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**Governor Anoatubby leads
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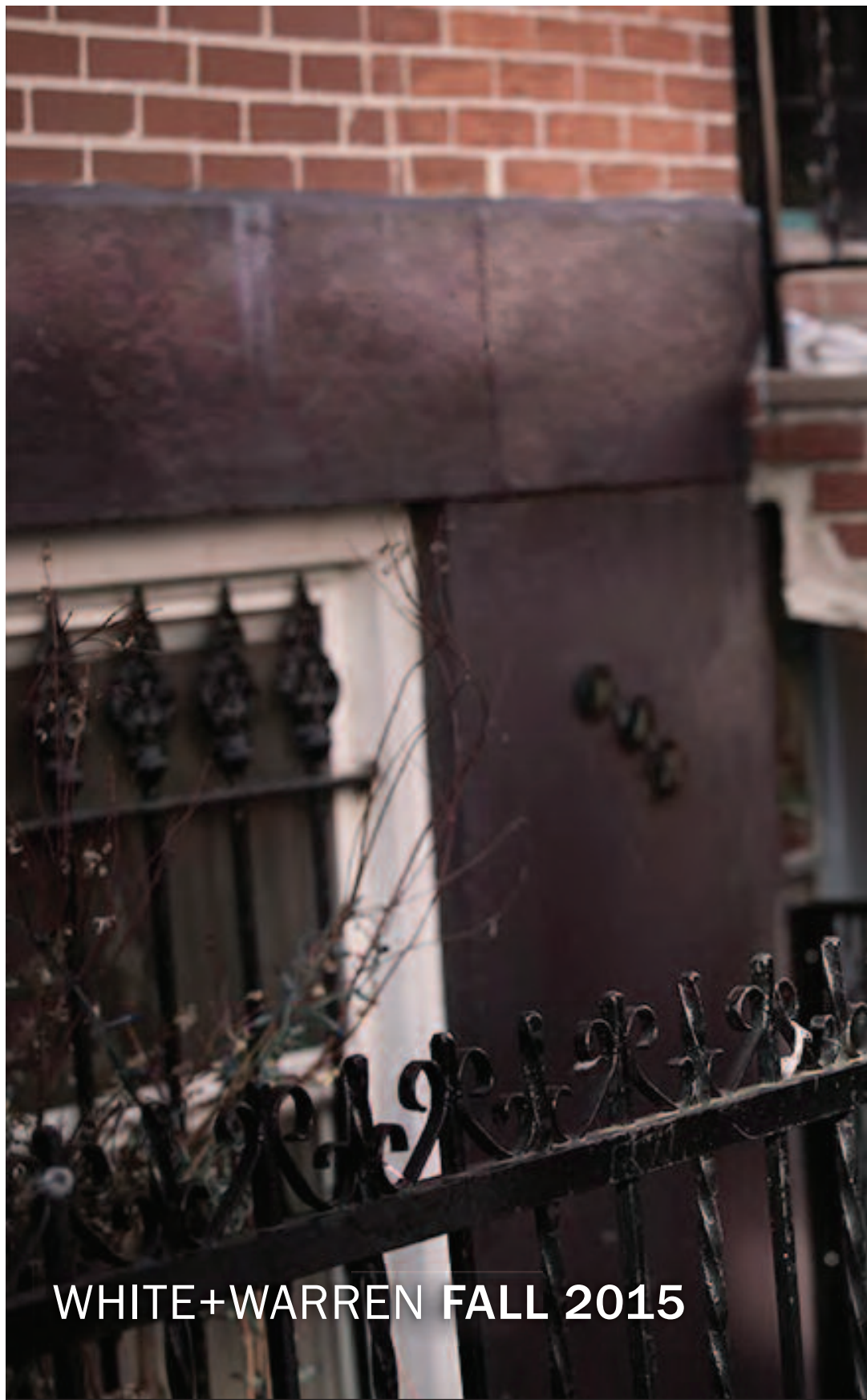


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Contents

COVER STORY

- 14** *Leading to Success: Governor Anoatubby shows the Chickasaw Nation new heights*
by Tim Farley

ART

- 28** *Portraying the Wild: New artists share love for wildlife and landscapes*
by M. J. Van Deventer

- 86** *JRB Art at the Elms: BEST of the WEST*



TRAVEL

- 37** *A smile for every day: A visitor's look at the Greek Islands*
by Andrew Swift and Tim Farley

- 56** *Bishop's Palace: Galveston's Grandest Home*
by Linda Miller

- 60** *Santa Fe – The City Different: Love affair spans 50 visits for writer*
by M.J. Van DeVenter

14



ENTERTAINMENT

- 22** *deadCenter Film Festival*
- 76** *Armstrong Auditorium announces 2015-16 Performing ArtsSeries, continues diverse collection of international performances*
- 80** *Summer Film Previews*
by acob Oller

BEAUTY

- 46** *Beauty Bag: Colors range from nude to juicy berry*
by Linda Miller

FASHION

- 48** *Megan Barnes: Embracing her passion at L.A. Sun & Sport*
Story and Photos by Linda Miller



CULTURE

- 72** *Dugout canoe exhibit extended: Exploring the vessel's history and importance*
By Linda Miller

TECHNOLOGY

- 42** *AtLink Services begins second growth phase... Rural demand for high-speed broadband increases*
by Tim Farley

- 66** *Gifts for Graduates That Earn You an A*
By Ginger Daril/Verizon Oklahoma

DINING

- 68** *Ciao, Bella! With renovations and innovations, Bellini's is serving up a big dose of fantastico.*
By Kanna Deutsch / Photos by Lauren Wright



PEOPLE

- 32** *Children recall life with John Wayne "He was a great Dad"*
by M. J. Van Deventer / Photography by Joe Ownbey, Dallas, Texas
- 79** *Shane Granger selected as 2015 Gold Star Award Recipient: Armstrong Auditorium Marketing Director receives top honor*



PHOTOGRAPHY

- 52** *Martinis to go: Photographer travels the world creating a martini portfolio*
by M. J. Van DeVenter

REVIEWS

- 84** *Book Buzz: The power of love, not love stories*
by Lucie Smoker

COMMUNITY

- 90** *Lupus: An overlooked disease*
by Mindy Ragan Wood





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Bill Anoatubby, on the right, at the Oklahoma Historical Society Conference

LEADING TO SUCCESS

Governor Anoatubby shows the Chickasaw Nation the way to new heights

by Tim Farley

At first glance, Governor Bill Anoatubby resembles a personable, humble, educated, professional businessman. But there's a lot more to him than meets the eye.

That's why books and people shouldn't be judged by their covers or initial appearances.

Take a step back, do some research and people will discover Anoatubby has all of the characteristics the first glance provided and a lot more. He's been the Chickasaw Nation governor since 1987 and is seeking his eighth term this summer. During his tenure, Anoatubby has led the Chickasaw Nation to new heights in terms of health care, business achievements and college scholarships.

The bottom line is Anoatubby, although he's the last to take credit for the tribe's success, has grown the Chickasaw Nation into a \$2 billion-dollar empire with highly successful casinos, hotels, a bank, Chickasaw Nation Industries (CNI), a first-rate health care system and Ekso Bionics, a company that has been a pioneer in the field of robotic exoskeletons since 2005.

In an interview with ionOK.com, Anoatubby demonstrated great humility by passing the tribe's success to his leadership team and their commitment to the people who comprise the Chickasaw Nation. But others close to the tribe say without hesitation that Anoatubby is the brain trust that has moved the Chickasaws forward by leaps and bounds the last 28 years.

"We put the Chickasaw people first in everything we do," he said.



“When we evaluate a new initiative, business or a new proposal, we ask how this will affect the Chickasaw people. If we get a satisfactory answer to that question, we move forward. Our mission is to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people is much more than a simple phrase or motto.”

That mission is at the core of every project the Chickasaw leaders oversee and Anoatubby is quick to point that out. He claims the tribe’s mission was developed from the Chickasaw Nation’s cultural identity, which is built upon a sense of belonging in terms of strong family ties, commitment to the common good and a feeling of responsibility to the entire community.

“It is a long-held belief of the Chickasaw people that individuals within a community have a responsibility to work toward the benefit of that community,” he said. “We also believe the community has a responsibility to work together to support the success of the individual. We

believe President Kennedy had it right when he said that a rising tide lifts all boats. My role is to be a model of servant leadership and ensure our leadership team maintains its commitment to serve the needs of our people.”

Business success

Under Anoatubby’s leadership, the Chickasaw-owned casinos have flourished. Winstar Casino at the Oklahoma-Texas border and Riverwind Casino in Norman are two of the most successful gambling and entertainment venues in Oklahoma. Still, the tribe’s business ventures go well beyond crap tables, slot machines and musicians.

Other than casinos, Chickasaw Nation Industries and Bank2 have been two of the tribe’s most lucrative business ventures.

Bank2 is 100 percent owned by the Chickasaw Nation and has grown from \$7.5 million in assets it initially



Above, hospital grand opening.

Right, Anoatubby with a young Tishomingo Head Start graduate

opened in 2002 to more than \$100 million in 2015. By 2012, Bank2 had issued more than \$1 billion in home loans.

Meanwhile, CNI has grown from an initial \$50,000 investment to more than \$250 million in annual revenues with 10 limited liability corporations within its corporate structure. CNI is the largest shareholder and long term partner of Ekso Bionics. Its first commercially available product, a wearable robot called Ekso, has helped thousands of people living with paralysis take millions of steps which would not have otherwise been possible.

“Revenues from these businesses help fund





Veterans Conference.

programs and services for the Chickasaw people,” Anoatubby said. “This type of business diversification also helps strengthen our financial foundation for the future.”

Anoatubby understands better than most that expansion in existing businesses and attracting new industry is critical in the tribe’s move to maximize its growth potential. Part of the diversification Anoatubby talks about focuses on tourism and healthcare. The Chickasaw Nation was a major private donor to the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum, a state project that stalled when funding dried up. The museum received \$25 million from the Oklahoma Legislature this year coupled with \$9 million from Oklahoma City and \$40 million in private contributions.

“We believe tourism will be a major engine driving economic development in the Chickasaw Nation and growth in the Oklahoma economy for years to come,” Anoatubby said.

Domestic and international travelers spent \$6.9 billion in Oklahoma during 2011, which is up from \$6.2 billion in 2010.

Anoatubby believes the potential market for tourism has not been overstated.

“More than 75 million people live within a 500-mile radius of southeastern Oklahoma and more than seven million within a two-hour drive,” he said. “We have seen evidence that Native American culture is important to many of those who visit Oklahoma since we opened the Chickasaw Cultural Center in July 2010. More than 350,000 people from around the world have visited the cultural center since we opened.”

The Chickasaw Cultural Center and the Chickasaw-owned Artesian Hotel are located in Sulphur, but that’s not all. The tribe also is expanding its tourism footprint by adding to its casinos, renovation of Remington Park in Oklahoma City and construction of new hotels.

The Chickasaw Nation also implemented the “Adventure Road” campaign that promotes more than 150 destinations, attractions and activities on and near Interstate-35. These include tribal businesses, privately-owned companies, hotels, restaurants, bed-and-breakfasts, state parks, museums and entertainment venues.

“Programs and services we offer to Chickasaws, Native Americans and others in the state has a significant impact on the state because any service we offer reduces the funds the state may need to budget for those services,” Anoatubby said.

Beyond that, a substantial amount of the tribe’s business revenue is invested into projects that benefit all of Oklahoma. The Chickasaws have partnered with the Children’s Medical Research Institute to establish the Chickasaw Endowed Research Chair in pediatric diabetes. In addition, the tribe has endowed chairs at the University of Oklahoma Law School and East Central University and endowed scholarships at the University of Tulsa Law School.

Investments in healthcare and biosciences are playing a significant role in the tribe’s business plan. Sovereign Medical Solutions is one of the Chickasaw Nation’s newest efforts to diversify its business portfolio. Three years ago, a pharmacy and clinic were opened in Ada, and more recently the tribe opened its doors to a new pharmacy and clinic in Norman.

“This company allows us to leverage our success and operational knowledge of health care services to develop a profitable business which has a number of benefits to

everyone concerned,” Anoatubby said.

The Chickasaw Nation also has invested in a company that is developing medications for chronic illnesses.

Tribal members benefit

Anoatubby’s plan for business diversification was established to further the tribe’s goals of self-governance and self-determination. The Chickasaw Nation has grown from four tribal businesses in 1987 to more than 100 different companies today.

“These efforts have gone hand-in-hand with our goals to provide education and other opportunities for our citizens,” he said. “One of the most ways we can help anyone is to offer them meaningful employment.”

In 1987, the tribe employed slightly more than 250 people. Today, the Chickasaw Nation has nearly 13,000 people on its payroll. The business growth also allows the tribe to offer more services to its citizens. In 1987, the Chickasaws operated 33 programs and services and were dependent on the federal government for about 99 percent of its funding.

The majority of funding for tribal programs such as housing, health care, education and family services comes from the business growth, not the federal

Bank2 building.





Oklahoma City Community Dinner

government. The Chickasaw Nation offers more than \$15 million annually in scholarships, grants and other support for the educational needs of more than 4,000 students. In addition, the tribe offers more than 216 programs and services with an annual budget of more than \$200 million.

Free healthcare is a major benefit of most Chickasaw citizens. In 1994, the tribe compacted to take responsibility for its healthcare system. At the time, the main healthcare center was the Carl Albert Indian Facility, which was designed to serve about 25,000 patient visits annually.

The healthcare landscape has been impacted dramatically since then. In 2010, the 370,000 square-foot Chickasaw Nation Medical Center was opened.

“Today, we operate the entire health system formerly under the Indian Health System,” Anoatubby said.

That system now includes six health facilities providing more than 500,000 patient visits each year while filling 1.2 million prescriptions annually. The tribe also operates 12 senior citizen sites that serve more than 157,000 meals each year.

Servant leadership

Facing yet another election as Chickasaw governor, Anoatubby uses the term servant leadership quite often when talking about helping the tribe’s citizens.

“Our leadership team places a great deal of emphasis on that word, serving, because that is my role as governor and the role of every member of our leadership team. Our mission to enhance the quality of life of the Chickasaw people will continue to serve as our guidepost as we work together to build an even brighter future,” he said.

Anoatubby promotes the idea that Chickasaws “share the same ideas, goals and values of other Oklahomans. Chickasaws go to the same schools and work at the same kinds of jobs. We belong to the same churches. We cheer for the same sports teams.”

