

Conference to Focus on Urban Stream Protection

Professional training in urban stream protection strategies is the theme for a conference to be held in the region this month. The “Conference on Urban Stream Protection - Helping Communities Grow Naturally” is scheduled Feb. 5-8 at the Clarion Meridian Hotel, 737 S. Meridian, in Oklahoma City.

The conference, presented by the Oklahoma Stream Team, will feature discussion on the Crutcho Creek watershed, and showcase its evolution towards full urbanization using methods to protect water resources and enhance a community’s quality of life.

A comprehensive slate of topics on urban stream protection will be featured at the conference, including a number of regional and national presenters.

The conference kicks off with stream restoration topics and a background of the showcase watershed. Tuesday (Feb. 6) features technical sessions with Dr. Greg Jennings of North Carolina State University, who will discuss stream protection and restoration. On Wednesday (Feb. 7), Dr. Jennings will provide additional technical

training in stream restoration methods and then participants will take a bus tour to see a watershed in transition. To close the session on Thursday (Feb. 8), participants will hear a technical wrap-up and learn about a variety of local watershed plans and the inherent challenges that accompany those plans.

Scheduled speakers include: Rob Armstrong, Huitt-Zollars; Kelly Coffman, C.H. Guernsey & Company; Greg Jennings, North Carolina State University; John Harrington, ACOG; Sue Haslett, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Bobby Hernandez, EPA Region VI; Michael Holmes, Oklahoma State University; Aaron Milligan, City of Norman; Richard Smith, INCOG; Karl Stickley, C.H. Guernsey & Company; and Zach Taylor, ACOG.

Sponsors of the conference include ACOG, Indian Nations Council of Governments, Oklahoma State University Agricultural Conferences, the Oklahoma Of-



Crutcho Creek in eastern Oklahoma County.

fice of the Secretary of Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Registration cost is \$150 per person. To register, please contact OSU conferences at 405-744-6489, or online at www.agconferences.okstate.edu.

Tinker Subject of Joint Land Use Study

Tinker Air Force Base (TAFB) announced the release of its Air Installation Compatibility Use Zone (AICUZ) study at a public meeting in Del City last month. An AICUZ study identifies noise contours resulting from current and anticipated base operations, and identifies clear and accident potential zones (APZ) including recommended land uses within the APZs.

The previous AICUZ study was released in 1998. Conducted by the Department of Defense (DoD), the updated study incorporates many changes at TAFB in the past decade, such as an increase in operations, revised flight tracks and improvements to the modeling programs used to define the noise contours.

Recommendations of the AICUZ en-

courage impacted communities and entities near the base, including Choctaw, Del City, Midwest City, Nicoma Park, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, Spencer and Cleveland County to consider local accommodations for future development. Considerations may include modification of building codes related to noise, future land restrictions within the APZs, height and obstruction ordinances and continual communication with TAFB.

Col. Mark Correll, Installation Commander at TAFB, said that the adoption of recommendations of the study will help assure the strength and vitality of Tinker. Maintaining the base’s health is consistently one of the top federal legislative ...See “Land Use Study” on page four.

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ASPA Seeks Nominations for Administrator of the Year

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 Administrator of the Year Award. The annual tribute recognizes a public administrator whose career exhibits the highest standards of excellence, dedication, and accomplishment. The award is sponsored by the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration.

Nominees for Administrator of the Year Award are solicited throughout the state. They are judged based on outstanding leadership qualities, high professional and ethical standards, superior record of achievement, and strong commitment to public service. Nominees may work for organizations at any level of government, nonprofit organization, or educational institution. The deadline for this

year's nominations is **March 16**.

Last year's Administrator of the Year was Zach D. Taylor, Executive Director of the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments. Other recent recipients and the positions held at the time of selection include: Mike Fogarty, Chief Executive Officer of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority; Stanley Hupfeld, President and CEO of Integris Health; George Moser, Executive Director of the Oklahoma House of Representatives' Research, Legal and Fiscal Divisions; Bob Conner, Executive Director of the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center at Tinker Air Force Base; Jerry Regier, Oklahoma Cabinet Secretary of Health and Human Services; and Leonard Martin, city manager of Edmond. Other distinguished public servants who have

received the honor include Dr. Hans Brisch, Steven Gentling, Connie Irby, Oscar Jackson and Dr. Edward Johnson.

