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Two Leadership Square 211 N. Robinson, Suite 201-S Oklahoma City, OK 73102 405-235-3100 www.journalrecord.com

Group Publisher

Lisa Blossman

Interim Editor

Joe Dowd

Advertising Director &

Events Manager

Sarah Barrow

Multimedia Sales Executives

Vicki Madden

Shelly Sanderson

Laura Watts

Graphic Design

Wendy Martin

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MILESTON

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NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!



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Do you know an outstanding CEO or CFO?

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To nominate go to: http://bit.ly/OKC-CEO21-Nominations

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DOERNER, SAUNDERS, DANIEL & ANDERSON

Before Oklahoma became a state and when Tulsa was considered Indian Territory, Oklahoma's first federal judge, Charles B. Stuart, left the judicial bench and formed a law firm. Today, that law firm is known as Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson, LLP and is celebrating its 125th anniversary. The full-service firm has offices in Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

"We were founded in a time when lawyers were counselors and kept long-term relationships. That philosophy continues," said Tom Ferguson, DSDA's managing partner who has been with the firm 34 years. "The key to a long relationship is being able to provide solid judgment, advice and counseling to clients."

Connecting the firm to its history since its founding in 1896 is its commitment to people, he added. "We have from the beginning had attorneys who were interested in teaching the next generation – not just legal skills, but professional and ethical conduct, how to run a business and how to create a culture that is fair to people and makes them want to hang around a long time," Ferguson said. "Those skills … keep us firmly connected to our territorial origins."

From the beginning, Doerner lawyers "were leaders who were helping to shape our region." Stuart was the first president of the Oklahoma Bar Association and served as president of the Indian Territory Bar Association.

Stuart partnered with E.J. Doerner, and the firm grew over the years. First with the addition of Stuart's son, Harold Stuart, and Dickson M. Saunders in the 1950s, and then Sam P. Daniel in the 1960s.

Saunders brought with him to the law firm a strong business reputation as

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founding director of Utica National Bank and Trust Co., a long-term director of Atlas Life Insurance Co. and Reading & Bates Offshore Drilling Co., and counsel to both Parker Drilling Co. and Reading & Bates for their initial public offerings. Daniel was responsible for many of the firm's high-profile litigation cases. By the early 1980s, William C. "Bill" Anderson had become a partner, and the firm's name was complete; he had been a law clerk for the federal judge Alfred P. Murrah.

Shayla Dobson, marketing manager for DSDA, attributed the firm's longevity to three reasons: its commitment to putting clients first in all matters; its ability to adapt and change; to a healthy firm culture that incorporates teamwork at every level.

"With a big project, it's all-hands-on-deck to knock out major tasks," she said. "I know I can call on any of our colleagues ... anyone at any hour, and they'll respond."

The law firm has nearly 25 practice areas including corporate law, banking and finance, litigation, oil and gas, Native American law, real estate, and transactional matters.

Even though the technology has changed, most recently as the pandemic has required creative virtual solutions, the firm's values have remained consistent, Dobson and Ferguson said.

"What drives us is finding the right solution for our clients," he said. "In growing a law firm that addresses the vital issues, we've assembled a team that brings legal expertise and genuine concern for clients and the community."

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NBC OKLAHOMA

AFTER 90 YEARS, NBC OKLAHOMA CONTINUES TO BE "PEOPLE YOU CAN BANK ON"

In 1931, W.B. Gover started the National Bank of Commerce in Altus in the middle of the Great Depression. Ninety years later, the bank now known as NBC Oklahoma has weathered other economic downturns by making sound financial decisions, helping build its communities and meeting its customers' needs.

Boxes of photos depicting decades of happy employees and bank remodeling projects through the years only tell part of NBC's story, but they do reflect the bank's 90 years of community involvement and taking care of customers. The handwritten bank ledgers and typewritten letters from the bank's early days have given way to modern banking using the latest technology, but NBC has never wavered in its commitment to its motto of being "People You Can Bank On," said Chairman Ken Fergeson.