Anoatubby and his wife, Janice, have two sons Brian and Chris and five grandchildren, Brendan, Eryn, Chloe, Sydney and Preslea. ■

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deadCENTER film · festival



by Tim Farley

Oklahoma City's deadCenter Film Festival has grown by leaps and bounds during the last 15 years and 2015 should be no exception.

Already listed as one of the "20 Coolest" film festivals in the world by Movie Maker magazine, deadCenter organizers anticipate a crowd of about 25,000 people to watch 106 films beginning June 10. Some are feature films, usually under one hour, while others are short documentaries lasting five to 15 minutes.

The five-night event will feature free outdoor movies at the Myriad Gardens Wednesday, June 10 through Sunday, June 14. Nine of the 25 feature films were made by Oklahomans and seven of them debuted in February at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

Festival Executive Director Lance McDaniel said deadCenter received 1,100 submissions but was forced to select only 106.



Entertainers and speakers at the 2014 deadCenter film festival.



The films will be shown at the five Harkens Theater screens in Bricktown, the Museum of Art and Devon Energy's auditorium.

This year's festival is proof that money is not a barrier to making a movie, McDaniel said. One entry is a nine-minute film produced and directed by a University of Central Oklahoma professor and his students.

"This proves if you don't have the money, you can still tell a story," he said. "We have a broader range of stories this year."

Movie fans will be treated to eight shorts programs, which means they may see 12 films over 90 minutes.

"There will be comedy shorts, Okie shorts, which are the





Above, the audience is ready for the film to begin.

Left, festival attendees interact with the entertainment.



most popular, rate-R shorts and horror shorts,” McDaniel said.

“Best of Enemies” is the first feature film visitors will see on June 11. The movie is described as a dazzling intellectual feast that was nominated for the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance. The film centers on a series of debates hosted by ABC during the 1968 presidential conventions.

Other feature films include “Anesthesia,” a 90-minute movie starring Glenn Close, Kristen Stewart and Sam Waterson. “Anesthesia” is the latest feature from actor-director Tim Blake Nelson, a Tulsa native who will receive this year’s Oklahoma Film ICON Award from deadCenter.

In “Anesthesia,” Nelson weaves together several New York stories that collide when a Columbia professor played by Waterson is mugged on the doorsteps of his apartment



Above, Myriad Garden lawn. Right, Devon building lights up the skyline.

building. This one-time screening will include a question-answer session with Nelson.

More feature films include “Stanford Prison Experiment,” a true story set in the 1970s and “Being Evel,” another true story about legendary motorcycle daredevil Evel Knievel, whose personal life was as dramatic as his public antics that included a failed attempt to jump across the Snake River Canyon in 1974 and 75 other attempted ramp-to-ramp motorcycle jumps.

The festival will also present “Eternal Princess,” Katie Holmes’ new documentary short film about Olympic gold medalist and gymnastic legend Nadia Comaneci, who now lives in Oklahoma and is married to Oklahoman Bart Conner, also an Olympic gold medalist. The film was produced for ESPN and debuted at the Tribeca Film Festival last month.





Above and left, the rooftop terrace is a welcome spot for mingling and conversation.



The story centers on Comaneci's journey from communist Romania to Norman, OK. As a 14-year-old, Comaneci became the first Olympic gymnast to score a perfect 10 during the 1976 Games.

"Eternal Princess" will be shown 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art.

The film festival also will have panel discussions on making movies in Oklahoma and film distribution. In addition, movie fans can hear Oklahoma film icons Bradley Beesley, Bird Runningwater and Bob Berney talk about their experiences in the movie industry.

A complete schedule of events, times and places can be found at www.deadcenterfilm.org ■

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Portraying the Wild

New artists share love for wildlife and landscapes

by M. J. Van Deventer

The trio of artists chosen as first-time participants in the annual Prix de West Invitational Art Exhibition all share a love for portraying the wild in landscape and animals. This is an integral theme that characterizes their paintings, which will be on view June 12-13 at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum.

The new artists are C. Michael Dudash, Charles Timothy Prutzer and Scott Tallman Powers. All of these artists are professionally trained, all have had their work exhibited in the United States and abroad, and all find painting the West a compelling subject for their canvases. Yet, each artist brings a different viewpoint to his work.

While the three are seasoned artists, they are newcomers to the Prix de West venue. It is not an invitation they take lightly. Selection for the participating artists is rigorous. Many try for several years before finally receiving the coveted “Yes” to show their art at the Prix de West.

Although there is a stable of artists invited back annually, new artists hoping for a Prix de West berth face stiff competition. A panel of art authorities considers if each work of art truly illustrates the western genre. They also consider how their art will complement



Nightmare In An Elm Tree – Horned Owl



Tintype Med

or contrast with the work of existing Prix de West artists. Receiving an invitation to participate in this show is a significant milestone for any artist.

C. Michael Dudash of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, applied for the Prix de West show several times six or seven years ago.

"I knew how difficult it was to get in. I got several "Nice but not this year" letters," he said.

He has participated in the museum's annual "Small Works, Great Wonders" show for the past three years and was "surprised but flattered" to receive a "Yes" for the 2015 Prix de West exhibition.

"I'm very grateful to be in this prestigious show," he said.

Dudash, 63, was trained as a fine artist but made a decision in 1977 to pursue a career in classic illustration, which earned him a national reputation. Eventually, he could foresee the golden age of illustration waning as digital imaging began impacting this field of art.

At about age 50, he made a critical decision to return to his fine arts roots. He began painting from life and his art took a fresh, new direction. Always interested in history,

he also began creating Old West scenes that vividly recall the American frontier.

One of his paintings in the Prix de West show, *Tintype*, reflects his fascination with history and mirrors his talent at portraying historical times. An early-day photographer is trying valiantly to capture on film four Native Americans in a rather isolated western setting.

Dudash has studied with noted artist Richard Schmid in Vermont and in 2001, he became affiliated with the Legacy Gallery in Scottsdale, Ariz. This eventually led to his focus on frontier scenes from the 19th Century.

While story-telling themes, so prevalent in illustration, were a large part of his early art portfolio, he says, "Upon leaving illustration, I spent several years painting non-narrative landscapes, figurative portraits and still life paintings. Now that I have found my way back into creating paintings that tell a story, having experience in painting all different kinds of subject matter has been a great help."

He also does a variety of faith-based paintings for Christian publishing firms, in addition to helping build mission schools in Kenya. One of his favorite paintings was popular at the Eiteljorg Museum's western art show

two years ago.

"It featured a bunch of old cowpunchers saying grace over a tin plate supper. This is part of who I am and what my life is all about," Dudash said.

Charles Timothy Prutzer began his career as the youngest background artist on staff at the Denver Museum of Natural History. He was only 17 and thought he would spend his entire art career at this venue.

He considers it "providential" that two Prix de West Purchase Award winners, Dr. George Carlson and Bob Kuhn, changed the direction of his life. Carlson is one of only a few artists to win the Purchase Award twice.

"I met George Carlson in 1973," Prutzer recalled. "He challenged me to start painting plein air, to study birds, animals and landscapes from life. His critique of my work was very polite but so honest."

By 1976, Prutzer had the courage "to give up the best job I knew I would ever have" and leave his museum post and its benefits for full time painting.

The late Bob Kuhn also challenged Prutzer to spend more time sketching animals and making adjustments to his art techniques, a directive he honored from 1973 to 1996.

"In 1996, at a workshop at the Loveland Academy of Art, Bob Kuhn told me, 'No man needs to be able to draw better than this in order to have a fine art career.'"

Kuhn's comment remains priceless in Prutzer's memory.

During his career, Prutzer has developed and taught drawing-from-life college courses at Colorado zoos and

other venues. He also studied with renowned bird artist Donald Malick and museum artist William Traher.

Prutzer now works exclusively from living subjects, sketching and painting plein air, not from photographs.

"Distant snapshots don't contain the spirit or honesty



Winters Prep by Scott Tallman Powers

captured in plein air," Prutzer contends.

Art critics have praised his remarkable range in oils, acrylics and watercolors that capture animals in the wild. One of his paintings in the Prix de West show, *Nightmare*

in an Elm Tree ~ Horned Owl, reveals his attention to detail and wildlife habitat accuracy.

"I was attracted to the light and shadow on this Western Great Horned Owl's plumage and markings," he said, noting how this bird led to much research on this species' predatory habits.

Now 60, Prutzer has completed more than 30 large-scale wildlife murals for natural history museums, zoos and nature preserves in the U.S. and abroad. He is among only a few Americans invited to participate in field expeditions with the Artists for Nature Foundation, an international organization promoting nature conservation through art. He resides near Colorado Springs, Colo.

He considers his invitation to show at the Prix de West a significant highlight of his career.

"I've been invited to the best western art show in North America," he said. "It means everything to my career."

Scott Tallman Powers' fascination with art was piqued in childhood as he watched his father draw. He was a medical illustrator, photographer and fine artist so it seems natural Scott would follow his father's path, study art in high school and attend the American Academy of Art in Chicago.

His academy teachers were influential in his approach to watercolor, drawing, anatomy and sculpture. He spent many years as an illustrator in a Chicago advertising agency before pursuing his dream to become a full-time professional artist.

Powers' art is inspired by different cultures around the world.

"The human element is at the core of my journeys," he said. "These experiences have given me a better understanding of the world we live in. I hope to express these experiences with honesty, sensitivity and integrity. This is a passion which grows day by day, mile by mile."

One of his Prix de West paintings, *Winter's Preparation*, depicts a grizzled rancher, set against a backdrop of timber logs, stacked and ready to ward off winter's chill. The painting reveals Powers' skill at portraying light, shadows and the emotions of the painting's central figure.

A native of Alabama, Powers, 43, now resides in Tetonia, Idaho. He is a signature member of the Oil Painters of America and founder of the Plein Air Painters of Chicago. His art is in many private collections in the

U.S. and around the world, including three fine art museums in China.

Among his honors are the Collector's Choice Award at the Coeur D'Alene Art Auction, 2012, and the Henry Farny Painting Award at the Eiteljorg Museum in 2011. He has participated in many invitational exhibitions in the United States, China, Israel and Europe.

Of his selection to participate in the upcoming show, Powers said, "I have been following the Prix de West show for years now. I have admired and been deeply inspired by the quality of art and artists this show represents. I dreamed of participating in it at some point in the future. It gave me something to reach for and I will always be grateful for my inclusion."

Prix de West details

The Prix de West show actually began in 1973 and was named the National Academy of Western Art Exhibition. The name of the show was changed in 1995 to the Prix de West, a French term meaning "prize of the West."

The French connection may have been inspired by the museum's participation in a 1989 show at the Salon d'Automne in Paris, France, featuring western art from the National Cowboy Museum.

The opening weekend activities begin 9 a.m., Friday with a series of art-related seminars, panel discussions and artist demonstrations. Friday evening, guests mingle with the artists at a preview cocktail party, setting the stage for Saturday night's lively bid auction and an awards banquet honoring the artists and guests.

The 2015 winner of the coveted Prix de West Purchase Award will be announced Saturday at a noon luncheon. This award honors the artist whose painting or sculpture the museum has chosen to add to its permanent Prix de West Collection, which now includes more than 40 works of art by artists from around the country.

The Prix de West show runs through August 2 and features paintings and sculptures by approximately 100 of the nation's leading Western artists. Additional information about the opening weekend events or bidding information is available by calling 405-478-2250, extension 219. ■

Children recall life with John Wayne “He was a great Dad”

by M. J. Van Deventer
Photography by Joe Ownbey, Dallas, Texas

What's it like when five members of John Wayne's family take to the stage for a “Q&A” about life with their famous father?

Well, it's a lot like an old-fashioned family reunion complete with laughter, teasing, and the occasional revelation of long-held secrets.

That's what happened when actor Rex Linn rounded up five of John Wayne's family on stage at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum for a Saturday morning “tell all” during the recent annual Western Heritage Awards weekend.

Sons Patrick Wayne, 75, and Ethan Wayne, 53, had already signed on for the emcee duties for the gala Saturday night awards banquet several months prior. Patrick is the older brother to his half-brother Ethan. Although they shared the famous actor as their father, both had different mothers.

Patrick's mother was Wayne's first wife, Josephine Alicia



Saenz. Ethan's mom was Pilar Pallete, Wayne's third wife. All of John Wayne's wives were of Hispanic descent.

Because Ethan is the youngest son, he bore the brunt of some of the good-natured ribbing, especially about the funky way he dressed growing up and his penchant for being mischievous.

Two daughters, Marisa Wayne, the youngest daughter at age 49, Melinda Wayne Munoz, 75, and a granddaughter, Anita LaCava Swift, also shared the stage. Swift, 58, has been a frequent guest at various Museum events for the past 10 years.

Marisa's Mom was Pilar. Melinda's was Josephine and Anita is Josephine's granddaughter.

A detailed portrait of the John Wayne family tree might have been a clever stage prop for this event.

The five all recalled numerous family vacation adventures on the *Wild Goose*, a World War II minesweeper that John



Patrick Wayne, Melina Wayne Munoz, Anita LaCava Swift, Rex Linn, moderator; Marisa Wayne and Ethan Wayne.

Wayne converted to the family yacht. It was usually anchored in the harbor at Newport Beach, Calif., where the Wayne children spent their childhood. They still live there and see each other often.

Ethan's pranks often sent him to "the naughty chair" on the yacht, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2011. The family traveled often to Catalina Island, San Diego and Mexico on the 136-foot yacht.

Anita and Patrick both recalled wonderful Christmas holidays, which began with a big parade in Newport Beach. The holiday festivities usually lasted several weeks.

"The presents were fabulous," Anita said.

Patrick noted, "Dad believed a childhood should be filled with love." Ethan recalled Christmas as "a big production."

Their dad's 26 Bar Hereford Ranch in Arizona was usually the setting for Thanksgiving. A ranch hand would often tour 'The Duke' around the place to look at his cattle. Wayne didn't care much for that pickup so he sent a better vehicle to the ranch.

Ethan recalled, "It was a monster truck but he *could* now fit

himself and his cowboy hat in the truck."

Marisa noted, "It was always a fun time when we all got together."

Melinda added, "Yes and Ethan was always in trouble."

Big meals, especially steak and potatoes, were their Dad's favorite, they all noted.

"He liked candy," Ethan said. "He had a real sweet tooth. He hated meatloaf."

Ethan alluded to his Dad's love for bourbon, but side-stepped the controversy over the Duke Kentucky Straight Bourbon released in 2014. It was hand-crafted to match a bottle of Wayne's favorite bourbon from the early 1960s. In a 2014 press release, Ethan noted, "Our goal with the DUKE was to make a Bourbon that embodies the spirit, strength and richness my father personified while realizing his unfulfilled dream of distilling fine spirits."

