The Oklahoma Cagle Store APRIL 20, 2023

GO DIGITAL

APRIL 14, 2023 - APRIL 20, 2023 "WE MAKE AMERICA GREAT, WHEN WE AID OUR PEOPLE"

SERVING GREATER TULSA SINCE 1921

5,323 weeks, since the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre

OTIS GRANVILLE CLARK was 18 when he escaped gunfire during the massacre. His family's home was destroyed, and stepfather, presumed murdered, would not return.

It's long overdue for the criminals who destroyed the Greenwood community in 1921 to be held accountable. Each week we remember a departed member of our community.



Analysis Provides Glimpse into Family Trees of DNA Profiles

> By City of Tulsa, The Eagle Newswire GRAVES INVESTIGATION On A2



STATE

OK BOARD RECONSIDERS PLAN FOR NATION'S FIRST PUBLIC RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

By JENNIFER PALMER, OKLAHOMA WATCH

A state board voted to reject a proposed Catholic online charter school on Tuesday. But it's not the final outcome. School leaders have a new 30-day window to revise their proposal and try again. During a two-hour meeting, the Statewide Virtual Charter

During a two-nour meeting, the Statewide virtua

PUBLIC RELIGIOUS SCHOOL On A5



PHOTO COURTESY THE HUBERT V. SIMMONS OF MUSEUM OF NEGRO LEAGUES BASEBALL

VOL. 102 NO. 15 THE OK EAGLE.COM #THE OK EAGLE VOL. 102 NO. 15 THE OK EAGLE.COM #THE OK EAGLE VOL. 102 NO. 15 #OKEAGLEPAPER

PUBLISHER'S PAGE Boley: All-Black Town

Largest and most well-known of the more than fifty All-Black towns of Oklahoma. A4

STITT NAMES NEW SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, REPLACING WALTERS

STATE

By JENNIFER PALMER, OKLAHOMA WATCH

The governor replaced Ryan Walters as secretary of education, a job he held in addition to the superintendent of public instruction.

Walters has held the secretary post since Gov. Kevin Stitt appointed him in 2020. Stitt reappointed him earlier this year but

WALTERS, REPLACED On A11

KEEPING THE HISTORY ALIVE: HOW ONE MUSEUM HONORS MEMBERS OF THE NEGRO LEAGUES

By DARIUS BROCKETT, WORD IN BLACK

The Hubert V. Simmons Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball in Baltimore tells a unique story in an eccentric way. Located inside of the Baltimore County Public Library (BCPL) in Owings Mills, Md., the museum spreads throughout multiple floors within the building. In 2008 Hubert V. "Bert" Simmons, alongside his wife Audrey L. Simmons and

NEGRO LEAGUE On A10

AD SERVICES Jobs & Classifieds

Discover career opportunities, classifieds and time-sensitive notifications. **A8**

POLARIZATION On A12

church directory Faith In Tulsa

The Eagle Church Directory is your source for finding a place to worship. **A7**

U.S. EDUCATION SECRETARY FIRES BACK AT PUSH TO DISMISS BLACK STUDIES

NATION

By ANDRE ASH, WORD IN BLACK

Miguel Cardona, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, wrote an opinion column in the Tampa Bay Times, calling to "enrich public schools, not ban books and topics." Secretary Cardona laid out a number of ideas for how to

BLACK STUDIES On A9



By PAUL MONIES, OKLAHOMA WATCH

A month after Oklahoma voters defeated recreational marijuana, dozens of bills proposing changes to the state's fiveyear-old medical marijuana program remain before lawmakers.

Among them are proposals to limit the concentration of THC, the mindaltering chemical in cannabis, and another to

MARIJUANA LEGISLATION On A6



AMID POLARIZATION, MINORITY PARTY LAWMAKERS FACE PENALTIES

NATION

By SEAN MURPHY, ASSOCIATED PRESS

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) Oklahoma Republicans removed state's the only nonbinary legislator from House committees after the lawmaker provided refuge to a transgender rights activist. In Florida, two Democratic leaders were arrested for participating in a protest over abortion restrictions. And in Tennessee, three Democratic House members are facing expulsion for using a

The Oklahoma Eagle



GRAVES INVESTIGATION from AI

oday, Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum and forensic scientists and genealogists from Intermountain Forensics, the laboratory assisting the City with DNA analysis for the 1921 Graves Investigation, announced a historic update as it relates to the DNA and genealogical investigation from the 2021 and 2022 excavations and exhumations at Oaklawn Cemetery.

Key Findings: Of the 22 remains that had DNA extraction, six have produced genetic genealogy profiles that genealogists can now tie to potential surnames and locations of interest. Individuals may recognize those surnames in their family trees.

"From the onset of this investigation, we convened some of the greatest minds in America to help us move the needle on a more than century old event," Mayor Bynum said. "There isn't a single genealogical investigation of this magnitude in the United States that has gotten this far, and yet, we are still in the beginning stages of this process. There is a lot more investigative work that is happening, and with the public's help, we are eager to enter the next phase of this process."

"There isn't a single genealogical investigation of this magnitude in the United States that has gotten this far, and yet, we are still in the beginning stages of this process"

G. T. BYNUM, Mayor, Tulsa, Oklahoma

#2: Strong, McGee

- Area(s): Union Parish, Louisiana, and Texas
- Surnames/Locations of Interest #3: Still

trauma was present.

Ways You Can Help: Intermountain Forensics is seeking help from anyone who may be associated with the above surnames or have relatives from the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. If your family tree has the surnames in the location of interest for any of the unknown burials, please contact the genealogy team at Intermountain Forensics. Information can be submitted online by clicking the "Provide Information" button at www.tulsa1921dna.org. You can also find instructions for participating with DNA in this project at the same website. You can also email the genealogy team directly at idteam@tulsa1921dna.org. How It Works: Using DNA sequencing, the process by which genetic information of a DNA sample is obtained from remains, genetic genealogy profiles have been made for six remains so far. Each of those profiles are uploaded into GEDmatch and Family Tree DNA, the only two authorized databases that allow comparisons to unidentified remains. Individuals who have voluntarily shared their DNA tests with GEDmatch and/ or Family Tree DNA, whether as part of this investigation or otherwise, will have these six genetic genealogy profiles (and others that are produced from this investigation) compared to their own. GEDMatch and Family Tree DNA will provide a list of DNA testers in their databases who share their DNA with the genetic genealogy profiles of the unidentified remains. This enables the genealogy team to identify DNA relatives, surnames, and locations of interest that tie to the family trees of the unidentified burials. As work progresses, additional surnames will be produced and/or removed from the list provided in the April 12, 2023, update. Members of the genealogy team will be reaching out to extended DNA relatives who may have family trees or older living generations able to provide stories or additional DNA testing which will be helpful in the search for identities of the unknown Oaklawn burials. What This Means: While these findings represent a major step forward in the DNA

and genealogical process involved in this investigation, they do not directly tie the remains found at Oaklawn Cemetery to the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, nor do they provide definitive identification for those remains at this time. Just because a surname is produced does not mean those who may share that surname and/or location of interest can be directly tied to the burial itself or the Tulsa Race Massacre. Next-of-kin have not been identified, yet, but as the genealogy team reaches out to DNA relatives, more information will help build the family trees associated with the unknown burials at Oaklawn. Nonetheless, these initial findings are groundbreaking genealogical discoveries that are helping the City and experts better understand the history at Oaklawn Cemetery and how those burials were positioned 100 years ago. Additional Information: DNA analysis continues on 10 sets of remains from the 2021 and 2022 excavations and exhumations. Burials with gunshot wounds are among those continuing to be analyzed. For more information about the genetic genealogy process, watch this video from Intermountain Forensics.

