

## Third Annual Bike to Work Day Set for May 18

Bike to Work Day will be celebrated May 18 this year throughout the Central Oklahoma region. The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG), and the cities of Oklahoma City, Guthrie, Norman, Yukon and Edmond are helping to coordinate the third annual event.

Bike to Work Day 2007 is part of a national campaign to promote bicycling as a healthy and efficient transportation alternative. The League of American Bicyclists has recognized the month of May as National Bike to Work Month since 1956, and National Bike to Work Day annually offers metropolitan areas the opportunity to call attention to the benefits of bicycling and to increase safety awareness among bicyclists and motorists.

The primary event of Bike to Work Day includes group rides that start at 8:00 a.m. in all five communities. Five group rides in Oklahoma City will end up at Bicentennial Park (Civic Center Music Hall). Norman will feature four different rides culminating at Andrews Park, and Edmond's group ride travels from the University of Central Oklahoma to Festival Market Place. Yukon and Guthrie's routes will be determined. All rides in each



About 500 riders joined in a group ride last year that looped through downtown Oklahoma City. Group rides around the region are planned for Bike to Work Day, scheduled for May 18, 2007.

respective community should wrap up at 8:30 a.m., when speakers will make presentations.

The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) is also asking citizens to participate in a survey focused on bicycling. The survey may help determine characteristics of the metro's bicycling community, and provide some insight to intermodal components of re-

gional transportation planning.

The survey is interactive and can be taken online at ACOG's Web site, [www.acogok.org](http://www.acogok.org), through May 18. Hard copies of the survey have been distributed to area bicycle shops. Complete details about Central Oklahoma Bike to Work Day 2007 can be found at [www.acogok.org](http://www.acogok.org). Call Lisa Kehoe or Jerry Church at ACOG, 234-2264 for more information.

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## Joint Land Use Study Groups to Meet

As the agency designated to serve as the Tinker Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) study sponsor, ACOG staff has been coordinating with the Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) on the preparation of the application to seek federal funding assistance for the JLUS study. The preliminary application, budget and request for proposals (RFP) were submitted to the OEA in April for its review

and tentative federal approval. Ninety percent of the study's cost is expected to be provided by the OEA, with a substantial portion of the local match offset by the state's Strategic Military Planning Commission.

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 ...See "Land Use Study" on page three.

# ACOG and Clean Air Partners Garner ADDYS

ACOG and its advertising partner, Third Degree Advertising, won two ADDY awards last month, presented annually by the Oklahoma City Advertising Club. The ADDY awards are the regional advertising field's highest honor and are voted on by people within the regional advertising industry.

ACOG projects were honored with:

- A Bronze Merit award in the local public service mixed/multiple media campaign category for the clean air campaign (TV, radio, outdoor, Internet).
- A Bronze Merit award for public service radio for a script called "Mom's Square." The 60-second commercial is a lyrical poem narrated by a busy mom, in Dr. Seuss-style prose, as she details how she incorporates clean

air friendly habits, such as vanpooling and trip-chaining into her busy daily schedule.

The media products are just a few of the components of the annual air quality public education campaign that is developed by ACOG's Clean Air Committee. Throughout the year, the ACOG Clean Air Committee, which includes staff from ACOG, OGE Energy Corp. (OG&E), Chesapeake Energy, Devon Energy, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber and the city of Oklahoma City, also implements the Clean Air Alert Day program in Central Oklahoma. In 1998, the Committee began to develop strategic marketing and public education programming using paid media in order to emphasize the importance of air quality to the region. The group is hard at work

on the 2007 campaign.

Third Degree staff that work on ACOG projects include Brian Winkeler, Jentry Miller, Amanda Spencer, Tara Street, Mickie Lara and Roy Page.

Over 1,000 entries for the ADDYS were submitted this year. In the past seven years, ACOG public education projects in air quality, stormwater and 9-1-1 have generated 12 ADDY awards.