Duke University took offense at the use of the name DUKE on the label.

Marisa remembered being on the set of *The Shootist*, based on Gordon Swarthout's book about an aging gunfighter battling



Ethan Wayne, Anita LaCava Swift, Marisa Wayne, Patrick Wayne, Melinda Wayne Munoz, seated.

cancer, a theme that characterized John Wayne's last days.

"Ron Howard (an Oklahoma native) was starring in *Happy Days* on television at that time and brought his friends from that show to the set. My Dad really liked Ron. He thought he had great promise as an actor," Marisa said.

Patrick made 40 films during his career. The first was a bit part in *Rio Grande*, for which he made \$10. His last film with his Dad, his ninth, was *Big Jake*.

Patrick had a role in *The Long Gray Line*, starring Maureen O'Hara and recalled wistfully, "She gave me my first kiss." His siblings reminded him he also was quite infatuated with

Natalie Wood while *The Searchers* was being filmed. They noted he also had a flirtation with Katharine Ross during the filming of *Shenandoah*.

"Don't forget Stephanie Powers in *McClintock*," Melinda urged.

Judy Garland was singing in a nightclub and introduced Patrick to George, Paul, John and Ringo — better known as "The Beatles." Later, Patrick starred in numerous movies, among them *Mister Roberts*, *The Alamo* and *The Green Berets*.

Anita recalled being a teenager when her grandfather was shooting *The Cowboys* in 1972. Ethan remembered being on

the set for the filming of *Big Jake* and having a horrible costume that included velvet knickers.

"Ethan always had a lot of problems with his clothing," Marisa laughed.

Melinda was on the set for the filming of *McClintock*, a comedy western and one of the makeup artists made her up as an Indian.

"People were lining up to get autographs and I thought Dad wouldn't recognize me," she said. "Dad took one look at me and said, 'Hi Melinda, when did you get into town?' "

Several of the children were in Ireland in 1951 for the filming of *The Quiet Man* and Ethan went later to see the movie set. He loved the hardware store that was part of the set. Patrick was an apprentice in the movie and loved the pristine green countryside. He returned to Ireland in 1975 to speak at a John Wayne Symposium.

"Now, *The Quiet Man* is shown every afternoon at Ashford Castle in Ireland." Marisa noted.

"The village of Cong, where part of the movie was filmed, has made an exact replica of the pub that was a frequent setting in the movie," Melinda added.

Patrick recalled that John Ford, the film's director, often protested filming many of *The Quiet Man* scenes.

"All the ones he protested are in the movie," he laughed. "It's also interesting that the films Dad got killed in were not as successful as the ones where he lived."

The subject of dialogue and Wayne's easy-going, calm voice surfaced. Patrick said, "He loved dialogue," contrasting him with his Dad's long-time pal Ben Johnson, an Oklahoma rodeo star turned actor who detested movie dialogue.

Moderator Linn asked, "Did your Dad talk much about the film business away from it?"

"No," Patrick said, with great emphasis. "Everything had its place. But he was always evolving and improving in his acting. He was a student of himself. Films were his acting classes."

Ethan laughed. "He didn't talk much about acting at home, as seen in my performances."

Patrick and Ethan both took acting lessons, as did Marisa. Patrick performed in summer stock and dinner theaters as well as numerous television series and game shows. While his career never rivaled that of his father, one reviewer commented, "Patrick certainly wasn't hard on the eyes."

As the hour-long jovial banter came to a close, Patrick

talked about the last six weeks of his father's life.

"He was in constant pain and he was very uncomfortable. But he still had grit and courage. He would often reach out to others in the UCLA Medical Center and try to console them," he said.

John Wayne died June 11, 1979 at the age of 72.

The movie, *Stagecoach*, was his big break in 1939, launching a career that spanned 142 films, including 83 westerns. *True Grit* won him an Oscar in 1969.

"He went to his grave wearing a good luck bracelet," Patrick said. It was given to him by friends from Vietnam's central highlands who respected his viewpoint on the Vietnam conflict.

Their father's death inspired several of the children to direct their talents toward a cure for cancer. Patrick assumed the chairmanship of the board of directors of the John Wayne Cancer Institute after his brother Michael died in 2003. Ethan is president of John Wayne Enterprises and director of the John Wayne Cancer Foundation. The mission of the Institute and Foundation is "to bring courage, strength and grit to the fight against cancer."

Anita was 22 when her grandfather, a heavy smoker, died of stomach cancer.

"He made an indelible impression on my life," she said.

Her mother, Mary Antonia LaCava, also died of cancer in 2001. Anita has served as president of the John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary and is a tireless fundraiser.

John Wayne's legacy is revered at the National Cowboy Museum, where he once served on the board of directors. Many of the artifacts from his film career and personal collections are on exhibit in the museum's Western Performers Gallery. He was the grand marshal of the downtown parade when the museum opened June 26, 1965. He was inducted into the museum's prestigious Hall of Great Western Performers in 1974, one of the early western movie stars to be so honored.

Among other celebrities attending the weekend events were Michael Martin Murphey, who has performed at several John Wayne celebrations; actors Buck Taylor, also an accomplished artist; Dean Smith, noted for numerous roles as a movie stuntman; and Wyatt McCrea, son of the late western actor Joel McCrea.

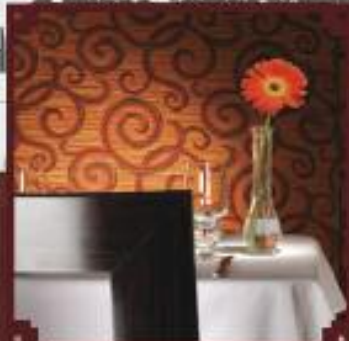
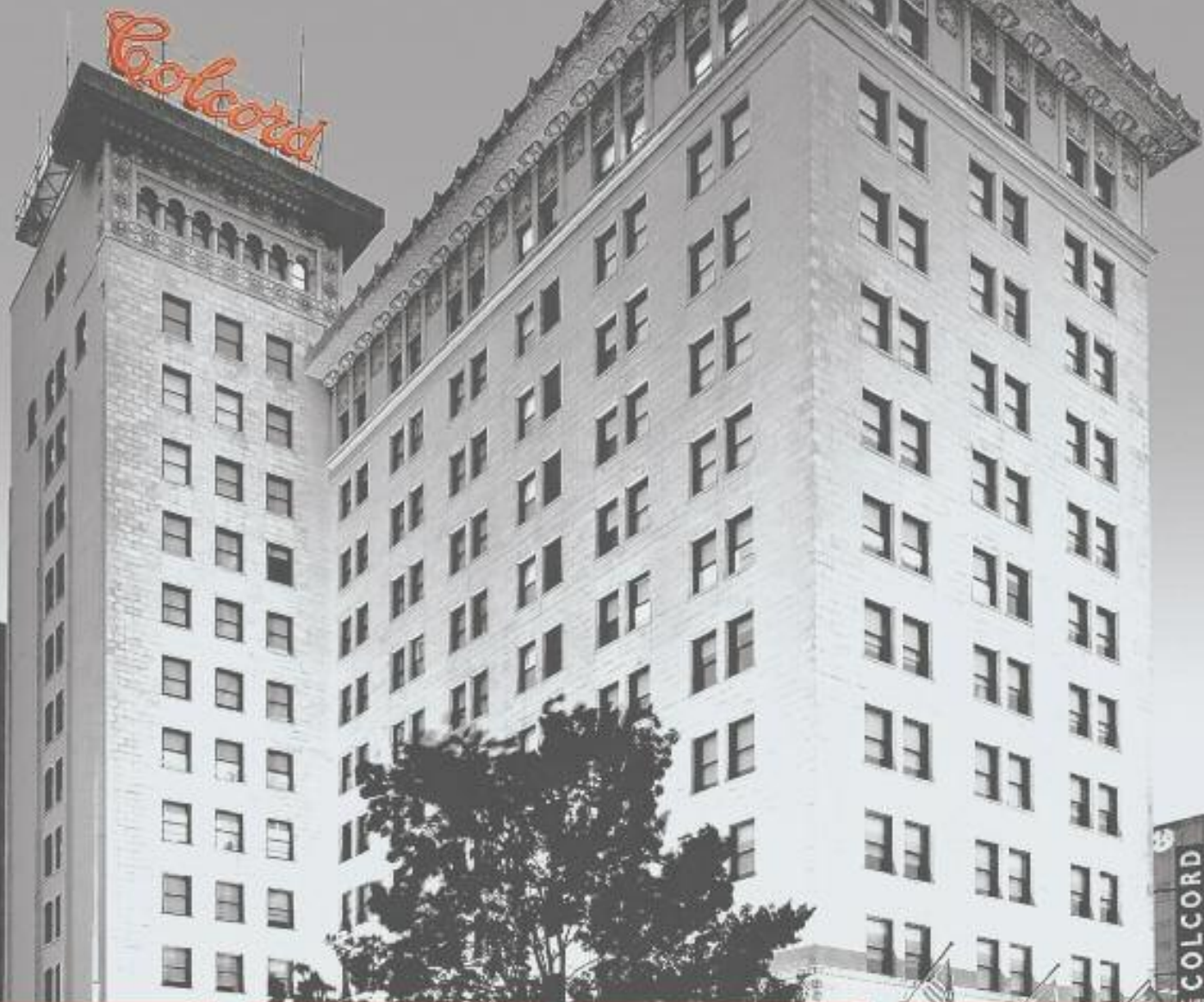
Ethan closed the spirited conversation quite gracefully.

"We're here today as a family," he said. "And you're all here because you love John Wayne. He was a great Dad," he said. ■



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A SMILE FOR EVERY DAY

A visitor's look at the Greek Islands

by Andrew Swift and Tim Farley

Andrew Swift learned of a Greek island known as Santorini when he watched the movie “Summer Lovers” while in fifth grade. He dreamed of going there some day and 15 years later the dream came true, but with an unexpected twist.

Traveling with University of Oklahoma fraternity brother Sean Dougherty, the friends were hardly in first class during their recent journey. They flew standby most of the time, stayed in \$10 a night hostiles, rode an all-night ferry and rented 4-wheelers for \$20 a day so they could move around the island and other parts of Greece, including Athens.

Santorini is known primarily for its tourism industry, particularly in the summer months. However, its wine industry and architecture also are unique. Yet, some of the best memories of Swift's trip was the people, especially one little girl who caught his eye during a subway trip to the airport train.

In a journal account, Swift recalled noticing two boys with accordions accompanied by a young girl.

“Her smile was warmer than the core of the Earth,” he wrote.

As the train makes more stops, the seats begin to empty and his grasp on his belongings begins to ease. The boys sit next to him and the girl takes a seat across the aisle.

“They are talking and I make eye contact with the little girl. There were





Left and above, the little girl who caught Andrew's eye and her family give a thumbs up on the subway.

Bottom left, the windmills are a quintessential feature of the landscape on Santorini, where gusty wind is common.



two friendship bracelets on my wrist and I think that she would like one, so I untie the knot and hand her the bracelet," he wrote.

Swift recounted that the girl's face "lights up" as if she just received a new puppy. She played with the bracelet for a few seconds and then ties the bracelet on the wrist of her brother.

"The selflessness of this little puts me on the floor," he wrote. "Then I asked Sean to give me my sunglasses out of my back pack. I hand them to the little girl and her face lights up even more than the first time. She takes the sunglasses and jokingly puts them on upside down. My heart is melting for this little girl."

Unsure where their next stop was, the boys helped Swift and Dougherty find their way. There were only enough seats for three people in the airport train wait station so the boys offered the two Americans seats next to the little girl.

"While we wait, Sean and I get high fives from her and we teach her how to pound and explode the



*The blue domes and equally brilliant blue waters say "Santorini."
Below, the ruins are illuminated after dark.*





Left, four-wheelers were an economical way to get around.

Bottom left, a view from the terrace.

Above, cruise ships visit several of the Greek islands.



high fives," he wrote.

About five minutes later, the airport train arrives and the boys start to perform up and down the aisle. Swift gave the boys 60 euros, which "was not much for his talents."

"I had two two-euro coins and some change in my pocket and I tell Sean I want to give the rest to the girl when we leave," Swift wrote in his account of the trip. "They get off before we do so I opened my hand to present her with the coins. She is too short to see inside so she gives me a high five and I drop some of the coins on the floor. She picked up the coins, saw my hand and gasped."

The girl took the pile of coins with her tiny hands and her brother put his hand over his heart and thanked Swift with a firm handshake. As she leaves the train with her brother, the little girl turns around and said "yiasou (goodbye)" with the "most soft and genuine smile."

"This is the moment when I found myself," Swift wrote of his encounter with the girl. "People helping people is the calling of humanity. If you are working for the common good, this is beautiful. Be aware in yourself and your situation and contribute something positive to it. Smile every day." ■



Above, the Parthenon, Athens, Greece.

Below, the Red Beach on Santorini Island.



AtLink Services begins second growth phase Rural demand for high-speed broadband increases

by Tim Farley

By most standards, Internet access is almost a given. It's commonly used at school, homes and businesses and people rarely give it a second thought.

But Macey Wilson, community liaison for AtLink Services, witnessed a different story while manning a company booth during a recent county fair.

A young girl approached Wilson and asked if she could get Internet service. Wilson replied that she would check if the girl's house was in the service area. Almost crying, the girl began to tell Wilson that she had not been able to attend college because she was taking care of an ill parent.

"She told me, 'If I can get Internet I can do online classes and start to college,'" Wilson recalled.

Those types of stories are much too common in a lot of rural Oklahoma communities where high-speed broadband service is limited or nonexistent.

During the last two years, however, AtLink has pushed its way into rural markets and the reception has been overwhelming, said Lance Maxey, vice president of sales and marketing. During the last 24 months, the company has grown about 60 percent due to a band width that varies, a no-contract policy and unlimited data.

"In other words, they can watch NetFlix as much as they want," said Lance Maxey, vice president of marketing. "There is no cap on how much (data) they can use."

Success in the rural markets have allowed AtLink to begin a second growth phase into 40 other rural areas, including Ardmore, Ada, Tishomingo, Okfusgee, Sulphur, Wetumka, Sapulpa, Glenpool, Bristow, Prague, Tonkawa, Crescent,





AtLink trucks are a visible sign that high-speed Internet is coming to the area.

Pauls Valley, Asher, Bixby and Elmore City.

