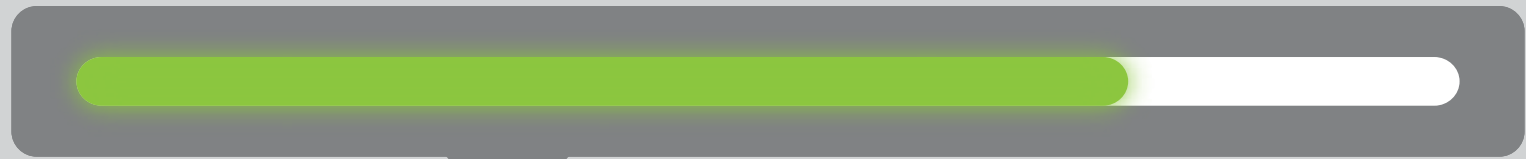


2018



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Welcome to 2018 Norman Progress

Every year, we at The Norman Transcript produce a Norman Progress special section. The focus is both on where our community has come in the past year and what's coming up in the near future.

This year, we decided to focus on people rather than specific businesses, projects, or districts. The goal was to let these community leaders tell the story of Norman's progress over the past 12 months, and what's in store, in their own words. Throughout the section, you'll see stories about almost every aspect of our local community. We hope you enjoy these stories, and they inspire you to think about your own contributions to Norman and how you're helping drive our community forward.

— Caleb Slinkard, Transcript editor

- 5 — Clarke Stroud
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- 18 — Richie Splitt
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- 29 — Curtis McCarty

Kyle Phillips / The Transcript
Normanites gather at TOLY Park for the grand opening of the food truck park in downtown Norman.



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Clarke Stroud — OU's Emcee



Kyle Phillips / The Transcript

Photos cover the walls of Clarke Stroud's office in student affairs. He has a story for just about every one of them.

For OU Vice President for Student Affairs Clarke Stroud, it's all about the students

Adam Troxtell
Transcript Staff Writer
@TranscriptAdam



Even people who did not attend the University of Oklahoma between 1992 and now probably know of Clarke Stroud.

Maybe they've noticed one of his unique suits, complete with bowtie. Or perhaps they will have attended an event at which Stroud lent his voice and personality to fill the master of ceremonies role. There's an even better chance it's a combination of the two.

As the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of

Students at OU since 2000, Stroud's job is to ensure the campus environment — in Norman and across the globe — is conducive to students growing both academically and socially. The countless photos on his office walls show how far he's gone to ensure that, as well as some chance celebrity encounters, fly fishing trips and family outings along the way.

So much of his job involves getting caught up in what other people are doing. So here, Stroud took some time to let everyone else to catch up with him. And yes, he was wearing a green and white patterned bowtie.

Q: One of the biggest

parts of your job is relating to students. Does that come naturally to you?

A: "I'm one of those people who finds value in interpersonal relationships. My capital is making those investments into people and into relationships. So, I think it really boils down to it's the part of the job I love the most. I don't know if I can answer that question in a binary yes or no, but I think making those investments is so important, and helping our students feel they're a part of something and not just a number on their ID card. I'd like to say I know every single student on campus, and I wish I could, but I try to

meet and know as many as I possibly can and do our best to make them feel that OU is truly their home."

Q: What would you say is the most important aspect of your job?

A: "In terms of our mission in the division, it is to support the academic mission of the institution. I feel like the work that we do is to work on the affective side of the student. They're here to develop intellectually, but they're also here to develop socially, and to help them understand they're a part of a community, and, in this day and age where communities are defined with people's thumbs and anonymously

online, and the number of 'Likes' that you get, the number of friends you have or followers, going back to what that traditional definition of what community means. Where people make investments in interpersonal relationships and you're able to communicate with people, taking in the paralinguistic you lose with modern communication.

"Ultimately the goal is that they take what that definition of community means to them to their work environment, to their social environment, their religious environment; whatever it may be. But it doesn't have to be this com-

See **STROUD** Page 7



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Stroud:

From Page 7

munity defined by modern communication.”

Q: You’ve seen that modern communication develop while in your position at the university (social media, the online communication field as a whole). Was that a challenge for you and your department?

A: “I don’t think there’s any doubt that it’s a challenge. Even if you want to get to it from a conduct perspective, from cyber bullying to the postings anonymously that are unkind, at the very least, and sometimes just downright awful, modern technology has created all sorts of difficulties and challenges for student affairs professionals. But at the same time, it’s pushed us to make sure we’re working to make

those solid investments into our students. And we’ve been able to leverage technology, too, to use for our benefit, whether it’s notifying students of a particular event, or being able to communicate a particular message to more people than we’ve ever been able to. But there’s no doubt that the modern trends toward communication create multiple challenges for us.”

Q: You’ve also been very involved in the community. What would you say calls you the most?

A: “Fly fishing is my passion, and my wife calls it my church. When I’m fly fishing, I can leave the world behind and I can just be me, with me and my maker. But I would say my real passion is being a father and a husband. And I don’t say that because it’s the only answer there is, but truly. I’m so fortunate

to have over-married. And Robyn really is the yin to my yang. For all of the gregarious, jovial and outgoing I am, she’s the reserved and thoughtful, and quiet, loves to be by herself.

“And we’ve been able to use that to create two great kids. So that will draw me into doing things in the community, such as coaching soccer, or even engaging in the Chamber (Tomorrow’s Leaders, Leadership Norman.) But additionally, going back to those investments in others, the overall impact. Doing stuff with United Way, I was on the Second Chance board, Cleveland County CASA, helped with Celebrity Sing, and doing some of those things, I think it’s just if I’ve got the time, I’m more than happy to do it. But it comes back to those connections to people in the community. “Those pillars in the

community that I think about are Chuck Thompson and Jim Wade, they are the two that I go to. Those guys are all over everything. I don’t know if I could ever be like that, per se. And I really do enjoy living in Norman. I love the school district. Scott Beck is the principal at my kids’ school and I love what Norman High is doing. My kids had a great experience at Irving. You look at just this wonderful community where people care about each other. It’s been a really great place to raise a family and to live. I really love Norman.”

Q: You’re a fantastic emcee. What’s behind that? Did you study anything, or is it just natural?

A: “My real training was in improv. I was in an improv group for decades, Bologna Rodeo. It was a bunch of people that came together, and they put the

group together in the late 80s. I joined in the early 90s and we performed until about 10 years ago when we all became middle-aged. But the thing about improv training, it really helped to be able to use situations to my advantage, and to be able to think on my feet. Often with an emcee, you can have something written out, but it’s about being able to seize some situational moment you can turn to comedy gold, if you will.

“I also look at improv as great training for my day-to-day job. You never know where you’re going to end up, whether you’re talking to a parent, another administrator or faculty member, student, and being able to think creatively and to be able to respond to people. I think it adds to that social IQ, if you will.”

Q: People also know you for how you dress. Is it

something you enjoy, or do you feel students find you more approachable when you wear something out of the ordinary?

