



Joan GILMORE
AROUND TOWN

Meet 'Ladies Who Lunch'

Five of Oklahoma City's longtime performers have stepped up to help Carpenter Square Theatre, which had its hopes and dreams wiped away by the city's June 14 flood. The flood severely damaged Stage Center, where Carpenter Square had its home for the past 13 years.

Rhonda Clark, Carpenter's artistic director, surveyed the damage and realized her 27 years of theatrical milestones, as well as struggles, were in ruins. Besides losing a venue for performances and office space, CST experienced a 90-percent loss of costumes and a 75-percent loss of furniture and props.

Luckily, the five performers are Friday lunch mates of Clark and immediately stepped up to help. They are **Jane Hall, Charlotte Franklin, Jeanie Cooper, Kerry Robertson** and **Christy Carson**. Their help will be "The Ladies Who Lunch - A Musical Revue," which will be presented at 8 p.m. Nov. 6 and 2:30 p.m. Nov. 7. The "Ladies" will "Lunch" in the Howard Theatre on the campus of Heritage Hall Schools, 1800 NW 122nd St. The administration and performing arts faculty of Heritage Hall have graciously donated the use of theater space and their time to help with the project.

"The Ladies Who Lunch" is the brainchild of **Brian Tidwell**, former music director and conductor for Lyric Theatre, Jewel Box Theatre, CityRep and Stage Center, as well as music conductor on Broadway and national tours of *Peter Pan* with **Cathy Rigby**, *Chicago* with **Chita Riera** and *Hello Dolly* with **Juliet Prowse**. Tidwell has returned to Oklahoma City and teaches vocal music at Edmond North High School.

The five "Ladies" have more than 250 combined years of show biz experience in Oklahoma City as well as working regionally and nationally. Their revue will offer comic, poignant and show-stopping numbers from the best composers Broadway has to offer. Narrator and host of the evening will be **Joshua McGowen**, who's appeared in several short films in Los Angeles and has portrayed leading roles at Jewel Box and other local theaters.

The performance will have intermission refreshments and a raffle for a grand prize. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased by calling Carpenter Square Theatre at (405) 232-6500 or at www.carpentersquare.com. Donations also would be welcome since all funds raised will be used to replace office equipment along with costumes and props and all the other things that make CST a success.

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FAA investigating landing by Inhofe

TULSA - The Federal Aviation Administration is investigating Oklahoma Sen. **Jim Inhofe's** landing of an airplane on a closed runway in Texas.

The twin-engine Cessna piloted by Inhofe landed Oct. 21 on a closed runway at the Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport.

FAA spokesman **Lynn Lunsford** said investigators are reviewing the landing to determine if any action is necessary. He declined further comment.

Inhofe said he was not aware beforehand that the runway was closed and did not see large X's marking it as closed until it was too late to change course.

Inhofe is 75 and a commercially rated pilot with more than 50 years of flying experience. He was with two staff members and a family friend flying to a home he owns at South Padre Island. — *Associated Press*

Raises approved for OU assistant coaches

OKLAHOMA CITY - All nine of Oklahoma coach **Bob Stoops'** assistant coaches have been given raises for this football season.

The university's regents voted Wednesday in Lawton to approve \$45,000 raises for defensive coordinator **Brent Venables** and offensive coordinator **Kevin Wilson**. Venables is set to make \$440,000 this year, while Wilson will make \$430,000.

Quarterbacks coach **Josh Heupel** got the biggest bump, increasing his total pay from \$200,000 to \$250,000. Offensive assistants **Jay Norvell**, **James Patton** and **Cale Gundy** got \$20,000 raises while defensive assistants **Bobby Jack Wright**, **Jackie Shipp** and **Willie Martinez** will be paid about \$16,500 more.