"Helping others – that's exactly what we do. We help them start a business. We help them buy a home. We help them plant a crop," Fergeson said. "It's like the heartbeat of the town. If you don't have a bank in your town that is local that is willing to pitch in, then your town is not going to prosper and it's not going to grow."

NBC is an \$800-million state bank that has offices in Oklahoma City, Enid, Kingfisher and Altus. Fergeson acquired the bank in Altus in 1985.

As the bank has grown, so has its ongoing support of its communities. In 2019 the bank matched employees fundraising efforts to donate more than \$104,000 to The Children's Center Rehabilitation Hospital in Bethany. In 2019 and 2020, NBC gave each employee \$100 to give away to help someone else during the holidays. Employees give their time as individuals to nonprofits and often volunteer for community events. The bank also provides ongoing support for the Center of Family Love in Okarche, among others.

The bank also has an art gallery, the Wigwam Gallery in Altus, which demonstrates the bank's and Fergeson's longtime support of the arts in Oklahoma and improving people's quality of life through art. The bank each year commissions an artist to do an original work as part of its NBC Artist Series, handing out prints, posters and postcards of it. NBC also has commissioned large-scale public works of art.

"I've always loved public art, which is free for anyone to enjoy and serves as a landmark for a community," Fergeson has said. "Such art gives a place an identity and residents a sense of pride."

Hatcher said the bank has always fostered a strong and positive culture that prioritizes doing the right thing over making a profit, taking care of customers and making sound financial decisions.

"At NBC we genuinely strive to live our values in the way we treat our employees and customers and put others' needs ahead of our own. We have been a strong bank in good times and bad, and we will continue to be here for our people long into the future," Hatcher said.



A.R.K. RAMOS MANUFACTURING COMPANY

IN 1946. FOUR MEN FOUNDED ONE OF THE FIRST INDUSTRIAL SIGNAGE CASTING FOUNDRIES IN THE HEART OF OKC

In October of 1946, one of the first industrial signage casting foundries was born in the heart of OKC and was run by three men, Adams, Ramos, and Karrant. Max Ramos bought out his partners in 1960, creating what is known today as A.R.K. Ramos Manufacturing Company, establishing what has become a 4th generation family owned and operated business.

Unfortunately Max Ramos passed in 1990, leaving his wife Beatrice Ramos to handle the management of the company throughout the 90's and 2000's. A.R.K. Ramos Manufacturing Company has been led by a member of the Ramos family for nearly all of the 75 years. when Bea Ramos passed in 2013 now CEO/President Courtney Ramos-Fincher and her brother, Vice President, Brendan Ramos knew it was their time to take the helm and continue to build upon their grandparent's legacy. As recent college graduates and having worked in every department of the business throughout high school and college, Courtney and Brendan felt prepared to lead the family business into the next century.

"I've always felt like a leader, whether it was being part of the OU Campus Activities Council or creating various side businesses. I knew I had the ability, even though some would say we were too young to

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take over at the time. The call to continue leading our family owned business could not have been clearer and I'm so thankful to have had the opportunity." Courtney said.

A.R.K. Ramos Manufacturing Company celebrates it's 75th year of business this year. They offer high quality cast plaques and letters, their product line covers a full array of cast and etched metal plaques, along with cast, cut and fabricated metal letters. Their products are available in a variety of metals including aluminum, brass, bronze, stainless steel and zinc.

"When I began working at A.R.K. Ramos, I started in the foundry and because of this, I know what it takes to produce quality products from start to finish. Had I started out on the leadership team, instead of having foundry experience, I might not have been as prepared today to run this business." Brendan said.

Determined to bring this 75-year-old business into 2021, Courtney and Brendan continue to focus on what the company is known for: craftsmanship and a high level of customer service.

They value each customer who chooses A.R.K. Ramos and are ready to see this business through the next 75 years!