By the end of 2013, AtLink served 130 markets in urban, suburban and rural Oklahoma. By the end of 2015, the company expects to have three times that many. AtLink was recently awarded a U.S. Department of Agriculture Broadband Initiatives Program grant to provide service to 14 unserved and underserved regions in Oklahoma for the next 25 years, according to the company website.

The company website also states AtLink Services is the largest wireless Internet service provider in the Midwest.

Meanwhile, company officials continue to urge rural Oklahomans to subscribe to AtLink because of the educational necessities for students and the commercial requirement for businesses, which must have high-speed Internet to battle competitors or conduct routine transactions with customers.

As part of its expansion, AtLink now partners with chambers of commerce which endorse the company, allowing AtLink to develop partnerships with existing and new businesses.



Ribbon-cuttings for every new service area connected bring smiles to everyone.



"We want these businesses and the cities to be able to sustain themselves as we continue our growth into current or underserved markets," Maxey said.

The demand from rural customers has been overwhelming, which is part of the reason for the second growth phase, he said.

"The rural response has been better than expected. There's been a high demand to fill in the areas where the customers are but no service currently exists," Maxey said.

Maxey specifically mentioned the Ada market, which includes East Central University and the Chickasaw Nation hospital.

"The Ada market is huge," he said. "People are searching for better values, reliable and affordable high-speed Internet."

Information about residential and commercial rates can be found on the company's website

www.atlinkservices.com ■



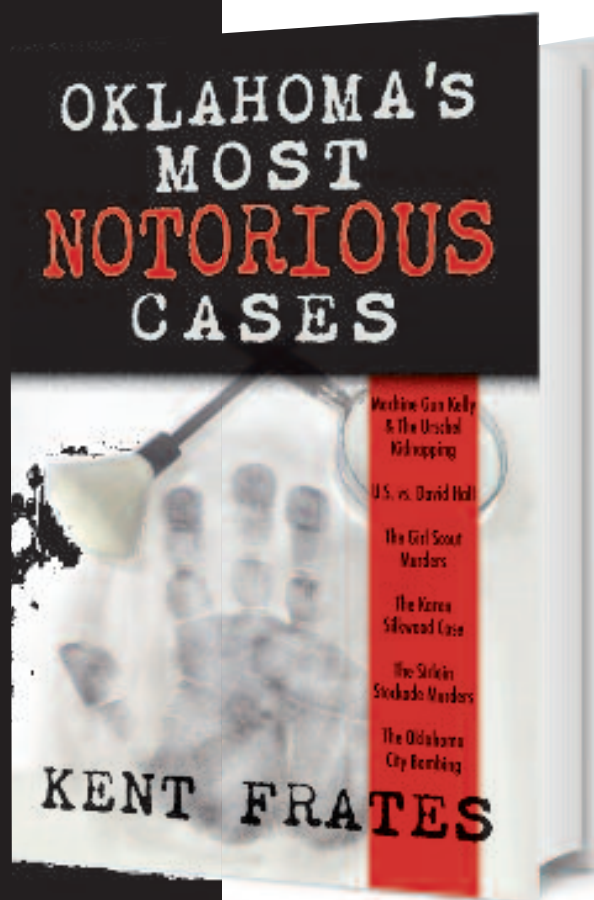
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BEAUTY BAG

Colors range from nude to juicy berry

by Linda Miller

Summer beauty colors always tempt.

This season, milky pastels and shades of red, pink, coral and fuchsia dress up nails. Yves Saint Laurent's new bright yellow lacquer is unexpected and fun. You can go moody with grays and soft browns.

Lips are understated in nude and soft pink or drenched in classic red, juicy berry and bold plum.

Light lavender and orchid eye shadows add a touch of drama without being too heavy, though dark eyeliner was a favorite during the spring fashion runway shows. So were smoky eyes, but when temperatures reach triple digits, lighter and brighter feels so much cooler.



Chanel Tisse Camelia eye shadow quad.



Essie Flowerista nail polish.



Left, Yves Saint Laurent 62 Jaune Babouche polish.

Sometimes the best face is a fresh face. Fresh, polished and flawless is how Lilly Stone describes it.

“Naked lip colors, smooth skin and beautiful brows enhance natural beauty,” said Stone of Sooo Lilly Cosmetics located inside Kokopelli at Shoppes at Northpark.

“Soft, shiny full lips never go out of style. Whether nude colors or ones with a hint of pink or peach, all create softness to the face.”

It’s fuss free, and sometimes that’s most tempting during a hot Oklahoma summer.



Above, Nars Jolie Poupee eye shadow duo.

Below, Sooo Lilly lip glosses add to the Sooo Lilly fresh face look.



MEGAN BARNES

Embracing her passion at L.A. Sun & Sport

Story and Photos by Linda Miller

Armed with three degrees and some valuable experience that helped solidify the kind of business environment and ethics she valued and needed, Megan Barnes came back home to Oklahoma.

Not that she was unhappy in California, but when presented with an opportunity to buy L.A. Sun & Sport in July 2013, she didn't hesitate.

She's been enjoying the journey ever since and is looking forward to relocating the store in a couple of months.

Two weeks after she bought the store, Barnes went to an important swimwear market in Miami. It was her first time at market. Buying for her store. Buying for her customers.

After a whirlwind trip back to Los Angeles to pack up her belongings, she returned to the store, determined to learn everything she could about marketing, buying and being an owner.

"It was like drinking from a fire hydrant," Barnes said.

But she knew all three of her degrees — graphic design at UCO, MBA from OCU and fashion design at Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles — had prepared her for this moment.

It was a test, however. "Fashion school was so intense it kind of made my MBA school look like kindergarten," she said.

After graduating, she worked as an assistant fashion designer for two companies and the experience was eye-opening in many





Above, Megan Barnes, owner of L.A. Sun & Sport. The store is moving from Shoppes at Northpark to 14201 N May Ave. this summer. Background, L.A. Sun & Sport offers more than 20 different swimwear brands.



*Above, Loose tops and long skirts for easy summer dressing.
Right, Shannon Newby, sales specialist; Megan Barnes, owner; and
Riley Ravencraft, manager/buyer.*

ways. Most important, she refused to let situations that stifled creativity and encouragement beat her down, to steal her passion. In fact, it fueled her determination, made her stronger and ready for the challenge of being a store owner.

Since buying L.A. Sun & Sport in Shoppes at Northpark, she has added more active wear and what she calls Southern California clothing like flowy silhouettes and maxi dresses. Swimwear continues to be the focus, and she welcomes input from her manager and staff, along with customers.

"I try to buy what's best for the customer," Barnes said. Some swimwear attracts younger customers while other styles, both swim and clothing, appeal to a wide range of ages.

Swimwear isn't an easy business because the fit isn't always small, medium or large. Some of the store's swim tops go to a G cup. That's a lot of inventory and sometimes it's just



a guessing game which size customer will walk into the store.

"I want us to be able to give those girls a choice, to leave here feeling good about themselves and to look good at the pool and have the support they need," she said.

"We also have lines that try to give you a push up, that give A cups a little bit of push. We try to cover all our bases so everybody feels good when they walk out."

The staff also strives to be helpful and honest. "I told the

girls to always tell the truth. I don't want people to think we're just trying to sell to them. I want them to leave here thinking this is a bunch of their friends that they can get opinions from and feel good."

The worst thing, she said, would be for customers to comment to others that they didn't think the store fit them well.

"I want them to say 'I finally found a suit I feel good in.' I want that for them as well as for me."

Barnes likens L.A. Sun & Sport to the "Cheers" of swimwear stores. "You come in and we're all friends, and we're not going to shove stuff down your throat. The girls know hard selling is not OK with me."

Barnes has many plans for the business, including a move this summer to 14201 N May Ave., Suite 205. She expects to be open in the new location by Aug. 1.

Fashion design will come later, though much of what she learned helps when buying swim and clothing for the store. And when the time is right, she already knows patternmakers and other industry professionals. She's also adamant about being able to test drive her own designs before they hang in her store.

"That's the one thing I did learn from the industry," Barnes

said. "I didn't get into this business because I like clothes and I want to try them on and have fun. I'm doing this because of that passion I found inside myself 11 years ago."

She said she had not thought of herself as a creative person until she decided to major in graphic design. It was when she had to really think about her final presentation that she realized she wanted to own a store and design some of the clothing she would sell.

"I'm just now getting there," Barnes said. "I have goals and so many things I want to do with the company. I just have to wait until it's the right time."

She envisions her own clothing and jewelry lines. Maybe consulting for others in retail. Maybe opening up a couple of stores along California's Hermosa Beach, which doesn't have any swimwear stores.

As for those three degrees, she's putting them to good use and will continue to do so with each step and turn. The past two years have been a huge education in swimwear, she said.

For now, she's concentrating on getting the store operating like clockwork, and it's getting closer to that, she said.

"I love what I'm doing. It almost doesn't seem like work to me." ■

L.A. Sun & Sport also sells flowy maxi dresses and active wear.



Terry Zinn and the Martini Travels

Puerto Rico Martini © Terry Zinn.

MARTINIS TO GO

Photographer travels the world creating a martini portfolio

by M. J. Van DeVenter

Many people who travel collect souvenirs reminiscent of the locale they have just enjoyed. Not Terry Zinn. He prefers to scout for unusual locations around the world in which to frame his portraits of the classic Martini cocktail.

His fascination for Martinis as a photographic subject began quite innocently. He was introduced to the legendary Oklahoma artist Harold Stevenson in 1995 at an impromptu lunch in Oklahoma City.

"I found Harold to be a most interesting world traveler, with an incredible background, coming from the small town of Idabel in southeastern Oklahoma, where he still lives," Zinn said.

Stevenson led a celebrity lifestyle. He maintained homes in Paris, New York and Idabel. His paintings were exhibited in Europe and New York. He knew some of the iconic modern artists of his time ~ Andy Warhol and Jackson Pollock. One of Stevenson's paintings was featured on a cover of Life magazine in the 1950s. Much of his art is now in the permanent collection at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art in Norman.



Photographer Terry Zinn at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac (courtesy Terry Zinn).



Above, Mazatlan Mango Margarita ©Terry Zinn.

Right, Oklahoma Artist, Harold Stevenson — the inspiration for Martini Travels © Terry Zinn.

"I remember the charisma Harold exuded. He had a Martini at lunch that day and introduced me to his favorite cocktail. Now I can't help but associate Martinis with the glamour of the worldwide locations he frequented," Zinn recalls.

That first of many meetings with Stevenson led Zinn on a photographic mission ~ to depict this celebratory drink in a variety of exotic locales. In his professional career, Zinn is the photo processing manager for the Oklahoma Historical Society, a position he has held for 27 years. His leisure time passion is traveling to domestic and foreign destinations, all in quest of the perfect Martini photo.

Of course, on arrival at any of these destinations, Zinn's first assignment is scouting the area for an ideal location for a Martini photo. When the photo session is complete, Zinn can savor a Martini. If all goes well, it will be served in a proper crystal Martini glass, made with Stoli's, shaken vigorously at least 50 times, and garnished with three green olives, which Zinn will consider an appropriate appetizer.

"In my travels, I have tried to have a Martini in whatever world-wide locale I was visiting," he said. "This is not as easy as it seems. Even some of the most upscale establishments in major cities in the world do not offer a proper cocktail in an appropriate Martini glass."

Domestically, some of the Martini travel locations include Monument Valley, Santa Fe, Savannah, Chicago, Palm Springs and Washington, D.C. Abroad, he has photographed Martinis in Canada, Spain, Belize, the Galapagos Islands and numerous European settings.

"Where I find a good Martini, I usually find epicurean tastes," Zinn said. "When one can relax and contemplate the beauty and privilege of being in enviable destinations, it's only proper to give thanks with a beverage for the opportunity."

He adds, "A photograph is designed to capture a fleeting moment in time and that is what I try

to do. Of course, the resulting photograph, viewed much later at home, is a time to revel in a special moment of exceptional travel satisfaction."

Creating each photograph is often an adventure. For Zinn, it's often the perfect glass that makes the photo.

He's also learned to

improvise. In the worst of scenarios, he's had to compromise and invent what might seem an improbable setting for a Martini.

Zinn had longed to see Berlin's historic Brandenburg Gate. On a side tour from a Regent Cruise of the Baltic in 2010, his wish came true. That Martini photograph was made at the Hotel Adlon Kempinski's outdoor café near the historic gate.

"The Hotel Adlon is historically noteworthy for many things, as well as for the Michael Jackson dangling baby episode," Zinn recalled.

Sometimes language differences have made getting a good Martini photo difficult.

"Visiting the Roman aqueduct bridge of Segovia, Spain was a visual summer treat coming home from two weeks in Europe. Making time to have a Martini in an outdoor plaza near the aqueduct was my goal, passing up souvenir shopping. But Martini was not in my waitresses' vocabulary.



“Even after drawing the shape of a Martini glass, she let me know they had no such glassware. Not to be daunted, I ordered vodka with olives. To my surprise, I got a plateful of black Spanish un-pitted olives with my glass,” Zinn said.

“I should have expected such. Once in an eastern European city, I thought I ordered a Martini with three olives, and got three beers instead,” he recalled.

Recently, he has photographed Martinis against the backdrop of Sedona’s Red Rock Canyon, the Mayan ruins in Yucatan, Mexico, Boone Hall and the Trent Jones Golf Course in South Carolina. A yacht-filled harbor in Miami, Florida and a palm-studded resort in Puerto Rico were other perfect Martini photo backdrops.

Of course, this fascination with one of vodka’s most popular drinks has led Zinn on a research trail. He’s read all about its fascinating, rather muddled history, and even previewed the movies where Martinis had a starring role in the story line. Sometimes Zinn’s well-tended rose garden or his eclectic collection of art has served as a stage for his Martini photos.

Since he’s been photographing Martinis for 20 years, he has amassed quite a diverse portfolio. His large canvas prints have been featured in exhibits at 50 Penn Gallery, the Photo Art Studios in OKC’s Plaza District, and the Allied Arts’ ARTini benefit auctions.

His photographic interests are not limited to his Martini portfolio, however. Interesting locales around the state have captured this native Oklahoman’s interest. His historical photographs of Oklahoma events have been featured in the Governor’s Gallery in the Oklahoma State Capitol and the Norick Art Gallery at Oklahoma City University, his alma mater for his undergraduate degree in theater.

His photographs of The Last Pow Wow are now featured in the permanent art collection at the Oklahoma Judicial Center at the State Capitol Complex.

