

What's Up Tulsa

Rose Washington – For more capacity, the event venue was changed to the Ross Group building for the Mayor's recognition of Rose Washington on March 30. Mayor G.T. Bynum presented a certificate of recognition honoring Rose M. Washington, executive director of the Tulsa Economic Development Corporation (TEDC), who has been appointed 2017 Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City, Mo.

An invitation-only reception was held for Ms. Washington on Thursday, March 30, at the Ross Group Building, 510 E. Second St. Washington has been executive director of TEDC since late 2001. Founded in 1979, the Tulsa Economic Development Corporation's mission is to create economic vitality in communities by encouraging small business growth. TEDC makes direct loans and participates with other financial institutions on small business projects that fall short of conventional lending standards.

TEDC is a sub-recipient of the City of Tulsa's Community Development Block Grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development and a partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of the Treasury's CDFI Fund. The Mayor of Tulsa appoints one-fourth of the TEDC board of directors.

"Teen Team" Volunteers Needed At Tulsa City-County Library For 2017 Summer – Tulsa teens, keep sharp this summer with the latest technology and books from around the world...all while serving your community. Interested? Join the library's Teen Team. Teens who love books, libraries and technology are encouraged to volunteer at their local library this summer as a member of the Teen Team. Tulsa City-County Library is currently accepting applications for Teen Team volunteers for the 2017 summer.

Applicants must be 13-15-years-old and capable of volunteering several hours a week at their community library. Duties include assisting librarians with activities associated with the children's summer reading program.

Interested teens should return their applications to the branch where they would like to volunteer. A librarian will schedule an interview, determine a convenient schedule and set a time for training. Applications are available at each TCCL location or by downloading from <http://teens.tulsalibrary.org/tccl/teen-team>. Please return your application by May 1, for consideration.

All volunteers receive an official 2017 Teen Team T-shirt to wear during their shift, as well as a certificate of achievement from TCCL's CEO at the end of the summer.

Teen Team is perfect for those who enjoy libraries and are looking to gain work experience, organizational skills and meet people of all ages. Over the years, Tulsa City-County Library has hired many former Teen Team members once they are in high school. During the 2016 summer, more than 400 teens volunteered more than 15,000 hours and helped make the children's summer reading program a success.

For more information on joining the Teen Team or other volunteering opportunities at TCCL, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit your community library.

March 30th Marks Anniversary of North Tulsa Tornado – One year ago, an EF2 tornado touched down in north Tulsa leaving behind widespread power outages, downed trees and hundreds of residents with home damages. Following the tornado, the Tulsa Area Long Term Recovery Committee was created to help uninsured homeowners with home repairs and help survivors with food, clothing and any other needs.

"When it comes to an event of this magnitude, it truly takes a village to bring a variety of resources together to help individuals and families with different needs," Linda Johnston, Tulsa Area Long Term Recovery Committee Chair said. "I am thrilled to say that one year later, close to 140 cases received by the committee have been closed bringing the majority of tornado victims closure from this life-changing event."

A few examples of initial recovery efforts included a temporary shelter established by the Red Cross at the Antioch Baptist Church, mass feedings for survivors by the Salvation Army, and a special debris removal collection and street sweeping coordinated by the City of Tulsa at no cost to the community.

Long-term recovery efforts were tasked to the Tulsa Area Long Term Recovery Committee. Catholic Charities of Tulsa and Tulsa County Social Services partnered together to provide case management for the tornado survivors and the City of Tulsa's Working In Neighborhoods Department assisted with the coordination of approximately 70 contracted emergency home repairs due to storm damage.

The City of Tulsa would like to thank the many community members, organizations and partners for your help to build a more resilient Tulsa.

Tulsa Area Long Term Recovery Committee

American Red Cross, Antioch Baptist Church, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Tulsa, City of Tulsa, Disaster Resilience Network, Episcopal Disaster Recovery, Family & Children's Services, Home Builders Association of Greater Tulsa, Legal Aid of Oklahoma, Northeastern State University, Oklahoma United Methodist Church – Disaster Response, Oklahoma Emergency Management, Oklahoma Insurance Department, Oklahoma Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, OU Physicians-Tulsa, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, Rebuilding Together Tulsa, Restore Hope Ministries, and the Tulsa Health Department.