A: “I think probably, it’s an extension of my personality, in terms of just not being afraid. If you know the rules, you can break them, with fashion. Just fashion, got to keep that with fashion. But no, I enjoy it. It creates conversation, but at the same time, I just love clothes. I love combinations. It’s probably one of my weaknesses. The joke is — and it is unfortunately true — that my side of the closet is bigger than my wife’s. And that is true, and I’m embarrassed. But I’ve got to have a place to keep my clothes.”

Q: These last few weeks, we’ve had the news that the university is changing presidents. This may also

See **STROUD** Page 9

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Stroud:

From Page 7

lead to changes in the university. From your time here, what would you say is the biggest way you've seen the campus life change?

A: "I don't know that OU has ever had a stronger community, in terms of people having this sense of belonging to something bigger. You look at a lot of the staff members at OU, a lot of graduates, and they so desperately want to stick around and continue to be apart of this. You see are alumni who are giving back and who want to continue to be apart of this. It's not the bricks and the mortar, it's the community we have here. It's a piece of every single person that's walked the sidewalks and walked these halls. It's this sense of community and sense of family."

Q: On a similar note, how do you foresee the campus changing in the future?

A: "From my perspective, I see this continued sense of community. I see a continued value on relationships and living and working together. I really

see a continuation of it. Again, it's ingrained in us as OU students, faculty and staff that there's this kind of greater thing. So I really believe we'll see that continue."

Q: As President David Boren steps down from his role, do you see yourself at the university for the foreseeable future? Do you see your role changing in any way?

A: "I serve at the pleasure of the president. Really, I do."

Q: What's it been like to be in this position to experience Boren's years in charge?

A: "It's a generational change. That's something we've talked a lot about, with students. There hasn't been a change at OU like this in nearly a quarter of a century. It's different, and it creates a lot of different emotions in people. President Boren is going to go down as ... the George Lynn Cross of the 21st Century. He had that kind of impact. George Lynn Cross was the president of the 20th Century, seen as the benchmark. I see President Boren as a George Lynn Cross, just in terms of his impact. It's far-reaching. I'm sad to see him go, but I'm excited about the future."



Kyle Phillips / The Transcript

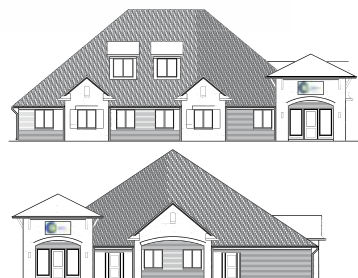
Chances are good that anyone who happens across Clarke Stroud, be it on campus or out in the community, will find him in unique, finely matched attire.



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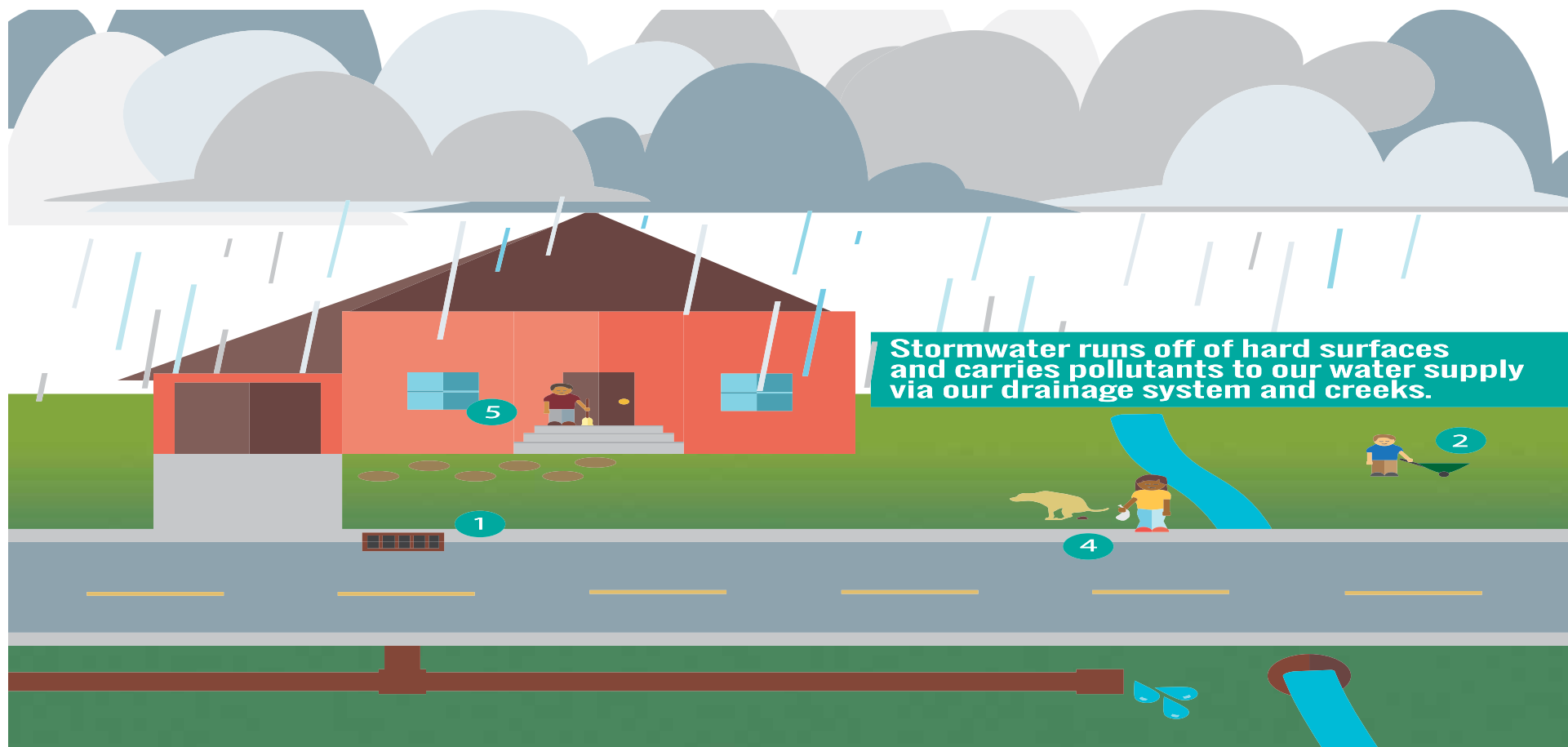
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2. Norman has an ordinance which restricts the use of phosphorus-containing fertilizers. Natural or organic fertilizers are recommended. Consider visiting the City's compost facility to get some for free. Visit GreenNorman.org for more information.
3. Properly dispose of used motor oil, paint and other household chemicals. Visit the City of Norman's website for a list of disposal option: normanok.gov/utilites/es/environmental-services-household-hazardous
4. **Doo** the right thing and pick up your pet's waste. Pet waste can carry harmful bacteria and parasites.
5. Clean your sidewalks and patios with a broom, dustpan and garbage can instead of washing them with a garden hose.



Shawn O'Leary — Building a legacy



Mack Burke / The Transcript
Norman Public Works Director Shawn O'Leary poses next to the city's 2025 plan at city hall.

