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City

FRIDAY

The Newspaper
for Oklahoma's
Trendsetters

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News Index

FRONT PAGE

- Church
- FRIDAY Focus
- Crossword Solutions
- Quail Creek
- The Greens
- Gaillardii Gatherings

POLICE BLOTTERS

Editorials

- Letters to the Editor
- Editorials
- Our Stand

Columns

OPINIONS FROM
JUST ONE MAN BY:
J. LELAND GOURLEY

OKLAHOMA'S
BEAUTIFUL
PEOPLE BY:
VICKI CLARK

EXCURSIONS BY:
**JOY
RICHARDSON**

The Road Ahead
By:
Peter Gill

Out And About
By:
Erin Fitzgerald

Sports Highlights

- High School Sports

School News

- Panthers Progress
- Irish Items
- Heritage Happenings
- Antler Avenue
- Casady Courier
- Charter Chatter
- John Marshal Journal
- Classen Corner

Weddings & Engagements



Arts & Entertainment

- Events In OKC

Judges Column

- The Case Of:

Henry, Nigh & Norick in Hall of Fame

Robert H. Henry, Donna Nigh and Ronald J. Norick are among seven outstanding Oklahomans who have been selected for induction into the 81st class of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

These accomplished Oklahomans will join the cast of 621 individuals who have been inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame since 1928.

"Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is the highest honor Oklahomans can receive for their contributions to and representation of the state," said Shannon L. Nance, president of the Oklahoma Heritage Association and Gaylord-Pickens Museum.

The other 2008 nominees are: Bill W. Burgess, Lawton; Carl R. Renfro, Ponca City; Charles C. Stephenson, Tulsa; and China native Jordan J.N. Tang.

Robert H. Henry

Judge Henry has served in each branch of government. Elected to the Oklahoma Legislature at 23, he chaired the Judiciary and Education Committees, and the Majority Caucus. Elected Attorney General in 1986, he was re-elected in 1990, the first Attorney General in state history to run unopposed. From 1991 to 1994, he was dean and professor of law at the Oklahoma City University School of Law. In 1994, President Bill Clinton appointed him to the six-state U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. He became the circuit's chief judge in January.

Henry serves on the advisory board for judicial outreach of the American Society of International Law, a position for which Justice Sandra Day O'Connor selected him. He also sits on the board of the VERA Institute of Justice in New York City and is chair of the Middle East/North Africa Council for the American Bar Association. In 2004, Chief Justice William Rehnquist appointed Henry to the U.S. Judicial Conference Committees on Codes of Conduct. In 2005, Chief Justice Rehnquist made Henry chair of the International Judicial Relations Committee. In March 2008, Henry chaired the United States Delegation to the United Arab Emirates World Judicial Forum.

Donna Nigh

Nigh, former first lady of Oklahoma, was noted for political involvement in her husband's career, but is also acclaimed for her commitment to Oklahomans with special needs and improving quality of life for those with developmental

This Week's Highlights

Front Page

- Having dinner at the Coopers'
- Classen SAS ranks 41st in nation
- Henry, Nigh & Norick in Hall of Fame

Church

- We are made for amazing experiences

FRIDAY Focus

- Stars shine in Coopers' backyard during Red Tie auction dinner

J. Leland Gourley

- Don't cheat Florida & Michigan voters!

Vicki Clark's Blog

- Thunderbirds roar into Tinker AFB.

Joy Richardson

- What do you give a 'workover unit'?

Erin Fitzgerald

- YWCA Purple Sash fights domestic violence

High School Sports

- McGuinness 11th on SI list
- Crossing the finish line at the Memorial Marathon

Heritage Happenings

- Seniors leave Heritage Hall for their next adventure

Advertising

- Classifieds
- Place a Classified Ad
- Dentist
- Submit Event
- Birth Announcement
- Wedding Announcement
- limeleopard

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Picture Gallery

- Red Bud Classic

News via Email



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Guest Book



Guest Book

disabilities. She championed the establishment of group homes for developmentally disabled, inspiring the creation of more than 100 such homes in Oklahoma. Friends created the Donna Nigh Foundation, the first statewide foundation for the developmentally disabled. In 1997, President Bill Clinton appointed Nigh to the President's Committee of Mental Retardation.