Please watch and share a video created by the City of Tulsa about the year-long recovery efforts from the March 30, 2016 tornado, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YqH_5noFEI

BrainAerobics Travel Club is sponsoring a road trip to Washington, D.C., October 19-26, 2017. This tour includes, motorcoach transportation, eight nights lodging of which four consecutive nights will be in the D.C. area, 8 breakfasts and 6 dinners, a guided tour of D.C., an evening guided memorial and monuments tour, and two full day visits to the Smithsonian Institute.

Visit www.GroupTrips.com/brainaerobicstravelclub for a detailed itinerary and other information.

A Grief Support Group. Pastors Douglas and Chloe Allen will launch a GriefShare Belong Group that will meet on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. beginning March 23, 2017, at Agape Bible Fellowship, 2111 S. Darlington Avenue, Tulsa, Okla., where the pastors are Terry and Elaine Buxton. These sessions are free and dinner will be served.

For more information or to join the group call 918-284-4899.

American Airlines Retiree Succumbs At 82

By Margaret Hicks

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Sylvester L. Hunter, Sr., born February 4, 1934 died on March 20, 2017, he was 82. Hunter is survived by nine children: Wendell Olden, Phillip, John, and Timothy Hunter; Felicia Minter, Patricia Gann, Tonya Atkins, Cassandra Lyons, and Glenn Vann. He is also survived by 24 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and a host of family which includes nieces, nephews and cousins, and many friends.

Hunter was married to his wife, Yvonne Fletcher, in 2005, who cared for him until his death. Hunter was preceded in death by his parents Vernon A., and Sylvester L. Hunter, Jr. and his son, Edmund S., Hunter. Sylvester was an only child.

His Early Years

Hunter graduated from St. Monica Catholic School 1954 and was a loyal member of St. Monica Catholic Church.

Hunter served in the U.S. Airforce from 1955-1958. In 1961 he met and married his first wife, Imogene Johnson, and to this union was born

four sons.

Hunter was a member of the Chorus of Angeles Choir, under the direction of Elmer Lee Davis, Sr., a member of Peter Claver Council 317, a retired member of Twenty Gents Club, and a member of St. Monica Catholic Church Choir.

His Career

Hunter retired from America Airlines after 27 years of employment. He was a mechanic. Prior to this, he had been employed at St. John's Hospital and the Tulsa County Sheriff's Department.

His Pastime

Hunter was a die-hard Dallas Cowboy fan who loved breakfast at the Corner Café and Denny's. He loved listening to smooth jazz and Lou Rawls was one of his favorite artists. Hunter was an ardent dancer and had won first place in a dance contest. Hunter was a shutterbug and enjoyed any opportunity to snap a picture.

Services

Rosary was said on March 26, and funeral mass was March 27 at St. Monica Parish, Tulsa, Okla.



Sylvester L. Hunter, Sr.

Enjoy Spring With Your Child: Tips On Getting Your Family Outside Moving & Staying Active

WASHINGTON— Spring is here and it's a great time for families with children to spend time outdoors and together. The Episcopal Center for Children (ECC), a non-profit organization providing mental health and special education services to children ages 5-14 in the greater Washington, DC area, offers tips to help families. Being active as a family can benefit everyone. Adults need at least two and a half hours a week of physical activity, and children need 60 minutes a day.

"Several studies have shown that being outside and staying active improves health and well-being for adults and children," said Dodd White, president and CEO of ECC. "For families supporting children with unique needs, doing activities together outside can promote positive behavior, relieve stress, improve focus, and help everyone in the family be mentally and physically healthier."

Tip #1 – Set specific activity times for your family. Find time slots throughout the week when your whole family is available. Devote a few of these times to physical activities together outside. Try doing something active after dinner or begin the weekend with a Saturday morning walk.

Tip #2 – Get outside and get moving. Take your dog for a walk. Play "I spy" while walking somewhere. Play in the park or go to the community center. Play tag, hopscotch, or jump rope.