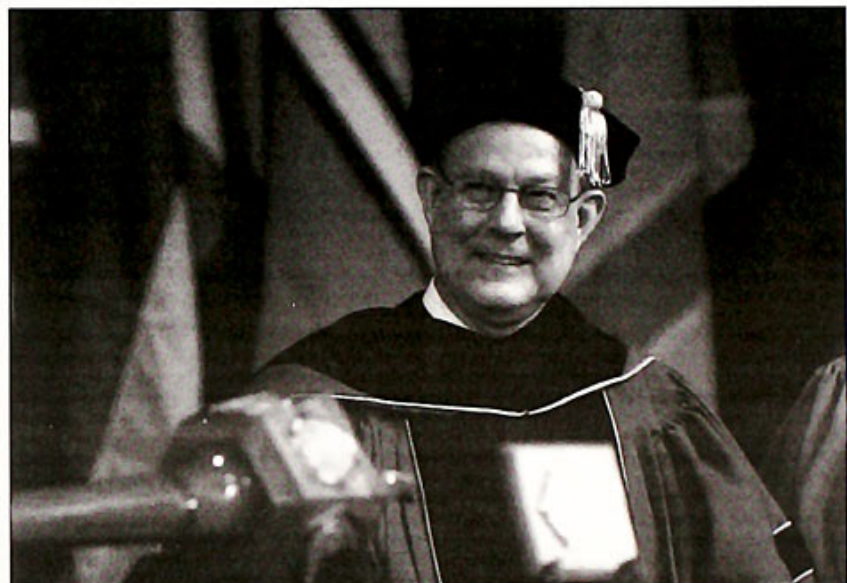
All of the contracts run through the end of May 2011.

Stoops was not one of those getting a raise after his contract was updated last year. One of college football's highest-paid coaches, he'll make \$3.885 million this year and get an \$800,000 contribution to his retirement fund as long as he's still the Sooners' coach on Jan. 1.

Baseball coach **Sunny Golloway** was rewarded for taking the Sooners to the College World Series for the first time

Briefs

Investiture for Larry Minks



Larry Minks formally accepted the charge as the 19th president of Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant at an investiture ceremony on Wednesday. Minks served as interim president from July 1, 2009, to Jan. 21, when he was named permanent president by the Regional University System of the Oklahoma Board of Regents. COURTESY PHOTO

since 1995, getting a two-year extension through 2015 that includes a \$94,000 raise and an annual stay bonus of \$15,000. His salary is set to increase by \$5,000 each year starting next July, and his potential bonus for winning a national title was changed from \$25,000 to \$65,000.

Softball coach **Patty Gasso** also got a two-year extension through 2015 that includes a \$40,000 raise. She's also set to receive an annual stay bonus of \$15,000 each February and an annual raise of \$5,000.

All of the money for the contracts comes out of the budget of the athletic department, which is self-sustaining and does not receive any money from taxpayers or student fees. — *Associated Press*

IABC Tulsa chapter presents awards

TULSA - **Sandra Lewis**, executive director of the Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless, was named 2010 Communicator of the Year on Thursday by the Tulsa chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators.

The Leon Bolen Service Award was presented to **Shannon Frederick**, director of global associate communi-

cations at Wal-Mart.

Twenty-seven Bronze Quill awards were presented in 21 categories for work completed during 2009 and 2010.

Jarrod Kopp and **Ramon Cardiel** of FW Murphy won Best of Show with their "You Dream It, We Deliver It" brochure.

Awards of Excellence were presented to **Ginger D. Homan** for Zia's "Establishing a MODA Brand" branding campaign; **Steve Turnbo**, **Lucinda Rojas Ross** and **Kari Kulp** for Schnake Turnbo Frank PR's "Do the Smart Thing-Tulsa Public Schools Bond" campaign; **Allison Broyles** and **Tom Droege** for Rex PR's "Home Run for the Homeless" media relations; Schnake Turnbo Frank PR's "Tulsa: A Major League City" special communications event; **Allison Starke** for Schnake Turnbo Frank PR's "Art in Motion" special communications event; **Amethyst Cavallaro**, **Walt Beazley** and **Gail Laur** for the University of Tulsa's *Vision* newspaper; **Oneok Inc.'s Oneok Quarterly** four-color magazine; **Jarrod Kopp** and **Ramon Cardiel** for FW Murphy's "You Dream It, We Deliver It" promo-

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Tulsa Bureau
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918.295.0098 Office • 918.295.0031 Fax

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Briefs

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tional advertising/marketing; **Megan Lewis** for Oneok's "One Responsibility-Oneok Corporate Responsibility Report" special print communications; **Jarrold Kopp**, **Ramon Cardiel**, **Jessica Hall**, **Joni Hamilton** and **Juliane Spinuzzi** for FW Murphy's "The New FWmurphy.com" external website.

