC, FC Wichita, Little Rock Rangers, FC Dallas and the Texas Spurs. Following a 12-game regular season, the division winner will play in the regional tournament and the winner there advances to the Final Four in Oklahoma City in mid-July.

Tickets to Fortuna home games will cost \$5 with season tickets \$50. They are available at www.fortunatulsa.com.



Courtesy photo

TOP TALENT: Anna Baffer became the first signee of Fortuna Tulsa, an expansion franchise in the WPSL, in March.



GTR Newspapers photo

PROUD OWNERS: Fortuna Tulsa, an expansion franchise of Women's Premier Soccer League, launched at an event in February. Celebrating its launch, from left to right, are Fortuna Tulsa General Manager Wayne Farmer, Co-Owner Barry Williams and Co-Owner Dave Hibbard.

"Travel costs, meals and training costs for players will be provided by the owners, but we are looking for sponsorships," says Farmer, who noted that 80 percent of the team's 30-member roster will be made up of local players. "Some of our players will be here just to train during their college's offseason. Some will be graduates, and I won't rule out high school players."

"Women's soccer is booming, and our youth teams locally have done great things. A lot of our players will have come through that program. We want to give the girls the opportunity to play in front of big crowds and our games will be fun. We'll have good food, live music and the opportunity for tail-gating. We're hoping to have 2,000 to 3,000 fans a game."

Farmer says local youth clubs have already requested speakers from the team and invitations have also come from schools. Creating a high community profile is one of the club's major goals. Head coach Mike Wilson, a Scotsman, is expected to be a proficient repre-

sentative of Fortuna in community promotions.

Wilson, 28, played at Northeastern State in Tahlequah and coached there as an assistant. He served as the men's and women's head coach at Waldorf University in Forest City, Iowa, before taking the Fortuna job. Wilson's assistants in Tulsa will be Donivan Bradshaw, who coaches the TSC Hurricane club team, and Michael Moritz, who mentors the Blitz United club team. Moritz is also the women's coach at Rogers State.

"We will play free flowing, ball on the floor, exciting soccer," said Farmer. "There will be more passing and the game will be fun and creative. We just want the city to give women's soccer a try."

Many of the Fortuna players would also like to try the National Women's Soccer League, the current major pro circuit, where salaries average \$37,000 a year. There are no official farm teams of the NWSL franchises, but some coaches do look to the WPSL for help when needed.

"We have two main goals. We

want the girls who play for us to have the best experience they can possibly have, both on the field and off the field," Farmer said. "We want them to succeed as players and we want to help them find jobs in the community. We want them to be in the media and well-known."

As a member of Fortuna, that's exactly what Baffer wants too. She has big plans for her future, in soccer and in life. She plans on graduating from OSU in May with a degree in finance and management.

"I'm looking at a career in corporate banking for investing," says Baffer, an all-state selection at Union. "I really want to work for a sports franchise in administration and then I want to work on my Master's at some time."

"I'm excited about playing in Tulsa because I grew up here and went to school close to home. I idolized college players growing up, and I want to give people a chance to come out and watch. I think this is going to take off, and I hope Tulsa feels as passionate about it as we do."

Drillers to Participate in MiLB Copa de la Diversion

The Tulsa Drillers recently announced their selection to participate in Minor League Baseball's Copa de la Diversion ("Fun Cup") program. The Drillers, along with 32 other teams spanning 19 states will honor their respective Hispanic communities that are building, shaping and leading minor league baseball markets today. The goal is to better embrace the cultures and values of U.S. Hispanic/Latino fans in all communities.

"The Drillers are honored to be

a part of the MiLB Copa 2018," said Drillers Director of Marketing Justin Gorski. "The Hispanic community in Tulsa is growing and thriving and plays an important role in our city. The Drillers hope to use the MiLB Copa 2018 campaign to bridge gaps and to build awareness and relationships that benefit all parties."

Every Tuesday home game starting on June 19, the Drillers will play as Los Petroleros de Tulsa, or "the Oil-Men of Tulsa." With the city of Tulsa being the

original Oil Capital of the World, this will pay homage to the men and women who worked hard bringing the "black gold" into the world and making the city thrive.

During these home games, Los Petroleros will wear alternate black and gold jerseys and hats that will be auctioned off after the season with the proceeds donated to a local Hispanic organization. The games will also feature a culturally-relevant experience through music, concessions and

promotions. New Petroleros merchandise will be available in the Official Team Store at a future date, but Los Petroleros de Tulsa caps are available for preorder online now at Drillers.MiLB-Store.com.

The Drillers special Copa de la Diversion games will take place on June 19, July 17, July 24, August 14 and August 28 at ONEOK Field. Just like every Tuesday during the season, these games will also be \$2 Tuesdays and will include \$2 lawn tickets, hot dogs,

boxes of popcorn, ice cream sandwiches and sodas as well as \$2 off Mazzio's Go Pizzas.

The Drillers opened the season on April 5 when they headed to Frisco to take on the RoughRiders. The home opener took place against Frisco one week later when the Drillers hosted the RoughRiders at ONEOK Field. Season memberships and single game tickets are available now at TulsaDrillers.com, the ONEOK Field ticket office, or by calling (918) 744-5901.

T U L S A

Drillers

COREY SEAGER BOBBLEHEAD GIVEAWAY
Thu, May 17
7:05PM
Presented by:
The M.e.t. & Tulsa Recycles

FAITH AND FAMILY NIGHT FEAT. MICAH TYLER
Fri, May 18
7:05PM
Presented by: Southern Nazarene University

FIREWORKS NIGHTS
MAY 4
Presented By: Cherokee Nation

MAY 18
Presented By: Arvest Bank

MAY 19
Presented By: Muskogee Creek Nation Behavioral Health and Prevention Week

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW: 918.744.5901 TulsaDrillers.com

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Cascia Hall Wrestlers Proud to be 'Tuttlenotors'

Dalton Abney, Eli Griffin Earn 4A State Championship

By **MIKE MOGUIN**
GTR Sports Writer

Hanging on the walls of the Cascia Hall wrestling room are state champions labeled as "Tuttlenators" – guys who won gold medals by beating a foe from Tuttle, a perennial Class 4A mat powerhouse in Oklahoma.