A detailed list of the burials associated with these surnames can be found below:

Burial 1

- Surnames of Interest: No specific surname identified, yet – Genealogy team will reach out to potential DNA relatives
- Area(s): North Carolina
- About the burial: Female from 2021 exhumation, with additional DNA gathered in 2022 exhumation. Burial was in a matching casket to Burial 13 with an "At Rest" plaque found. No apparent gunshot wound or trauma was present.

Burial 3

- Surnames/Location of Interest #1: Scott, Huntley, Daniel, Meriwether, Sims, Bohannon
- Area(s): Coweta County, Georgia, and surrounding counties
- Surnames/Location of Interest #2: Benjamin, Willis
- Area(s): Austin County, Texas
- About the burial: Male from 2021 exhumation, with additional DNA gathered in 2022 exhumation. Burial was in a plain wooden casket and no apparent gunshot wound or trauma was present.

Burial 13

- Surnames/Locations of Interest #1: Maggett
- Area(s): Leflore County, Mississippi
- Surnames/Locations of Interest

- Area(s): Oklahoma during Indian
- Territory designation
- About the burial: Female from 2021 exhumation, with additional DNA gathered in 2022 exhumation. Burial was in a matching casket to Burial 1 with an "At Rest" plaque found. No apparent gunshot wound or trauma was present.

Burial 15

- Surnames/Locations of Interest #1: Holden, Larrimore
- Area(s): Sabine Parish, Louisiana
- Surnames/Locations of Interest #2: Luckett, Mayre
- Area(s): Rapides Parish, Louisiana
- About the burial: Male from 2021 exhumation, with additional DNA gathered in 2022 exhumation. Burial was in a plain wooden casket and no apparent gunshot wound or trauma was present.

Burial 17

- Surnames/Locations of Interest: Smith, Davis, Rentie
- Area(s): Alabama, Texas, and Oklahoma during Indian Territory designation and early 1900s
- About the burial: Male from 2021 exhumation. Burial was in a plain wooden casket and no apparent gunshot wound or trauma was present.

Burial 41

- Potential Last Name(s): No specific surname identified, yet – Genealogy team will reach out to DNA relatives
- Area(s): N/A
- About the burial: Male from 2022

exhumation. Burial was in a plain wooden casket and no apparent gunshot wound or

Next Steps

Emmett Till Grant

The City of Tulsa has been awarded a \$1 million Department of Justice Emmett Till Grant that will help supplement the City's contribution to continue the 1921 Graves Investigation. The grant will assist in victim advocacy, genealogical research, developing and implementing an impactful curriculum and resources, and conducting investigative genetic genealogy training for community members and stakeholders.

Physical Investigation Update

Oklahoma Archaeological Survey (OAS) is expected to conduct additional geophysical survey work in an area within Section 20 at Oaklawn Cemetery that has not previously been examined. This work is expected

GRAVES INVESTIGATION continued on A3

The Oklahoma Eagle

Our Mission



The Oklahoma Eagle



INJURED SURVIVORS filled the beds in Tulsa's temporary Red Cross hospital. PHOTO AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION

OF THE 22 remains that had DNA extraction, six have produced genetic genealogy profiles.

GRAVES INVESTIGATION from A2

to occur in the coming months, weather permitting. Work will allow experts to follow up on some patterns that were documented with the mapping of the limited headstones in the area, which was conducted as part of the latest round of fieldwork. Results from this work will be included in the upcoming technical report of the 2022 excavation work at Oaklawn – a document that will be completed and released later this summer.

As for Canes and Newblock Park, other areas of interest in the 1921 Graves Investigation, the Physical Investigation Committee previously recommended that geoarchaeological coring be conducted in each area to obtain initial data on the soils and potential indicators of disturbances that could be consistent with a possible grave feature. 1921 Graves Search Background The City of Tulsa launched the 1921 Graves Investigation in 2018 to help find answers from the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre.



1921 Graves Search Background

The City of Tulsa launched the 1921 Graves Investigation in 2018 to help find answers from the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. To do this, the City has convened some of the best experts in America to help locate, identify and connect people today with those who were lost more than 100 years ago. For more information on the search for possible graves dating to the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, visit www.cityoftulsa. org/1921graves and follow 1921 Graves on Facebook, @1921Graves.

About Intermountain Forensics

Intermountain Forensics (IMF) is a fully accredited nonprofit forensic DNA laboratory that was founded to ensure that the full power of forensic DNA will always be attainable, transparent, and of the highest possible quality. For more information, visit https://www.intermountainforensics.com/.

NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS escort unarmed African American men after the Tulsa Race Massacre in June 1921. PHOTO OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Righteousness Decency Objectivity Impartiality Honor Fair-mindedness Truth

Subscribe today @ theoklahomaeagle.net

The Oklahoma Eagle

The Oklahoma Eagle

Our Mission





Publisher's Page The Oklahoma Eagle

Boley: Historic All-Black Town, Oklahoma

By LARRY O'DELL, THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF OKLAHOMA HISTORY AND CULTURE

The largest and most well-known of the more than fifty All-Black towns of Oklahoma, still existing.



Located halfway between Paden and Castle in Okfuskee County, Boley is the largest and most wellknown of the more than fifty All-Black towns of Oklahoma and one of only thirteen still existing. The town, established on land allotted to Creek freedman James Barnett's daughter Abigail, was named after J. B. Boley, a railroad official of the Fort Smith and Western Railway. Founded in 1903 and incorporated in 1905, Boley and the African Americans living in the area prospered for many years. The Boley Progress, a weekly newspaper, began in 1905. The paper and various advertising campaigns circulated through the South and lured many former slaves to

By 1911 Boley boasted more than four thousand citizens and many businesses, including two banks and three cotton gins. Booker T. Washington, founder of the National Negro Business League and the Tuskegee Institute, in Alabama, visited the town in 1905 and proclaimed it "the most enterprising and in many ways the most interesting of the Negro towns in the United States." The town supported two colleges: Creek-Seminole College and Methodist Episcopal College. Boley also had its own electrical generating plant, water system, and ice plant. The Masonic Grand Lodge completed a majestic Masonic Temple around 1912. At the time, it was

Like many rural towns, Boley suffered through hard times in the 1920s and 1930s, its population dropping to 1,154 in 1920 and 874 in 1930. By World War II the population stood at 942, and it declined to 573 in 1960 and to 423 in 1980. At the dawn of the twenty-first century, with a population of 1,126, the town was experiencing economic rejuvenation. The number of residents was 1,184 in 2010. Boley still hosts the nation's oldest African American community-based rodeo every Memorial Day weekend. The downtown business district is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR 75001568) and has been designated a National

The Øklahoma Eagle

Founded in 1921

James O. Goodwin Publisher 1980-Present **Robert K. Goodwin** Publisher 1972-1980 Edward L. Goodwin, Jr. Co-Publisher 1980-2014 Edward L. Goodwin, Sr. Publisher 1936-1972 **Theodore B. Baughman** Publisher 1921-1936

Business

M. David Goodwin Principal **Ross D. Johnson** Principal **David W. Cole** General Council **Marsh Media** Advertising

News

Gary Lee Managing Editor **Ray Pearcey** Sr. Contributor Nkem Ike Contributor **Russell LaCour** Contributor Victor Luckerson Contributor John Neal Contributor

Photography

Cory Young Photographer

the new town. At 1907 statehood Boley sheltered 824 individuals.

said to be the tallest building between Okmulgee and Historic Landmark by the National Park Service Oklahoma City.

THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY is an agency of the government of Oklahoma dedicated to promotion and preservation of Oklahoma's history and its people by collecting, interpreting, and disseminating knowledge and artifacts of Oklahoma.

BOLEY TOWN COUNCIL 3377.D.2, Oklahoma Historical Society Photograph Collection, OHS.

Students of the COVID-19 Era: Langston University

Featured Last Week



'Not Their Job': Legislature Ties Up \$600 Million for Health Care



Dr. Carolyn Sue Thomas **Chappell Remembered**

The Oklahoma Eagle Enjoy articles, events and featured content online

The Oklahoma Cagle | Founded in 1921 | Vol. CII No. 15

THE OKLAHOMA EAGLE is published weekly on Fridays by The Oklahoma Eagle, LLC., P.O. Box 3267, Tulsa, OK 74101. General office is 624 E. Archer St, Tulsa, OK 74120. Periodical Postage (WSPS 406-580) is paid at Tulsa, OK. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the above address. Delivery subscription rates (Continental United States, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands). All subscriptions may include Premium Edition issues throughout the year Mail Subscriber Rates: Single copy \$1 | Yearly \$52 | 2 Years \$100

© 2023 The Oklahoma Eagle, L.L.C. All rights reserved. No portions of this periodical may be reproduced with expressed written consent.

Online

WEB: www.theokeagle.com FACEBOOK: #TheOKEagle TWITTER: #OKEaglePaper

Letters to the Editor

Want to write a letter to be published in the paper and online? Email us online to submit.

Advertising For print and online advertising information, go to theokeagle.com/ media-kit/ or call . +1 (918) 582-7124.

The Newsroom

Know something important we should cover? Send an inquiry to theokeagle.com/subscribe.

Print

Sam Levrault Production Director

Circulation

Kirstein Lynn Subscription Manager

Digital

Web TheOKEagle.com Facebook TheOKEagle Twitter OKEaglePaper

Contact

Letters to the Editor

editor@theokeagle.com

Advertise

advertise@theokeagle.com

Circulation

publishers@theokeagle.com

Subscribe

theokeagle.com/subscribe

Delivery

For questions about deliver, billing and our membership program, please contact us at +1 (918) 582-7124, ext. 241.

Submissions

Submitted content may be edited for space, clarity and for considerations of liability. All submissions become the sole property of The Oklahoma Eagle, which reserves the right to run all or part of any submissions due to timeliness or newsworthiness.





The Oklahoma Eagle



CLARK FRAILEY, lead pastor of Coffee Creek Church in Edmond and co-founder of Pastors for Oklahoma Kids, speaks against a proposal to create a Catholic online charter school Tuesday during public comments at the Oklahoma Statewide Virtual Charter School Board meeting in Oklahoma City. PHOTO DOUG HOKE/COURTESY OF THE OKLAHOMAN

ARCHDIOCESE of oklahoma city

ABOUT

The original Diocese of Oklahoma was erected in 1905, became the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa in 1930, and was erected into the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in 1972. The Archdiocese is comprised of more than 226,000 Catholics in central and western Oklahoma, and covers 46 counties and 42,470 square miles.

Our sacred purpose, as the people of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, is to joyfully witness to our Catholic faith in central and western Oklahoma through the teaching, sanctifying and governing ministry of Christ and His Church so that the Body of Christ is made present, the universal call to holiness proclaimed and all people are welcomed into the promise of eternal life.

PUBLIC RELIGIOUS SCHOOL from A1

School Board raised numerous concerns with the application for St. Isidore of Seville Catholic Virtual School. They praised other aspects of the proposals. The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and Diocese of Tulsa are requesting state sponsorship for the school in order to receive public funding.

Here are five things to know about Tuesday's decision.

The School Would Be Public

Catholic leaders have proposed opening in the fall of 2024 with an estimated 500 students in grades kindergarten through 12th. The school would be designed for students who want a Catholic education but live outside the metro areas without access and citizens spoke out against it on Tuesday.

"I am here today as an unbridled enthusiast for public education.... I am also an unbridled enthusiast for the separation of church and state," said Rev. Lori Walke, senior minister at Mayflower Congregational Church in Oklahoma City.

She urged the board to vote no because approving the school would violate religious freedom.

Decision Rests With Five People

The Statewide Virtual Charter School Board has five appointed members and is the only entity able to authorize online schools in Oklahoma.

Franklin, associate Robert superintendent of student affairs at the Tulsa Technology Center, and Barry Beauchamp, a former superintendent of Lawton Public Schools, are the board's longest serving members. Three members have been appointed this year: Scott Strawn, an administrator at Southern Nazarene University in Bethany; Nellie Tayloe Sanders, senior vice president of philanthropy at the Center of Family Love, a residential facility for people with disabilities in Okarche supported through an endowment by the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma; and Bill Pearson, chairman of the Rogers County Republican Party and Oolagah Town Board member.

Decision Rests With Five People

Six Concerns, Plus One Big One

Board members outlined six concerns with the quality of the application, including the school's inadequate plan to accommodate students with disabilities, board governance, and their method and teaching practices, which board members said were not customized enough for online learning.

There's another major concern board members are evaluating: prohibitions in state and federal law against religiously affiliated public schools.

Oklahoma voters in 2016 affirmed their desire to keep church and state separate, defeating a state question to overturn the Blaine amendment, which was written into the state constitution at statehood to block state funding for Catholic schools.

The board originally accepted the Archdiocese's application based on an opinion by former Attorney General John O'Connor, who argued the school should be considered in light of several recent U.S. Supreme Court cases. That opinion was withdrawn by the new Attorney General Gentner Drummond, a Republican who took office in January. He urged the board to use caution when making their decision.

Board members received additional legal advice at the meeting Tuesday.

Franklin said he thinks it's dangerous for the board to take an action that isn't constitutionally aligned. "The constitution is a big, high hurdle," he said.

School Leaders Can Try Again

The Statewide Virtual Charter School Board will outline the problems it has with the application in writing, giving Catholic leaders 30 days to address the issues and come back to the board. Then the board is likely to vote again.

If the board ultimately rejects the application, Catholic leaders have said they will sue. The University of Notre Dame Law School is assisting Oklahoma Catholic leaders with the application.

If the board approves the application, another group, such as the Freedom From Religion Foundation, is likely to sue.

Some board members said they have concerns about being sued in their personal capacity. The board's legal counsel warned them in the meeting that if they vote in a way that knowingly violates the state constitution, they may not have legal representation from the attorney general. Superintendent Walters, who attended Tuesday's meeting as a nonvoting member of the board, vowed to support in any way necessary. "We can help from the agency. Find them legal counsel if necessary," Walters said.

JENNIFER PLAMER has been a reporter with Oklahoma Watch since 2016 and covers education. Contact her at (405) 761-0093 or jpalmer@oklahomawatch.org. Follow her on Twitter @jpalmerOKC.

"I am here today as an unbridled enthusiast for public education.... I am also an unbridled enthusiast for the separation of church and state."

- REV. LORI WALKE, Senior Minister, Mayflower Congregational Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

to a brick-and-mortar Catholic school. St. Isidore of Seville Catholic Virtual School, named after the patron saint of the internet, would use a curriculum that mirrors what is used

religious components. If approved, it would be the first religious public school in the country.

in private Catholic schools, including

Religious Leaders Spoke Out Against It

Gov. Kevin Stitt and Superintendent Ryan Walters both support the proposal. But several religious leaders

BOARD MEMBER ROBERT FRANKLIN, LEFT, LISTENS TO REBECCA WILKINSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATEWIDE VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD, WITH BOARD BARRY BEAUCHAMP ON THE RIGHT, during the board's meeting Tuesday in Oklahoma City. PHOTO **DOUG HOKE/COURTESY OF THE OKLAHOMAN**



Local & State The Oklahoma Cagle



MARIJUANA LEGISLATION from A1

make it harder for minors to get physician recommendations for medical marijuana.