Awards of Merit were presented to **Russell Shaffer** for Wal-Mart's "MLB Employee Discount Email" employee communications campaign; **Heather Ingram** for Oneok's "NAPTP Investor Conference Presentation" investor relations; **Tracy T. Harlow** for ConocoPhillips' "Diversity Networks Launch" communications event; **Jennifer Pigeon** for Oneok's "One Trust Fund Elects New Board Members" special communications event; **Heather Ingram** for Oneok's "Investor Relations Monthly" internal newsletter; **Megan Washbourne** for Oneok's "Oneok & Oneok Partners 2009 Annual Report" corporate annual report; **Nicole Morgan** and **Greg Rex** for Rex PR's "Magnir Company Brochure" promotional advertising/marketing; **Jennifer Pigeon** for Oneok's "Oneok Launches New Website" feature/human interest writing; **Amethyst Cavallaro** for University of Tulsa's "Advocate for Change" feature/human interest writing; **Amethyst Cavallaro** for University of Tulsa's "Toothless, Five-wheeled Wonder" feature/human interest writing; **Hayley Peck** for Oneok's "Wisconsin Pipeline Tech Makes Wishes Come True" feature/human interest writing; **Jessica Hall** and **Terry Brei** for FW Murphy's "Good Show" technical writing; **Jennifer Pigeon** and **Rick Ayre** for Oneok's "Oneok Website Redesign" external website; **Jennifer Pigeon** and **Rick Ayre** for Oneok's "Oneok Quarterly Interactive Features" electronic publication; and **Keith Isabell** of Broken Arrow Public Schools' "2009 Broken Arrow School Bond Election" one-time video campaign.

— Staff report

Silver-Parker to lecture on women's topics

TAHLEQUAH — **Ester Silver-Parker** will present lectures Wednesday at Northeastern State University's campuses in Tahlequah and Broken Arrow.

Silver-Parker's lecture, "Women and Business: Still a merger in progress," is scheduled at 1 p.m. in the University Center on the Tahlequah campus and at 5:30 p.m. on the Broken Arrow campus.

"Ms. Silver-Parker has an extensive background. She's someone I would like to see our students emulate," said **John Schleede**, dean of the NSU College of Business & Technology. "She grew up relatively poor during the civil rights movement, and became the senior vice president of corporate affairs at Wal-Mart, then went on to become president of corporate affairs and president of the AT&T Foundation at AT&T."

Now, she is an advocate for gender

equality and has helped develop empowerment programs for women and girls around the world.

The NSU College of the Business & Technology offers three lectures per semester, one featuring a Battenfield-Carletti Distinguished Entrepreneur, the others addressing topics such as careers and current issues. — Staff report

Cornett named Public Official of the Year

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City Mayor **Mick Cornett** has been named Public Official of the Year by *Governing Magazine*, a publication for state and local governments.

Cornett was recognized for his leadership on the MAPS 3 and "This City is Going on a Diet" initiatives.

Previous mayoral winners include the mayors of Houston, Chicago, Boston, St. Petersburg, Nashville, Denver, Atlanta and Louisville.

Cornett was also recently named one of the top three finalists for "World Mayor 2010," presented by City Mayors, a European-based international think tank for urban issues. More than 800 mayors were nominated. The winner will be announced next month.

— Staff report

Director named for Cherokee center

ENID — **Andrea Holland** has been appointed director of the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center in Enid.

She joined the center four years ago to build the oral history collections for the developing museum. She was named president of CSRHC Inc. in 2009. As president, Holland worked to raise money and administer an \$8 million capital project to renovate and double the size of the former Museum of the Cherokee Strip, transforming the facility into the state's first regional heritage center.

Holland is a graduate of Yukon High School and the University of South Alabama. She was regional director of public relations for the Southwest Division of the Salvation Army, director of volunteers for the Tampa Bay Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City, Ariz., and executive director of Wichita County Heritage Society in Wichita Falls, Texas.