"My coach (Ernie Jones) talked about how three or four years ago we had the first wrestler that pinned a Tuttle kid, so we started calling our victorious wrestlers 'Tuttlenators' and putting pictures of the victories on the wall every time," says Dalton Abney, Cascia Hall's 195-pound wrestler this past season. "Ever since then, I always wanted to be one and wanted to have my picture on the wall for being a 'Tuttlenator' and a state champ."

Abney, a senior, achieved that dream when he pinned the Tigers' Maison Duke at the 1:21 mark of the 4A 195-pound in late February in Oklahoma City. He, along with freshman teammate Eli Griffin, added their names to Cascia Hall's wrestling lore with state championships.

Griffin was a victor at 106 pounds by capturing a 3-2 decision over Blanchard sophomore Braeden Williams in the finals.

Both Abney and Griffin were the only wrestlers to score for the Commandoes in the team standings, helping them to a fifth-place finish with 45 points. Tuttle did win the team title with 210 points. Between the Tigers and Cascia Hall were runner-up Oklahoma City Heritage Hall (83.5), Blanchard (third, 77.5) and Elgin (fourth, 65.5).

A three-sport athlete (he also plays football and baseball), Abney had qualified for state the previous two seasons. Each year, he would make it to the final only to lose to someone from Tuttle.

"In my sophomore year, I got completely overpowered," he says. "So I knew I had to get stronger. I worked on that my junior year. Then, my junior year, I was undefeated going into the state tournament. I think I went in there too cocky, knowing I should win, but, I ended up getting beat. By my senior year, I was hungry and knew I had to get one."

Abney's Tuttle opponent each year was also a senior. In the 2017 state tournament, he battled Tuttle's Tanner Johnson, now at Air Force, in the 170-pound final. Abney was riding Johnson until the last three seconds of the match, when Johnson made a reverse to get the win.

Abney was not nervous heading into this year's final.

"I had the state experience and knew how to get ready for a match and not psych myself out," he says. "I just treated it like any other match by going out there and doing it like one knows how to do."

Abney delivered with a first period-pin of Duke.

For Griffin, this is what he hopes is the first of many championships.

"It feels really good," he says. "It just makes me want to push on to bigger goals and it makes me more motivated to do better in the future."

Griffin was winning 3-0 against Williams before having to hang on.

"It was a close match, but I felt like it was in my favor the whole time," he says.

What he believed worked to his advantage was "keeping my calm and making sure I did everything clean and crisp and making sure everything was perfect," Griffin says.

With an opportunity to be a four-time state champion, Griffin also has aspirations to wrestle in college and the Olympics, winning gold in both.

Griffin plans to wrestle freestyle in the summer, where he also hopes to win national titles.

"I will be weightlifting a lot and making sure I stay in shape and just making sure I don't get rusty and wrestle as much as I can," he says.

The winning duo have their thoughts on what makes wrestling a sport that stands out.

"I love that it teaches you life lessons," Griffin says. "Like how to keep going and how it is all in your mind. It's a lot of mental toughness."

"My favorite part of wrestling is that it is a one-person sport," Abney says. "I like how it's you vs. another dude. It's kind of like saying 'I'm better than you' or 'You're better than me.' That is the purpose of wrestling."

Both athletes love wrestling for Ernie Jones, who has coached dozens of wrestling greats through his career, including former Olympian Kenny Monday.

"He's awesome," Griffin says. "He's a great coach, and he's really funny and always pushes me to keep going. It's awesome to wrestle for someone who has coached Olympic Gold medalists."



Photo courtesy of MIKE GRIFFIN

GOLD MEDALISTS: Cascia Hall wrestlers Dalton Abney, left, and Eli Griffin wear their gold medals after winning Oklahoma state championships, respectively, at 195 and 106 pounds in Class 4A in late February.

"I'm super-blessed to be wrestling for Coach Jones," Abney says. "His coaching style just fits me. He's not the super rah-rah coach; he just kind of lays back and knows what you need to do. If you come off a match with a

win, he doesn't go straight into what you did wrong. He will tell you 'good job,' then he'll work his way into telling you what you could have done better. He just wants you to go out and get a job done and get it over with."

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.



Upcoming Shows will feature:

- OU Athletic Director Joe Castiglione
- Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame Exec. Director Mike James
- Lee Levinson of L&L Stables
- Tulsa World Sports Columnist Guerin Emig

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GTR Newspapers photo

HURRICANE ACTION: The Tulsa Golden Hurricane football team closed out spring practice with a 111-play Spring Game April 7 at H.A. Chapman Stadium in 30-degree weather. Tulsa Head Coach Philip Montgomery was pleased with the final workout of the Hurricane spring season. Sophomore quarterback Luke Skipper, no. 13 above, led the offense to touchdowns on all four of his possessions.

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Janet Levit Named Provost and Executive V.P. For Academic Affairs at The University of Tulsa

Education

Following a national search, The University of Tulsa has named Janet K. Levit provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, effective May 7. She replaces Roger Blais, who is retiring after more than 40 years at TU. Levit is the first woman to serve as provost of Tulsa's flagship comprehensive research university.

Levit has served as the university's vice president for strategic initiatives since January 2017. Before that, she served as the first female dean of the TU College of Law, where she continues as a professor. During the past year, she successfully structured and

garnered board approval for TU's five-year strategic plan.

"Janet has proven herself a driven leader who sees the big picture and knows how to operationalize ideas and build effective teams," says TU President Gerard Clancy. "The adoption of the strategic plan highlights Janet's strengths in stakeholder engagement, educational innovation, strategic analytics and powerful communication skills."

Levit, who earned her bachelor's degree at Princeton University and her law and master's degrees from Yale, has served as a TU faculty member since 1995. While dean of TU Law, faculty and staff collaborated to improve student outcomes, contain legal education costs, reorient the curriculum toward experiential learning and

innovate around the core J.D. program to offer accessible, targeted legal training to those beyond traditional law school students. The transformative results include:

Raising the reputation of TU Law, as measured by U.S. News & World Report, from the fourth quartile to the second quartile.

Launching a legal clinic and growing student externship opportunities.

Revamping the Office of Professional Development, helping graduates successfully launch their legal careers at a rate that placed TU Law among the top 25 law schools.

Developing and promoting an online master's program, ultimately accounting for nearly a quarter of the student body.