The Martini photographs will always be compelling and can be seen at www.martinitravel.com. Just recently, Zinn spent a weekend in Mazatlan, searching again for that perfect locale to portray this irresistible cocktail. ■



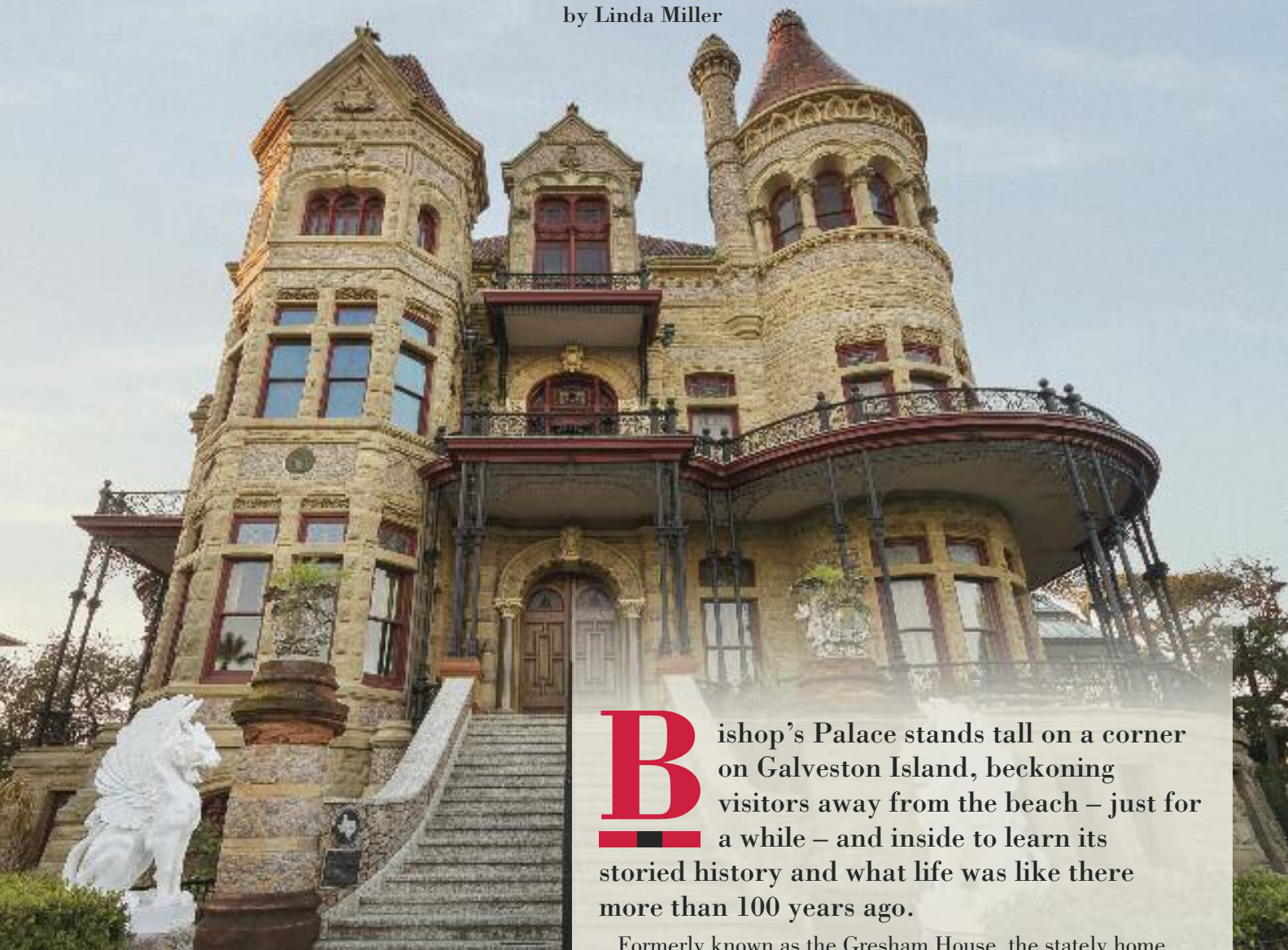
Top, Segovia Martini © Terry Zinn.

Above, Berlin Martini © Terry Zinn.

BISHOP'S PALACE

GALVESTON'S GRANDEST HOME

by Linda Miller



Bishop's Palace stands tall on a corner on Galveston Island, beckoning visitors away from the beach – just for a while – and inside to learn its storied history and what life was like there more than 100 years ago.

Formerly known as the Gresham House, the stately home was built from 1887 to 1892 for Walter Gresham, a lawyer and colonel who left Virginia following the Civil War, and his wife Josephine.

The Greshams and six of their seven children lived a grand life in a grand home, all 17,420 square feet of it. Nothing but

Bishop's Palace on Galveston Island is considered one of the most significant Victorian residences in the country. Photo from Galveston Historical Foundation.

the best found its way into the house.

Keep in mind, during that time Galveston was one of the wealthiest cities in Texas and the principal city in south Texas. Impressive homes were popping up all over the island as the wealthy tried to out build each other.

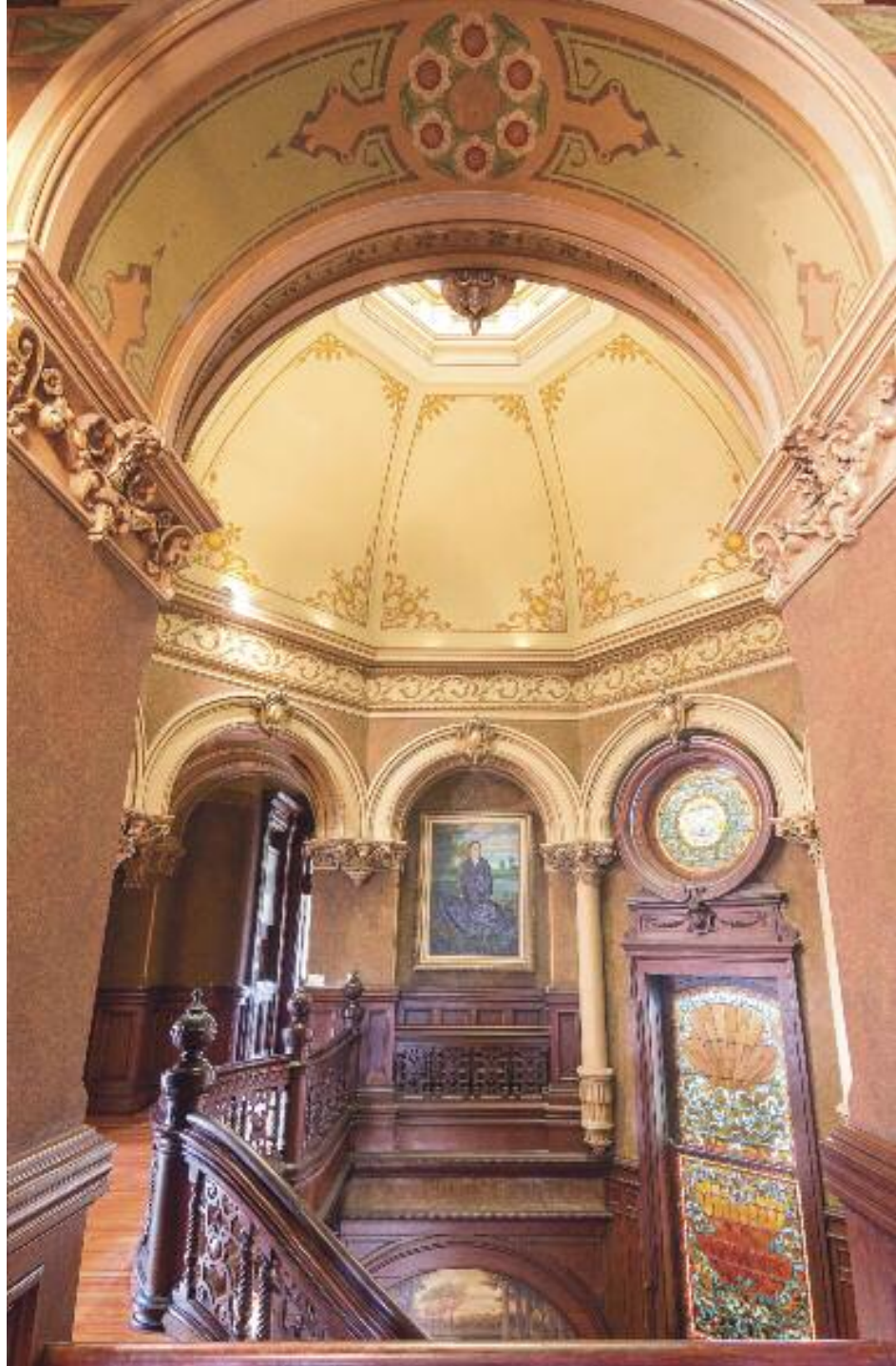
Gresham also was district attorney for Galveston and Brazoria counties and was one of the original founders of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway. He served in the Texas Legislature from 1886 to 1891.

Designed by architect Nicholas Clayton, considered Galveston's premier architect, the house is special both inside and out. Three stories over a raised basement are encased in rare woods and intricate carved ornaments. Impressive fireplaces were brought in from around the world. One fireplace is lined with silver. Sienna marble columns grace the entrance hall. Coffered ceilings rise to 14 feet on the first floor. Stained glass surrounds five sides of an octagonal mahogany stairwell that's 40 feet tall. A large octagonal skylight illuminates the staircase. Walls are 23 inches thick.

Josephine, a talented painter, left her artistic touch throughout the house, including the ceiling in the dining room.

The home's design is Victorian, but the combination of materials, cast iron galleries and complex roof system ties it to Chateausque, a style based on French Revival. Clayton, an inventive and forward-thinking architect, put his own twist on the style with irregularly shaped stone in multiple colors, steeply peaked

Intricate carvings, moldings and curved details exude richness. Coffered ceiling in the music room.
Photos from Galveston Historical Foundation.





Josephine Gresham painted the cherubs on the ceiling in the paneled dining room. Photo from Galveston Historical Foundation.

rooflines, sculptural chimneys, Tudor arches, and carvings of animals, people and creatures.

While the family lived there, lavish furnishings filled the rooms and the latest technology of the times found its way into the house. A bathtub, still on display in Mrs. Gresham's bathroom, had three spigots – one each for hot and cold water, and one for rainwater, which left the grand dame's hair especially soft.

The house was cited by the American Institute of Architects as one of the 100 most important buildings in America. The home is estimated to have cost \$250,000 when it was built. In today's dollars, it would cost more

than \$8 million. Bishop's Palace is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1900, it became a shelter for dozens of people when the Great Storm killed an estimated 6,000 to 8,000 people in Galveston. The house stood strong against the storm surge and brutal winds that exceeded 140 miles per hour.

After her husband's death in 1920, Josephine moved to Washington, D.C., and three years later the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese purchased the home for Bishop Christopher E. Byrne, thus the name. He was bishop of Sacred Heart Church across from the Gresham House



Stained glass surrounds an octagonal mahogany stairwell. Photo from Galveston Historical Foundation.

and was well known at the time for opposing the Galveston beauty pageant that evolved into the Miss Universe pageant, according to a story in the *Houston Chronicle*.

The archdiocese eventually moved to Houston and the house became a museum, later managed by the Galveston Historical Foundation. In 2013, the foundation purchased the historic Bishop's Palace from the archdiocese.

Some 65,000 visitors tour the home each year.

While the house is not lavishly furnished like it was when the Greshams resided there, its distinct

architecture, stained glass windows, opulent woodwork and beautiful appointments make up for its somewhat minimally decorated interior. Much of the furniture will be moved back in after its current stage of restoration.

So escape the beach for a couple of hours and immerse yourself in the rich history of Bishop's Palace, the island and the personal lives of the people who lived in this magnificent home.

For tours and more information about Bishop's Palace, go to galveston.com, galvestonhistory.org or call (409) 762-2475 ■

SANTA FE – THE CITY DIFFERENT

Love affair spans 50 visits for writer

by M.J. Van DeVenter





I had no idea in 1970 that I would fall in love with Santa Fe, New Mexico. I went there on a lark, mostly at the urging of an artist friend, who called it “an irresistible place.”

At that time, I was traveling often to New York, London and Paris to cover the seasonal fashion shows as an intrepid newspaper reporter. Other travels were focused on the Netherlands, where my husband at that time, had ancestral ties.

My friend suggested I stay at La Fonda, the oldest hotel in the oldest capital city in the country.

“It’s right on the Plaza, a Santa Fe landmark,” she said. “It’s close to great shopping, historic sites and restaurants. It will give you a real feel for the city.”

Since I was a novice about touring this city so foreign to me, I followed all of her suggestions precisely. Her well-crafted instructions were a great replacement for a personal tour guide.

“Be sure to see the Cathedral near La Fonda. Tour the Palace of the Governors for a sense of history,” she urged. “And you must visit with the Native Americans selling their hand-crafted jewelry in front of the Palace. They’re very interesting people.”

She reminded me to enjoy the weather - chilly in the mornings, warm and sunny in the afternoons with an occasional rain shower coupled with cool, crisp evenings.

Many visitors come to experience the pampering of a spa or food specialties like Posole, right, from a plentiful offering of restaurants.





Santa Fe Plaza music

She told me to look often at the Sangre de Cristo Mountains—her favorite painting subject—and to savor the incomparable beauty of the New Mexico sky with its voluminous clouds and spectacular sunsets.

On my first day there, I was thoroughly enchanted with the city. I was the child in the candy store. By the end of my five-day visit, I was hopelessly in love with Santa Fe. My affection has never wavered in the past 45 years and 50 visits.

Santa Fe residents call this town “the city different.” It only took one trip to discover why. There’s no place else like it in America.

Now, on annual trips to Santa Fe, I’m my own best tour guide. Sometimes I go just to relax. Most of the time I’m on the trail of a story, often about Santa Fe artists; some are now good friends.

The La Fonda Hotel, where I’ve stayed many times since that 1970 visit, is the perfect lodging to get acclimated to Santa Fe style. Its décor is a blend of southwestern and Mexican and the elegant hotel dining room, La Plazuela, is hard to beat for breakfast, lunch or dinner.

I’VE STAYED AT A VARIETY OF PLACES — bed and breakfasts, boutique hotels, a 1950s upscale motor court, elegant spas, lodges and chain hotels. For almost a decade, I enjoyed house-sitting for friends with second homes in Santa Fe or Santa Fe residents who vacationed in Europe.

For the past 15 years, I’ve stayed in a lovely residence owned by a family member in a Canyon Road compound. It’s a perfect place for entertaining the friends I’ve collected through the years. I consider them my souvenirs.