More than two dozen marijuana-related bills survived the Legislature's first big deadline. Some lawmakers have interpreted the rejection of adult-use cannabis under State Question 820 as a sign that voters are tired of what's perceived as a free-for-all in the medical marijuana market. Voters approved medical marijuana in 2018, with State Question 788 passing with 57% of the vote.

Sen. Jessica Garvin, R-Duncan, has been working with her fellow senators to close loopholes and improve patient safety. Garvin said she's not anti-cannabis but has heard from constituents and others about problems related to the medical program

"What I am trying to do is truly make this more of a legitimate medical program versus the recreational feeling that we have created."

- SEN. JESSICA GARVIN, R-Duncan

particularly in rural communities invaded by organized criminals from China and Mexico," Drummond said

The Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs estimates about 3,000 of the state's 6,300 licensed medical marijuana growers are under investigation, mostly for misrepresenting the true owners and operators. Growers have to file applications with the narcotics bureau as well as their licensing paperwork at the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority. The number of commercial grow licenses peaked at 9,400 in December 2021. OBN spokesman Mark Woodward said his agency has shut down about 800 grow operations that had fraudulent ownership applications, with many of them illegally diverting marijuana to other states. Woodward said investigators began seeing more illegal activity in the fall of 2020 and spring of 2021. Oklahoma's cheap land and low cost of licensing made it a lucrative destination for criminals, including organized gangs from China, Mexico, Russia, Armenia and Bulgaria, he said. The Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority said it recently won a significant victory in its crackdown on fraudulent license renewals. An administrative law judge sided with the agency and investigators against a grower who claimed the business was majority owned by an Oklahoma resident. State law requires commercial licensees to have 75% of the ownership from Oklahoma. The grower, Sun Light Farm LLC in Sayre, said in its renewal application that an Oklahoma resident was the 75% owner. But the company's operating agreement said otherwise. The Oklahoma resident was being paid \$2,000 per month but had no control of the business, according to investigators. The agency denied the renewal and shut down the business. About 70 business licenses are under review by the agency for suspected fraudulent ownership, said OMMA spokeswoman Porsha Riley. Many involve "ghost" owners like the Sun Light Farm case. Most of the remaining bills in the Legislature focus on enforcement of the illicit or medical market. Bills perceived as patient-friendly are dormant, including one that created licenses for out-of-state patients.

Among other medical marijuana bills still active are:

• SB 437 by Garvin: Establishes a registry of physicians who can recommend patient cards and puts in continuing education requirements.

The Oklahoma Eagle

te une meanear program.

"What I am trying to do is truly make this more of a legitimate medical program versus the recreational feeling that we have created," Garvin said.

Six of Garvin's medical marijuana bills made it to the House. Among them are Senate Bill 440, which limits the THC content in edibles and for medical marijuana for minors and SB 439, which puts additional restrictions on the two physicians needed to recommend marijuana for patients under 18. (Patients 18 and older need a recommendation from one physician.)

Garvin said the THC limit bill was influenced by studies showing higher THC concentration in cannabis over time has been linked to druginduced psychosis, heart attacks and other heart ailments.

"It's either recreational or medical. You can't have it both ways," Garvin said. "Some meaningful reform needs to be made. I have dedicated the last 10 months of my life to this cause, toured businesses and talked to owners of processors and dispensaries. I've tried to do some meaningful reform that will really protect patients, protect minors and protect the education system."

Attorney General Gentner Drummond has identified three active bills as key to his office's enforcement efforts. HB 2095 would give the attorney general more investigative powers and extend the moratorium on new grower licenses to August 2026. SB 806 strengthens land ownership disclosures and stops multiple businesses of the same type — such as growers, processors or dispensaries — from operating from the same address. SB 913 would require growers to get a bond that could be used to clean up operations if the business fails.

Drummond said medical marijuana has become a "Trojan horse" for organized criminal gangs whose illicit activities also include human and sex trafficking and distribution of other illegal drugs.

"Oklahoma's illegal marijuana grow operations pose a serious threat to public safety,

- SB 645 by Garvin: Standardizes packaging for medical marijuana products.
- SB 116 by Sen. David Bullard, R-Durant: Creates a 1,000-foot setback for commercial growers from places of worship.
- SB 113 by Bullard: Would remove the

agricultural sales tax exemption from medical marijuana growers and processors.

• SB 801 by Sen. Bill Coleman, R-Ponca

City: Allows cities to establish zoning regulations for new medical marijuana businesses. Existing businesses would be grandfathered under the bill.

• HB 1616 by Rep. Rande Worthen,

R-Lawton: Would require any elected official or appointed public official to disclose the ownership of medical marijuana businesses.

• HB 1711 by Rep. T.J. Marti, R-Oklahoma

City: Would require commercial growers to disclose water and electricity usage to the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority.

PAUL MONIES has been a reporter with Oklahoma Watch since 2017 and covers state agencies and public health. Contact him at (571) 319-3289 or pmonies@ oklahomawatch.org. Follow him on Twitter @pmonies.

Since 1921 Our Mission

To amplify our core value of equity, through journalism and editorial

The Oklahoma Eagle

Our Mission

:53	≈∎) V
	1
The Oklahoma Eagle	Q



A11 April 14 - April 20, 2023

THE OKLAHOMA EAGLE CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Oklahoma Eagle publishes news and annoucements for churches currently listed in The Oklahoma Eagle's Church Directory. For information, please call our office at (918) 582-7124



Words of Wisdom **Ministries FC**

Temporarily meeting at the Courtyard Marriot 3340 S 79th E Ave Tulsa OK (918) 230-3022

Pastors Wesley & Alfie Gray would like to invite you to come and experience the Word of God in action this Sunday! God has a word for you, He Guarantee's it! You'll be glad you did !!!

The Oklahoma Eagle **Church Directory**

List your church in one of the largest church directories in Oklahoma.

Participation in the directory allows free church announcements/ church news.

Post events and celebrations. Priority





Place your church directory

with us today! Advertising your church in The Oklahoma Eagle

will get you results! Call (918) 582-7124

Church In Power

732 E. 31st North Tulsa, OK 74106 - (918) 835-1525

Service times: 9am Sundays, 7pm Wed, and Special Supernatural Breakthrough Services every last Friday and Saturday of every month at 7pm and Sunday at 9am Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. Church Ministries:

Children's Church, CIP Praise



Pastor Bukky and Wunmi Alabi Dancers, and CIP Praise Tem.

For Further Information call (918) 835-1525. "Have Faith In God." Mark 11:22





SMILING HEARTS The NICK BLAKELY Foundation

Our vision is to turn every potential tragedy of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) into a story of survival.

www.nickblakelyfoundation.org

Classifieds

The Oklahoma Eagle

NOTICE

Published in The Oklahoma Eagle: April 7 and 14, 2023.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS SEALED BIDS FOR TULSA METROPOLITAN UTILITY AU-THORITY PROJECT NO. SP 22-15

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to an order by the Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority, a Public Trust, sealed bids will be received in Room 260 of the Office of the City Clerk, City of Tulsa, 175 E. 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103 until 8:30 a.m. the 5th day of May, 2023 for furnishing all tools, materials and labor and performing the work necessary to be done in the construction of the following:

PROJECT NO. SP 22-15 ROOF REPLACE-MENT MOHAWK ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

The entire cost of the improvement shall be paid from Account No. 2334B00016.Buildings. Water.7400.74003122-541101 2131W0017Z.Buildings.Water.7400.74003122-541101 203310017Z.Buildings.Water.7400.74003122-541101

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. and will be held through video conferencing with Microsoft Teams, invitation presented on the City of Tulsa's website at this link: https://www.cityoftulsa.org/government/departments/engineering- services/construction-bids/

Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is MANDATORY. Bids will not be received from contractors who did not attend the Pre-Bid Conference.