Tip #3 – Cope with any



THE EPISCOPAL CENTER FOR CHILDREN (ECC), a treatment and special education center in DC, offers advice for families supporting children coping with special needs. (Contributed Photo)

anxieties. If a child is anxious about going outside, bring along a favorite snack and anything familiar and comforting that can help extend "safe" feelings into the outdoors. Take a Teddy Bear Hike where each child brings a favorite stuffed animal along for the adventure.

Tip #4 – Use technology as a supportive tool. Technology can help children coping with special needs transition from indoors to outdoors and help them explore nature. For example, encourage them to use a digital recorder (or your cell phone) to record bird songs, a babbling stream and other pleasing sounds in your yard, the park, or along a trail. When you are back indoors, your child can use these recordings to calm themselves and reduce anxieties.

Tip #5 – Use tech gear to focus. Smartphones, digital cameras and binoculars are a

great filter for children with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder or autistic spectrum disorders. These items can help them focus on a single feature being observed and remove the extraneous visual stimulation around them.

Tip #6 – Start small. Begin by introducing one new family activity and then add more when you feel everyone is ready. Take the dog for a longer walk, play another ball game, or go to an additional exercise class.

Tip #7 – Use school activities as a jumping board for family activities. Talk about what your children learned at school in gym or physical education class. Ask them to show you what they learned. Help them practice.

Tip #8 – Build new skills. Try yoga, mindfulness practices or dance as a family. There are free resources on the internet and special classes in

some communities designed for families and for individuals coping with special needs. Enroll your children in classes they might enjoy such as gymnastics or other sports. Encourage them to practice and go to their activities as a family.

Tip #9 – Plan ahead. Write your activity plans on a family calendar. Let your children help plan the activities. Allow them to check it off after the activity is completed.

Tip #10 – Plan for all weather conditions. Have some ideas for indoor activities on standby in case the weather does not cooperate. Try mall walking, indoor basketball, or active video games or board games.

"Once you start getting outside regularly with your child, you will begin to see the results. Symptoms of anxiety, depression and acting out can lessen," said White. "Self-esteem, focus and participation in social settings may improve too. And hopefully, you'll be feeling better too."

About The Episcopal Center For Children

The Episcopal Center for Children (Center) is a non-profit, nondenominational school and treatment program for children contending with emotional challenges from the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Accredited by the Joint Commission, the Center serves children who are 5-14 years old in grades K-8. The goal of the Center's treat-

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Tulsa ArtCar Weekend: 3 Days Of Vehicular Imagination



ARTCAR WEEKEND is slated Thursday, May 18, through Saturday, May 20. (Contributed Photos)

The ArtCar and its celebration is a point of pride for Living Arts. It represents the creative expression of one's own art alongside something so utilitarian as a car. The goal, of course, is to keep the two values intact, maintaining a vehicle's drivability while letting the artist's creativity shine through. Beyond that, the possibilities of an ArtCar are practically endless. The transformations range from the temporary to the permanent, from painted and glued exteriors to total reshaping of

the vehicles' structures.

And art cars don't even paint the whole picture. Motorbikes, scooters, bicycles... They're all part of the family. Just as well, artcars aren't limited to any one kind of builder. Painters, sculptors, welders, hobbyists, and total amateurs participate.

Leading up to ArtCar Weekend, Living Arts will host workshops within the community to help people realize their creations. This year, Andy Hazell — an accomplished interdisciplinary artist



from Wales — will be coming to help conduct these workshops. For children, there are the ArtBoxCar workshops and parade: a partnership between Living Arts, Tulsa schools and the Philbrook museum. Of the hundreds of families that participate, the top four artboxcars will be given trophies at the Blue Dome Art Festival.

The main artcars travel throughout Tulsa to schools and hospitals on community tours. They're also shown around the downtown area

during Mayfest and the Blue Dome Festival, with the grand finale being Burning Car, a bonfire celebration held just outside of Tulsa on the last day of ArtCar Weekend featuring the artists, poi fire spinners, and firecracker hat dancers.

To find more details and to keep posted, check back to the Living Arts ArtCar Weekend Page or contact Steve Liggert at steve@livingarts.org or 918-585-1234!