Dining out is a major part of Santa Fe’s charm. Restaurants are incredibly plentiful in this city, representing just about any nationality or ethnic fare your palate savors. It is a fluid scene, restaurants come and go. Old favorites thrive.

After all these years, I’m quite partial to the Compound on Canyon Road for a leisurely lunch, Pink Adobe’s outdoor café for an early dinner, and Bishop’s Lodge for a spectacular Sunday brunch.

If I don’t have breakfast at LaFonda or the Inn at Loretto, I enjoy the pastries and coffee at the French Bakery Shop, located within the La Fonda. I was there as a reporter to cover

its festive opening day about 35 years ago. Pasqual's, near the Plaza, serves family style - a delightful way to meet new people and make new friends. They even let my well-mannered dog dine quietly under the table.

Attending classes at several of the Santa Fe culinary schools improved my cooking skills and sharpened my interest in authentic southwestern/Mexican fare.

Art is a passion for many of Santa Fe's residents. If they aren't creating it, they're collecting or selling it. Canyon Road, once a dusty path a few blocks from town, is now home to some of the country's most famous artists. You can wander to your heart's delight on this winding narrow street, with six blocks filled with a delightful variety of art. Don't miss the little shops tucked in alleys or behind other galleries. Sometimes they feature the most unusual surprises.

The city is considered one of the three premier art markets in the world so you will find galleries in the heart of downtown, as well as the numerous shopping venues throughout the city. Aficionados of Indian art never miss the annual Indian Market, when the town's population swells overnight. This year's world-class event is scheduled August 22-23.

For 18 years, I was the publications director for the National

Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City so museums are always on my Santa Fe agenda. Museum Hill wasn't developed when I first started visiting. Now it's a great place to spend a day, have lunch and enjoy the mountain views.

You can tour the Wheelwright for Indian artifacts, the International Folk Art Museum for a global look at toys and ethnic celebrations, the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture and the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art. Exhibits change frequently, making return visits compelling.

Downtown, the small Georgia O'Keeffe Museum is a jewel. O'Keeffe's was truly an iconoclast. In this small museum, visitors learn her fascinating story and marvel at her art, which was inspired by New Mexico's awesome landscape.

Nearby, the Allan Houser Gallery shows the work of this preeminent late Native American artist, whose 100th birthday was celebrated by numerous museums last year, honoring his vast artistic achievements.

The renovated rail yards area is a relative newcomer to the tourist scene with restaurants, shops, galleries and a museum. A commuter train now shuttles between the rail yards and Albuquerque, offering tourists there an opportunity

Fly-fishing on the Pecos River





for a day trip to Santa Fe.

By strolling – the best way to get in the spirit of Santa Fe – will introduce you to many of the 200 art galleries in the city. Shops selling fashion, jewelry, home furnishings and all manner of souvenirs are abundant and enticing.

I love that Santa Fe is 405 years old this year and that it still keeps changing and evolving. It's grown considerably since 1970 so I find something new to see every time I visit. I've learned that exploring in Santa Fe is like a great treasure hunt. On my 50th visit, I was determined to see something new and different every day, an itinerary that yielded numerous pleasant experiences.

In many ways, the city has been like a touchstone for me. It's provided a place of solace when life seemed troubling. It's been a place of rejoicing when life events called for celebrations. On each visit, I've learned more about the city, and in some ways, more about myself.

In the course of 50 visits, I've also made some fabulous friends – so easy to do in Santa Fe if you're open to new acquaintances, especially those who love sharing diverse cultural experiences with visitors.

I often marvel that I never moved to Santa Fe. I thought

about it often enough. And once, I almost bought a condo in the southwest area of the city. But the reality check of two mortgages squelched that idea.

And what if I had moved to Santa Fe?

Where would I go now to enjoy the renewing experiences I've always discovered in this fascinating city, so rich with its heritage and grand melting pot of multi-cultural opportunities?

I love foreign travel. France, Italy, Mexico, Germany, Austria, Ireland and Holland have been favorites on my roster of international destinations. But Santa Fe is the closest you can come to being in a foreign country, right here in the United States, without needing a visa or a passport.

One of my favorite singers, Tony Bennett, may have left his heart in San Francisco. Mine has been in Santa Fe for almost 50 years. ■

M. J. Van Deventer has been a newspaper reporter and magazine editor for 45 years. She is the co-author of three books on French Country design with Charles Faudree, and the author of *Western Design, Modern Country and Native American Style*, written with Elmo Baca, a former Santa Fe resident.

Oklahoma City Community College

2015-16 PERFORMING ARTS SERIES



OCTOBER

The Texas Tenors

Thursday, October 1, 2015 • 7:30PM

Unique blend of Country, Classical, and Broadway



Doc Severinsen with the OKC Jazz Orchestra

Monday, October 26, 2015 • 7:30PM

Pop, jazz, ballads, big band classics, and of course, *The Tonight Show* theme



NOVEMBER

Los Angeles Guitar Quartet

Thursday, November 12, 2015 • 7:30PM

Works from contemporary and world-music realms



DECEMBER

A Melinda Doolittle Christmas

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 • 7:30PM

Charming *American Idol* finalist with a powerhouse voice



JANUARY 2016

Rhonda Vincent and The Rage

Friday, January 22, 2016 • 7:30PM

The Queen of Bluegrass

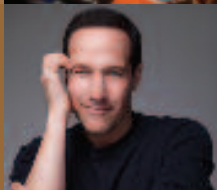


FEBRUARY

Los Lobos/Ballet Folklorico Mexicano

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 • 7:30PM

A celebration of Mexican-American heritage through imagery, dance, and music



MARCH

Jim Brickman: The Platinum Tour

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 • 7:30PM

The best selling pianist of our time, celebrating 20 years



APRIL

Kid Koala's Nufonia Must Fall

Friday, April 8, 2016 • 7:30PM

Magical, multi-disciplinary theatre experience



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Visual and Performing Arts Center
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Oklahoma City, OK 73159

Season Subscriptions and Flex Passes Now on Sale
Single Tickets On Sale: August 1, 2015
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visit www.occc.edu/pas



Gifts for Graduates

That Earn You an A+

By Ginger Daril

It can be said that technology is the new “textbook.”

This ever-evolving organism provides students a window into any world they want to explore – from science to art, and engineering to mathematics. Toddlers begin learning on tablets at young ages, exploring shapes and colors while developing a love for reading and games. Technology is now a part of children’s development and ongoing education, preparing them for the school classroom where even more technology awaits them.

A growing number of schools acknowledge the role technology plays in early learners. Many have implemented a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program, which encourages students to research material in the classroom to better engage them in subjects, while also training students on what a valuable resource technology is. Technology will only continue to advance, and students young and old need to stay ahead of the curve.

As students graduate to the next level, parents should consider a gift that will benefit their child in the next phase of their education.



Samsung Galaxy S6



Mophie Juice Pack Plus

The switch from elementary to junior high is a big step in students' lives. Give them a graduation gift that will help them during their transition. Students can use **BeatsSolo 2 On-Ear Headphones** to listening to music, a podcast or book on tape on the bus ride to school. Junior high means students are becoming more responsible. Help them out with the **iHome Clock Radio** to make sure they wake up for school on time. Also, a tablet like a **Verizon Ellipsis 8** or the **Samsung Galaxy Tab** will help your new middle school-er start on the right foot.

When students transition from junior high to high school, they are becoming young adults. A tablet will help them with their studies and keep track of notes and homework assignments. Schools are increasingly allowing high school students to bring their own devices for lessons and a personal tablet will help them stay organized while helping them develop technology skills.

Sometimes students need to tune out noises in order to study. Give them the **BoseQuietComfort 20i Headphones** for top-quality sound to block outside noise. High school students are on the go all the time and need to count on a dependable phone. Upgrading them to a new **Samsung Galaxy S6** or **Motorola Droid Turbo** will keep them connected to mom and dad and will be an incentive to continue those good grades.

Graduating high school is a big accomplishment. College is the start of adulthood. Students are away from home for the first time, so make sure they have a **Mophie Juice Pack Plus** for their smartphone to eliminate any "dead battery" excuses when parents call to check in. Tablets help students with schoolwork, but can also double as a movie player and TV. College accessories are all about multi-use. No dorm room is complete without a wireless speaker such as the **Jawbone Mini Jambox** for relaxing on the weekends so they're well rested for the next exam.

These gifts are a great way to show how much you appreciate your graduate and his or her accomplishments. They also offer mom and dad a little peace of mind in knowing that their student is well-equipped for the next school year.

Ginger Daril is employed by Verizon Oklahoma.



Jawbone Mini Jambox



Ciao, Bella!

With renovations and innovations, Bellini's is serving up a big dose of fantastico.

By Kanna Deutsch
Photos by Lauren Wright

My parents used to have this wooden sign hung up above our kitchen counter that read, “If you’re afraid of butter, use cream.”

The quote is a line from culinary chef Julia Child that they heard while watching reruns of her cooking show on PBS. Bellini's Ristorante and Grill is not afraid to use butter. Or cream. The chefs generously drizzle both onto each plate that is slid in front of you and then ask if you would like fresh Parmesan on top.

The atmosphere of the entire restaurant is meticulously crafted even in the hallway leading to the black wrought iron gate that opens onto the main dining room. There are



Jean D'ylean and Leonetto Cappiello posters lining the hall and sepia photos of archways I cannot recognize. I ordered the ravioli fungi entrée and bread pudding dessert. The food is great. The ravioli is creamy and stuffed with sautéed mushrooms, while the bread pudding is rich, sweet and oozing chocolate. Of course, at a restaurant such as this one you expect the food to be great.

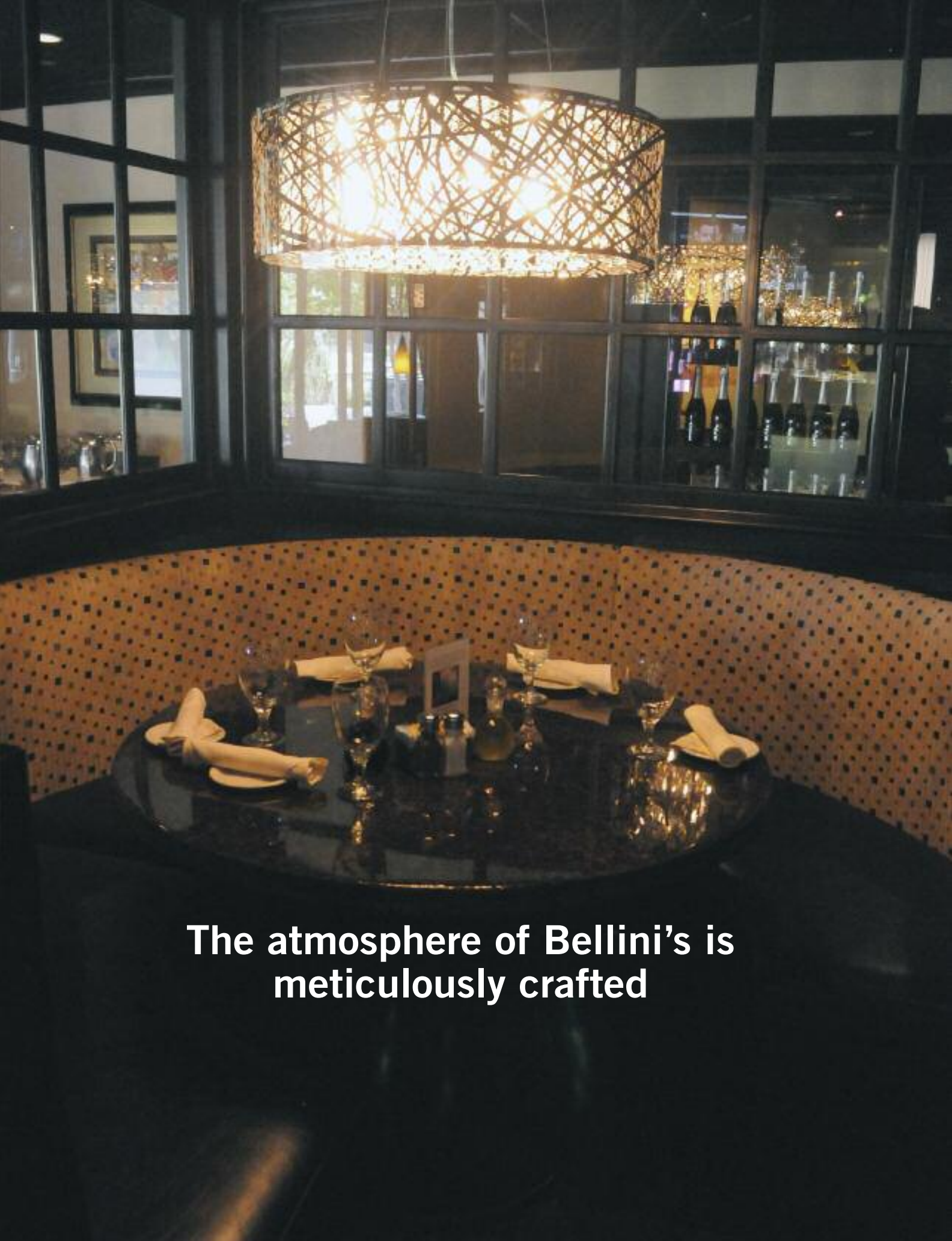
What was unexpected was the service. It was the kind of service where each server views you as his or her charge. Your glass is filled and your empty dishes removed by anyone on the team who is nearby. It leaves one feeling pampered.

Waiting for my table in the bar area, I sit across from a Chanel tweed suit who is animatedly



Al fresco dining reaches new heights at Bellini's.





**The atmosphere of Bellini's is
meticulously crafted**



conversing with a Michael Kors quilted leather handbag. On my left is a roundtable of suits clinking their scotch glasses together. However, next to them sits a pair of cargo shorts and baseball cap enjoying a family meal with his wife and son.

Owners Alain and Michelle Buthion previously lived for a time in Italy and draw inspiration for their restaurant from that experience. Alain, who is also the head chef, revamps the menu several times a year in order to keep the selection fresh. New items appear depending on what's in season and old items are updated with new ideas, often times incorporating customer suggestions.

Al fresco dining reaches new heights at Bellini's. The patio over-looking the pond and fountain on Pennsylvania Avenue, with wisteria covering the wooden trellises overhead, creates a one-of-a-kind ambiance. Recent renovations and updates

on the patio include a circular fire pit. Can you say, romantic? Hello cooler, perfect-for-dining-outside weather, we missed you.