Levit has emerged as a thought leader on implicit bias and how to counter it in order to empower women from all walks of life. Her work in the field has garnered numerous honors including Tulsa's Women of the Year Pinnacle Awards' Anna C. Roth Legacy Award, TU Law Hall of Fame, James C. Lang Mentoring Award and "50 Making a Difference" Circle of Excellence. Levit currently is a member of the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women.

Through the years, she has served on boards and in leadership positions for organizations



JANET LEVIT

including YPO, Still She Rises, Teach for America, the City of Tulsa's Citizen Advisory Board for Community Policing, the Booker T. Washington Foundation for Excellence and the Tulsa Jewish Federation.

"Janet's experience on campus, in Tulsa and across the country make her the ideal fit for this critical role at TU," Clancy says. "She

will work collaboratively with faculty, staff, alumni and students to better position the university to meet the challenges of higher education in the 21st century and to welcome the opportunities of educating future generations of creative and thoughtful leaders."

Clancy also thanks Blais for two decades of service as provost and his commitment to transforming TU from a largely commuter college to a Top 100 residential doctoral university. The University of Tulsa is a Top 50 private university and the highest ranked college in Oklahoma.

"I am honored and humbled to step into Roger's shoes," Levit says. "I have complete faith in TU's strategic plan, which is rooted in academics and student support. I look forward to advancing the university's commitment to teaching, mentorship, research and community engagement."

"Higher education faces a daunting future, but TU is well-positioned with one foot in the liberal arts and the other in novel research. I enjoy solving complex problems and embrace the chance to help Dr. Clancy make The University of Tulsa the standard-bearer for a revitalized academic experience."

For more information on The University of Tulsa, visit utulsa.edu.

TU Student Receives Goldwater Scholarship

Courtesy KALI RITCHEY
University of Tulsa

University of Tulsa biochemistry junior Sarah Sullivan of Fayetteville, Arkansas, has received a prestigious Goldwater Scholarship for her research on the regulatory function of a well-known tumor suppressor protein on cancer cell metabolism.

Sullivan's personal experience as a type one diabetic led to her interest in the complex mechanisms that regulate metabolism, the structure and interactions of proteins and the pathways connecting biochemical, cellular and life processes. She has completed a DAAD German Academic Exchange internship at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, attended the American Chemical Society's annual meeting and conducted research as a member of the Tulsa Undergraduate Research Challenge. Sullivan plans to pursue a doctorate in biochemistry and study the structural dynamics of protein glycosylation as it relates to cancer metastasis, immune system evasion and the development of cancer stem cells.

"I would like to continue my research in either an academic setting or through a government institution such as the National Institutes of Health," Sullivan says. "I hope to have my own biochemistry laboratory and explore the role of



Courtesy TU

SARAH SULLIVAN: *The University of Tulsa student from Fayetteville, Arkansas has received a prestigious Goldwater Scholarship for her research on the regulatory function of a well-known tumor suppressor protein on cancer cell metabolism.*

protein glycosylation in tumor progression."

Mathematics and physics junior Jennifer Bursleson, of Tulsa, was named a Goldwater Scholar Honorable Mention for her research in applied mathematics. Bursleson plans to pursue a master of science in applied mathematics at TU and eventually earn a doctorate to teach and conduct research in an academic setting.

HOLLAND HALL BEAM SIGNING



Courtesy Holland Hall

TANDY DINING AND WELLNESS CENTER: *Holland Hall School hosted a beam signing event March 29 where more than 1,000 students, faculty, staff, and donors signed their name or wrote encouraging words on a designated beam of the school's new A.R. & Marylouise Tandy Dining and Wellness Center. The facility is set to open this fall. The Tandy Center will upgrade and expand the school's dining capabilities and provide dedicated spaces and specialized equipment for health and wellness programming and athletics. To learn more about Holland Hall, visit www.hollandhall.org.*

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THE ECONOMY

August Opening Planned for New Osage Casino

Locally-Brewed Beer to be Added

Osage Casinos will open its brand-new, \$150-million casino in Tulsa in August 2018, and with it, the casino will welcome a fully operational 4,000-square-foot brewery, featuring locally-brewed beer from Nine Band Brewery. “We wanted to bring in craft beer brewed on site to offer our clients something they can’t find at any other casino in this region,” said Bryon Bighorse, Osage Casino CEO. “This is a new concept for casinos, and we’re so pleased to offer something different and fun.”

Bighorse said Nine Band Brewery’s offerings are in line with a younger demographic that is beginning to gravitate to the gaming and entertainment options of casinos.

“Nine Band Brewery is a young brewery that will bring craft beer to Oklahoma only found at Osage Casinos,” he said. “We’re so pleased to be the first – and only – distributor of Nine Band beer in Oklahoma.”

This Allen, Texas-based micro-brewery will brew its award-winning, specially crafted beer on-site in large vats and a 20-barrel Prospero brewery system. The brewery also will have an adjacent bar for guests to watch aspects of the brewing in progress.

“We are ready to expand our operations to a new 4,000-square-foot brewery inside the new, state-of-the-art Osage Casino in Tulsa,” said Keith Ashley, Nine Band Brewery owner. “We specialize in



NINE BAND BREWERY: Work is underway for the Nine Band Brewery’s 4,000-square-foot brewery inside the soon-to-open Osage Casinos in Tulsa. While the casino will open in late August, the brewery will start producing beer in July with four brands: Nine Band Pale Ale, Hoop Snake Hefeweizen, Blue Lacy Brown Ale and the Triple.

brewing transitional craft beers, so our offerings will be very palatable to a wide range of beer connoisseurs.”

The casino will open in late August, however, the brewery will start producing beer in July to prepare. Nine Band Brewery will brew four flavors on site at all times – Nine Band Pale Ale, Hoop Snake Hefeweizen, Blue Lacy Brown Ale and the Triple.

“We want our beer, brewery and processes to be perfect when the doors open,” Ashley said. “We will take the month before to work out all the kinks to make sure we’re producing the highest quality beer we can – one that matches our standards as well as will please the clientele when they meet us for the first time.”

In addition to their own fresh beer made right in the facility, Nine Band Brewery also will have a visitor tap on hand.

“We want to bring in visiting beers for our patrons to taste,” Ashley said. “We want to support other local beers found throughout the Tulsa area as well.”

The new Osage Casino in Tulsa will bring a lot in addition to the full-service brewery to Tulsans. The casino also will feature not only a state-of-the-art gaming floor with high-limit gaming but also a world-class event space, 141-room hotel, sports bar, grill, café and luxurious, resort-style pool for guests. All will be completed for the August 2018 opening, except for the event space which will debut in January 2019.



