



15th STREET NEWS

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SEPTEMBER 2022

ISSUE 2

OKC Celebrates Completion of Scissortail's Lower Park



A broad view from Overlook Hill in Scissortail Park's newly-completed Lower Park. (Photo by: Michael Palacios)

By Michael Palacios
Photo Editor

Celebration for the MAPS plan has taken place as the citywide project accomplished its finalization of the Downtown park.

Scissortail's Lower Park has been completed and the grand opening event kicked off on the weekend of Sept. 23. Events from Friday to Sunday took place, beginning with a free concert in the Upper Park performed by Oklahoma City's Philharmonic.

On Saturday, a community ribbon cutting was held to officially open the long-awaited completion of the twin parks. Other events took place throughout the day that aimed to welcome all to the new park.

"I live so close to the city, I come here all the time with my dogs; and we all love it," said Aisha Williams, a local resident. "The other park will be a great place to take my family and dogs once it's finished."

Located near the center of Downtown Okla-

homa City, both parks will be connected by the Skydance Bridge that stretches across Interstate-40.

Aptly referred to as the "Lower Park," the park is a large 32-acre addition to the Upper Park's 38-acre area of crossing paths and ornamental gardens. Scissortail's Lower Park will boast a wide variety of more open land and natural spaces. This will promote athletic events for the community, some of which being a soccer field, two basketball courts, pickleball courts, futsal courts and a sports pavilion.

The Lower Park will also include bike paths and the "woodland trails" that allows park-goers to leisurely walk through the park. The Promenade pathway will connect the Skydance bridge to the southern area near the Oklahoma River that will be met with the Overlook Hill that boasts a beautiful overview of the

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Hunger Isn't Quiet: The Impact of Food Banks

By Valerie Scott
News Editor

On Rose State campus, there are more students facing food insecurity than the public or fellow students are aware. With rising food and gas prices matched with housing

and car market inflation, wallets aren't stretching the way they used to. For college students who are also responsible for educational expenses, it can easily become difficult to keep food on the table.

Oklahoma isn't the

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The food pantry at the Diversity Club at Rose State. (Photo by: Valerie Scott)

'Not There, Didn't Do It'

By Katrina Crumbacher
Assistant Editor

In the past 33 years, 43 Oklahomans have been proven wrongfully convicted and were exonerated. Seven of them were sentenced to death.

Cumulatively, those 43 people have served 435 years in prison.

Andrea Miller, the legal director of the Oklahoma Innocence Project, said the National Registry of Exoneration's list is incomplete as it does not include the nearly 30 people who were released after the Tulsa Police corrup-

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Construction in Back Parking Lot

- How Communication Errors Led to Confusion

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The Truth About Banned Books

- How Banning Books Affects Everybody

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Inspired Teaching Program

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Monthly Book Review

- Reviewing "The Color Purple" by Alice Walker

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The World Disc Golf Championship

- Coverage of the Event by Nathan Fox

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LOCAL NEWS



The Promenade walking trail that leads to the Skydance Bridge. (Photo by: Michael Palacios)

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entire park and Downtown Oklahoma City.

There will be two concession areas that will provide visitors with restrooms as well as food and drinks. The Lower Park will maintain the consistency of the botanical garden theme that is seen in the Upper Park.

With both parks linked by the Skydance Bridge, the Lower Park will have path-

ways that lead directly toward the river as a plan to connect Oklahoma City's outdoors and surrounding communities.

MAPS 3 is a program that was planned to aid in the capital development of the Oklahoma City area that will utilize 1-cent sales tax in order to pay for debt-free projects. The 1-cent sales tax lasted from April 2010 to December 2017. The intent was to expedite the construction

of projects that will benefit all Oklahomans and improve the quality of living.

"Connecting the lower areas of Oklahoma City is part of MAPS 3 initial presentation, with a goal of completing the core-to-shore study to connect Oklahoma City to the Oklahoma River," said MAPS Program Manager David Todd.

"Both parks will be distinguished in what they offer ... the Lower Park

will have sports fields."

Inside the MAPS 3 program is the "core to shore" study. Intentions to find solutions to bridge the

"Both parks will be distinguished in offerings."

-David Todd

economic divide in the southern area of Oklahoma City's downtown. Creating a stronger partnership in the lower half of Oklahoma City's economy through the development of the area is the objective of the core to shore plan.

The cost of development of Scissortail's Lower Park was \$24.5 million at the time of completion, which is 9% higher than the initial expected cost of development. The

original estimate was set at \$22.2 million.

Union Station, located in the Upper Park, will also see restructuring as part of the long-term development process for Oklahoma City's MAPS 3 project.

Opening of the Lower Park has excited members of the community to prepare plans to visit the newest addition to the Oklahoma space for fun and relaxation.



The pickleball and basketball courts are some of the newest installations at Scissortail's Lower Park. (Photo by: Michael Palacios)

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS
- 1 General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (abbr.)

5 Turk. title

9 Federal Aviation Admin. (abbr.)

12 Oriental maid

13 Pinafore

14 Sleeveless Arab cloak

15 Firebug

17 Mine (Sp.)

18 Indo-Chin. language

19 Moles

21 Revise

24 Suspend

27 Soak

30 Terrapin

32 Pleasant

33 Cost of living index (abbr.)

34 Household gods

36 Exclamation
- 37 Arm bone

39 Starnose

40 Indian ground salt

41 Spirits of the dead

43 Son of Leah

45 Adjective-forming (suf.)

47 River into the North Sea

50 Vigor

52 Free

56 "Fables in Slang" author

57 Bird

58 East

59 Sleep

60 Headland

61 Elide
- DOWN
- 1 Hiatus

2 Starch (pref.)

3 Edible root

4 Oar's fulcrum

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

B	A	T		A	G	H	A		T	E	A	L
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- 5 Luzon people

6 Cotton machine

7 Fr. exclamation

8 Bent

9 Brazen

10 Mother of Hezekia

11 Shoe size

16 Emulate
- 20 Vein (pref.)

22 Muslim holy man

23 Alps

25 Yearn

26 Affirmative

27 Slimy stuff

28 Wide-mouthed vessel

29 Seal

31 Proofreader's mark

35 Cut

38 Atomic Energy Commission (abbr.)

42 Black buck of India

44 Epic by Homer

46 Rounded projection

48 Cold alpine wind

49 Norse mythical hero

50 Old Doric name of Zeus

51 Artificial language

53 Power (Lat.)

54 Curve

55 No (Scot.)

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MAMA BEARS

A FILM BY DARESHA KYI

Q&A to follow with Sara Cunningham

Founder of Free Mom Hugs

In conjunction with the LGBTQIA2+ Pop Culture Colloquia @ Rose State College

Tuesday, October 25

Lecture Hall

5:30 p.m.

Spread across the country but connected through private Facebook groups, over 30,000 mothers in America—many from conservative, Christian backgrounds—fully accept their LGBTQ+ children. And they call themselves "mama bears" because while their love is warm and fuzzy, they fight ferociously to make the world kinder and safer for all LGBTQ+ people. MAMA BEARS explores the journeys of two mama bears and a young lesbian whose struggle for self-acceptance exemplifies why the mama bears movement is vitally important.

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Letters to the editor may be hand-delivered to FA110.

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