For eleven years, Norman public works director Shawn O'Leary has focused on his community

Mack Burke
Transcript News Editor
@MackBurke4



When someone drives over the Lindsey Street Bridge they probably don't think about Shawn O'Leary.

That doesn't bother him. Norman's public works director hasn't worked tirelessly over his last 11 years here in the hopes that he would get all the credit. In fact, he's quick to give it away.

"I really just enjoy being part of it," he said. "I go back

to visit places I've worked, like Salina, and there are a couple of bridges that I drag my wife to every time I go. It drives her crazy, but those are special to me. There's something about those bridge projects and road projects ... You sort of think about that and your legacy. Someday, I'm going to drive my grandkids over some of Norman's roads and bridges and say 'I had a part in that'."

"Every day is a new day, a new challenge. We really make an impact on our community ... The things we do in public works are

very tangible. You see it, you touch it, you feel it, you watch it work."

O'Leary, a Kansas State engineering alumnus who brought 23 years of experience with him when he arrived in Norman in 2007, could have chosen to work in the private sector. He said there's no doubt he could've made more money, but he would've missed out on something more valuable.

"I have plenty of friends who work in the private consulting field. They make a lot more money and my wife has always wondered about my

sanity. I said 'those guys are traveling around the country all of the time and they don't really get to be part of the community.'

"That's the beauty of my job. I'm here every day. I'm in those chamber meetings. I'm in those rotary club meetings. I'm part of this community and I have a contribution to it that, whenever I do decide to retire, I can look back and say that I did everything I could. I like to look at the work we do that way and the staff we have here are perfectionists. They care deeply about their

jobs and they really put their heart and soul into it every day. We have a common vision that way."

The Lindsey Street Bridge project, a \$71 million endeavor that incorporated state and federal funds into the largest ODOT contract to date, is just one track on O'Leary's growing greatest hits list. He was at the helm of the Public Works Department when the city finished the Robinson Street overpass, which, after decades of planning, finally gave

See **O'LEARY** Page 12

O'Leary:

From Page 11

emergency vehicles a vital route to avoid train-related hangups. He led the city's vehicle fleet conversion to natural gas, saving the city millions of dollars in fuel costs in the process.

"We're saving a lot of money on our fleet today because of that," he said. "It's a great success story. Not to mention the environmental benefits ... That's the kind of stuff that I really have enjoyed over my career."

He has also championed public art and overseen the Street Maintenance Bond Program, now in its third voter-approved five-year cycle.

"We've gone to voters

three different times and with each one there was more voter approval," he said. "So, that kind of speaks to us and tells us that we're doing a good job and doing what citizens want us to do."

He said the city is in the midst of a long overdue overhaul of many neighborhood streets even as it looks to the future with its stormwater master plan and a comprehensive master plan.

O'Leary was instrumental in those, too.

"We think those set the framework for the next 20 years for Norman," he said. "There is a bigger vision out there. It's not just a project at a time. We're really planning a whole transportation and stormwater system to function into the future."

That also includes expanded bike routes.

"Right now, we have a mile of 10-foot bike lane under construction on Highway 9 between 24th Ave. SE and 36th Ave. SE," he said. "We've been working on that grant and that project for about six years and we're constructing it now."

He said those efforts are tied into the goal of creating a safe, connected bike route between urban Norman and Lake Thunderbird.

"We're close to doing that," he said.

O'Leary said the plan was heavily informed by cyclists and folks who ride a lot. Norman Forward also has roughly \$10 million in funding that will be used for trails on N. Flood Ave. from Robinson Street to

Tecumseh Road, as well.

"We're trying to connect the current Legacy Trail, which is about 10 miles long, back to neighborhoods where there are existing trails and paths," he said. "We're thinking about those folks who want to not just bike for recreation, but to bike to work, mixing recreation with actual transportation."

Though a lot of O'Leary's work involves intense planning on road projects, he hasn't just been hiding behind the scenes. When someone has a question at city hall, often times the best answer is "ask Shawn."

Norman Chief Communications Officer Claudia Deakins said she's not sure how he manages to keep so much information in his head, ready to fire off details on the many projects

"I tell people that I should be good at this, I've been doing it for 35 years."

Shawn O'Leary,

On his experience in public works

his department oversees at a moment's notice. Regardless of how, she said the city is lucky to have him. The adept communicator and engineer is a bit like a unicorn, but O'Leary said a lot of it comes down to experience and the trust he has in his staff.

"Public works is such a broad field and I think because I've been doing it for so long ... you do get a little bit better at it. I tell people that I should be good at this, I've been doing it for 35 years. Some of those answers may come easier to me just because I

have experience from other cities and states ... not that it's easy, but I do call on that experience a lot."

The good news for Norman is that O'Leary doesn't have plans to go anywhere anytime soon. He said he still has work to do.

As accomplished as his career has been, O'Leary feels like a stormwater utility fee to fund all of the cities persistent stormwater needs is his white whale.

"I'm pretty determined to finish the job," he said. "Stormwater is a big part of that. It's a job that's unfinished."

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New life downtown



Joy Hampton
Senior Staff Writer
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Just over a decade ago, a major renaissance on downtown Main Street was spurred by the establishment of the Gray Street parking lot, a city streetscape enhancement project and the birth of the Norman Music Festival.

“The parking lot along with the streetscape enhancements and the festival were turning points,” said Zach Adair, one of three family realtor partners with large share of downtown commercial properties.

Adair and Associates Real

See **ADAIRS** Page 15

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Adairs:

From **Page 13**

Estate, 111 N. Peters Ave., has operated since 1940 as a family-owned company. Dad Jim Adair, son Zach and daughter Ashley Adair-Garner work as a team offering a large number of properties in downtown Norman.

“We started doing a lot of our revitalization around that time too,” Ashley said. “We did Michaelangelos and the Social Club site.”

The Gray Street parking lot freed up the Main Street space and allowed restaurants to come downtown, changing the downtown dynamic, Zach said.

“As opposed to traditional retail, you’ve got retail and services,” Zach said.

For those seeking cultural experiences, downtown

is fully authentic — you won’t find a lot of chain stores here.

“Everything down here is local now,” Jim said. “Second Friday has highlighted the walkability of downtown.”

Galleries and art studios from Pinot’s Palette to the Silk Road weaving studio to the new Lazy Circles Brewery and Whispering Willows Art Gallery are just a few of the most recent addition to what is now known as the Larry Walker Arts District in downtown Norman. More restaurants and another brewery is in the making.

“We’re seeing the evolution of an entertainment district,” Jim said. “We’ve hit a synergy on restaurants. We’re getting second brewery and we’re looking at a wine bar.”

Walkability needs infrastructure, but it also needs a culture of seeing

an area as a place to walk and enjoy rather than as a drive-through location. Events like Music Fest., Second Friday Art Walk and Fall Fest have taken advantage of the beautiful and accessible streetscape to change the mind set of people coming into downtown Norman.

