

Sooner Schooner II

OU-Tulsa revs up to buy a clinic on wheels to serve in areas where doctors are scarce.
Please go to A-18



JAY
CRONLEY

One-armed man applauds the kindness of strangers

The other afternoon, a man and a woman came to my door. One of them knocked. They said that they had read that I had busted my most useful hand. They were out for a walk and wanted to know if I could use some help with anything. The kitchen belonging to a person reduced for a month to using the off hand looks more like a workroom than a place to eat. Twisting is out. Smashing is in. Bags that reseal aren't worth much after you have knifed your way into them. The most useful tool to a right-handed person with his right hand in a cast is his trusty hammer. The dogs have enjoyed food that flies.

Bag it: Difficult tasks are anticipated. It's the simple things, like getting the garbage ready to go, that turn into wrestling matches. Here's how, with your least-used hand, you prepare a large heavy-duty contractor bag full of garbage for collection at the curb. First you attempt to tie the top in a secure knot with the off hand. Failing that, you kick a hole in one side of the bag, and slug a hole in the other side, then take the claw of the hammer to the middle. This creates a number of holes and loose ends that might be tied if you get lucky.

When the couple showed up at my door, I had been sitting on the garbage bag full of holes, wondering what to do next. A few days earlier, somebody had stopped by to help, and I had her unscrew every lid in the refrigerator. So outside of the garbage, I was in decent shape this time. I had hacked and slashed so many holes in the garbage bag, coffee grounds had begun to spill. The garbage bag that had been attacked was placed in a second bag and taken to the curb by the people stopping by, saving me an hour and costing the dogs a trail of scraps. **Friends indeed:** The only bright side to breaking bones is getting to see how nice some people can be because it's their nature; virtual strangers, no less.

Nobody wants to be a punk about an injury. But once you've selected the color for your cast, there's a tendency to open the front door and prop yourself up by the television and wait to see who hurries to help you the most. Sometimes after leaving a ladder prematurely, without a parachute, you feel like revising your master-list of friends — elevate those three, drop two from the top ten. It's a simple act of kindness that you begin to recall more than a dislocation. It's the kind of thing you'd enjoy passing along.

Jay Cronley 581-8362
jay.cronley@tulsaworld.com

Bixby pair jailed on cruelty complaints



Darrell Christian

Deputies seize horses that appear to be neglected and starving

By Clifton Acock
World Staff Writer

A Bixby couple face at least 13 felony complaints of animal cruelty after Tulsa County deputies say they discovered several starving and neglected horses on the couple's property.

Darrell and Roberta Christian were booked into the Tulsa jail on Wednesday with bail set at \$52,000 each.

Roberta Christian, 55, was arrested about 5:30 p.m., and Darrell Christian, 55, surrendered to authorities later that evening.

Deputies took custody of 24 horses, two of which had to be euthanized, Deputy David Long said.

Some of the horses' hooves had not been trimmed in some time and had

begun to curl, Long said.

Authorities were alerted to the animals' condition after a person surveying the Christians' Bixby property in the 16400 block of South 145th East Avenue, which is being foreclosed, saw the horses, Long said.

When deputies inspected the prop-

SEE HORSES A-15



Roberta Christian

SPECIAL OLYMPICS OKLAHOMA SUMMER GAMES: GROUND DAMP; SPIRITS AREN'T



Photos by ROBERT S. CROSS / Tulsa World

Above, athletes enter the track and field area Thursday for the Special Olympics Oklahoma Summer Games in Stillwater. Competition continued for a second day even though the ground was wet from occasional showers. At right, Seth Moseley of Tulsa tosses a bocce ball in a game Thursday. He won a gold medal in bocce singles.

Players have a (bocce) ball

► The game, added to the competition in 2001, is wildly popular. Several Tulsans have won medals in it.

By Ginny Graham
World Staff Writer

STILLWATER — After pumping her arm in the air at least three times, Kelsey O'Halloran of Tulsa heaves the 8-pound bocce ball across the lawn court.

"Hee-yah," she grunts as the ball leaves her fingertips. The blue sphere inches just past her opponent's, earning O'Halloran an extra point.

"We've got a game now," shouts a sideline coach.

The goal in bocce is for an athlete to toss a ball the closest to a smaller ball, called the pallino. Players earn points depending on where their bocce balls land on the court.

"When I get ready to throw, I think of my family and friends and doing good," O'Halloran said. "But I really just want to have fun."