Milestones 2021 The Journal Record



NORMAN REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

ITS DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY WAS CLEAR FROM ITS FOUNDING; STILL MEETING GROWING NEEDS OF COMMUNITY

Norman Regional Health System has gone through many dramatic changes over the past 75 years. However, one thing that has never wavered is Norman Regional's commitment to life-saving work and the health and wellness of the communities' it serves. Those who carry out this life-saving work are referred to as "healers."

On June 2, 1946 Norman Municipal Hospital opened with 61 beds and 29 employees, giving Norman a hospital system that provided healing to a community that had been without a healthcare facility for too long. Norman Regional's dedication to serving the community was evident from the beginning as it didn't take long to witness the rapid growth and expansion taking place to meet the needs of the community.

Today in 2021, Norman Regional is a multi-campus system that serves the healthcare and wellness needs of south central Oklahoma. It has expanded to two acute-care hospitals in Norman, OK as well as Norman Regional Moore, a medical facility which houses an emergency room, physician offices, imaging, lab, physical therapy and more. The Health System has grown to employ more

than 3,900 people and has more than 350 physicians credentialed on the medical staff.

In addition to the work that is done within the walls of Norman Regional, moves to bolster community care also include involvement with citywide efforts such as Kids Are Special People, support of health assistants and nurses at Norman Public Schools, free community health and wellness screenings, and wellness initiatives.

With 75 years of growth and innovation, the plans to evolve further are still in motion for Norman Regional. A new transformational plan called Inspire Health will expand healthcare offerings to the community and bring to south-central Oklahoma five key components including: HealthPlex acute care hospital expansion, Ambulatory Care Center, a cancer center, a new freestanding emergency department in East Norman, a Behavioral Health Hospital and the revitalization of the historic Norman Regional Hospital's Porter campus. These new projects are scheduled to be complete by 2023. As the ever-changing landscape of healthcare and our community pushes forward, so will Norman Regional.

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TINKER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF YOU + TFCU

In early 1946, a small group of Tinker Field employees pooled their resources to build a different and better way to save and borrow money. On March 20, 1946, the Oklahoma Secretary of State signed a Certificate of Incorporation and the institution now known as Tinker Federal Credit Union (TFCU) was officially born. The credit union opened its first branch with a small volunteer staff on Tinker Air Force Base. And, by the end of 1946, the credit union had \$4,000 in assets, 152 members and 45 borrowers.

Since opening its doors 75 years ago, TFCU has grown to become the largest credit union in Oklahoma, with \$5 billion in assets, more than 415,000 members worldwide and 32 branch locations. With full-service branches statewide, the credit union serves Tinker Air Force Base, Vance Air Force Base and the employees of more than 1,200 Oklahoma companies and associations. In addition to having a strong presence in Oklahoma City, TFCU also has a brick and mortar presence in Tulsa, Enid, Stillwater, Shawnee, Ada and a new state-of-the-art branch in Choctaw.

Through the years, being active in Oklahoma communities has become part of the fabric of TFCU. The credit union offers free financial education workshops and personalized financial coaching to help empower children and adults to manage their money and

improve their quality of life. Taking a hands-on approach to service, in 2016, TFCU sponsored projects with Purple Heart Homes to help renovate homes for disabled veterans. With a desire to continue to help local heroes, in 2018, the TFCU Foundation was created with the primary mission of helping Oklahoma veterans, police, firefighters and active duty military, by providing them accessibility and safety in their homes.

TFCU continues to navigate the changes and challenges facing its members, through good times and tough times—expanding products and services and adapting to quickly-advancing technology and an ever-evolving culture. TFCU is committed to returning profits to its members through higher dividends, lower loan rates and no-fee or low-fee services. The credit union's focus is on keeping their members' finances secure, so they can focus on what makes them happy.

"TFCU is steadfast in carrying out its mission 'to help members achieve their goals and realize their dreams' today and into the future," said Matt Stratton, TFCU svp/marketing. "Because, we get it. And to us, that's what it's all about—giving back to Oklahoma communities and serving our members."