Bellini's has been in business since 1990 and won the Diner's Choice Award from OpenTable.com in 2010. Their signature cocktail is the Bellini, which is made with peach nectar, cognac, and champagne. All desserts are crafted in-house, save for the "sinsation", Italian cream cake, and chocolate mousse cake. One of their well-known desserts is the tiramisu, which the restaurant serves in a coffee cup. Celebrities, such as Paul McCartney, Mick Jagger, and Tori Amos have all sat at the coffee-colored booths, while enjoying the soft music that plays through the sound system overhead. Unlike the geese in the picturesque pond, penny-pinchers and dieters won't be flocking to Bellini's, but every once in a while, isn't it nice to "live and let die?" ■

Dugout canoe exhibit extended

Exploring the vessel's history and importance

By Linda Miller



SULPHUR - Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur is one of the state's many must-see attractions, drawing more than 300,000 visitors since it opened in 2010.

It's a celebration of Chickasaw history and culture and the largest single-tribe cultural center in the nation.

That's reason enough for a visit, but here's one more. "Dugout Canoes: Paddling Through the Americas," an exhibit on loan from Florida, has been extended through Sept. 27.

Skillfully crafted dugout canoes allowed Native Americans to explore beyond their immediate surroundings and haul furs and other goods to trade markets.

In 2000, a cache of ancient dugout canoes was found by a group of high school students from Gainesville, Fla. It is believed to be the largest discovery of its kind.

What looked like logs, barely visible in a drought-stricken lake, turned out to be 101 dugout canoes,

Brad Deramus looks at a bald cypress tree canoe more than 26-feet long constructed by Chickasaws in 1500. Photo from Chickasaw Nation.



A 400-year-old pine dugout canoe. Photo from Chickasaw Nation.

many intact but buried too deep and on top of each other to be safely removed. Lab tests showed the canoes were 500 to 5,000 years old.

That discovery led to the exhibit, which opened first in Florida. It explores the history and importance of the vessel.

While none of the canoes discovered in the lake are included in the Chickasaw Cultural Center exhibit, remnants from that find and others in the area are on view. A video and display also highlight the Florida discovery and its significance.

One of the showpieces is a 400-year-old pine dugout canoe. Tools to make the vehicles — some dating to 600 A.D. — are also on display. Making a canoe was a lengthy process, from taking down a tree, working weeks to burn, carve and scrap the interior and then finish it so it was water worthy. Guides are available to answer questions and explain tools and techniques.

Visitors can touch many of the display items, feel the texture and see what could be accomplished with primitive



tools. Stones, paddles and fishing gear are included in the exhibit.

A century old dugout canoe that has been preserved with Fiberglass is especially tempting for children, who can shed their shoes, step in and imagine paddling down a river.

Interactive stations allow visitors to use a stencil to decorate their own paddle and create a rubbing of a Mayan image showing the “paddler Gods.”

Displayed in the art gallery away from the main dugout exhibit is a huge canoe estimated to be 514 years old. Discovered intact and preserved from a swamp in the Mississippi Delta, it is on loan from the Department of Mississippi Archives and History to complement the exhibit.

The 26-foot-long canoe weighs more than 1,000 pounds and is made from a single bald cypress tree.

The Chickasaw Cultural Center is at 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Drive in Sulphur. For more information, call (580) 622-7130 or go to chickasawculturalcenter.com. ■

Brad Deramus, director of operations for the Chickasaw Cultural Center, touches a centuries-old remnant of a dugout canoe found by Florida high schools students in 2000. Photo from Chickasaw Nation.



This old canoe is preserved with Fiberglass so children can step in for pictures. Photo by Linda Miller



Band of the Royal Marines
-Feb 14



An Evening With
Joshua Bell
-Oct 22



Moscow Festival Ballet
Cinderella • Jan 25, *Sleeping Beauty* • Jan 26

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RANDALL GREEN



ARMSTRONG AUDITORIUM ANNOUNCES 2015-16 PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

Armstrong Auditorium continues diverse collection of international performances



Photo by Marc Hom.

Violinist Joshua Bell launches the Armstrong Auditorium with a performance on October 22.

The Armstrong International Cultural Foundation continues its mission of presenting world-class performances to central Oklahoma audiences with the announcement of its 2015-2016 Performing Arts Series. The series showcases an eclectic mix of talent from around the world the entire family will enjoy.

Armstrong's 17th performing arts season kicks off with the superstar classical violinist Joshua Bell—a Grammy winner who was recently named music director of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields. Another legend—conductor Gerard Schwartz—will take his New York Mozart Orchestra through the composer's last three symphonies in an all-Mozart program.

Adding an international musical flair, the Grammy-winning Mariachi Los Camperos will explore Mexico's most beloved folk songs while the military bands and pipes, drums and highland dancers of Her Majesty's Scots Guard appear for a return engagement sure to delight the entire family.

The series also features Grammy Award-winning cellist Sara Sant'Ambrogio in a program titled Chopin on the Cello, and an all-Beethoven program presented by the Polish-Baltic Philharmonic featuring Beethoven's beloved Fifth Symphony.

The series includes Oklahoma-based jazz musician Mark Jenkins and ends with the Edmond-based Herbert W. Armstrong College Choral Union accompanied by professional orchestra performing Song of Songs, a new composition by Ryan Malone which vibrantly brings to life the text of King Solomon's Song of Songs.

"We are looking forward to another year of great performances from our diverse season line up," said Shane Granger, marketing director for Armstrong Auditorium.



*Sara Sant'Ambrogio will
perform Chopin on the cello
at the Armstrong Auditorium
January 26, 2016.*



Mark Jenkins will play jazz on November 5th at the Armstrong Auditorium

“From local Oklahoma talent, to Grammy Award-winners and even some returning favorites, the 2015-16 series is sure to bring in audiences with a variety of musical and performance passions.

Three- and five-performance FlexPass packages are available to create personalized subscriptions, saving 10 percent and 15 percent off of regular ticket prices, respectively.

A full-season subscription not only ensures great seats for each performance, but also ensures a host of additional benefits including 20 percent off ticket prices to all season performances, preferred seating in advance of the general public, free and easy ticket exchanges and access to the exclusive subscriber pre-paid parking lot. Full season packages start as low as \$218 for balcony seating and \$549 for orchestra seating for all ten events.

To subscribe to the Armstrong Auditorium 2015-16 Performing Arts Series call 405-285-1010 or visit ArmstrongAuditorium.org starting June 1st. Single event tickets go on sale July 1.

Groups of 20 or more may be eligible to receive a \$5 discount off the original ticket price. Please contact the box office for more information.

Armstrong Auditorium 2015-2016 Performing Arts Series

An Evening With Joshua Bell, violin

Thu, Oct 22, 7:30 p.m.

Mark Jenkins

My Favorite Jazz

Thu, Nov 5, 7:30 p.m.

Mozart Orchestra of New York

The Last Three Mozart Symphonies

Thu, Nov 19, 7:30 p.m.

Sara Sant’Ambrogio

Chopin on the Cello

Thu, Jan 14, 7:30 p.m.

Moscow Festival Ballet

Cinderella

Mon, Jan 25, 7:30 p.m.

Sleeping Beauty

Tue, Jan 26, 7:30 p.m.

Mariachi Los Camperos

Thu, Feb 4, 7:30 p.m.

Band of Royal Marines and Scots Guards

Sun, Feb 14, 7:30 p.m.

Polish Baltic Philharmonic

Beethoven’s Fifth

Thu, Mar 3, 7:30 p.m.

Herbert W. Armstrong College Choral Union

Song of Songs, by Ryan Malone

Thu, Apr 7, 7:30 p.m.

SHANE GRANGER SELECTED AS 2015 GOLD STAR AWARD RECIPIENT

Armstrong Auditorium Marketing Director receives top honor

Armstrong Auditorium marketing director Shane Granger has been honored as the recipient of the 2015 Certified Tourism Ambassador Gold Star by the Greater Oklahoma City Area CTA program.

The CTA program is a national certification aimed at equipping Oklahoma City locals to be ambassadors to visitors through training in local knowledge and tourist engagement practices.

Each year, the Gold Star is awarded to a CTA who exemplifies excellence in hospitality and customer service through their work in the Oklahoma City area. The CTA program recognized Granger's high levels of visitor engagement, strong knowledge of the region and consistent use of feedback to improve each guest experience at Armstrong Auditorium.

"Shane believes in training the auditorium staff to provide an exceptional experience to all guests," said Cathy Williams-White, director of the Edmond Convention and Visitors Bureau. "He is spot-on in his product knowledge and presentation, and he transfers that intentional level of excellence to his staff."

Terry Lanham, marketing coordinator for the Edmond Convention and Visitors Bureau, said Granger's

dedication to his field makes him an asset to the Oklahoma City CTA community.

"Shane regularly participates in CTA functions and has made it important to be informed about other tourism products in the metro area," said Lanham. "He fully understands the value of networking, partnering and working together cooperatively."

Granger received a trophy at the Oklahoma City Convention and Visitor's Bureau Hometown Heroes awards banquet on May 6.

About the CTA Program

Certification is achieved after completing required reading and learning assignments, attending a half-day classroom session and passing an open-book examination. There is a one-time non-refundable, non-transferable application fee of \$49.

CTAs are required to renew annually, and the renewal fee is \$15. The renewal of certification process strengthens the CTA designation by encouraging all CTAs to grow their skills and expand their knowledge base from year-to-year. CTAs can earn renewal points from fun activities including visiting attractions, attending CTA networking events, volunteering and more. Program details can be found at www.CTANetwork.com. ■



SUMMER FILM PREVIEWS

Mad Max: Fury Road

AN ACTION MOVIE, boiled down, is a collection of set pieces — big moments of adrenaline that justify the ticket price. Examples include a chase scene, an explosive finale, and a big fight between your stars.

“Mad Max: Fury Road” is three chase scenes connected by deliciously pulpy sci-fi sinew.

And it’s two hours long. The purity of our characters’ goals (survival) and their mission (escape) allow us to embrace the mythic nature of the cinematic epinephrine.

Director George Miller’s fourth entry in the Mad Max saga continues the legend of Max, not with complex continuity or a complicated plot, but by being the perfect Cirque du Soleil of action movies.

Release: May 15, 2015 Rated: R



Tomorrowland

DIRECTOR BRAD BIRD is an opinionated guy. *The Incredibles*, *Iron Giant* — the guy knows what he wants to say with his movies, even if they’re aimed towards kids. Tomorrowland promises more philosophizing wrapped in a package of youthful appeal.

George Clooney leads a tale of secrecy, hope, and wonder that strikes at the heart of Disney.

The effects and production design throw back to 1950s predictions about the future (chrome architecture and jetpacks), which makes me think it’ll be a fictional exploration of Walt Disney’s childlike optimism.

Release Date: May 22, 2015 Rated: PG



Jurassic World

Despite a history of their guests becoming a 24/7 human buffet, the cold-hearted corporate moneygrubbers behind Jurassic Park insist on reopening it.

Now it's up to gruff (and from the previews, unfortunately sexist) Chris Pratt to save the day/shoot some dinosaurs.

Of course the big point of it all will remain that Man must not interfere with Nature. But obviously we also want to see some people get chomped before coming to that conclusion.

As much as the inner 10-year old in me wants to be excited for more dinosaurs, I'm not sure anything in this new addition could capture the first wondrous moment we saw Spielberg's T-Rex.

But I also don't think that's what it's going for.

Release Date: June 12, 2015 Rated: PG-13

Me And Earl And The Dying Girl

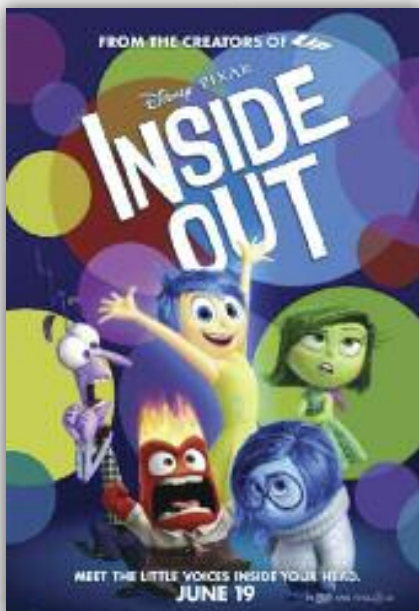
THE WINNER OF BOTH the Audience and Grand Jury Awards for Drama at Sundance, "Me And Earl And The Dying Girl" invests the young adult narrative of befriending a terminal peer with the indie spirit of the new generation.

Two high school friends that make low-budget movies befriend a girl with leukemia. They decide to make a film for her. Hearts are subsequently warmed.

But don't get all cynical yet. There's a reason Sundance loved this film.

If you want something charming, poignant, and resonant to see with your high schooler, this is the movie for you. It's a movie for young adults without a franchise-building money machine around it.

Release Date: June 12, 2015 Rating: PG-13



Inside Out

PIXAR'S BACK! Finally, a respite from "Cars" sequels and unexpected "Toy Story" sobbing.

But if you think you're escaping the story of anthropomorphized emotions inhabiting the mind of a little girl without shedding a few tears, you don't know Pixar.

Fun enough for kids and timelessly rich enough for adults, "Inside Out" places us in with an uprooted family moving for a new job.

Isolation, change, and upheaval speak to audience members of all ages. So will Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust and Sadness's journey to discovering the bright side of life.

Release Date: June 19, 2015 Rating: PG

Terminator Genisys

THERE'S NO WAY this will be good, right?

A rehash of a rehash of the same story the Terminator crew has been hocking for the better part of three decades.

A robot from the future has to come to the present to stop another robot from killing a woman that has a robot helping her escape from other robots?

And of course, Schwarzenegger's back. He's always back.

I think maybe you've gotten in a little over your head, "Terminator Genisys."

And that's not how you spell Genesis. Why...why would you even do that?

Release Date: July 1, 2015 Rating: PG-13



Self/Less

ONE OF THOSE AMBITIOUS sci-fi films that feels like a short story from the '70s, "Self/Less" continues the tradition of asking "What if..."

What if you didn't have to die? What if you could get a new, hot body? A body that, perhaps, looks exactly like Ryan Reynolds?

But of course, there's trouble. Perfectly chiseled movie star bodies don't grow on trees. They have to be taken, stolen from other lives.

I want to give "Self/Less" the benefit of the doubt because it's an original sci-fi flick with an OK premise and a terrible title.

But those are exactly the kinds of films that end up flopping at the box office.