Nigh was the driving force in major legislation impacting infant car seat requirements, immunization programs for preschool children, modifying zoning laws to allow group homes in neighborhoods and increasing the number of sheltered workshops.

The Oklahoma Legislature has saluted her, the Department of Human Services awarded her the Outstanding Volunteer Award and, in 1999, legislation established the George and Donne Nigh Public Service scholarship program, which honors the outstanding public service student in every institution of higher education in Oklahoma.

Honoring George and Donna Nigh's services as president and first lady of the University of Central Oklahoma, the student union is named the George and Donna Nigh University Center, and UCO also is home to the Donna Nigh Art Gallery.

The Nighs are active members of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, where Donna Nigh has served as a deacon. The Nigh family includes son, Mike Mashburn, (deceased), daughter Georgeann Duty and seven grandchildren.

Ronald J. Norick

Norick was born in Oklahoma City and graduated from Oklahoma City University with a B.S. degree in management. Known as a dedicated public servant and strong civic leader, Norick served as mayor of Oklahoma City from 1987 to 1998. Often referred to as the "Father of MAPS" and credited with Oklahoma City's renaissance, Norick's leadership inspired the passage of the Metropolitan Area Projects temporary one-cent sales tax in 1993. Norick is controlling manager of Norick Investment Company, LLC. He previously was employed by Norick Brothers, Inc. for more than 30 years, serving as president of the company from 1981 to 1992. He is chairman of the board for Sport Haley, Inc. and serves on the board of directors of BancFirst Merlon International, Inc. Norick serves on the board of trustees, executive committee and is the chairman of the investment committee for Oklahoma City University. He is vice chairman and on the executive committee for the State Fair of Oklahoma, chairman of the Oklahoma City Riverfront Redevelopment Authority, vice chairman of the Oklahoma Industries Authority, member of Committee of One Hundred and chairman of Oklahoma City Downtown TIF Review Committee.

The 81st Annual Oklahoma Hall of Fame will be held Wednesday, Nov. 12, in Oklahoma City at the Cox Convention Center. Tickets for the event will go on sale

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Friday, Sept. 5. For more information about the Oklahoma Hall of Fame or making a nomination to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, call Millie Craddick, executive administrator of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, at 523-3203 or e-mail her at mc@oklahomaheritage.com.

more . . . Front Page

- 30.MAY.08 [Having dinner at the Coopers'](#)
- 30.MAY.08 [Classen SAS ranks 41st in nation](#)
- 30.MAY.08 [Henry, Nigh & Norick in Hall of Fame](#)
- 23.MAY.08 [Charger golfers take State](#)
- 23.MAY.08 [On Bob Moore returning as superintendent:
Board Mum](#)
- 23.MAY.08 [Police suspect Village woman was swindled out
of \\$65,000](#)
- 16.MAY.08 [Baseball title caps record year for Irish teams](#)
- 16.MAY.08 [Coffee named Senate leader](#)
- 16.MAY.08 [Tahlequah superintendent coming to Putnam City](#)
- 09.MAY.08 [Agua for the people](#)
- 09.MAY.08 [Bond issue would create Aerospace Complex](#)
- 09.MAY.08 [The Village Fair is this weekend](#)
- 02.MAY.08 [Town celebrates Earth Day](#)
- 02.MAY.08 [Small turnout advises board Super search](#)
- 25.APR.08 [Kiwanis pay tribute to B.C.'s 95th](#)
- 25.APR.08 [Fridayland doctor heading new digestive disease
center](#)
- 25.APR.08 [Police still investigating daytime burglaries](#)
- 18.APR.08 [Nichols will give OCU \\$5 mil for Boathouse](#)
- 18.APR.08 [From Supreme Headquarters in Baghdad](#)
- 18.APR.08 [Flags flying in honor of those lost](#)
- 11.APR.08 [Cadets forge bond](#)
- 11.APR.08 [Police track Quail Creek day burglars](#)
- 11.APR.08 [Wise Phi Beta Kappa of the Year](#)
- 04.APR.08 [Crime can pay for library](#)

Section Links

- [Seagrave](#)

search archives

Keywords:

Issue date:

- Type either Keywords, Date or both.
- Date examples: 5/30/02, >5/30/02

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[^Top](#)

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