Bocce was added to the Special Olympics Oklahoma Summer Games in 2001. It attracted enough athletes to require 12 courts.

The sport has exploded in popularity, with a record 500 athletes competing this year on 42 courts.

More than 4,000 athletes are participating in 11 events in a three-day competition that ends Friday in Stillwater. Events are designed for children as young as 4.

Members of Team Tulsa, a group that is mostly adults, have earned several medals in the bocce contests.

One Team Tulsa member, Amy Wollmershauser, qualified for the Special Olympics World Summer Games, to be played this fall in China. She will compete in the bocce singles, doubles and the unified division with her father, Mark Wollmershauser, who is a Tulsa police officer.

Amy Wollmershauser previously has competed internationally in speed walking.

"But I like bocce better because it goes faster than track and field," she said.

Wollmershauser defeated O'Halloran, and the two hugged and shared a laugh afterward.

"We've known each other since high school," Wollmershauser said. "We just like to have fun at this."

Sprouts of rain coated the grass and added mud to lawn courts, but they

SEE GAMES A-15



Their stories, and your stories, too

► The new Oklahoma Heritage Center seeks to inspire others in the Sooner State.

By Angel Riess
World Capitol Bureau

OKLAHOMA CITY — Two Oklahomans — one age 10, the other 100 — walked hand-in-hand through the doors of the new Edward L. Gaylord-Boone Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Center on Thursday, marking the museum's official opening.

Located in the renovated Mid-Continent Life Insurance building on the edge of downtown Oklahoma City, the museum opened exactly 80 years after the landmark building made its debut. The \$15 million Heritage Center, at 1400 Classen Drive, uses the latest technology to feature famous Oklahomans and their roles in state history.

The center will be open free to the

SEE MUSEUM A-15



JAMES GIBBARD / Tulsa World

Louise Gaylord Bennett (from left), Christy Everest, Clayton Bennett, 100-year-old World War II veteran Dawson Gorman, Hayden Lacey, 10, and Boone Pickens prepare to enter the Edward L. Gaylord-Boone Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Center after its grand opening Friday in Oklahoma City.

LANGSTON UNIVERSITY-TULSA

College breaks ground in historic Greenwood area

► Officials hail the future campus as a rekindling of the pioneering spirit of Black Wall Street.

By April Marciszewski
World Staff Writer

Langston University-Tulsa officials broke ground Thursday for the first of four buildings that will become the branch's own campus in historic Greenwood, separate from currently shared facilities with Oklahoma State University-Tulsa.

Although Langston was the first public university to come to Tulsa in 1979, it is the last to have its own home, following the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa, Northeastern State

University-Broken Arrow and Rogers State University in Claremore, President JoAnn Haysbert said.

She and others thanked those who built the university's foundation, including President Emeritus Ernest Holloway, and thanked Tulsa County voters for backing the campus.

Vision 2025 tax revenue is providing \$8 million for construction, which is expected to start within days and be completed by August 2008. Funding for the remaining three buildings has not been identified, said Angela Kelsow-Watson, vice president for administrative and fiscal affairs.

The first building will have 35,000 square feet, designed by Beck and Associates architects and built by Crossland Construction Co.

SEE COLLEGE A-15



JAMES GIBBARD / Tulsa World

Boone Pickens, an Edward L. Gaylord-Boone Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Center donor, speaks at the official opening ceremony of the center as other patrons listen. They include Shannon Nance (from left), Roxana Lorton, World Publishing Co. Chairman Robert E. Lorton, Liz Cordia, Madeleine Pickens, Glen Johnson, Clayton Bennett, Louise Gaylord Bennett and Christy Everest.

MUSEUM:

One section, Tell Your Story, allows visitors to record stories about their heritage.

FROM A-13

public Saturday and Sunday, thanks to a donation from Dr. and Mrs. Nazih Zahdi. The Oklahoma Heritage Association purchased the building in 2001 with a gift from the late Edward L. Gaylord. Boone Pickens matched the

gift in 2005. "I think it's great," Pickens said. "It's a great addition for Oklahoma, but it's not just for Oklahoma." Pickens, who was raised in Holdenville, said he hopes young people who visit the museum learn that they, too, can become leaders and have the opportunity to make great accomplishments. The museum includes several exhibits, including a gallery sponsored by the Tulsa World that includes photos and quotes from several Oklahoma centenarians. Among the museum's permanent exhibits is "Oklahoma Through Its People," which in-