It’s a vibe where arts and entertainment businesses can thrive, creating an atmosphere of cooperation between restaurants, art galleries and breweries where having multiple choices makes downtown a destination.

“They’re all excited to be together. It enhances walkability,” Zach said. “They offer similar products but with separate atmospheres and individual touches.”

Jim said the park and walk concept has caught on downtown.

“You go to Pinot’s Palette and do the entertainment

piece and then walk across the street and have dinner,” he said.

Ashley agreed.

“Then you might walk over to some of the galleries,” she said.

What developers and city leaders are trying to bring to other areas is happening naturally downtown, they said.

Parking and walking is great exposure for local business as pedestrians stroll through the area and really take time to see the variety of businesses.

“The walkability encourages a sense of community and you’re locally involved with businesses,” Zach said.

Adding some living spaces further supports business development in the area.

“Because downtown has become a destination, it’s kept us putting in loft apartments,” Ashley said. “It’s a place where people

want to spend time, and now they’re living here.”

“They can eat and shop and play,” Zach said. “You see the same places every day when you walk the street, and you get to know the people you’re dealing with”

The historical designation helps protect the unique character downtown and adds to the atmosphere.

“It has a historical quality you can’t duplicate, and I think Norman’s done a really good job of preserving it,” Jim said. “Downtown is more of a destination today than it ever has been. Along with the branding of the Larry Walker Arts district, that’s going to let people know they can come down here and walk and eat and see the local galleries.”

The Downtowners Association further created a welcoming environment with tree lights and atmospheric lights that change

colors strung across the street.

“That was a huge factor with the Christmas Parade going to night because they had the lights across the street,” Ashley said. “In general, the growth we’re seeing down here with renovations to old buildings and the new buildings going up is really exciting. We think that downtown is the healthiest it’s ever been.”

Day jobs help support the restaurants throughout the work week while the entertainment value brings in night and weekend business.

“The marriage of offices and restaurants works really well down here,” Jim said. “The built-in office traffic gives the restaurants a really good lunch business.”

Learn more about downtown Norman at downtownnorman.com. To reach Adair and Associates call 321-8984.



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V for Victory, for 'very, very fast growth'

Adam Troxtell

Transcript Staff Writer
@TranscriptAdam



Adam and Kristy Starling had a vision.

They're not sure why they had it, but they are certainly glad they did. A little more than five years ago, they went from Victory Church in Oklahoma City to taking over a branch that had become independent in Norman.

They started Victory Family Church with about 100 parishioners in January 2013. Now, in a building on 4343 N Flood Ave., the couple and the staff of about 35 minister to an average of 3,700 each Sunday.

That number grew to

more than 6,000 on Easter.

"We did believe God was going to do something supernatural and something different," Kristy, lead worship pastor, said. "We knew he had called us here, so we were going to walk in what he asked us to do. I don't think we anticipated it to be so quick and aggressive, but He knew that."

In a metropolitan area of a state firmly inside the Bible belt, Victory Family Church seems to have caught something by the tail. Their way of worship, Bible study and ministering has attracted thousands, and it continues to grow.

Victory Family School has started for grades K-6th, and Adam said it already has 130 enrolled for the next school

Continued on the **NEXT PAGE**



Adam and Kristy Starling serve as the lead pastor and lead worship pastor, respectively, of Victory Family Church in Norman.

Kyle Phillips
The Transcript

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year. Then there's the leadership college, where future pastors will be brought up inside the church or take what they've learned and apply it elsewhere.

And there's also the new Victory Family Church planned for Newcastle this fall.

"I expected it would grow," Adam said. "I think the speed of growth was probably faster than I expected. I didn't realize how difficult the growth would be until I became a senior pastor. Maintaining the family feel has been our most difficult challenge."

At the center of the church's efforts is to make it a place where people can grow in Christ as a family. They work to ensure every age group and every background is involved, Adam said.

"From the landscaping to the bathrooms, we want everything to feel like home," he said. "We're intentional

about family feel, about diversity. You always see different ages and races on the platform. The idea is every person who attends our church feels welcome before they even enter the door and the feel represented on the stage."

Church dress is casual. The sermons are easy to follow and applied to every day life. And, most importantly, background doesn't matter when it comes to membership.

"We're going to love you no matter who you are or where you come from," Adam said. "You don't have to think like us or believe like us for us to love you. We're just going to love people where they're at, no matter who they are. And we're deeply committed to seeing people grow with God."

The Starlings are adamant: they love all churches, they know Norman has great ones and they don't

want to take people away from those ministries. The focus at Victory Family Church is on people who have never been apart of a church.

"Statistics say 40-50 percent of people in our community have no religious affiliation," Adam said. "So I think there's an incredible need for people to know Christ in our community. There are a lot of churches, but there are also a lot of people."

Kristy is more than qualified to lead worship for crowds of that size. She received a recording contract from the Christian music division of Warner Bros. after finishing second on a TODAY Show singing contest.

But the community church is where she's at her best, Kristy said.

"I actually get to be involved in people's lives here," she said. "I know their struggles and I can

sing from a place inside of me that understands what they're going through. The platform to minister through music is so much more rich knowing what they're going through."

Recently, Adam said they considered what to do about their increasingly packed auditorium that already seats 1,000. They could knock down a wall to join it with another room, adding to the capacity.

But it's already hard enough to maintain the family, home-like feel with so many people. So instead, they're building an entirely new auditorium of similar size, and Adam will just go back and forth between seven services.

"The bigger the building gets, the more difficult it is to have a sense of community and family," he said. "Instead, I'm just going to go back and forth. We'll stack them at 45 minutes. It's unique. For us, it's very

"I think there's an incredible need for people to know Christ in our community."

Adam Starling, Victory Family Church

much as we grow, how do we make sure we don't lose that family feel."

It's been a lot to take on. And that's even more true for a couple already raising two children.

True to its mission, the church administration is open to family, too. Kids will come to work, and the Starlings said they even approach their children about church decisions they make.

"You can get to a place where kids resent the church," Kristy said, "where they say, 'It's taken my dad or mom away, they're always there.' We've always wanted our kids to grow up saying I was involved in every aspect of what my mom

and dad were doing."

Family centered, indeed. As Victory Family Church continues to grow by leaps and bounds, the Starlings' commitment to that philosophy of church building remains in the middle.

It seems to be working.

"We've had people come in who have said 'I've never been to a church before,'" Kristy said. "There's also been people who have been hurt by a church. So we get to present a different side. Let me re-present who Christ is. Representation is just a re-presentation. Maybe someone has a misunderstanding of who God was, but we get the opportunity to re-present who Christ is."



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Richie Splitt



Kyle Phillips / The Transcript

In this file photo, Norman Regional Health System President/CEO Richie Splitt talks about educating people on healthcare options during a State of Healthcare in Oklahoma Informational Forum hosted by the four Rotary clubs of Norman.