STATE OF THE ART: The new \$150 million Osage Casino will feature beer brewed from Nine Band Brewery, a two-story, 247,000-square-foot casino and 74,000-square-foot hotel. For meetings and events, the hotel will include one large or three smaller banquet meeting rooms all equipped to host any type of meeting, gathering or event and all with direct elevator access.

“This is a \$150-million investment in our expansion, which has produced a world-class gaming venue,” Bighorse said. “We are proud to present this new gaming center, complete with a brand-new hotel, to all our guests, and we know it will serve this area well for many years to come.”

The Osage Casino will be a two-story, 247,000-square-foot casino and 74,000 square-foot hotel. For meetings and events, the hotel will include one large or three smaller banquet meeting rooms all equipped to host any type of meeting, gathering or event and all with direct elevator access.

“We are looking forward to hosting groups in these spaces to show off how versatile we are,” Bighorse said. “We will be a great,

new option for meetings and events in a space that is flexible, fully staffed and gives views you can’t find anywhere else.”

The high-end amenities are not the only thing that sets this expansion apart, Bighorse said. Instead of adding on to existing casinos, Osage Casinos has built a brand-new facility next to its existing Tulsa casino. Thus, this luxurious, game-changing gaming venue will open without disruption to the current facility. The day the new casino opens, the existing casino will close.

“We are so excited to offer this new, beautiful casino and brewery to our guests,” Bighorse said. “We hope to see everyone out in August to enjoy all the amenities we’ll have to offer.”

Edward Jones

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Tulsa Chosen for Blue Cross Blue Shield IT Facility

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma (BCBSOK) unveiled a state-of-the-art information technology center and hosted a ribbon cutting April 3 at its Tulsa headquarters, 1400 S. Boston Ave.

Tulsa was one of three cities considered by BCBSOK's parent company, Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC), for the high-tech "Blue Workplace for ITG" that will support dozens of IT professionals. The Blue Workplace is uniquely designed to promote brainstorming and innovation as well as greater efficiency, flexibility and cross-team collaboration.

"Tulsa is only the second satellite facility within our parent company, HCSC, to create a center for innovation and collaboration like this," said BCBSOK President Ted Haynes. "Our Blue Workplace for ITG will be ground zero for creative ideas that will help us better serve our members."

Haynes noted that 13 years ago, the Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce started a program called "Tulsa's Future" to make the city an attractive place for businesses to locate and stay. Tulsa's Future initially focused on six target industries: energy, health care, professional services and regional headquarters, aerospace and aviation, transportation and logistics, advanced manufacturing, but added information technology as an emerging industry. Later, the chamber designated IT as a target industry. That is, the city wanted to attract and retain more IT professionals to the metropolitan area.

"The IT leadership at HCSC picked Tulsa for this investment, which indicates that the chamber's focus on building IT as a target industry for economic development in our city is working," said Haynes. "I couldn't be

happier that Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma is part of that growth."

Haynes said the fact that Tulsa was named for this information technology center reflects the strength and quality of area college graduates from schools such as Oklahoma State University, the University of Tulsa, the University of Oklahoma and others, as many of the positions here have been filled by recent graduates. The facility will provide access to modern tools and collaborative technology needed to drive speedy development of quality solutions that BCBSOK clients and members need.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony included statements from the Tulsa Regional Chamber as well as HCSC chief information officer Steve Betts.

For more information, visit bcbsok.com.



Courtesy Tulsa Regional Chamber

ALL SMILES: Ready to cut the ribbon for the BCBSOK IT Facility in Tulsa are, from left, Stephanie Grober, vice president of Oklahoma marketing and sales, BCBSOK; Mike Neal, president and CEO, Tulsa Regional Chamber; Steve Betts, senior vice president, chief information officer, HCSC; Ted Haynes, president, BCBSOK; Bernadette Rasmussen, divisional senior vice president, Enterprise IT Services, HCSC; Ron King, BCBSOK affiliate board member; and Marvin Richardson, divisional senior vice president, application development, HCSC.

PSO Honored by EPA as an Energy Star Partner of the Year

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recognized Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) with a 2018 Energy Star Partner of the Year – Energy Efficiency Program Delivery Award for its outstanding efforts to increase the adoption of energy-efficient products. PSO's accomplishments were recognized at

the Energy Star Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C., April 20.

The award is given to states, utilities, and other organizations for sponsoring energy efficiency programs to improve the efficiency of products, homes, and buildings within their community or territory.

PSO, an Energy Star partner

since 2008, is being honored for its New Homes program, which provides incentives to builders whose new homes include energy efficiency products and systems that exceed what is required by code. In 2017, incentives were provided for nearly 500 new homes. Of those, more than 200 were Energy Star certified.

"Public Service Company of Oklahoma truly values our partnership with Energy Star, and it's exciting to see the impact we've made through our efforts to help customers save both energy and money," said Jeff Brown, energy efficiency and consumer programs manager for PSO. "Through our New Homes pro-

gram, we are influencing builders to ensure the homes they build today will use less energy and provide those savings for decades to come."

For a complete list of 2018 winners and more information about Energy Star's awards program, visit www.energystar.gov/about/2018_energy_star_winners.

Achieving Energy Excellence Through Digital Transformation



By MARK A. STANSBERRY

Since the beginning of March of this year, I have spoken at several events including The Pipeline & Energy Expo in Tulsa, the 25th Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Oil and Gas Association in Lake Charles, Louisiana, the Digital Transformation in the oil and gas industry conference in Houston, and the Pre-Conference of the National Council on Undergraduate Research at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. The next event that I will be speaking at is the OK-National Association of Royalty Owners Annual Convention in Oklahoma City. The theme of my presentations has been "National Energy Talk: America's Energy Dreams and Global Economic Realities." The sub-theme has been "Achieving Operational Excellence Through Digital Transformation."

On July 31, 2017, National Energy Talk was launched in

Elk City, Oklahoma. With the launch of National Energy Talk (NET), what once was an annual conference has expanded into a media-driven platform with year-round engagement. Today NET is helping lead a national dialogue on energy issues, views and solutions through events, publications, video, audio and online content. NET believes in the power of people: "Nothing Moves Without Energy!"

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.