cludes flat-screen televisions. Each display uses historic video and still photography to portray past and present Oklahomans who exhibit at least one of the characteristics: perseverance, pioneer spirit, individualism, generosity and optimism. The Oklahoma Heritage Association contracted with Boston-based Northern Light Productions to design the museum's high-tech and holographic features. Northern Light's projects have included the Spy Museum and National Archives in Washington, D.C. "We have taken great strides to include people from a diverse range of industries, backgrounds, socio-economic

status and age so that everyone who comes to the center will find someone with whom they can connect," said Shannon Nance, Oklahoma Heritage Association president. The exhibits also include the Oklahoma Theater, which features everyday Oklahomans in a 12-minute film; the Oklahoma Hall of Fame gallery; and Tell Your Story, where visitors can record stories about their heritage. The Oklahoma Heritage Association is a nonprofit organization funded by private donations and memberships. Angel Riggs (405) 528-2465 angel.riggs@tulsaworld.com



ROBERT S. CROSS / Tulsa World

State Farm Insurance volunteers, including Elizabeth Moore (second from right) from the Tulsa office and Monte Hood (far right) from the Oklahoma City office, cheer on the athletes during the Special Olympics Oklahoma Summer Games on Thursday in Stillwater.

GAMES:

Other activities have been arranged for the athletes, and Garth Brooks paid a surprise visit to award medals and sign autographs.

FROM A-13

didn't stop Seth Moseley of Team Tulsa from winning a gold medal in bocce singles. Moseley, 30, tossed the bocce ball into the air before each throw, ridding it of muck. "The mud has made it hard for everyone out here," he said. "But everyone is doing a really good job and playing their hearts out. It is my first year doing this, and it's the only thing I'm in this year." "Bocce is a lot better than track because you don't wear out nearly as easy." Team Tulsa's coach, John Travers, said 56 of the team's athletes came to the competitions. When parents, friends and other family members are added in, the delegation totaled about 130 people. "Bocce has just gotten huge for us," Travers said. "The problem is having enough volunteers to learn the sport." Sports is just one aspect of the Special Olympics. Athletes also have opportunities to go to a dance, movie, swim party, bingo game and usually a night at the popular Eskimo Joe's restaurant. "Even with some rainouts, there is always something to do here," Travers said. "It's fun for everyone to get together, and it's something we

Special Olympics Oklahoma awards

- Family of the Year:** The Copelin Family from Newkirk
- Spirit Award:** Aaron Atherton of Norman
- Volunteer of the Year:** Sherrie Ellis of Lawton
- Coach of the Year:** Darlene Shoaf of Yukon
- Athlete of the Year:** Shay Basaman of Ada
- Synar Award for Excellence:** Bank of Oklahoma. This award is presented annually to a company that has dedicated itself in all aspects to Special Olympics Oklahoma.

look forward to." A surprise visit from country music superstar Garth Brooks had the athletes talking. Brooks handed out medals on the first day of the track competition and took time to sign autographs and pose for photos. Will Rasure of Broken Arrow had a personalized signature from Brooks on the back of his identification badge, which he wore constantly around his neck. Rasure communicated by hand and facial gestures that meeting Brooks was a highlight for him. "We're big fans," said his mother, Linda Rasure. "Will enjoys these competitions, and I feel like he has matured from the experience. He learns about sportsmanship, taking turns, respecting others and encouraging other athletes." "And now he has an autograph from Garth Brooks. It's been a good time."

Ginnie Graham 581-8376 ginnie.graham@tulsaworld.com

COLLEGE:

Langston President JoAnn Haysbert says the new building will inspire students.

FROM A-13

Langston will move its entire Tulsa operation to the new building but will continue to share services, such as the library, with OSU-Tulsa, Kelso-Watson said.

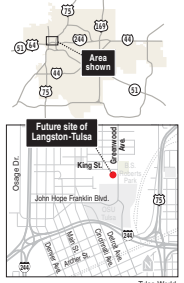
The campus will be on 17.9 acres surrounding the intersection of Greenwood Avenue and King Street, near its current campus with OSU-Tulsa. Langston-Tulsa's land includes B.S. Roberts Park.

When Langston-Tulsa moves out of its current facilities, OSU-Tulsa will gain needed offices and classrooms, President Gary Trennepohl said. OSU-Tulsa is adding more daytime classes as it gains more young college students who started their education at Tulsa Community College.