Looking toward a healthy future for Norman, county

Joy Hampton
Senior Staff Writer
@JoyInvestigates



Richie Splitt took the helm of the Norman Regional Health System as CEO in November 2016. He had been in leadership heading the HealthPlex in Norman and as Moore Medical Center's top executive since May 13, 2013, starting the job just seven days before an EF-5 tornado destroyed the Moore

facility.

With nearly three decades of experience, Splitt has a background in clinical, operational and service excellence within a multi-facility environment. He is a native Oklahoman who grew up in south Oklahoma City, attended Moore schools and worked in the Oklahoma City greater metro health community.

Splitt helped guide the rebuilding of Norman Regional Moore and expanded EMSSTAT, the health system's ambulance service,

to Moore. He led the expansion of the robotic surgery and cardiovascular service programs for the Health System.

Now, Splitt speaks on some of the new trends and initiatives at the Norman Regional Health System.

Q: What's new for the obstetrics department at the HealthPlex?

A: In conjunction with current community OB/GYN physicians, NRHS is establishing an OB/GYN

See **SPLITT** Page 19

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Splitt:

From Page 18

Hospitalist Model that features a dedicated Obstetric Emergency Department staffed with experienced OB/ED doctors on site 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The emergency department is there solely for the purpose of providing immediate care to expectant mothers with obstetrical complaints and who are more than 20 weeks pregnant.

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If your personal physician is detained or unable to provide immediate treatment, NRHS ensures that you and your unborn baby will be treated by a highly-skilled, experienced OB/GYN physician without delay. Our sole focus is to continue advancing our ability to provide quality women's healthcare.

Our goals for the program are to improve patient safety and patient experience through the immediate availability of OB specialists and to be known as the leader in obstetrics care in the market...a "delivery destination."

Q: What is the latest in breast care and cancer prevention?

A: Tomosynthesis or 3-D Mammography — a 3-dimensional image of breast tissue allows for better analysis of masses, even for patients with dense breast tissue, and is

now the standard for breast mammography. The Norman Regional Breast Care Center which moved to the HealthPlex Campus late last year and Mammography services now open at Norman Regional Moore use 3-D Mammography as the standard breast screening.

If women or a men have a history of breast cancer in their family, genetic testing is appropriate for cancer prevention. The cost of the BRCA genetic tests have come down considerably in the past few years, making it more available as a preventive test. Those interested to learn more about this, can call 405-307-2290.

Q: What improvements is NRHS making to its oncology department?

A: By late summer, the Norman Regional Oncology clinic will move to a new location on the

northeast side of Norman Regional Hospital, in an area formerly home to the Breast Care Center. This team looks forward to moving into a larger, more convenient space specifically renovated to meet the needs of the providers and their patients.

The clinic will use a new chemotherapy management tool, Intellidose. This application is designed to automate the process, supporting complex chemotherapy management through computerized physician order entry — automating nursing notes, capturing patient chemotherapy encounter details in nursing charge summaries, and providing practice data in comparison with national benchmarks.

Norman Regional is developing a comprehensive service that includes medical, radiologic and surgical oncology to streamline services for the patient and

their family in one central location.

Our lung navigation system includes the Electromagnetic Navigation Bronchoscopy (ENB) System. The ENB procedure is a minimally invasive approach that accesses difficult-to-reach areas of the lung, aiding in the diagnosis of lung disease and leading to earlier, personalized treatment, potentially saving lives.

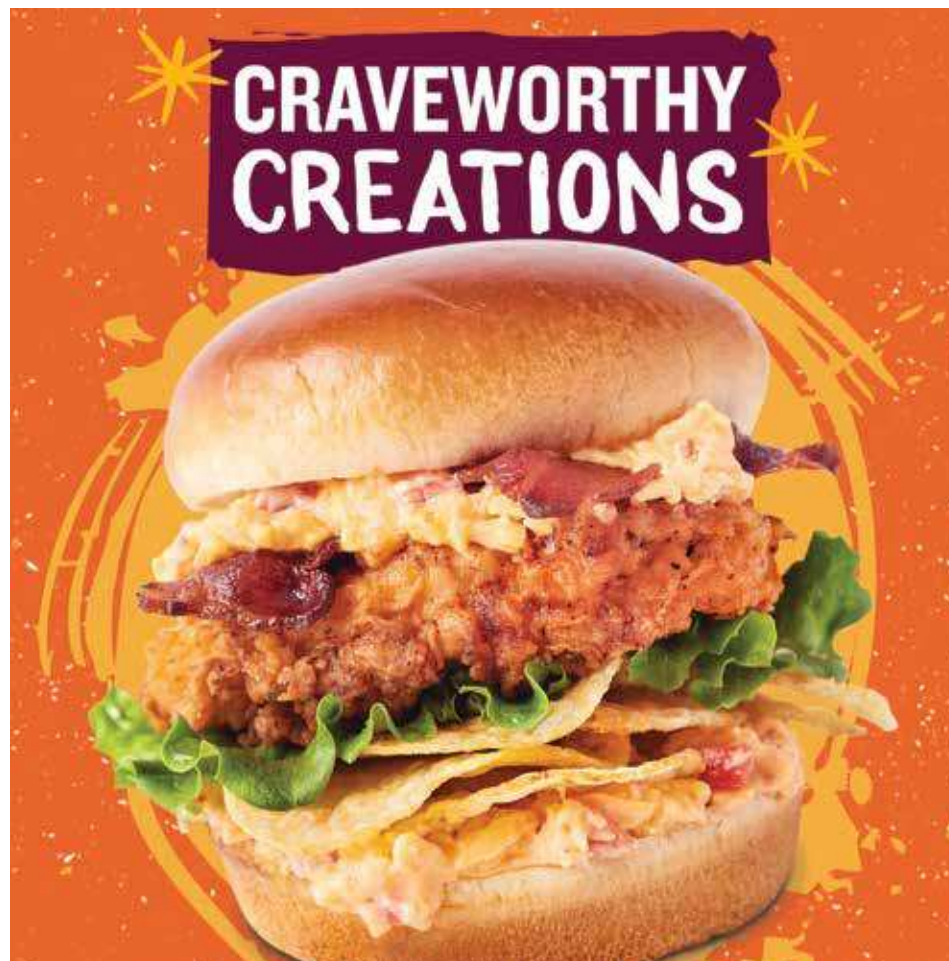
Q: What is the role of teamwork in providing quality healthcare?

A: Collaboration with and between our healers and other health agencies is extremely important to Norman Regional. We are constantly in communication and working with others to address issues. Norman Regional also aims to facilitate the ideas of our front-line healers. They often see problems such as opioid addiction

as part of their work and are often the best people to offer solutions and ideas. Norman Regional listens to our healers, creates system-wide solutions and involves our team and other community agencies and partners in every step of the process.

Q: How does NRHS stay abreast of emerging technologies and why is that so important?

A: NRHS leadership stays abreast of healthcare industry trends by active participation in professional associations at the state and national level and emerging technologies on the horizon. NRHS participates in national patient quality care initiatives through our national healthcare partner, Vizient, and is well-informed of emerging healthcare trends from our research and strategic planning partner, Sg2.