As I stated in my presentations, "In order to maximize potential and attract a new, younger workforce, companies of all sizes are going to have to focus on content, analytics, and digital transformation. Large amounts of data from



MARK A. STANSBERRY

many sources can be collected, analyzed quickly...leading to more informed, better decisions."

The U.S. will be in need of the oil and gas industry for many years ahead. Analytics will play an important role in monitoring and analyzing the anticipated

demand for energy and decision making about the cost effectiveness.

In the book "Simply Brilliant" written by William C. Taylor, he states, "There's no such thing as an average or old fashioned business, just average or old fashioned ways to do business. In fact, the opportunity to reach the extraordinary may be most pronounced in settings that have been far too ordinary for far too long."

We must learn from the past and embrace the future. I believe that the American energy industry is up to the challenges ahead!

As I stated from the book, "the Anticipatory Organization" by Daniel Burns in one of my columns, "Technology-driven change is accelerating at an exponential rate, but moving fast in the wrong direction will only get you into trouble faster."

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

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Rotary Club of Tulsa Announces Tina Miller As Executive Director

The Rotary Club of Tulsa has announced Tina Miller as its new executive director. Previously, Miller was associated with Tulsa World of Gymnastics, Inc., which was founded by her parents in 1976.

“Welcoming Tina as Rotary Club of Tulsa’s new executive director is really starting a new and exciting chapter for our club,” says Mike Homan, president of the Rotary Club of Tulsa. “She will bring invaluable and exhaustive business management experience to our Rotary club, helping the organization to continue growing.”

Miller says she is proud of her previous experience with Tulsa World of Gymnastics, a program that for 40 years served the Tulsa community, promoting physical fitness and early childhood development.

“Tulsa World of Gymnastics was my second home,” Miller says. “The business was retired in 2016 and now, I’m looking forward to the opportunity of serving the Rotary Club of Tulsa where I have been a member for nine years. Being part of a service organization that positively impacts our community with a world outreach is very exciting.”

Miller’s early training in gymnastics as a competitor served her well as she transitioned into coaching positions and eventually to administrative director. She managed a staff of more than 30 employees with an average enrollment of 800 children. Programs and curriculum for children and adults with developmental disabilities and facili-



GTR Newspapers photo

NEW LEADERSHIP: Tina Miller with Mike Homan, the current president of the Rotary Club of Tulsa.

tating community outreach was also under her direction.

“I have a great passion for the programs that were developed at Tulsa World of Gymnastics allowing opportunities for inclusion for all students,” Miller says. “We prided ourselves on wanting to make a world of difference for children.” I welcome the opportunity to serve an organization that is making a positive impact in our community and united worldwide to provide humanitarian service.”

To learn more about Rotary Club of Tulsa and its commitment to serving the Tulsa community and the larger, international world, visit tulsarotary.com or call 918-584-8690.

BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES

Emergency Infant Services announces **Bill Andoe** as executive director. The Tulsa-based nonprofit — whose mission is to meet the basic needs of infants and children through age five whose families are in crisis — welcomes the nonprofit veteran who has served at several Tulsa-area nonprofit organizations.



ANDOE

With years of nonprofit management experience, Andoe will work to help the organization achieve many new goals, including moving to its new location in 2019.

“Bill is passionate about helping children in need in our community,” Alissa Hurlley, EIS board president says. “We believe our wonderful EIS staff, volunteers and donors will appreciate his collaborative leadership style and vision to continue the great legacy of EIS of serving the littlest in need in the Tulsa area for more than 40 years.”

Andoe’s management style and heart line up with EIS’s vision to help every family in the Tulsa community facing financial challenges to receive immediate help because a hungry child can’t wait.

“It is an honor to serve my community by leading an outstanding group of staff and volunteers who make a positive impact through the provision of critical services for infants and children in the Tulsa area,” Andoe says.

Andoe will help shepherd EIS through its major transition of moving to its new location in 2019, which will allow the nonprofit to expand its services and better achieve its core values.

For more information, visit www.eistulsa.org.

Simon, a global leader in retail real estate, announces that **Tricia Sanders** has accepted the position of general manager at Woodland Hills Mall.



SANDERS

In this role, Sanders will manage all day-to-day operations, maintenance, budgeting and tenant and community relations while creating a world-class shopping experience for guests. Additionally, she will be responsible for overseeing the security and marketing efforts of the center.

Sanders is a tenured member of the Simon family, most recently serving as the general manager at Independence Center in Kansas City, Missouri. She previously served as the general manager at Tippecanoe Mall, as well as the director of marketing and business development at centers in Indianapolis, Springfield and Topeka.

“We are thrilled to welcome Tricia to Woodland Hills Mall,” says David Johnson, regional vice president for Simon’s southwest region. “She has done a tremendous job in her previous roles and we look forward to her experience, leadership and enthusiasm benefiting the Tulsa community.”

Sanders earned her Bachelor of Science in business management from Missouri State University.

Simon is a global leader in the ownership of premier shopping, dining, entertainment and mixed-use destinations and an S&P 100 company. Properties are across North America, Europe and Asia. For more information, visit simon.com.

The **City of Tulsa** has announced that **Michelle Barnett** will serve as the deputy chief of economic development. She began the position in March.



BARNETT

Barnett has worked for the City of Tulsa Engineering Services Department for the past two years as the Brownfields program director and environmental coordinator. As the Brownfields director, Barnett helped turn blighted sites into economic engines for the city of Tulsa. Many popular destinations in Tulsa that were former brownfield sites include the BOK Center, ONEOK Field and Guthrie Green.

Barnett holds a Master and Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Oklahoma and is a certified professional engineer in the State of Oklahoma. Barnett has experience in brownfield development, business development, redevelopment finance and engineering infrastructure.

After almost two decades with **Senior Star**, Senior Vice President **John Dornblaser** retired in April.



DORNBLASER

Dornblaser joined Senior Star in 1999 after serving as a consultant for Senior Star leadership. He has guided the process of creating Senior Star’s vision and mission statements that align associates with a shared purpose, and a set of values and goals that communicated what was important to the company.

During his 18-year tenure at Senior Star, Dornblaser has been integral to Senior Star’s development and capital project efforts and long-term strategic initiatives.

A strong advocate for the Alzheimer’s cause, Dornblaser is also active in helping individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and their families.