Bids will be accepted by the City Clerk from the holder of valid pre- qualification certificates from the City of Tulsa in one or more of the following classifications: A, B or S.

Drawings, specifications and contract documents for construction of said public improvements of the said project have been adopted by the Mayor of said City. Copies of same may be obtained at the Office of the Director of Engineering Services for the City of Tulsa, 2317 South Jackson, Room 103, North Building, for a non- refundable fee in the amount of \$50.00 made payable to the Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority by check or money order. Contract requirements shall include compliance as required by law pertaining to the practice of non-discrimination in employment.

Attention is called to Resolution No. 18145 of August 23, 1988, requiring bidders to commit to the goal of employing on the project at least fifty percent bona fide residents of the City of Tulsa and/or MSA in each employment

NOTICE

Published in The Oklahoma Eagle: April 7 and 14, 2023.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS SEALED BIDS FOR PROJECT NO. 2035X001Z Phase 2 2036X001Z Phase 3

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to an order by the Mayor of the City of Tulsa, Oklahoma, sealed bids will be received in Room 260 of the Office of the City Clerk, City of Tulsa, 175 E. 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103 until 8:30 a.m. the 5th day of May 2023 for furnishing all tools, materials and labor and performing the work necessary to be done in the construction of the following:

PROJECT NO. 2035X001Z, Phase 2 2035X001Z, Phase 3 BUILD GRANT/ LINK ADA UPGRADES VARIOUS LO-CATIONS, AND BUS RAPID TRANSIT STATIONS LINK TULSA - TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADES

The entire cost of the improvement shall be paid from Account No. 2238FR0001.Capital.Infrst.2500.25003122-541103

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for Tuesday April 18, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. and will be held through video conferencing with Microsoft Teams, invitation presented on the City of Tulsa's website at this link: https://www.cityoftulsa. org/government/departments/ engin eering-services/construction-bids/

Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is MANDATORY. Bids will not be received from contractors who did not attend the Pre-Bid Conference.

Bids will be accepted by the City Clerk from the holders of valid pre-qualifications certificates from the City of Tulsa in one or more of the following classifications: A or C

Drawings, specifications and contract documents for construction of said public improvements of the said project have been adopted by the Mayor of said City. Copies of same may be obtained at the Office of the Director of Engineering Services at the City of Tulsa Engineering Services, 2317 South Jackson, Room 103, North Building, for a non-refundable fee in the amount of \$50.00 made payable to the City of Tulsa by check or money order.

Contract requirements shall include compliance as required by law pertaining to the practice of non- discrimination in employment.

Attention is called to Resolution 7404 of November 8, 2006, requiring bidders, their subcontractors and their lower-tier subcontractors to hire only citizens of the United States.

NOTICE

Published in The Oklahoma Eagle: April 14 and 21, 2023.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS SEALED BIDS FOR PROJECT NO. SP 21-01

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to an order by the Mayor of the City of Tulsa, Oklahoma, sealed bids will be received in Room 260 of the Office of the City Clerk, City of Tulsa, 175 E. 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103 until 8:30 a.m. the 12th day of May, 2023 for furnishing all tools, materials and labor and performing the work necessary to be done in the construction of the following:

PROJECT NO. SP 21-01 TULSA PER-FORMING ARTS CENTER RENOVATIONS – PHASE 2

The entire cost of the improvement shall be paid from Account No. 145330.ArchEngr.5451101.4054322-541101 145330.Bl dgs31.5452101.6014.4053122-541104 1 4 5 3 4 0 . B l d gs31.5452101.6014.4053122-541104 1 4 5 3 5 0 . B l d gs31.5452101.6014.4053122-541104

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. and will be held through video conferencing with Microsoft Teams, invitation presented on the City of Tulsa's website at this link: https://www.cityoftulsa.org/government/departments/ engin eering-services/construction-bids/

Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is MANDATORY. Bids will not be received from contractors who did not attend the Pre-Bid Conference.

Bids will be accepted by the City Clerk from the holders of valid pre-qualifications certificates from the City of Tulsa in one or more of the following classifications: A, B or S.

Drawings, specifications and contract documents for construction of said public improvements of the said project have been adopted by the Mayor of said City. Copies of same may be obtained at the Office of the Director of Engineering Services at the City of Tulsa Engineering Services, 2317 South Jackson, Room 103, North Building, for a non-refundable fee in the amount of \$50.00 made payable to the City of Tulsa by check or money order.

Contract requirements shall include compliance as required by law pertaining to the practice of non-discrimination in employment.

The overall aspirational Small Business Enterprise utilization goal for this project is ten (10) percent.

Attention is called to Resolution No. 18145 of August 23, 1988, requiring bidders to commit to the goal of employing on the project at least fifty percent bona fide residents of the City of Tulsa and/or MSA in each employment classification.

<u>Notice</u>

Published in The Oklahoma Eagle: April 14 and 21, 2023.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS SEALED BIDS FOR PROJECT NO. 2036N7060Z, TMUA-W 20-20

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to an order by the Mayor of the City of Tulsa, Oklahoma, sealed bids will be received in Room 260 of the Office of the City Clerk, City of Tulsa, 175 E. 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103 until 8:30 a.m. the 12th day of May, 2023 for furnishing all tools, materials and labor and performing the work necessary to be done in the construction of the following:

PROJECT NO. 2036N7060Z, TMUA-W 20-20 NON- ARTERIAL STREET REHABILITA-TION MAINTENANCE ZONE 7060

The entire cost of the improvement shall be paid from Account No. 2036N7060Z. Streets.NArtRhb.4281.42813122-541106 2 0 3 6 N 7 0 6 0 Z . S t r e e t s . N A r t R h b .4 2 8 2 .4 2 8 2 3 1 2 2 - 5 4 1 1 0 6 2 3 3 1 W 0 0 0 1 4 . W a t e r D i s t . W a ter.7400.74003122-541101

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for Tuesday April 25, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. and will be held through video conferencing with Microsoft Teams, invitation presented on the City of Tulsa's website at this link: https://www.cityoftulsa.org/government/departments/ engin eering-services/construction-bids/

Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is MANDATORY. Bids will not be received from contractors who did not attend the Pre-Bid Conference.

Bids will be accepted by the City Clerk from the holders of valid pre-qualifications certificates from the City of Tulsa in one or more of the following classifications: A or C.

Drawings, specifications and contract documents for construction of said public improvements of the said project have been adopted by the Mayor of said City. Copies of same may be obtained at the Office of the Director of Engineering Services at the City of Tulsa Engineering Services, 2317 South Jackson, Room 103, North Building, for a non-refundable fee in the amount of \$50.00 made payable to the City of Tulsa by check or money order.

Contract requirements shall include compliance as required by law pertaining to the practice of non-discrimination in employment.

The overall aspirational Small Business Enterprise utilization goal for this project is ten (10) percent.