The American Society for Public Administration is a nationwide, nonprofit educational and professional organization. With chapters in every state and a membership of more than 10,000 government and nonprofit administrators, scholars, teachers and students, ASPA is the largest and most prominent professional association in public administration. It is the only organization of its kind in the United States aiming broadly to improve the administration and image of public service. The national organization was founded in 1939. The Oklahoma chapter was established in 1964.

...See "Nominations" on page three.

Central Oklahoma *Perspective*

Offering Regional Leaders News and Information

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Association of Central Oklahoma Governments

*"Providing Regional Leadership in
Central Oklahoma Since 1966"*

Established in 1966, the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) is a voluntary association of cities, towns and counties. ACOG helps member governments plan for common needs, cooperate for mutual benefit and coordinate for sound regional development.

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ACOG Announces New Director of Transportation Division

The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) has announced the selection of Douglas W. Rex as the new Division Director of ACOG's Transportation Planning and Data Services Division.

As division director, Rex will be responsible for the leadership, coordination, development and administration of all transportation and air quality planning, community development and other transportation issues that impact the region.

Rex holds a master's degree in urban planning from the University of Kansas, and a bachelor's degree in political science from Memorial University of Newfoundland, holding certificates in both business administration and public administration. Prior to joining ACOG, Rex was employed by the city of Topeka, Kan. and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), the council of governments servicing the Kansas City metro region. He first joined the Association in November 1996 as Program Coordinator - Transportation Planning and Air Quality. He also began additional service to the Association as Assistant to the Executive Director in November 2003.

"Doug Rex has provided outstanding service to our association and its membership and is dedicated to sustaining and improving the metropolitan region," said Zach Taylor, ACOG Executive Director. "He has demonstrated his effectiveness in both management and technical matters of importance to the region, its institutions and leadership."



Douglas Rex, TPDS Division Director.

Capitol Friends Developing Plaza

A group dedicated to preserving the beauty of the Oklahoma State Capitol has developed a new project that would enable people to remember special Oklahomans. The Memorial Plaza, which includes square granite pavers, will comprise the plaza at the entrance of the Capitol building.

The project is sponsored by Friends of the Capitol, which provides funds to assist in projects of the Capitol Preservation Commission. The group is the only tax-exempt 501 (c) 3 corporation designated to receive private funds to maintain and improve the beauty of the Oklahoma State Capitol building and complex.

The first in the group's series of projects celebrating the state's Centennial, the Plaza consists of over 7,500 granite pavers that donors can reserve on behalf of their honoree. Each paver is 15" x 15" and is available to all Oklahomans for a \$300 tax-deductible donation.

Donors who reserve a paver also have the ability to go online and enter their honoree's biography. The biography becomes a "living history" that can be changed as time goes on. Instructions for uploading a photograph of the honoree are included as well on the Web site.

In coming months, interactive locator screens will be installed in the Capitol. Visitors will be able to locate the individual paver on the Plaza, as well as read the biography of the person honored.

Each donor who reserves a paver will receive a one-year membership in Friends of the Capitol. Membership includes a Certificate of Appreciation, a discount on "Art Treasures of the Oklahoma State Capitol" book, quarterly "Friends" email updates on Capitol artwork projects, and an invitation to our Annual Event.

To order a paver, visit the group's web site at www.friendsofthecapitol.com.

"Nominations"

...Continued from page two.

To obtain a nomination form or to find out more about the award, visit www.libarts.ucok.edu/political/organizations/asp/index.html, or call Brett Sharp at (405) 974-5526.