The University Center at Tulsa Authority, which controls the land and buildings of the current Langston-Tulsa and OSU-Tulsa campus, will lose \$800,000 to \$1 million in annual rent from Langston, which OSU-Tulsa hopes to make up with careful budgeting and utilities savings, Trennepohl said.

"I'm excited for Langston to have their own building, because it gives them an identity and visibility," he said.

Haysbert said she expects the new building to attract more students. Langston-Tulsa's enrollment has dropped in recent years; 561 students attended last fall.



CORY YOUNG / Tulsa World

Dr. JoAnn Haysbert, president of Langston University, speaks during a groundbreaking ceremony Thursday for Langston University-Tulsa's new facility. The 35,000-square-foot building is scheduled to be completed by August 2008.

"I think that it will inspire people. I think that it will give them hope," she said. The first building will be a sign of Langston's progression toward greatness, she said.

Although the campus will not re-create the more than 600 businesses that once operated on Black Wall Street in Greenwood before the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot, it will produce graduates who will go out into the world with Greenwood's similar spirit of entrepreneurship and empowerment, Haysbert said.

Langston will "rekindle the pioneering spirit of the prosperous Black Wall Street community," she said.

State Sen. Judy Eason McIntyre, D-Tulsa, said the community — especially near the new campus — needs its children to be educated.

"We have to make a turnaround from all the gang and killings," she said. "The quickest way is education."

Haysbert said the groundbreaking represented Langston's transcending years of struggles to gain its own campus, and she read Langston Hughes' poem: "What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun?" After officials drove to the site of the new building on the rainy afternoon and dipped their shovels into the soggy ground, Langston retiree Mireva Crump said, "At last, everything that we were fighting for has finally come true."

April Marciszewski 581-6475 april.marciszewski@tulsaworld.com

Poll: Public transit spending backed

Tulsa County residents are willing to invest more in public transportation, a survey commissioned earlier this year by the Metropolitan Tulsa Transit Authority has revealed. The survey polled 300 residents on various issues concerning the public transit system. The performance of the system was rated excellent or good by 27 percent, with 35 percent saying the system is doing a fair job, according to Tulsa Transit. Sixty-seven percent said more money should be invest-

ed in public transit. One finding indicated a willingness, especially among suburban residents, to use a "park-and-ride" route to downtown Tulsa. The survey also indicated that Tulsans embrace many reasons given to invest in public transportation, such as providing services for the elderly and disabled, coping with high gas prices, helping people get off welfare, helping to control pollution, and easing road congestion. The survey was conducted by Cole Hargrave Snodgrass & Associates.



Some of the horses that were seized by Tulsa County deputies wait Thursday in their temporary new home at the Collinsville Livestock Sales stockyard.

MICHAEL WYKE / Tulsa World

HORSES:

The horses are being held at a Collinsville stockyard, but foster caregivers are being sought.

FROM A-13

erty, they found no hay, feed or water in a barn where several horses were stabled.

They also found four horses in round pens with standing water mixed with urine and feces, according to an arrest report.

The horses in the pens had been in the standing water for about 10 days, when the recent rainy weather began, Long said. No drinking water was in any of the pens, so horses resorted to drinking the contaminated standing water, he said.

One horse inside the barn appeared to have been in its stable for about six months. Deputies had to dig the horse out from manure that was piled up and use a winch to open the stable's gate, Long said.

"This is one of the worst cases I've probably seen," he said.

The remaining 11 horses were

in a pasture on the 40-acre spread. Although they were in relatively good shape, they were taken into county protective custody, Long said.

The horses are being held at the Collinsville Livestock Sales stockyard, he said.

"We've never had this many horses," he said. "We're looking for a contract for a foster caregiver."

The county is seeking individuals or organizations to be licensed caregivers for horses when situations with a high number of animals arise, Long said.

Accommodations for the animals would be inspected and monitored by county officials, he said.

Horses are expensive animals to care for, Bixby veterinarian Jennifer Adolph said, explaining that they eat 12 to 15 pounds of hay and drink about 20 gallons of water per day.

Also, she said, if a horse is confined to a small area, its feet should be cleaned daily.

If a horse owner has problems caring for the animal or paying for its care, the best thing to do is sell it, Adolph said.

"You need to admit you have a problem and sell the horse," she said.

Clifton Adcock 581-8367 clifton.adcock@tulsaworld.com