Attention is called to Resolution No. 18145 of August 23, 1988, requiring bidders to commit to the goal of employing on the project at least fifty percent bona fide residents of the City of Tulsa and/or

CLASSIFIEDS



1-888-815-2672

BODY SHOPS

CLIPS + SERVICE WE DELIV-ER OR FREE SHIPPING Bulk or Package! 405-409-5744 -John Johnhayes@brightok.com ameriplusbenefits.com 500+ accounts in Okla. Bins + Treys also

WANT TO BUY

OLD GUITAR\$ WANTED! LARRY BRING\$ CA\$H for vintage USA guitars, tube amps, banjos, mandolins, etc. Fender, Gibson, Martin, Gretsch, others. Call or text 918-288-2222. www.stringswest.com

HUNTING LAND AUCTION

HUNTING LAND AUCTION 4/19 @ 10 AM: 160 +/- AC. - Prime Hunting & CRP Grassland | Pond & Creek | Cultivation/ Food Plots | Grant Co., OK | WigginsAuctioneers.com | 580.233.3066

ADVERTISE STATEWIDE

Put your message where it matters most – IN OKLAHOMA NEWSPAPERS. We can place your ad in 146 newspapers. For more information or to place an ad, contact Landon Cobb at (405) 499-0022 or toll-free in OK at 1-888-815-2672.

The Oklahoma Eagle

Since 1921 Our Mission

To amplify

fication.

Attention is called to Resolution 7404 of November 8, 2006, requiring bidders, their subcontractors and their lower-tier subcontractors to hire only citizens of the United States.

The Authority, acting on behalf of the City of Tulsa, is exempt from the payment of any sales or use taxes, and pursuant to Title 68 O.S. Section 1356(10), direct vendors to the Authority are also exempt from those taxes. A bidder may exclude from his bid appropriate sales taxes which he will not have to pay while acting for and on behalf of the Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority. See Contract Article IIB.

A Certified or Cashier's Check or Bidder's Surety Bond, in the sum of 5% of the amount of the bid will be required from each bidder to be retained as liquidated damages in the event the successful bidder fails, neglects or refuses to enter into said contract for the construction of said public improvements for said project and furnish the necessary bonds within thirty days from and after the date the award is made.

The bidder to whom a contract is awarded will be required to furnish public liability and workmen's compensation insurance; Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds acceptable to the Authority, in conformity with the requirements of the proposed contract documents. The Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds shall be for one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price. All bids will be opened and considered by the Bid Committee of said City at a meeting of said Committee to be held in the City Council Room of City Hall, 175 E. 2nd Street, in said City at 9:00 a.m. on the 5th day of May 2023.

Dated at Tulsa, Oklahoma, this 7th day of April 2023.

(SEAL) Rick Hudson, Chairperson Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority The City of Tulsa itself is exempt from the payment of any sales or use taxes, and pursuant to Title 68 O.S. Section 1356(10), direct vendors to the City are also exempt from those taxes. A bidder may exclude from his bid appropriate sales taxes, which he will not have to pay while acting for and on behalf of the City of Tulsa.

A Certified or Cashier's Check or Bidders Surety Bond, in the sum of 5% of the amount of the bid will be required from each bidder to be retained as liquidated damages in the event the successful bidder fails, neglects or refuses to enter into said contract for the construction of said public improvements for said project and furnish the necessary bonds within thirty days from and after the date the award is made.

The bidder to whom a contract is awarded will be required to furnish public liability and workmen's compensation insurance; Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds acceptable to the City of Tulsa, in conformity with the requirements of the proposed contract documents. The Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds shall be for one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price.

All bids will be opened and considered by the Bid Committee of said City at a meeting of said Committee to be held in the City Council Room of City Hall in said City at 9:00 a.m. on the 5th day of May 2023.

Dated at Tulsa, Oklahoma, this 7th day of April 2023.

(SEAL) Christina Chappell City Clerk Attention is called to Resolution 7404 of November 8, 2006, requiring bidders, their subcontractors and their lower-tier subcontractors to hire only citizens of the United States.

The City of Tulsa itself is exempt from the payment of any sales or use taxes, and pursuant to Title 68 O.S. Section 1356(10), direct vendors to the City are also exempt from those taxes. A bidder may exclude from his bid appropriate sales taxes, which he will not have to pay while acting for and on behalf of the City of Tulsa.

A Certified or Cashier's Check or Bidders Surety Bond, in the sum of 5% of the amount of the bid will be required from each bidder to be retained as liquidated damages in the event the successful bidder fails, neglects or refuses to enter into said contract for the construction of said public improvements for said project and furnish the necessary bonds within thirty days from and after the date the award is made.

The bidder to whom a contract is awarded will be required to furnish public liability and workmen's compensation insurance; Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds acceptable to the City of Tulsa, in conformity with the requirements of the proposed contract documents. The Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds shall be for one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price.

All bids will be opened and considered by the Bid Committee of said City at a meeting of said Committee to be held in the City Council Room of City Hall in said City at 9:00 a.m. on the 12th day of May 2023.

Dated at Tulsa, Oklahoma, this 14th day of April 2023.

(SEAL) Christina Chappell City Clerk MSA in each employment classification.

Attention is called to Resolution 7404 of November 8, 2006, requiring bidders, their subcontractors and their lower-tier subcontractors to hire only citizens of the United States.

The City of Tulsa itself is exempt from the payment of any sales or use taxes, and pursuant to Title 68 O.S. Section 1356(10), direct vendors to the City are also exempt from those taxes. A bidder may exclude from his bid appropriate sales taxes, which he will not have to pay while acting for and on behalf of the City of Tulsa.

A Certified or Cashier's Check or Bidders Surety Bond, in the sum of 5% of the amount of the bid will be required from each bidder to be retained as liquidated damages in the event the successful bidder fails, neglects or refuses to enter into said contract for the construction of said public improvements for said project and furnish the necessary bonds within thirty days from and after the date the award is made.

The bidder to whom a contract is awarded will be required to furnish public liability and workmen's compensation insurance; Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds acceptable to the City of Tulsa, in conformity with the requirements of the proposed contract documents. The Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds shall be for one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price.

All bids will be opened and considered by the Bid Committee of said City at a meeting of said Committee to be held in the City Council Room of City Hall in said City at 9:00 a.m. on the 12th day of May 2023.

Dated at Tulsa, Oklahoma, this 14th day of April 2023.

(SEAL) Christina Chappell City Clerk

our core value of equity, through journalism and editorial

The Oklahoma Eagle





CLASSROOM. PHOTO IVAN ALEKSIC/UNSPLASH

"IT'S Not Just One State That Is Doing This."

- MIGUEL CARDONA, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education

CLASSIFIEDS





BLACK STUDIES from AI

proceed with the evolution In f public education as how and w

Inclusion). I'm tired of politicians who are trying to score points and infusing themselves in our schools," Secretary Cardona remarked. He believes a local school board and educators should set the curriculum in schools, while parents should have access and a say in their child's education as well. The education secretary savs what's happening across the nation is censorship in schools and government overreach. "It's not just one state that is doing this," Cardona said. "My concern is around targeting Black history or books that highlight the Black experience in our country. My concern with that is that it's very specific, it's very targeted.' Cardona wants children to see themselves in the curriculum, learning where we've been as a nation, who we are, and where we're going. "These discussions can be hard. But they become impossible when politicians try to hijack them to promote their own partisan agendas," according to Cardona's opinion column. In his interview, Secretary Cardona said he had to strike back on Florida's efforts to silence Black studies and other similar attacks on it. "It's a very specific attack on Black history and for me, silence is complicity, so not saying something would be a problem for me - so, I said what I said." "Attempts to divide our schools, attempts to target specific groups of people just goes against the role of public education."