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Jonathan Fowler — Moving forward



Kyle Phillips / The Transcript

Jonathan Fowler with his wife Natalie and children Winnie and Ezra. Fowler said he hopes to set an example to his children of thoughtful community involvement.

Fowler discusses local business, arts community, core Norman, and how the city can grow

Caleb Slinkard

Transcript Editor
@CalebSlinkard



Jonathan Fowler has a pretty good bead on what's happening in Norman: his family has been in Norman since his grandfather, Bill, opened Fowler Toyota in 1973. Recently named president of Fowler Holding Company, Jonathan is also a significant supporter of the arts community, and lives in core Norman with his wife, Natalie and children Winnie and Ezra.

It's an intersection of business, community impact and cultural support that makes a lot of sense in Norman, and one Jonathan is able to move deftly between thanks to a thoughtful, positive outlook.

"I am very hopeful [about Norman's future], based on a lot of these things we've seen in the past 10-15 years, and I want to see the discussion around Norman's future continue to be positive," he said. "I'm not naive; there are always going to be people who disagree very vocally, and think everyone is wrong and they're right."

"I know that, because when we were starting the Norman Music Festival, there were five people who every year wanted it to go away, and every year the community stood up with one voice and said 'No, this is important and we want it.' That always happened in a positive way and we never vilified the five-to-10 people or isolated them. It was about why we needed to keep and build on the festival. I think we get a lot further a lot faster when we keep

the discussion coming from that perspective."

Being able to have those kinds of conversations, face-to-face, is what drives Norman forward, Jonathan said.

"I love what I see in my community, in neighborhood groups that engage face-to-face in places like Midway Deli, safe places where people come to engage," he said. "We've seen a tremendous amount of progress in communication. It's been kind of double-edged, because there's been some heavy reliance on input from social media platforms. I'm not saying it's all bad, but it's not a good thing when a lot of the discussion at the municipal level is being driven from [social media]."

Jonathan has long been a proponent of mixed-use, multimodal development that has revitalized

downtown areas in major cities across the country. He was instrumental in the development of Center City, new form-based code designed to promote such development in core Norman, and pointed out that the progress Campus Corner and downtown Norman have made in the last decade was due to the community coming together.

"It didn't just happen," he said. "There was a tremendous amount of public policy discussion and engagement with community members that was backed by private investment, with the nonprofit sector pitching in to create quality of life events. Communication is key and, then, really identifying the consensus items we can all agree on, staying positive and moving forward with those items."

Continued on **NEXT PAGE**

Fowler:

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And on those things that there isn't mass consensus on, I don't know if we should push those very hard, unless it has to do with public safety or is a time sensitive issue."

A third generation local businessman who has spent almost his entire life in Norman, Jonathan said he's here for the long haul, which means driving discussions about the future of his community is not merely an intellectual exercise.

"My goal is not to show up and work on one issue; my goal is to be continuously involved in my community for the rest of my life, to show that example to my children, to have the most positive impact I can have," he said. "I don't

want to drive wedges between my neighbors.

"The UNP arena, no matter which side of it you fall on, do we really need to sit here and vilify the University of Oklahoma? I don't think Norman would be what it is without OU. Does that mean the city has to do everything the university wants it to do when and how it wants? No, it doesn't mean that at all. It means we're a partner, the city of Norman and OU are critical assets, and you're talking about a once in a generation opportunity when OU approaches you with a project of this size. I saw walls go up immediately, where I'm shocked you wouldn't want to engage in discussion when two assets are willing to talk about something of this nature. Surely there is compromise and consensus around an idea."

A supporter of local arts, Fowler understands the important role public art projects play in quality of life, as well as how much of an economic driver a strong arts community can be.

"We're really lucky to have the people we do on the arts council board," he said. "I think it speaks to our state arts council and how hard they've worked in light of years of cuts. I also think it speaks to the strength of our business community that's invested, long-term businesses like Republic Bank and Chuck Thompson, and families like the Adairs. Then you see this new generation, and what [Dr. Gabriel Bird] is doing with TOLY Park, something unique that's going right in the middle of our arts district. I don't think people realize the impact that's going to have."



Jonathan Fowler stands in front of a piece of public art in Urban Alley in downtown Norman. A significant supporter of the Norman Arts Council and Norman Music Festival, Fowler understands the importance of maintaining a strong public art presence.

Caleb Slinkard
Transcript Editor



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Chad Vice — Getting involved

A local small business owner and school board member, Vice invests in community cornerstones

Mack Burke
Transcript News Editor
@MackBurke4



Born and raised in Western Oklahoma in the small communities of Clinton and Cordell, Norman Public Schools Board President Chad Vice came to Norman eight years ago.

He and his wife Jennifer own a local company called Service Group Oklahoma and the Sooner Shopping Center in Moore. He said their focus is on promoting local businesses, which he believes are vital structures in the framework of a community.

Another cornerstone, he said, is education.

Vice wasn't seeking power or prestige when he ran for school board in 2013. He saw it as an opportunity.

The father of a 14-year-old at Whittier Middle School and a 10-year-old at Truman Elementary, Vice said they motivated him to get involved with schools. In 2010, he started to get active with WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students), a mentoring program focused on providing positive male role models.

"We really set the energy district wide and reactivated some programs that had gone stale," he said. "We got dads involved and tried to bring that male mentoring to the schools."

After seeing him in action, he said some business leaders approached him with the idea to run for the Ward 4 school board seat.

He had never considered it before, but after some soul searching, and discovering that there were no parents



NPS Board President Chad Vice poses with Assistant Transportation Director Mike Tauscher during a board meeting at the NPS administration building, 131 S. Flood Ave.

Photo Provided

of current NPS students on the board, he decided to give it a go.

"The more I found out, the more it piqued my interest and the more I could see the value of having a parent on the school board," he said.

The election was easy as it turned out, because he didn't draw an opponent.

The work, he said, proved more challenging, but it's something he enjoys and feels called to do.

Vice went on to become president of the board earlier this year. His one-year term runs through the start of 2019 and he said he has every intention of continuing his work if he gets the chance.

"I feel like I've been in training for five years," he said. "School business is a lot different than businesses that I run. There's a huge learning curve. It's changing every day with things that we're dealing with ... but I love it."

"We are so blessed with the quality of educators we have in Norman ... (Superintendent) Nick Migliorino is an incredible leader and we all have great synergy together. Our brighter days are ahead of us and I certainly want to continue to carry that forward ... We are in a really good spot right now and I don't want to do anything to break that up. We've worked really hard to get here. It's all about people."

He said NPS is a fantastic school district, and he wants it to stay that way.

He said that will require growth and getting there is the biggest challenge the district faces, both now and in the future.

"We have to have a good strong working relationship with the city of Norman to attract businesses to really continue to provide competitive offerings," he said. "That's how the longterm health of

the school district thrives is in student enrollment growth and ad valorem growth.

"We have not experienced the growth that we need to continue to have longterm health. There's a lot going on in the city to help us get there, but we've got to continue to focus on it. It has to be talked about and we've got to make some decisions ... We have to understand that this is the lifeblood of our community."