"Mom's Square" was a winning radio script for ACOG and its advertising partner, Third Degree Advertising, in this year's ADDY Awards. The script created the character, followed by a billboard visual image, and Internet art that was used in the overall campaign.

## 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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Commissioner Mark Sharpton, *Logan County*

#### Vice Chairman:

Councilmember Willa Johnson, *Oklahoma City*

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Councilmember Kathy Walker, *Nichols Hills*

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Central Oklahoma Perspective, printed in house, is authorized by the ACOG Board of Directors. Financing is partly provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, the U.S. Department of Transportation and local dues. 1,850 copies were prepared and distributed at a cost of \$944. Copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

## NTW Honors Young 9-1-1 Hero

During last month's National Telecommunicator Week (NTW) observance, the 9-1-1 Association (9-1-1 ACOG) honored an eight-year-old Edmond boy as its "9-1-1 Hero." The inaugural award was designed to recognize a child caller to 9-1-1 who recognized the proper way to use the service during an emergency.

Tristan Robinson, who attends Washington Irving Elementary School in Edmond, was honored in front of his third grade classmates. Also recognized was EMSA dispatcher Michael Fought, who helped provide Robinson with the medical instruction that helped to stabilize his mother, LaShae, when she experienced a diabetic seizure.

Tristan actually had previous experience calling 9-1-1. Six years ago, when he was just two years old and living in California, he had to call 9-1-1 in a similar situation. As a journeyman caller to 9-1-1, he helped influence and educate his fellow peers at the school at his recognition ceremony.

The presentation was the highlight for the week of activities that put the focus on Central Oklahoma's calltakers. While this was the first official National Telecommunicator Week celebrated by 9-1-1 ACOG, the week is part of an ongoing national program dedicated to the men

and women who serve as public safety telecommunicators.

The success of the week, which included participation from 22 area-answering points, will continue next year with potential recognition of other citizen callers, dispatchers and emergency operation centers. This year's programming included daily door prizes, a commemorative lapel pin, a dispatch center decorating contest (won by City of Norman), a perpetual traveling trophy ...See "Young Hero" on page three.



The 9-1-1 Association hailed Tristan Robinson, 8, of Edmond, a "9-1-1 Hero" last month during National Telecommunicator Week.

## “Young Hero”

...Continued from page two.  
and official proclamations adopted by the 9-1-1 ACOG Board of Directors and member municipalities.

Central Oklahoma dispatchers are the “heroes behind the scenes” when emergencies occur. Calltakers are the first people “on the scene” of every crime, fire and medical emergency.

For more information on NTW 2008, call Wendi Marcy, ACOG.

## “Land Use Study”

...Continued from page one.  
is to protect the communities as well as address encroachment threats.

The first joint meeting of the JLUS Policy Committee and Technical Working Group is scheduled for May 4 at the ACOG offices. An overview of the JLUS Program and the 2006 Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ) Study for Tinker Air Force Base will be presented.

Tinker Air Force Base (TAFB) announced the release of its AICUZ study at a public meeting in Del City in January. 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 last AICUZ study was released in 1998. Conducted by the Department of Defense, 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 encourage impacted communities and entities, 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, future land restrictions within the APZs, height and obstruction ordinances and continual communication with TAFB.

At the meeting, the JLUS Policy Committee will be asked to formally approve the JLUS grant application and RFP for submission to the OEA for final approval.

For more information, contact Holly Massie, ACOG.



## Around the Region

- The **U.S. Department of Energy** has notified **ACOG's Central Oklahoma Clean Cities** program that it is receiving a \$2,000 incentive reward from **General Motors**. Thanks to **Yvonne Anderson**, the **GM Clean Cities Reward Program** will be used to offset outreach activities that included a “Beyond a Billion Gallons” alternative fuels event, the group’s participation in the Governor’s Bio-fuels Conference and other public events.

- **Cleveland County Commissioner Bill Graves** died last month. He was 80 years old. Graves was a 20-year veteran of the Commission, having won reelection in July 2006. He was raised in Noble and graduated from Noble High School before entering the U.S. Army Air Corps. Before being elected Commissioner, Graves had worked for Cleveland County in the Assessor’s Office. He loved cars and racing, and was well known for his dedication and commitment to the County, its citizens and its needs.