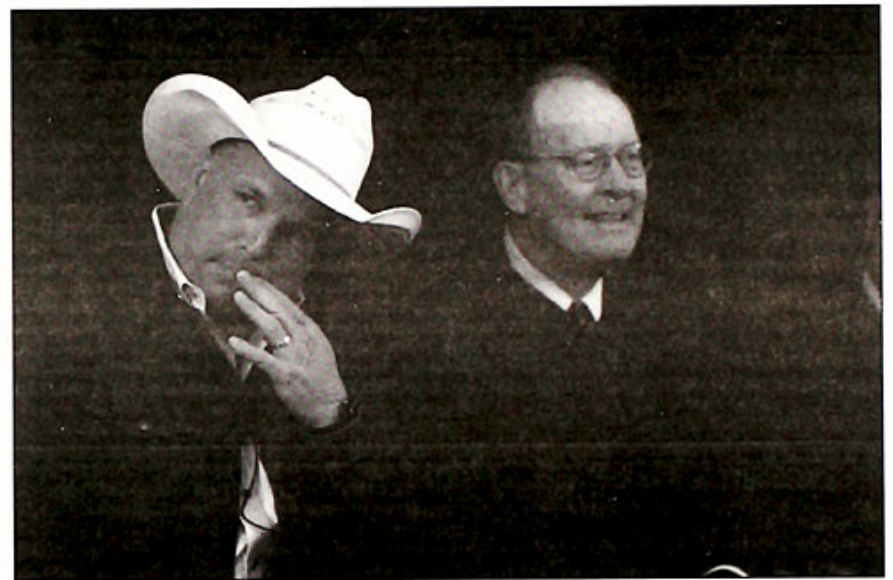
Her husband, **David Holland**, retired from the Air Force while stationed at Vance Air Force Base. — Staff report

Women's tournament returning to Norman

NORMAN — The NCAA women's basketball tournament is coming back to Oklahoma's campus.

The Lloyd Noble Center was one of 16 sites selected Tuesday to host preliminary rounds of the 2012 tournament. It will be the seventh time the home of the Sooners has been used as an NCAA tournament host.

Oklahoma's site had the third-highest attendance among 16 first- and second-round sites in last year's NCAA tournament.



Country music star Garth Brooks, left, sits next to Tennessee Sens. Lamar Alexander, center, and Bob Corker during an announcement that Oklahoma native Brooks and Trisha Yearwood will hold a concert in December to benefit flood relief in Nashville.

AP PHOTO/THE TENNESSEAN, SHELLEY MAYS

Garth Brooks to play benefit for flood relief in Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Country music stars **Garth Brooks** and **Trisha Yearwood** said Thursday they will play a concert in December to benefit flood relief in middle Tennessee.

Brooks, who was born in Tulsa in 1962 and grew up in Yukon, made the announcement during a news conference Thursday morning that was attended by Gov. **Phil Bredesen**, Nashville Mayor **Karl Dean** and a host of other politicians.

Brooks said making the decision was easy: "I think we decided to do it the day we saw the flood."

He formally retired about a decade ago to spend more time with his children and Yearwood. But he began performing at the Wynn Resort in Las Vegas last December, and expects to do 15 weeks of shows a year at least until his youngest daughter graduates from high school.

He and Yearwood live in the Tulsa area.

The benefit will be held Dec. 17 at Bridgestone Arena and tickets will go for \$25. Information on how to buy tickets will be released Wednesday.

Brooks said he likely will invite

other performers to participate and left the door open for multiple performances if there is demand.

There should be plenty: He is the best-selling solo artist in U.S. history with more than 128 million albums sold and his time away from recording only seems to have heightened his fans' interest.

Tickets to his initial run of Vegas shows sold out in hours and there will likely be high demand for benefit tickets.

Brooks, a graduate of Oklahoma State University, promises something special for those who score a ticket.

"Our job is to make it the best show we've ever done," he said.

May's flood caused more than \$2 billion in damage in Nashville alone and there was widespread damage throughout central Tennessee.

Proceeds from the Dec. 17 concert will go to the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

There have been dozens of benefits held in Nashville for flood relief, raising millions of dollars for assistance. **Tim McGraw** and **Faith Hill's** Nashville Rising concert led to \$2 million in donations alone.

— Associated Press

The Lloyd Noble Center has also hosted tournament games in 1986 and every year from 2001 to 2004.

— Associated Press

Tulsa receives grant for Brownfields program

TULSA — Tulsa has been selected to receive a \$175,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency for a Brownfields pilot planning program.

"Brownfields represent some of the best development opportunities," Mayor **Dewey Bartlett** said. "We need to take advantage of these to be successful in

redeveloping Tulsa and this region with a long-term view."

With grant money available in early 2011, the pilot planning program was created to enhance the city's efforts to identify Brownfields in Tulsa.

Tulsa has applied for three more Brownfields grants from the EPA. The applications include a \$200,000 cleanup grant for the Old Morton Health Center site and two City Coalition Grants with Tulsa County, Tulsa Industrial Authority, and Tulsa Development Authority — \$1 million for assessment and \$4 million for cleanup through a revolving loan fund. — Staff report