In addition to his volunteer advocacy work for the Alzheimer’s Association, Dornblaser has been a committed member of the American Seniors Housing Association throughout his Senior Star career. He also served as chairman of the American Heart Association Tulsa Chapter and is a past board member and officer of the American Heart Association’s Southwest Affiliate.

FlyingTee announces the hiring of **Bradley K. Wardlow** to join the executive management team as chief operating officer. Wardlow brings extensive operations experience in fast-paced entertainment venues and will serve a critical role as FlyingTee expands its concept nationally.



WARDLOW

Wardlow founded and operated Metis Management Consulting, where he focused on operations for start-up and early-stage growth companies in the entertainment sector. He directly supported the largest exhibition trade association in the world, which represents over 33,000 movie screens in the United States and additional cinemas in 95 countries worldwide.

Prior to that, Wardlow was part of the founding management team of Rave Cinemas that grew the company from a start-up to the fifth largest movie exhibition company in the United States, operating 60-plus locations in 22 states.

Adrienne Duffy has been named executive director for **Tulsa Girls Art School** and **Renee Montgomery** will fulfill the new position of art program director.



DUFFY

Duffy has been acting as interim director since November and previously served as associate director.

Montgomery moved to Tulsa from Los Angeles where she was the assistant director of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. After relocating to Tulsa, Montgomery started working as an art teacher at Mannford Elementary School.



MONTGOMERY

Duffy and Montgomery were formally introduced in their new roles at the spring show “The Faces of Tulsa Girls Art School” April 12 at TGAS, 2202 E. Admiral Blvd.

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At 8:00 at night, the sidewalks were thronged with people; cars were bumper to bumper. Parking places were scarce. Above the crowd noise as department store doors opened and shut was the ding, ding of elevators as operators called out the various floors. Among Tulsa's many retail emporiums, one of the most prominent was Vandevers.

In 1904, W. A. Vandever and B. C. Beane opened a dry goods establishment at 104 S. Main. Vandever bought out Beane in 1912 and was joined by his four brothers. The five men built a retail empire that at its peak included the downtown store and stores at Utica Square, South-

roads Mall, Woodland Hills Mall, and in Bartlesville and Joplin.

Vandevers closed in the fall of 1970. The downtown flagship store was the last to close. Left behind was a handsome six-story building at 10 E. 5th St. At one time in Tulsa, if you wanted the latest children's toys, designer clothing, furs, jewelry, china, and silver along with household sundries, your first stop was Vandevers, Tulsa's first department store.

In 1926, Vandevers dressed Miss Tulsa Norma Smallwood, who went on to become Miss America. The downtown store expanded into the first two floors of the adjacent Thompson Building on the east and even to the second floor of the Cole Building south of the Thompson Building for the "Green Stamp" department. A second building on

the east side of Main Street was added. Vandevers even included a popular luncheon restaurant, The Charlmont, located on the first floor mezzanine of the Thompson Building and Boswells, a long-time Tulsa jeweler.

Today, the main Vandever Building has been repurposed and remodeled by Brickhugger LLC, the John Snyder family, into over 40 loft apartments of varying sizes. The north face has been cleaned and existing window openings restored. Otherwise, the exterior looks much like it did in 1924 when the building was new.

A high granite wainscot begins at the sidewalk and terminates just below the large metal awning marquee that runs the width of the building. Limestone veneer extends vertically from this marquee to a large projecting cornice with dentil molding and floral motif of rosettes and urns just above the second floor. Just below the cornice, centered in the façade in intaglio letters is the word Vandever. Three floors of windows in a pair, triple and pair pattern surrounded by dark red brick rise to the sixth floor. The sixth floor is treated as an arcaded cap to the building with three sets of tall windows with arched stone transom panels. Framing each set of windows is a stone Corinthian column pilaster. Between window sets are field red bricks framed in a stone surround. At the very top of the building is a low stone balustrade. Just below the sixth floor



TULSA'S FIRST DEPARTMENT STORE

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

is a pair of stone medallions from which project two angled flagpoles.

If you squint your eyes, it doesn't take much imagination to visualize the Vandever Building in the 1920s

with a steady stream of customers hustling in and out the main doors. The building is an important piece of Tulsa's past salvaged for future generations.

EXPO SQUARE GROUNDBREAKING



JAMES GIBBARD for GTR Newspapers

SECOND VISION TULSA PROJECT: Expo Square broke ground March 29 on its second Vision Tulsa Project, the permanent outdoor stage set to be completed by the 2018 Tulsa State Fair. Present at the ceremony and celebration are, from left, Expo Square President and CEO Mark Andrus, KWEN Branding and Programming Director Matt Bradley, Tulsa County Commissioner Karen Keith, Expo Square COO Amanda Blair, Tulsa City Councilor David Patrick and Tulsa County Commissioner Ron Peters.



Courtesy photo

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES: During ceremonies at Will Rogers College Jr. High and High School on April 6, four Roper alumni were inducted to the school's Hall of Fame. From left, they are Tulsans Dr. David James and Bill Hinkle, Barbara Hencke Thompson, of Oklahoma City, and James E. (Jim) Frasier of Tulsa. Dr. James is an OSU educator and Oklahoma's first D.O. gastroenterologist. Hinkle is a multi-award-winning advertising creator and a founder of the advertising program at TU. Thompson is a public school teacher, National Mother of the Year and Honorary French Consul. Frasier is known as the attorney of the working man and served for many years as Democratic State Chairman.

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FAITH

St. Bernard of Clairvaux Readies for Extravaganza

Bill Knight Ford to Donate a Mustang

Parishioners of St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church are getting ready for their annual Dinner Extravaganza fundraiser to be held at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center in Tulsa May 5. The event will include a wonderful dinner, great music from the Mid-Life Crisis Band, 100 raffle drawings (one for a new Mustang donated by Bill Knight Ford, as seen in the photo, or \$25,000 in cash), and a silent auction of over 100 items.

Coupons for a free appetizer or dessert will be handed out at check-in.

Restaurants participating this year are Bonefish Grill, Carraba's,

Chili's, El Chico's, Napa Flats and Outback Steakhouse. In addition, coupons for QuikTrip and Francine's Photography will be included.