- New elected officials, newcomers to municipal administrations and staff are invited to join us at **ACOG's Annual Orientation Session**. Held at ACOG’s offices in Bricktown, the half-day seminar includes lunch, helps introduce ACOG’s staff to new members, as well as details the Association’s many regional programs and services. Member communities will be receiving invitations in the coming weeks. For more information, contact **Susan Yingling**, ACOG.

- Run-off elections in many municipalities across the region have netted new public officials. In **Piedmont**, former councilmember and legacy **Mike Fina** was named Mayor. Fina is the son of **George Fina**, who

previously served the city as Mayor and Councilmember. **Jodi Lewis** was named to council. In **Guthrie**, **Chuck Burtcher** was named Mayor, while **Mary Coffin** was elected to the Council. **Edmond** citizens voted in a new Mayor in **Dan O’Neil**, while **Wayne Page** and **Elizabeth Waner** won Council seats. **Larry Fryar** is the new Mayor of **Harrah**, while **Bill Lisby** earned a Council seat. Newcomer **Brian Walters** earned the Ward 5 **Oklahoma City** council vote by 11 votes in a very tightly contested race. A few more notable regional results will be announced in next month’s *Central Oklahoma Perspective*.

- **Pete Delaney** and **David Branecky** of **OGE Energy Corp.**, and **Gary Ridley**, director of the **Oklahoma Department of Transportation** were honored for their organization’s commitment to environmental stewardship and regional air quality at last month’s ACOG Board of Director’s meeting. Each group was presented with a framed original photograph depicting beautiful scenes found in Central Oklahoma. Several stakeholders will be recognized throughout the summer as the region works on its air quality programming.



*Pete Delaney, left, from OGE Energy Corp., receives an honor from ACOG Executive Director Zach Taylor, recognizing the company for its environmental stewardship.*

# Entities Eligible for Wildflower Grant

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society is accepting Color Oklahoma Wildflower Grant applications through May 15, 2007. The purpose of the grant program is to beautify Oklahoma's urban and rural highway rights-of-way using native wildflowers.

The following entities may apply for a Color Oklahoma Wildflower Grant: any unit of state or local government (such as City Parks Dept., Public Works), schools and universities, Indian Nations, individuals, businesses, and nonprofit and civic groups.

Applicants may request a minimum of \$300 and a maximum of \$500, which must be matched with an equal amount of local funds. Additional local funds may be provided, but the maximum grant per applicant is \$500. Color Oklahoma will provide a total of \$3,000 in grant funds statewide in 2007.

Grants can be used for the purchase of native wildflower seeds only. Grant recipients will choose the sites and Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) crews will sow the seeds. Seeds will be sown in the fall for spring and summer bloom.

Funds for this program are raised from donations and from sales of state

<b>ACOG Calendar</b>	
<b>May</b>	
1st	Regional GIS Technical Committee, 9 a.m.
4th	Joint Land Use Study Policy/Technical Committee, 10 a.m.
9th	Ozone Flex Stakeholders, 1:30 p.m.
10th	Areawide Planning Technical Advisory Committee, 9 a.m. Intermodal Transportation Technical Committee, 10 a.m.
11th	Garber-Wellington Technical Committee, 10 a.m.
15th	Operation FireSAFE, 10 a.m.
17th	Clean Cities Stakeholders, 1:30 p.m.
28th	ACOG Offices Closed for Memorial Day
31st	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.
<b>June</b>	
5th	9-1-1 Technical Committee, 9:30 a.m.
14th	Intermodal Transportation Technical Committee, 10 a.m.
15th	ACOG Orientation, 8:30 a.m.
28th	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.

Color Oklahoma vehicle license plates. Instructions and application forms are

available by contacting Lisa Kehoe, ACOG, 234-2264.

Central Oklahoma  
**Perspective**

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