AMERICAN MILLWORK WED. APRIL 19TH AT 9:00 AM ITEMS LOCATED AT: 3650 SW 29TH ST, OKLA. CITY, OKLA. **INSPECTION: MON. APRIL 17TH & TUES. APRIL 18TH** FROM 8:00 AM TO 4:00 PM AND STARTING AT 8:00 AM DAY OF AUCTION **AUCTION HELD AT:** DAKIL AUCTIONEERS, INC. 200 NW 114TH ST, OKLA. CITY, OKLA. (W. Side Service Rd of the Bdwy Ext. between 122nd & Hefner) CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE AUCTION, **BID LIVE ON-LINE AT WWW.DAKIL.COM** Weinig 17 AL Moulder, Diehl SL52 Rip Saw, AltenDorf Sliding Table Saw, (2) Rockwell/Delta Unisaws, 2 Holz-Her Vertical Panel Saws, 36" Time Saver 2 Head Wide Belt (2013), Knives, Cutterheads, Hardwood Lumber Bundles, Mahogany, Walnut, Hardwood Veneer Plywood Units and Panels, Plastic Laminates, Drawer Guides, Hinges, Pulls, Keyboard, Pullouts, Wall Counter Brackets, Shelf Standards, Luxury Vinyl Tile, Vinyl Enhanced Tile, Vinyl Composition Tile, Rubber Base, Rubber Floor & Treads, Sheet Vinyl Rolls, Carpet Tile, Millcarts, Plan Tables, File Cabinets, Hand Tools, Drills Clamps, Routers, Fans, Cords, Air Hoses, Fork Lift, Great Dane Trailer, 931 Profile Grinder, 1410 Holz-Her Edge Bander, Band Saws, Presses, Louvre Door Machine, (400) Flush Slab Hardwood Doors (Pre-fit) Both Solid & Mineral Core,

Solid Surface Acrylic Panels. This is only a partial listing! Buyers premium will apply PLEASE SEE WEB SITE FOR DETAILED LISTING & PICTURES

> AUCTIONEERS 405-751-6179 www.dakil.com



concern is around targeting **Black** history or books that highlight the **Black** experience in our country. **My concern** with that is thatit'svery specific, it's very targeted."

- MIGUEL CARDONA, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education what students are taught has been spotlighted by some politicians taking a firm stance in criticizing what has been introduced in the classroom.

How Cardona see it, "Parents don't want politicians dictating what their children can learn, think and believe," according to the column. "That's not how public education is supposed to work in a free country."

The education secretary's stance is an outward rebuke to Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and other Republican politicians seeking to ban certain books and studies.

DeSantis' administration has banned Florida's public schools from teaching advanced placement of African American studies. A pilot college course the state's Department of Education says "significantly lacks educational value" and would consider a revised curriculum with "lawful, historically accurate content." DeSantis has said Black history is required but has publicly called out the course in what he believes was designed to advance a political agenda to "indoctrinate."

The move to cancel the advanced Black studies course comes after the Governor's Stop Woke Act, a bill he signed into law in 2022 to fight off diversity and inclusion efforts in schools and businesses.

In a One-on-One interview with the Michigan Chronicle, Cardona hits back at this effort he believes is designed to remove Black history.

"I'm tired of these attacks on DEI (Diversity, Equity, and

The Oklahoma Eagle

Our Mission





Nation The Oklahoma Eagle



THE ELITE GIANTS AND THE BALTIMORE BLACK SOX, both represented the state of Maryland in the Negro Leagues. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HUBERT V. SIMMONS OF MUSEUM OF NEGRO LEAGUES BASEBALI

HUBERT V. SIMONS'MUSEUM OF NEGRO LEAGUES BASEBALL A Legacy to be Celebrated

NEGRO LEAGUES from A1

good friend Rayner "Ray" Banks, set plans to open the museum in the basement meeting hall of Lochearn Presbyterian Church. the Baltimore Black Sox both played games in East Baltimore.

"A lot happened here," said Brooks. "The Negro Leagues were at the center of the Civil Rights Movement. So, it's really important that Maryland– and Baltimore–acknowledge these things." The Hubert V. Simmons Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball is open during Baltimore County Public Library



In November 2013, then Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz gave the museum a permanent location inside of the Owings Mills Metro Centre Complex. In spring 2014 the grand opening of the Hubert V. Simmons Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball was held inside of the building.

But this is no traditional museum. Upon walking in, the name of the museum is on the ceiling with photos hanging down. The introduction of the museum starts in the right corner to show its origins. As one walks onto the elevator and gets off you are immediately graced with Negro League history and artifacts.

"You'll see the different beginnings of Negro League history from the 1920s," said co-founder and Nego League Ambassador Rayner 'Ray' Banks.

The museum does not just tell the history of the sport alone, but also chronicles the legacy of unsung heroes and heroines.

Executive Director Peter Brooks talked about this museum leaving a legacy for those who go unmentioned and who've made a serious impact.

"This museum is an opportunity to continue the legacy and make sure that they did not live their lives in vain – the stories of the people from the Caribbean who played in the Negro Leagues, the stories of the women who teams in the Negro Leagues and played in the Negro Leagues, the Israelites who played in the Negro Leagues," said Brooks.

Brooks, the grandson of musician Cab Calloway, told stories about how his grandfather owned and often played games with his Negro League baseball team.

Baltimore is a foundational part of America's history and the country's favorite pastime. Charm City housed two Negro League Baseball teams. The Elite Giants and The second Saturday in the month of May is Negro League Day in the state of Maryland. This is in thanks to Banks' daughter, Tanya Thomas, who helped gather people to testify and get a bill passed to celebrate Negro League Baseball. On May 7, 2009, a bill was passed to commemorate the Negro league here in Maryland.

There is also a national call being made by descendants of former players to make officially May 2, "Negro Leagues Day." The day would mark the date of the first game played by two teams in the Negro Leagues, the Indianapolis ABCs and the Chicago Giants.

This year on May 13, the Baltimore Orioles will be highlighting the museum at Camden Yard and hosting a special guest pitcher.

Currently, the museum is planning to add another exhibit on the fourth floor. Although they do not have any future events planned currently, ambition is high.

The museum has done film screenings, holds social events and is at the Maryland State Fair each year.

"One of my many dreams is to react and reenact some of those things. If I can get a stadium [to] reenact what took place, [I would] have somebody throw a black hat on the field like they did Jackie Robinson," said Banks.

Banks wants to recreate an authentic Negro League Baseball game from down to even the halftime performance from creative giants like Louis Armstrong or Cab Calloway playing as they did back in the day.

Both Brooks and Banks also have hope that Negro League Baseball will become part of a school's curriculum. hours, located at 10302 Grand Central Ave in Owing Mills, MD.



The Oklahoma Eagle

DIJCATION

WALTERS, REPLACED

Tion

Oklahoma won't go u

state superintendent: \$124,373 secretary of education: \$40,000 TOTAL COMPENSATION: \$164,373

NAMES NEW SECRETARY OF

RYAN WALTERS, former Oklahoma Secretary of Education, and current Oklahoma State Superintendent of Public Instruction. ILLUSTRATION THE OKLAHOMA EAGL

WALTERS CAME UNDER SCRUTINY *for his handling of an \$8 million COVID-19 relief program*

CATHOLIC CHARTER SCHOOL from A1

he had yet to be confirmed by the state Senate.

Stitt on Tuesday announced his new secretary of education is Katherine Curry, an assistant professor at Oklahoma State University in the School of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Aviation.

Cabinet appointments require 25 votes in the Senate confirmation process, which in many cases comes later in the legislative session. A number of senators told The Frontier it was unlikely Walters would receive enough votes for confirmation.