Vice said the OU Foundation's arena project idea and a new state-of-the-art senior center are the kinds of developments he believes will promote strong growth in Norman.

Innovative thinking and forward planning coupled with the continued strong community support of school bond issues will drive the success of NPS, he said.

NPS is just one of Norman's educational institu-

tions. Vice also had praise for the University of Oklahoma and Moore-Norman Technology Center.

Combined with the community support that the city shows for education, he said it paints a picture of a vibrant community that has its priorities in the right place: the classroom.

He said the support the community showed during the teacher walkout is indicative of that.









"This community has the strength of relationships and coming together and pulling for the betterment of our city," he said. "Norman's a pretty sweet spot because of the quality of our people. The opportunities are here for our kids to remain here if they want and I think that's a focus that we need to continue to drive. They don't need to move away to find what they're looking for. They can find it right here."



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Parents often worry about the price tag of braces for their children, but count it as a known cost of raising their kids. When it comes to their own teeth, however, adults are a lot more cautious about the money involved. This wait and see approach by adults usually finds them living their lives unhappy about their smile. But as Bob Dylan once pinned, **The Times They Are A-Changin**. Advances in 3D Printing technologies are starting to erase this old mindset that orthodontics is an - out of reach luxury for adults. By bringing the manufacturing of aligners in-house, an orthodontics office could save a patient thousands of dollars worth of expenses by eliminating the need to outsource to a third party lab, and have more accurate results to boot. One such orthodontics office is progressing Norman into this new era of care. The staff at **Orthodontics Exclusively** has been investing in the training and technologies to produce this new kind of high tech lab. Though when asked, **Dr Tim Shannon** explained that the cost savings wasn't the main motivator for crafting their own invisible aligners.

"The reality is that we are pretty obsessive in looking for ways to improve and individualize orthodontic treatment for our patients, so though the expense savings is great for the patients, the quality of care we can deliver with our lab is what really excited us. The ability to have the manufacturing phase of aligners a few feet away from me allows me and the other doctors to be involved in every phase of our patients treatment every step of the way. Outsourcing the manufacturing of your aligners leaves you at the mercy of their processes and procedures, and you can't inspect the results until they ship them to you. With our in-house aligners, we can catch any errors in real time, and deliver quality appliances the first time everytime." - Dr. Tim Shannon



Orthodontics Exclusively's Dr. Mark Revels inspects an aligner mold printed at their Norman, OK lab.

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Brandon Brooks speaks during the Hands and Hearts luncheon April 20 at Journey Church. The event serves as one of the primary fundraisers for the Center for Children and Families in Norman.

Kyle Phillips
The Transcript



Brandon Brooks

CCFI works to prevent, reverse impact of adverse experiences on children



A collection of CDC research on childhood development, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), demonstrates the significant long-term impact of both negative experiences and the lack of positive experiences on children. The Center for Children and Families, a nonprofit that’s operated in Norman for almost 50 years, has a goal of preventing and reversing the impact of these adverse experiences on children through a variety of educational and

therapeutic programs. CCFI’s CEO Brandon Brooks said the organization’s trauma-informed care is part of a shift based in research in thinking about child behavior. “For so long, the question has been ‘What’s wrong with this child?’ Based on the knowledge we’ve gained from the ACEs study, we’re asking, instead, ‘What happened to this child?’” he said. “Often, that behavior is rooted in the child’s environment: it’s a response to something.” Brooks said children are more likely to have adverse experiences in Oklahoma than any other state, which means the need is great.

Continued on **NEXT PAGE**

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Reception Thursday May 24 from 6:00 – 9:00 PM.
The show runs from May 24 – June 21, 2018. Artist Jim Pourtorkan and Sculptor Todd Jenkins will be two guests artists featured.

Second Friday Art Walk
6-10 PM

EVENTS FOR 2018

Art Show June 28 – July 19	Reception Thursday June 28, 6-9 PM
Art Show July 26 – Aug 16	Reception Thursday July 26, 6-9 PM
Art Show Aug 23 – Sept 20	Reception Thursday Aug 23, 6-9 PM
Art Show Sept 27 – July 18	Reception Thursday Sept 27, 6-9 PM

FALL ART FESTIVAL - Thursday, October 25 – Nov 12
Art Exhibit Reception Thursday Oct 25, 6-8 PM -- live entertainment 8-9 PM

THANKSGIVING EVENT - Thursday, November 15 – Dec 3
Art Exhibit Reception Thursday Nov 15, 6-8 PM - live entertainment 8-9 PM
Drawings for a Turkey and Ham at 8:00 PM

SANTA'S ART MARKETPLACE and annual Christmas Sale Event. - Thursday, Dec 6 – Jan 7
Art Exhibit Reception Thursday Dec 6, 6-8 PM - live entertainment from 8-10 PM
10% to 40% discounts on Gallery Art and gift shop during entire show dates.

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Friday, Dec 14, 2-9 PM – Saturday Dec 15, 11-6 PM.**

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Norman Art Guild, hosted by Whispering Willows Art Gallery

The design for The Norman Art Guild is for the promotion of the arts of all genres. Demonstrations include artists specializing in art paintings from abstract to realism, sculpture, literature, performing arts, and pottery. We offer critiques and information for selling your artworks on occasion. Our focus is to give artist and those interested in the art information worth your valuable time. We meet every second Monday of the month from 7-9 PM at 226 E. Main St Norman, OK.

A framed abstract painting of a horse's head. The painting uses vibrant colors like red, blue, yellow, and green, creating a stylized, almost cubist representation of the horse's features. The frame is dark wood.

CCFI focuses on prevention through their Bringing Up Babies program, which is a "free, voluntary program offered to pregnant and parenting individuals, including teen parents, to create healthy and stimulating home environments for their children," according to the organization's website. CCFI offers counseling services, divorce and co-parenting services, assistance for parents referred by child welfare or the court system, a baby pantry with diapers, and the Boys & Girls Club after school program.

In teaching parents healthy parenting behavior, often CCFI is working to break a cycle of violence or neglect that have severe, long-term physical, emotional and psychological effects.

"Any time a child is abused or neglected, that means an adult in their life has failed them. That

means those scars are deep," Brooks said. "In working with families on their negative parenting behaviors, sometimes they're just reenacting what they've seen. Often, these behaviors are rooted in generational cycles."

Norman has a reputation as a community that, when it sees a need, comes together to meet it. Brooks said that reputation is accurate, but as more organizations seek fewer donor dollars, he added it's important for Norman to establish community priorities.

"Whether you put your money toward prevention or treatment is a debate that will continue. For Normanites, we need to talk about what will help our community be what we want it to be," Brooks said. "By prioritizing those things, I think we'll be able to stretch those philan-

thropic dollars."

Brooks noted that getting the word out to new community members about what CCFI and other nonprofits are doing to impact the community is vitally important.

"We're a community that continues to grow every week: how do we introduce new community members to the work that's being done?" Brooks said. "I think the challenge for all charitable organizations in our community is how do we effectively and efficiently tell our story so people grasp what we do and how it impacts the community?"