Tickets are on sale through the parish website www.stbernardstulsa.org, or after weekend masses through April 29. Proceeds from the dinner benefit Acts Ministry, Center of Family Love, Soldier's Wish, Habitat for Humanity, Go Life Mobile Medical and Birthright of Tulsa.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church is located at 4061 E. 101st St. in Tulsa. The phone number is 918-299-9406



FUNDRAISING FUN: Members of St. Bernard of Clairvaux gathered at Bill Knight Ford to view the Mustang to be given away at the Extravaganza. From left are Tom Russiello, Andrew Clark, Lesa Clark, Joe Duiton and Bob Potwora. Right of the car from left are Greg Lukeman, Bill Knight, Phyllis Webb, Tonya Marlow, Chris Victor and Jim Nicolotti.

Interfaith Holocaust Commemoration Recently Held

In his 2008 National Jewish Book Award-winning "The Holocaust by Bullets: A Priest's Journey to Uncover the Truth Behind the Murder of 1.5 Million Jews," Father Patrick Desbois documented for the first time the murder of 1.5 million Jews in Ukraine during World War II.

Desbois addressed the topic "A Voice of Conscience" as the featured speaker for the Tulsa Council for Holocaust Education and Tulsa City-County Library's 21st Annual Yom HaShoah/Interfaith Holocaust Commemoration April 9 at the Tulsa Community College Southeast Campus.

A Catholic priest and Vatican consultant, Desbois is founder and president of Yahad-In Unum. Through this international organization, Desbois has interviewed over 5,300 eyewitnesses of Jewish and Roma executions by Nazi mobile units at over 2,100 sites in Eastern Europe. Featured in several New York Times articles and on "60 Minutes," Desbois' devotion to Holocaust and genocide research is evident in his urgency to uncover the truth. Desbois' latest book "In Broad Daylight: The Secret Procedures Behind the Holocaust by Bullets" was published earlier this year.



FATHER PATRICK DESBOIS

At the commemoration, University of Tulsa composer Joseph Rivers, J. Donald Feagin professor of music and film studies, performed his original musical elegy inspired by Yevgeny Yevtushenko's poem "Babi Yar." After the commemoration, Desbois signed copies of his books "The Holocaust by Bullets" and "In Broad Daylight."

The Holocaust Commemoration is sponsored by the Tulsa Council for Holocaust Education of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa and the Tulsa City-County Library, in cooperation with dozens of local interfaith and community organi-

zations. Father Desbois' presentation was made possible thanks to a generous contribution from a local supporter of Holocaust education.

As in past years, the commemoration program includes an exhibit of artwork created by Tulsa-area students of the Holocaust. In addition, there was a candle lighting in memory of those who were murdered in the Holocaust. Plus, the Tulsa City-County Library had available for checkout many Holocaust books and media.

Contact the Jewish Federation of Tulsa at 918-495-1100 for more information.

Life Church Partners with 111 Project

111Project celebrated another year in partnership with Life Church Broken Arrow recently and accepted a \$20,000 grant that will help them continue to meet the needs of foster families in the community.

111Project exists to mobilize the local church so that no child is without a family. For more information, visit 111project.org.

With six Tulsa metro area locations, Life.Church is a multi-site church with 27 physical locations in nine states (Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, Tennessee, Florida, New York, Nebraska and New Mexico).

Messages are led by Senior Pastor Craig Groeschel and are broadcast to more than 239 worship experiences each weekend at physical locations and throughout the week at Life.Church online (live.life.church).

Life.Church's mission is to lead



SIGNIFICANT CHECK: 111 Project Executive Director Chris Campbell, left, and Life.Church Broken Arrow LifeGroups/LifeMissions Pastor Ashley Karimi display the \$20,000 check for foster families.

people to become fully devoted followers of Christ.

To learn more about Life Church, visit www.life.church.

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Saint Simeon's to Hold 'Western Days' Fundraiser

For 22 years, donors have generously supported Saint Simeon's, Tulsa's Senior Community, through the Western Days annual fundraiser. Saint Simeon's is excited to announce that Western Days 2018: Wear Your Boots to Celebrate Our Roots will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 11, at Cox Business Center in Tulsa.

Lisa and Tom Schooley, event chairs for Western Days 2018, are gearing up for this year's event, with Barbara and John Turner serving as patron chairs. Melissa and Mac Stallcup will serve as auction chairs.

Phyllis and Steve Anderson have been selected as honorary chairs for Western Days 2018. The Andersons are dedicated friends of Saint Simeon's and avid supporters of Western Days. Steve has served on the Saint Simeon's Home Board, and both Phyllis and Steve have been active in Western Days for more than a decade.

At Western Days 2018: Wear Your Boots to Celebrate our Roots, the Pioneer Spirit Award will be presented to Saint Simeon's resident Tom Mason. Mason left quite an impression on Tulsa during his 45-year law career. He was more than just an advocate for his clients; he became one of their greatest confidants. One of Mason's greatest struggles in life has been developing Parkinson's disease, which he was diagnosed with 24 years ago. Saint Simeon's applauds Mason for his courage to battle his Parkinson's daily through consistent exercise and care from specially-trained staff members at Saint Simeon's.

Western Days 2018: Wear Your Boots to Celebrate our Roots promises to build on past successes, featuring a silent auction, as well as the always animated Live Auction.

The evening will feature the traditional General Store stocked

with handmade items from Saint Simeon's residents and volunteers and of course, a delicious dinner. Returning to Western Days this year will be the popular MosCOWBOY Mule Raffle, a cocktail purchase that doubles as a raffle entry, and musical entertainment from Shelby Eicher and friends.

For more information about Western Days 2018, visit www.saintsimeons.org/westerndays or call 918-794-1977.

About St. Simeon's

Saint Simeon's is a privately managed, nonprofit, picturesque senior living community that is home to men and women of all faiths. With 58 years of expertise, Saint Simeon's, a mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, offers multiple levels of assisted living, memory care, healthcare, skilled nursing, Parkinson's care, and independent living.



EVENT CHAIRS: Steve and Phyllis Anderson will serve as honorary chairs for Western Days 2018. Courtesy BETH HAWKINS

Women in Recovery Partners with Tulsa Artist Fellowship to Celebrate 23rd Graduating Class

Partnerships with TAF, Clary Sage College Offered Graduates Art, Beauty Opportunities Ahead of Graduation

Women in Recovery partnered with the Tulsa Artist Fellowship for its 23rd graduating class ceremony. Twenty-four women graduated at the March 27 ceremony, while a total of 28 women were awarded their well-earned certificates of completion distributed by District Court Judge Kelly Greenough.