Walters was elected superintendent in November and remains in that role. By statute, the salary for a state superintendent is \$124,373, and up to \$65,000 for a secretary of education. Walters was earning approximately \$40,000 for that job and his combined compensation

The main duty of the state superintendent is to direct the state Department of Education, and chair the Board of Education

was more than the governor's.

The main duty of the state superintendent is to direct the state Department of Education, and chair the Board of Education.

Duties of the secretary of education include overseeing the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability, a state agency that handles teacher certification and teacher college accreditation, and advising the governor on education policy.

"We're very excited to have her on the team," Walters said of Curry's appointment, which was announced while Walters was attending a meeting of the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board. "The governor and I are going to continue working to make us top 10 in every aspect of education, that includes K-12, career tech and higher ed."

As education secretary, Walters came under scrutiny for his handling of an \$8 million COVID-19 relief program that used federal funds to give low-income families grants to buy school supplies. An investigation uncovered at least \$650,000 was misspent on televisions, home appliances and numerous other items.

After the misspent funds came to light, state officials blamed a vendor and sued. But in January, Oklahoma's attorney general

dismissed the lawsuit and turned the focus to whether any individuals or state officials should be held accountable for their role in what he called an "egregious misuse of tax dollars."

"It is clear that a number of state actors and other individuals are ultimately responsible for millions in misspent federal relief dollars," Attorney General Gentner Drummond said in a statement.

JENNIFER PLAMER has been a reporter with Oklahoma Watch since 2016 and covers education. Contact her at (405) 761-0093 or jpalmer@oklahomawatch.org. Follow her on Twitter @jpalmerOKC.





Homeownership could be closer than you think!



MidFirst Dream Home Loan¹

- Up to 100% financing
- No Private Mortgage Insurance (PMI)
- Lender origination fees of \$895.00 waived
- Flexible underwriting
- Borrower must be a first-time homebuyer²

1 Dream Home Loan Eligibility: Must be 18 years or older. The collateral securing the loan must be located in a MidFirst Assessment Area and must be the primary residence of the applicant(s). Also, either the collateral property must be located within a Majority Minority Census Tract (tract minority population greater than 50 percent) or Low-to-Moderate Income Census Tract (tract income is less than 80% area median income), or the applicant(s) combined annual income must be considered Low-to-Moderate (less than 80% of the median family income of the MidFirst Assessment Area) based on data published by Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC). **2** MidFirst follows FNMA guidelines which considers a first-time homebuyer as someone who has not owned a property in the last 3 years.



The Oklahoma Eagle



OKLAHOMA STATE REP. MAUREE TURNER speaks during a news conference, Dec. 5, 2022, in Oklahoma City. In Oklahoma, Turner, the state's only nonbinary legislator was removed from House committees after a transgender protester sought refuge in their office. In an increasingly polarized political atmosphere, experts say these kinds of harsh punishments for minority party members standing up for principles they believe in will likely become more common, especially when acts of civil disobedience clash with the rigid policies and procedures of legislative decorum. PHOTO AP PHOTO/SUE OGROCKI, FILE

"I used to tell students that it's not as bad as it once was.... It's as bad or worse."

- SCOT SCHRAUFNAGEL, a political science professor at Northern Illinois University

POLARIZATION from A1

bullhorn in the House chamber to show support for demonstrators demanding gun control.

In an increasingly polarized political atmosphere, experts say these kinds of harsh punishments for minority party members standing up for principles they believe in are becoming more common, especially when acts of civil disobedience clash with the rigid policies and procedures of legislative decorum.

The modern-day division between Democrats and Republicans is at its highest level since immediately after the Civil War, said Scot Schraufnagel, a political science professor at Northern Illinois University who has studied and written about political incivility "I used to teach students that it's not as bad as it once was," Schraufnagel said. "It's as bad or worse than it's ever been, with the caveat that we don't have data from pre-Civil War era.'

people of Oklahoma enough to fight for their rights," Turner said this week.

Weeks later, when a Republican colleague was censured over an arrest for public drunkenness during which he tried to claim legislative immunity, Turner joined some other Democrats in voting against the punishment.

"I will not put people in a physical prison, I will not put people in a social prison," Turner said, "and I sure as hell won't put them in a political prison."

In Tennessee, Republicans will vote Thursday on whether to kick Democratic Reps. Gloria Johnson, Justin Jones and Justin Pearson out of their offices for taking to the front of the House and chanting back and forth with gun control supporters who packed the gallery days after The Covenant School shooting in Nashville that killed six people, including three children. Expulsions in the Tennessee General Assembly are extremely rare and typically center on criminal activity. House Minority Leader Karen Camper described her Democratic colleagues' actions as "good trouble," a nod to the late U.S. Rep. John Lewis' guiding principal on civil disobedience. As scrutiny over the expulsion effort increased, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre on Tuesday criticized Republican lawmakers' focus on rebuking Democrats for protesting rather than addressing solutions to avoid another school shooting. "What did the Republican legislators do? They're trying to expel these three Democratic legislators who joined in the protest," Jean-Pierre said, adding that GOP members are "shrugging in the face of yet another tragic school shooting while our kids continue to pay the price." In Florida, Senate Democratic Leader Lauren Book is not expected to face any legislative discipline after she and Democratic Party Chairwoman Nikki Fried were arrested and charged with trespassing for refusing to leave a protest in Tallahassee against a bill to ban abortions after six weeks. Fried, who was Florida's agriculture commissioner and the only statewide elected Democrat before losing a campaign for governor last year, just took over a party that is at its lowest point in state history. Book said she realizes the Republican supermajority

The modernday division between Democrats and Republicans is at its highest level since



While many Republican leaders are loudly complaining about the arrest of former President Donald Trump on 34 felony criminal charges, it's members of the Democratic minority in GOPled states who have been facing a crackdown for their political actions.

"Over the last few years, I feel like the extremism has increased and the polarization has gotten worse," said Oklahoma House Minority Leader Rep. Cyndi Munson, whose Democratic colleague Rep. Mauree Turner was formally censured by the GOP-controlled House after a transgender rights protester involved in a scuffle with Capitol police sought refuge in Turner's office.

"Obviously we're seeing this in Oklahoma ... this desire (for Republicans) to use their power to silence anyone who doesn't think like them. They seem to want to shut out and silence people who don't think exactly like they do."

Turner, one of the few Black legislators in the Legislature and the first openly nonbinary and Muslim person elected to state office in Oklahoma, was told they could be restored to their committees if they apologized to the House and to the Capitol patrol. Turner said that won't happen. "I can't apologize for loving the

immediately after the **Civil War**

in the Legislature can pass whatever it wants regardless of what Democrats do

"It's my charge to lead a group of 11 other Democrats ... and to get them excited every single day to fight a battle that a lot of times we know we're going to lose," Book said.

Schraufnagel, the professor, said much of the incivility is a result of a political-agenda shift toward hot-button topics like abortion, gun restrictions and transgender rights.

"What's happened is that politicians have used social issues to try to drive wedges into the voting base of their opponents," Schraufnagel said. "When we have intense polarization, which is the current era, and you add incivility to the mix, we're getting hyper-conflict that is not conducive to effective governance."

KIMBERLEE KRUESI & BRENDAN FARRINGTON in Nashville, TN and Tallahasee, Florida respectively, contributed to this report

Integrity Righteousness Decency Objectivity Impartiality Honor **Fair-mindedness** Truth

Subscribe today @ theoklahomaeagle.net

The Oklahoma Eagle

The Oklahoma Eagle

Our Mission

	9:5	3	~
R	=	The Oklahoma Eagle	Q