TRUE SKY CREDIT UNION

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

Seventy-five years ago, a group of employees at what is now known as the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center pooled their resources together to collect \$100 and start a credit union to serve employees and family members who worked as part of the Civil Aeronautics Administration, known today as the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

After a charter change to a community-based credit union that expanded its reach beyond the FAA, and a name change in 2016, True Sky Credit Union has grown to 56,000 members and nine branches serving central Oklahoma. Two additional branches are slated to open in early 2021 and will join those in Norman, Moore, South OKC, the aeronautical center, Mustang, Yukon and Edmond.

True Sky's priorities stem from the credit union philosophy of a notfor-profit entity that is member-owned and serves those members. It focuses on giving back to the community through financial education, a "Sky Crew" that performs random acts of kindness and symbiotic partnerships with other organizations.

"It's the DNA of credit unions. Credit unions were formed to provide financial services to people who were unbanked and underserved," True Sky CEO and President Sean Cahill said. "We are people helping people and reinvesting in our communities is a way for us to do that."

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In the last few months, the "Sky Crew" has donated to the popular Nappy Roots bookstore in northeast Oklahoma City that was in danger of closing, written thank-you notes to Norman Regional Health Plex healthcare workers, given away 500 turkeys at Thanksgiving, and made 15,000 phone calls to check on members during the pandemic.

Jon Skelly, True Sky's vice president of marketing and community development, said the credit union's fastest-growing member segment are millennials who connect with the credit union's mission of supporting the community and helping first-time borrowers.

"We often say that people are intentional about interacting with brands that mirror their values, beliefs and philosophies and that's where a lot of our growth comes from," said Skelly.

True Sky also recently won a national award from the Credit Union National Association -- the Louise Herring Award given to credit unions that demonstrate the credit union philosophy of helping people. The recognition came for its Furlough Action Assistance program that helped people affected by the government shutdown in 2019. True Sky offered no- and low-interest loans and other benefits that totaled more than \$10 million. In the end, people paid back every dollar of these loans.

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LEADERSHIP OKLAHOMA

ENHANCING THE ABILITY OF OKLAHOMA'S LEADERS TO WORK TOWARD POSITIVE LASTING CHANGE

Leadership Oklahoma has educated and inspired Oklahoma's leaders for 35 years. It was founded to expand the knowledge and understanding of business and community leaders from across Oklahoma on the issues facing the state and to create a dynamic network of leaders whose increased awareness and commitment to service will create lasting change.

The history of LOK dates back to 1986 when a group of Oklahoma leaders began a series of meetings and discussions based on the belief that we all have a stake in developing the prosperity and confronting the problems of our state. They shared the conviction that our leadership must understand the complex differences and relationships that drive Oklahoma in order to find effective solutions.

Each year, LOK brings together 50 of the state's most outstanding leaders for an issues-oriented class program. Monthly sessions held in various communities address the critical challenges facing our state. Participants are chosen through a rigorous application process and selected from across the state to represent Oklahoma's professional, geographical, and cultural diversity. The goal is to tap the energies of diverse leaders that represent a microcosm of our state to initiate positive change for the benefit of all Oklahomans.

Leadership Oklahoma's very active Membership Program continues the education of members with unique experiences and events across the state and provides personal and professional networking opportunities for participants from different class years.

Leadership Oklahoma also recognizes the importance of investing in our youth. We want to entice our youth to want to stay in, or return to, Oklahoma. In the summer of 2001, LOK expanded its mission by building a program that would help accomplish this goal. Youth Leadership Oklahoma (YLOK) was established to develop in our young leaders a hope, pride and responsibility for Oklahoma's future.

LOK is making a difference and wants to be a partner of positive change. There is an active network of over 1682 graduates from 190 communities developing real solutions to make Oklahoma a better state through involvement in state issues and leadership in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors. They have dedicated themselves to the cause through active participation in hundreds of boards and committees. Leadership Oklahoma is about collaborating, connecting with others and working for a better Oklahoma.





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