Release Date: July 10, 2015 Rating: PG-13



The Stanford Prison Experiment

THE DRAMATIZED TRUE STORY that every college kid reads about in their intro psychology class, "The Stanford Prison Experiment" demonstrates how upsettingly damaged people are when given the opportunity.

Split arbitrarily into two groups (prisoners and guards), volunteer test subjects begin suffering from their changing dynamic. Guards embrace their

newfound power, prisoners become subservient.

The declination of the experiment into madness is a trip both fascinating and terrifying.

Watch as your faith in humanity is demolished by a bunch of college kids in a basement, and catch an early screening of it at our very own deadCenter Film Festival.



Release Date: July 17, 2015 or June 12 at deadCenter Film Festival **Rating:** Likely R

Ant-Man

WITH A NAME LIKE “Ant-Man” and the equally unthreatening power of shrinkage, you know this movie will have to be aware of its own silliness.

Luckily they’ve got the star for it, as Paul Rudd’s goofy pedigree is ripe for a superhero that self-deprecates more than fights.

Directorial and writing struggles during production of the film may have left it with some unevenness, but the less serious they take themselves, the better.

If the jokes land, so will “Ant-Man.”

Release Date: July 17, 2015 **Rating:** PG-13

Fantastic Four

ON THE OTHER SIDE of the self-serious spectrum is the new “Fantastic Four.”

Just look at those grimaces.

The reboot of the oldest super group in history has a stellar cast of young actors, but will they be enough to convince audiences that they bring a new voice to the Marvel-dominated super-landscape?

I’m willing to put my money behind the cast. A few moments from the previews have hinted at a joking rapport between team members that could serve as much-needed levity.

If the serious moments and plot find their footing, this could be a big opportunity for four successful stars on the rise.

Release Date: August 7, 2015 **Rating:** PG-13



Jacob Oller is an Oklahoma City-based film critic and blogger whose work has been published by multiple journals and news publications. Read more on his blog ShouldIWatchReviews.com or follow him on Twitter @JacobOller

BOOK BUZZ:

The power of love, not love stories

by Lucie Smoker

How much of yourself will you give up for the people you care about? When they are threatened, where do you find the strength to defend them? Love's powerhouse lies in the human soul of an individual. One person, not a couple. It fuels romance and the ability to love, yes, but this month's books bring out love's awesomeness. In the face of adversity, love kicks butt.

YOUNG ADULT FANTASY

An Ember in the Ashes by Sabaa Tahir

Under the brutal Martial Empire, 12-year-old Laia and her older brother, Darin, wouldn't dare make any trouble. They've seen entire families of those who rebelled suffer for the disloyalty of one. So when Laia finds Darin's notebook filled with sketches of the Martial weapons facility, she's furious. When legionnaires bang on the door, she's terrified. And when they threaten her grandparents, the people who have loved, cared for and protected them since the death of their parents, Laia gives them the one thing she thinks will save Nan and Pop, the sketchbook. It doesn't save them.

But even as Darin is beaten and taken away to be tortured, he creates an opportunity for Laia to escape. She can never forgive herself for taking it.

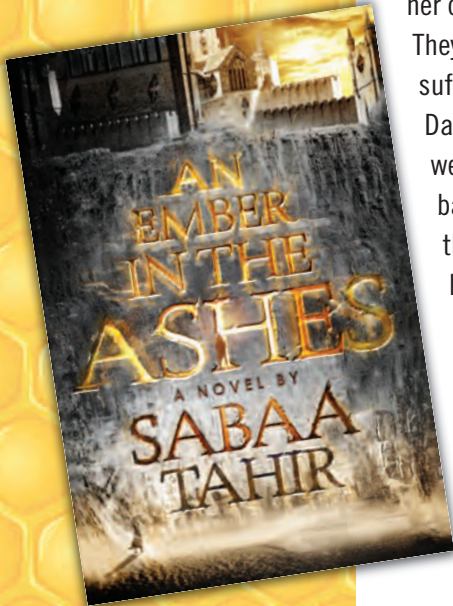
"Life is made of so many moments that mean nothing. Then one day, a single moment comes along to define every second that comes after. The moment Darin called out—that was such a moment. It was a test of courage, of strength. And I failed it."

This story kept me fully engaged from page one. I dislike books written in present tense, but loved it anyway. I'm annoyed by stories written from multiple perspectives, but couldn't put this down. So many YA fantasy stories center on romance, but this one centers on a different sort of passion: the love between siblings.

The best part is watching the central character, Laia, using her own weakness as a foundation for magnificent strength. Highest recommendation with a warning: you must clear a sizable chunk of time before starting it.



Sabaa Tahir



CHRISTIAN FICTION

***Return to Quail Crossing* by Oklahoma author, Jennifer McMurrain**

When Evalyn Brewer returns to her 1940s Texas hometown, she has a new baby girl, Joy, in tow. She has no husband. And she's pretty sure that most of the town outside of her adopted family will have a problem with that. Then Mr. Robert Smith, a man she knows to have impeccable character, offers a solution:

"Let's call a turnip a turnip, shall we? You need a husband. Joy will never be accepted fully into this community without a pa, and we both know it. And I need a wife ... not in the Biblical sense. I need help on the homestead."

What Smith doesn't realize is that Evalyn has another secret. A secret that might tear them both apart at the heartstrings.

This book is filled with people who don't always do what you think they will do. It's sort of like going to a genteel family gathering, swaying on the porch swing, and sharing secrets. Don't mind the old goose. He only bites. I recommend it highly.



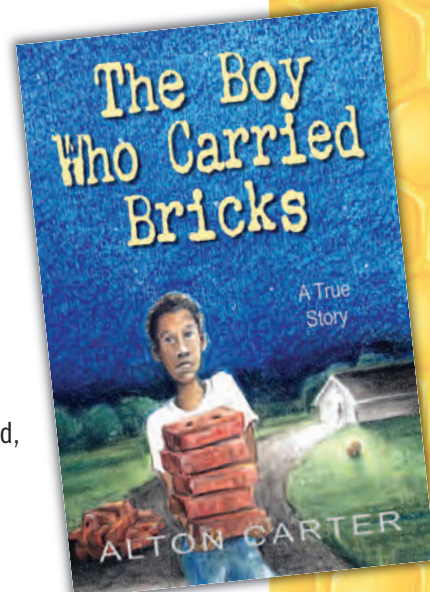
YOUNG ADULT AUTOBIOGRAPHY

***The Boy Who Carried Bricks: A True Story of Survival* by Stillwater author and minister, Alton Carter**

Some children are born into stable homes filled with love and hope, others into the absence of both. We don't know what causes some of them to overcome abuse and others to become our worst nightmare.

Alton Carter lived through his own abusive family and multiple foster homes, including one where he carried bricks until he dropped. But this story is about rising. Carter clung to the tiniest shreds of hope even when his dignity was stripped away.

If you read to discover new ideas, new worlds to broaden your own, you may find that this one from Edmond's Roadrunner Press does something even greater. You'll hate the story so much you can't stop reading. But when finished, you just might set down the book with the unavoidable desire to reach out and love a child. Recommended to share with a young teen.



Lucie Smoker is a freelance writer, Oklahoma mom and author of suspense novel, *Distortion* from Buzz Books USA. More at luciesmoker.wordpress.com.

JRB Art at The Elms BEST OF THE WEST

“Best of the West,” a powerful exhibition of three nationally recognized artists, Joe Andoe, Billy Schenck and Bert Seabourn, who paint the essence of the American Southwest, will open 6 p.m. Friday, June 5 at JRB Art at The Elms in the Paseo Arts District.

The exhibit will also be featured during the Gallery’s annual Prix de West Brunch on Sunday, June 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Both events are free and open to the public. These exhibits will be on display through June 27.

A solo painting of a large white horse, by **Joe Andoe**, which measure 72” high and 142” wide, will be featured in JRB’s Broadmoor Gallery. Andoe, who is part Cherokee, was born into a farming family in Tulsa. He earned a Master’s of Fine Arts degree from the University of Oklahoma and has lived and worked in New York since 1985. His simple and elegant images of animals and landscapes and the soulful sensitivity in the interpretations of his subjects refer to his roots in the Great Plains. Andoe’s paintings are represented in the permanent collections of: the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; the Museum of Fine Art, Boston; and the San Diego Museum of Contemporary.



Above, Standing Horse by Joe Andoe.

Left, A Day in July by Billy Schenck



Billy Schenck lived and worked in New York City in the 1970’s amid Andy Warhol’s entourage and the Pop Art scene. While there, Western movie stills inspired a series of paintings that catapulted Schenck to fame. Appropriating “Cowboy and Indian” icons with a Pop Art sensibility, Schenck set in motion an entire genre—Contemporary Western Art.

In the decades that followed, his work has been showcased in more than 100 solo shows and



included in the permanent collection of 41 museums worldwide.

"I use the deserts and denizens of the Southwest as a point of departure," he said. "The landscapes and the figures that pass through these late-dusk settings become metaphors for an earlier time. Through these figures, I hope to evoke an ionic essence of what it was like to live and die in 19th century American Southwest." A genuine cowboy himself, Schenck is a ranch-sorting world champion and the proprietor of the Double Standard Ranch in Santa Fe, New Mexico, which has been his home for the past two decades.

Internationally acclaimed expressionist painter, printmaker, sculptor, author and teacher, **Bert Seabourn** is the recipient of several notable honors. In 1976 he was designated as Master Artist by the Five Civilized Tribes in Muskogee, OK. In 1981, he received the Oklahoma Governor's Art Award. Oklahoma City University awarded him an Honorary Doctorate of Human Letters. His works are in private and public collections worldwide including The Vatican Museum of Religious Art in Rome; The National Palace Museum in Taiwan; the Smithsonian Museum of National History, Washington, D.C.; The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, The President Gerald Ford Library; The Oklahoma City Museum of Art, and the private collection of George and Barbara Bush.

An active octogenarian, Seabourn continues to experiment with color, style and technique. The innovations in his work continually surprises and delights the viewer.

*Top. Raton Ridge by Billy Schenck
Bottom, Wolfe Robe by Bert Seabourn.*



As The Crow Flies by Bert Seabourn.

Works by Judy Kelley at right, top to bottom,

LARGE RED BOWL, 2015 – Pine Needles, Mixed Media on Gourd, 9 x 12 in.

LORDS OF THE PLAIN, 2015 – Pine Needles, Mixed Media on Gourd, 11 x 9 in.

MONTANA SKIES, 2015 – Pine Needles, Mixed Media on Gourd, 19 x 8 1/2 in.

“Best of the West” will also feature the pine needled gourd art of **Judy Kelley**. A native Oklahoman, Kelley’s work is imbued with a passion for the cultures and colors of the Southwest. Each piece is as individual as the gourd themselves. Tightly woven coils of pine needles follow the edges of her cut gourds, sometime creating a wide rim on a wood-burned and boldly colored pot and at other times suggesting a delicate, multi-strand neckline on a subtle, more feminine piece painted with inks. Kelley is a journalism graduate of the University of Oklahoma and was a reporter, writer and editor for newspapers, public officials and non-profit, corporate and public institutions before retiring in 2011 to pursue her art.

JRB Art at The Elms is located at 2810 N. Walker and is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sundays from 1-5 p.m. ■



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Lupus: An overlooked disease

by Mindy Ragan Wood

More than 1 million Americans and at least 5 million people worldwide have a form of Lupus, according to the Lupus Foundation of America.

Those numbers are even more shocking when comparing the number of breast cancer cases recorded by Center for Disease Control at 220,097 cases in 2011. More women are being diagnosed with a form of Lupus than breast cancer.

Ninety percent of all cases diagnosed are women, with higher rates among African Americans and Native Americans.

The autoimmune disease can be diagnosed as early as 3 years of age, but more commonly is found from ages 15 to 44.

The most common signs of Lupus are repeated bouts of flu like symptoms with aching and swelling muscles and joints. Other symptoms include extreme fatigue, chest pains, hair loss, mouth or nose ulcers, sensitivity to light, and a butterfly rash across the nose and cheeks.

Like other autoimmune disorders, Lupus attacks healthy skin tissue, resulting in inflammation. Because it may erode organ tissue, Lupus can

result in death. With early diagnosis and proper treatment, most patients can live a full life.

The Lupus Foundation of Oklahoma focuses on education and awareness, support groups, and raising funds for research.

"We are the first point of contact for women who are diagnosed with the disease," said Mannix Barnes, chief executive officer and president of the Oklahoma group. "They're trying to find solutions and we try to point them in the right direction. We do health fairs, symposiums and support

groups. We need more people getting involved, more money for research to find a cure."

Newly diagnosed patients are overwhelmed by the devastating ripple effect of symptoms and other illnesses: arthritis, kidney failure, pleurisy, heart conditions, even blood vessel injury and seizures.

Support groups help families cope with the new normal: constant doctor appointments, missed work, medication and therapies, and interpersonal changes in family dynamics.

The side effects of steroids, a common treatment, are particularly difficult for women.





Foundation, one of the leading research institutes in the nation and probably the leader in finding a cure. OMRF works on a daily basis to find a cure for Lupus. We've got some of the best research scientists around and I really believe if we do find a cure, it will be here in Oklahoma because of OMRF," he said.

May was Lupus awareness and advocacy month.

"Lindsay Harris did our speech for the legislature and you could have heard a pin drop, it was that impactful," Barnes said. "We try to do our part at the legislature in diverting funds to the OMRF, to educate legislators. We try to put a face in front of them and I believe they understand it more since we began speaking with them 5 years ago. They want to help."

The Oklahoma Lupus Foundation was instrumental in the Oklahoma Lupus License Plate Revolving Fund, which allows

"They can go from being in the best shape of their life to swelling and hair loss. It affects their outer appearance and it's devastating. If you look at celebrity Tony Braxton five years ago to now, she looks different," said Barnes.

Medication and natural therapies help control some of the symptoms.

"Some people have tried gluten free and had some success, but others reported no impact on them. Steroids might help one person but not another. Benlysta helps about 25 percent of people, but it's around \$30,000 a year and not everyone has that kind of insurance or can afford that," said Barnes.

There is hope for a cure and Barnes said that hope is right here in Oklahoma.

"We work hand-in-hand with the Oklahoma Medical Research



funds from Lupus support license plates to go to research for a cure.

The first Saturday in June is their annual walk at the Zoo to raise funds which allow the organization to mail materials to newly diagnosed patients, maintain support groups, and continue their education efforts.

"We're a really small organization but the impact we've had in Oklahoma is amazing. The number of members we have and people who depend on us to put on support groups and symposiums has been helpful to folks," said Barnes.

To donate or for more information, visit oklupus.org or call 405-225-7510. ■



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