One of the greatest resources for local nonprofits are the students and faculty at the University of Oklahoma. Many of the Boys & Girls Club volunteers are OU students, and CCFI benefits from OU's increased emphasis on its public administration and

nonprofit programs.

"We spend a lot of time and energy recruiting volunteers from OU, and they provide a great deal of support," Brooks said. "We also leverage the university's work study program, and that's critical for us. Students have time to volunteer, but there is a

lot of expertise and skilled individuals at OU we can benefit from: practicum students from psychology and social work, an organizational development professor or class who help us with a study or a program evaluation. The opportunities for us as a nonprofit industry to benefit from

the university community continue to grow.

"It's also a great opportunity for a population who could very easily live their lives between the arches of the university to get out into the community and have an impact."

For more information on CCFI, visit ccfinorman.org.

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Chris Sanders — Coming to Norman



Cody Giles / The Transcript

Black Mesa Brewing Co. co-owner Chris Sanders said he will be moving his brewery from downtown Oklahoma City to a new 10,000 square foot facility located at 3901 N. Flood Ave. in Norman sometime in late August or early September.

With impending addition of Black Mesa Brewing Co., Norman's local brewery scene continues to grow

Jacob McGuire
Transcript Staff Writer
@JMcGuireNT



Norman will be welcoming another brewery later this year.

According to Black Mesa Brewing Co. co-owner Chris Sanders, the brewery is currently located in the Urban

Farmhouse Brewery near downtown Oklahoma City. That should all change in late August or early September. "We are very excited.

Norman is such an untapped market," Sanders said.

Sanders said the brewery will be housed in a 10,000 square foot facility featuring about an 1,100 square foot taproom and another 1,100 square feet dedicated to

outdoor patio area and food trucks.

The new building will be located at 3901 N. Flood Ave. It will boast a new 30-barrel system that will be able to brew about a 1,000 gallons each time they brew.

Once the move is official, Black Mesa will be added to Norman's already existing breweries like 405 Brewing Co. and Lazy Circles Brewing

and The Brewhouse.

"I think Norman is going to become popular destination place," Sanders said. "Consumers have such a great variety of beers at their disposal."

The doors were open to brewers in Norman when Gov. Mary Fallin signed Senate Bill 424 in 2016, allowing them to sell high-point beer to consumers on the premises, in conjunction with Norman

ordinance and zoning amendments passed in 2017.

Sanders said after he retired from the Midwest City Fire Department, he was looking for a retirement job. With about 10 years of brewing out of his garage under his belt, he decided to make it a full-time gig.

In the summer of 2012,

See **SANDERS** Page 28



Cody Giles / The Transcript

Black Mesa's award winning Endless Skyway ESB beer. Endless Skyway took home first place in the English-style bitter category in the 2014 World Beer Cup competition in Atlanta.

Sanders:

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Black Mesa was born, but of course, Sanders said the road wasn't always easy.

"There were times when the beer tasted so bad I just threw it all away," he said. "At some point, I told myself 'if I'm going to do this, I'm going to do it all the way.'"

Then in May 2013, a tornado hit the brewhouse at the OKCity Brewing Cooperative, which housed Black Mesa, Anthem Brewing Company and Redbud Brewing Co., which is now Mustang Brewing Co.

"Everyone scattered and went their own way," Sanders said.

Black Mesa had to brew out of state at O'Fallon Brewery in St. Louis, and shipped the beer back to Oklahoma. The brewery returned to Oklahoma City in 2017.

Even though the journey wasn't smooth sailing, there were some highlights.

Sanders named his brewery after the highest point in the state, and its product has been at its peak as well.

In 2014, Sanders bought his signature Endless Skyway ESB beer to the World Beer Cup competition in Atlanta, Georgia,

and took home first place in the English-style bitter category.

"It was the first time participating in that competition," he said. "It was a real honor winning it the first time out."

Other Black Mesa main flagship beers include: Cave Dweller Red IPA, Mountain Boomer Kölsch and Big Wheel IPA.

The brewery also offers seasonal beers including its winter and most recent addition, Los Naranjos, a stout brew that is brewed with de-bittered black malts.

Sanders Los Naranjos was a collaboration beer with OKC's Elemental Coffee Roaster.



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C.A. McCarty Construction's Curtis McCarty at his office, 108 Nantucket Blvd. He specializes in building custom residential homes.

Curtis McCarty

Building homes and community relationships

Jacob McGuire
Transcript Staff Writer
@JMcGuireNT



Curtis McCarty has provided Normanites and others the homes of their dreams since 2002. The Transcript caught up with McCarty to talk about his business, as well as what he and his family think is so special about Norman.

Q: When and how did you start your own business?

A: "After college, I went right to work in the construction industry and building houses for one of the largest homebuilders in Oklahoma for 11 years. But it was always my dream to start his own company. When I resigned from

that company in 2002, I started my passion and my dream, C.A. McCarty Construction."

Q: What service does C.A. McCarty Construction specialize in?

A: "We create custom homes. We help our clients not only decide where to live, but also making sure they have the home of their dreams. I've enjoyed every minute of it."

Q: What do you enjoy about building custom homes?

A: "One of the biggest reasons I love what I do, is having the opportunity to build relationships with my clients. For most people, a house is one of the largest investments they can have. I love to see the excitement that they have when they move into their new home."

See **MCCARTY** Page 30

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McCarty:

From Page 29

Q: How many homes do you think you've built in your career?

A: "It would be really hard to give an exact number, but I would say 3,500 plus."

Q: Did you always know you wanted to build homes?

A: "No. I was considering becoming an FBI or CIA agent. I started my freshman year at OU with that goal in mind, but I realized I hated psychology. I then switched to finance to become a banker. Then I got a call to work from a homebuilder company with a job offer, and I haven't looked back since."

Q: Are you originally from Norman? If not, how did you end up in Norman?

A: "I was born and raised in Oklahoma City. I came to Norman to attend the University of Oklahoma, where I would eventually meet my wife, Jennifer. I earned a bachelor's degree in finance and Management Infor-

mation Systems degree in 1992."

Q: After more than 30 years in Norman, what are some of community activities you've been involved in?

A: "I've sat on a lot of different committees. I was a planning commissioner for the city of Norman. I was appointed to the board of adjustments in 2016, and currently still a member of that board. I'm a past chairman of the Norman Chamber of Commerce."

Q: Are you a member of any specialty organizations within the construction industry?

A: "I'm a member of Norman Builders Association, Builders Association of South Central Oklahoma, National Association of Home Builders. I'm a certified Professional Builder and Green Home Builder."

Q: What has kept you in Norman?

A: "My family. My wife and I got married in 1997. She and her family are from Norman. We've enjoyed raising out two children, Ella and Rhett, in Norman. It has been a great experience for them."



Curtis McCarty has served as a Norman Chamber of Commerce Board Chair. He's pictured here speaking during the Norman Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet in 2016.

Kyle Phillips / The Transcript

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