"We are so proud of the hard work these women have put in

to reach graduation," said Mimi Tarrasch, executive director of Women in Recovery. "They have spent the past 18 months learning the skills necessary to succeed once they leave here. Partnering with the Tulsa Artist Fellowship has made the lead-up to graduation extra exciting with various programming that has helped the women use art to heal through trauma."

TAF artist Cynthia Brown opened up her studio and hosted a painting workshop for a handful of the women, while literary artist Erik Ekstrand taught poetry. Melanie Root also held a poetry workshop.

"Collaborating with Women in Recovery throughout the year has been a tremendous experience for TAF in so many ways," said Julia White, program manager for the Tulsa Artist Fellowship. "It is always amazing to see what an impact the arts can have on an individual's healing and growth. We feel incredibly lucky to have been a part of their journey in recovery."

Ten of the women looked their best thanks to free hair styling and makeup offered by Clary Sage College, and all will be gifted special services as a way to honor their hard work and promote the importance of self-care.

"It means a lot because it's a big day and an important day," said graduate Candida Ulibarri. "I have worked really hard and I looked beautiful from the inside and out, and my art piece is yet another example of beauty and the amazing support we all receive through WIR's partnerships."



GRADUATION DAY

Courtesy photo

About Women in Recovery

Women in Recovery (WIR) is an intensive outpatient alternative to incarceration for eligible women facing long-term prison sentences for non-violent drug-related offenses. Operated in partnership with the George Kaiser Family Foundation, WIR

works closely with the criminal justice system and various community partners to ensure program participants receive substance abuse and mental health treatment, supervisions, workforce readiness training and family reunification as an alternative to incarceration.

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17 DRAWING ON MEMORIES Gilcrease Museum... COOKING CLASS: ITALIAN MADE LIGHT CTCA... TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland

18 HOMESCHOOL ART 9-12YR Philbrook Museum of Art... STOP MOTION ANIMATION Central Library... CHEFS: A SIZZLING KITCHEN SHOWDOWN

19 THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa... TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND Brady Theater... THREE DOG NIGHT River Spirit Casino

20 THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa... THE IRISH CURSE Tulsa Project Theatre... ALARM\$8 TO BENEFIT LEON RUSSELL MONUMENT FUND

21 THE PRODUCERS Theatre Tulsa... SMOKE AND GUNS BOK Center... TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas

Earth Day EARTH DAY CELEBRATION Guthrie Green... TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas... TAKACS QUARTET Chamber Music Tulsa

23 BROKEN ARROW BUTTERFLY PROJECT South Broken Arrow Library... TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas

24 SOMEONE YOU LOVE: THE HPV EPIDEMIC Circle Cinema... MARTY STUART AND HIS FABULOUS SUPERLATIVES Cain's Ballroom

25 TULSA HEALTHCARE COVERAGE PROJECT (THCP) Martin Regional Library... MISTERWIVES Cain's Ballroom... More Bank for Your Buck Central Bank of Oklahoma

26 JUDAS PRIEST BOK Center... OF MONTREAL Cain's Ballroom... THE IRISH CURSE Tulsa Project Theatre

27 TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas... TURANDOT TulsaOpera... TRIXIE MATTEL: NOW WITH MOVING PARTS TOUR

28 THE IRISH CURSE Tulsa Project Theatre... OU vs. OSU BASEBALL ONEOK Field... VANCE JOY Brady Theater

29 THE IRISH CURSE Tulsa Project Theatre... OU vs. OSU BASEBALL ONEOK Field... TURANDOT TulsaOpera

30 TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas... BEDLAM Hip-Hop Hour for Teens Central Library

1 May SHEN YUN Falun Dafa Association of Oklahoma... TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas... Ask us about fraud ID protection Central Bank of Oklahoma

2 BROWN BAG IT: TSO BRASS QUINTET PAC Trust... SHEN YUN Falun Dafa Association of Oklahoma... U2 BOK Center

3 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas... TULSA BALLET: SIGNATURE SERIES TU Lorton Performance Center... DR. DOG Cain's Ballroom

4 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas... MR. BURNS: A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY Theatre Tulsa Next Stage... SEASCAPE American Theatre Co.

5 JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE BOK Center... MR. BURNS: A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY Theatre Tulsa Next Stage... SEASCAPE American Theatre Co.

6 SEASCAPE American Theatre Co... SUNDAY CONCERT Guthrie Green... TULSA BALLET: SIGNATURE SERIES TU Lorton Performance Center

7 GAMER LAB Martin Regional Library... BIOLOGICAL DETERMINISM PAC Gallery

8 OPEN DRAWING STUDIO Central Library... SCOTT BRADLEE'S POSTMODERN JUKEBOX Cain's Ballroom... We Offer Health Savings Accounts Central Bank of Oklahoma

9 TULSA ROUGHNECKS vs. RENO 1868 FC ONEOK Field... SEASCAPE American Theatre Co... DR. DOG Cain's Ballroom

10 FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH AND SHINEDOWN BOK Center... SEASCAPE American Theatre Co... DR. DOG Cain's Ballroom

11 SEASCAPE American Theatre Co... MR. BURNS: A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY Theatre Tulsa Next Stage... PAPA ROACH Brady Theater

12 HOME GROWN Tulsa Symphony Pops... TULSA ROUGHNECKS vs. PHOENIX RISING FC ONEOK Field... ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN Theatre North

Mother's Day MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH Oklahoma Aquarium... MR. BURNS: A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY Theatre Tulsa Next Stage... BEATLES vs. STONES: A MUSICAL SHOWDOWN La Jolla Booking Agency

14 FLEET FOXES Cain's Ballroom... TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield... New Name. Same Bank. Central Bank of Oklahoma

15 DRAWING ON MEMORIES Philbrook Museum... COOKING CLASS: SEASON VEGETABLES Cancer Treatment Centers of America... TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield

16 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield... WILLIE NELSON AND ALLISON KRAUSS BOK Center... JIMMY EAT WORLD Cain's Ballroom

17 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield... LAS ARPIAS LJ Productions, LLC... ZZ TOP River Spirit Casino

18 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas... THE LION KING JR. Theatre Tulsa Family... DAVID CROSBY AND FRIENDS Brady Theater

19 THE LION KING JR. Theatre Tulsa Family... MONSTER JAM BOK Center... ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN Theatre North

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