Around the Region

- The **Oklahoma Department of Commerce** announced in late December 2006, that the **U.S. Census Bureau** estimates that the state of Oklahoma has gained nearly 35,800 residents in the past year. The figure represents the best annual growth rate since the early 1990s. Oklahoma ranks 22nd in population growth, an increase from 28th place from the last report. The seven-state region that includes Oklahoma exceeded the national composite with a 1.87 annual growth rate versus the national 0.98 percent.
- **Oklahoma City Police Detective Robert Kemmet** was named **2006 Officer of the Year** by the South Oklahoma City **Kiwanis Club**. Kemmet was honored for developing a computer program, known as the Threat Recognition and Interdiction System, which helps identify potential sexual predators. The database gathers information on behavioral patterns most exhibited by potential child predators. Since its inception in April 2005, the program has led to three convictions.
- Oklahoma Lt. Gov. **Jari Askins** and **Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett** announced the **Oklahoma City National Memorial** received accreditation from the **American Association of Museums** at a press conference last month. "We are thrilled to join some of the preeminent museums in the country on the roster of AAM accredited museums," said **Kari Watkins**, executive director of the Oklahoma City National Memorial. AAM accreditation signifies excellence to the museum community, governments, funding parties, outside agencies and to the museum going public. Oklahoma now has 11 accredited museums. Nationally, there are nearly 17,500 museums and 775 are currently accredited.
- State law mandates that newly elected municipal officials attend eight hours of orientation training. Each person elected for the first time to a position of a municipality on or after January 1, 2005, or appointed for the first time on or after July 1, 2006 must attend the institute. The **Oklahoma Municipal League** is certified to conduct the training. Two workshops were held last year, and the next one is scheduled March 10 at the OSU Alumni Center in Stillwater. To register for the conference, visit www.oml.org and click on "workshops," or call 405-528-7560.
- A new friendly face greets visitors at **ACOG's** offices in Bricktown, as **Judy Stuck** was named the Association's new receptionist. Stuck moved to Central Oklahoma last summer to be closer to family. She hails from Manhattan, Kan., where she lived for 40 years, and worked at Kansas State University, making her the only Wildcats fan at ACOG. Stuck previously operated a home day care for several years and has worked in a variety of sales and administrative positions. She is married to Terry, has four children, seven grandchildren and has recently taken up genealogy as a hobby.



Judy Stuck, ACOG's new receptionist.

“Land Use Study”

...Continued from page one.
priorities for the ACOG Board of Directors.

While the AICUZ is the technical basis for planning and evaluation of existing and future land use recommended by the Air Force, a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) provides the conduit for a cooperative planning effort between TAFB and the affected entities. The focus of the JLUS is to protect the communities as well as address encroachment threats.

ACOG will be serving as a project sponsor for a JLUS study. Ninety percent of the study’s cost will be provided by the DoD Office of Economic Adjustment, with a substantial portion of the local match offset by the state’s Strategic Military Planning Commission.

The next step is the formation of a JLUS steering committee and technical workgroup that will include representatives from each participating community and TAFB. The steering committee will apply for designated funding, develop and issue a request for proposals, define a scope of work and hire a consultant to conduct the study.

ACOG Calendar

February

- 8th Intermodal Transportation Technical Committee, 10 a.m.
- 19th ACOG Offices Closed for President’s Day
- 22nd 9-1-1 Board of Directors, 1 p.m.
Intermodal Transportation Policy Committee, 1:20 p.m.
ACOG Board of Directors, 1:45 p.m.
Garber-Wellington Policy Committee, 2:30 p.m.

March

- 8th Areawide Planning Technical Advisory Committee, 9 a.m.
Intermodal Transportation Technical Committee, 10 a.m.
- 9th Garber-Wellington Technical Committee, 10 a.m.
- 13th 9-1-1 Technical Committee, 9:30 a.m.
- 20th Operation FireSAFE, 10 a.m.
Clean Cities Stakeholders, 1:30 p.m.
- 29th 9-1-1 Board of Directors, 1 p.m.
Intermodal Transportation Policy Committee, 1:20 p.m.
ACOG Board of Directors, 1:45 p.m.
Garber-Wellington Policy Committee, 2:30 p.m.

Central Oklahoma

Perspective

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