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People & Places: Library Hall of Fame

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Posted: Tuesday, December 2, 2014 12:00 am



Patchett

By JAMES D. WATTS JR. World Scene Writer | 0 comments

CORRECTION: The hall of fame ceremony date was originally incorrect in the following story. The story has been updated.

Patchett

People & Places: Library Hall of Fame

The effort to record and preserve the Cherokee language digitally has earned the Cherokee Nation a place in the Tulsa City-County Library Hall of Fame.

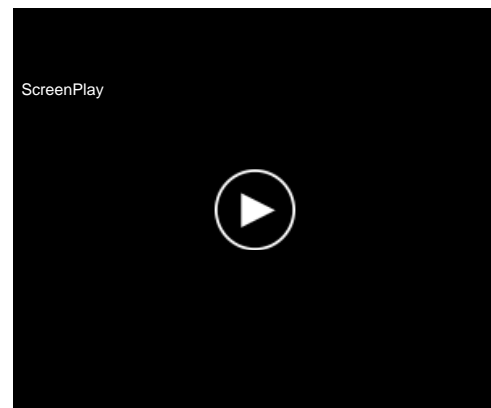
The induction into the hall of fame will be part of a ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E. 93rd St. The ceremony will be part of a public presentation by writer Ann Patchett, this year's winner of the Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award.

Patchett, author of the best-selling novels "Bel Canto" and "State of Wonder," will receive the Helmerich Award — an engraved crystal book and a \$40,000 cash prize — at a formal dinner Friday at the Librarium, 1110 S. Denver Ave.

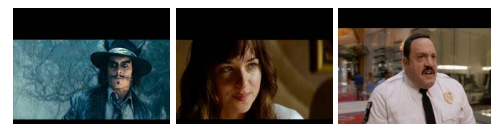
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The Library Hall of Fame annually honors an individual or organization that demonstrates leadership and exemplary contributions of time, talent and energy toward improving the library and its resources.

The Cherokee Nation and the Tulsa library have been working to record the Cherokee language using special computer software, developed by Mango Languages, that will allow library patrons to learn how to read, write and speak Cherokee.

The lessons are scheduled to become available in 2015.

“This recognition is a true honor for the tribe because it validates our mission of language and cultural preservation,” said Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker.

“Protecting our unique language and syllabary ensures our heritage remains accessible to our citizens, which is critical to our long-term success as a tribe.

“A large part of our success in language conservation has been our willingness to embrace new technologies and partnerships that allow us to better preserve our Cherokee history and culture.”

“What’s most exciting about our partnership with the Tulsa City-County Library and Mango Languages is that ours is the first Native American language to be included in the software,” said Roy Boney Jr., manager of Cherokee language programs. “We hope to expand our materials in the program and provide users with as many resources as possible to develop their language skills.”

For more information on these events:

tulsalibrary.org

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School board eyes record bond issue

The Tulsa school board will consider a record \$447 million bond proposal for facilities, technology, and other improvements.

The school board will vote on the proposal Tuesday night. The bond issue is the largest in the state's history and would allow the district to raise money for a wide range of projects, including new classrooms, science labs, and technology. The board also will consider a \$100 million bond issue for the Tulsa Public Schools' new high school.

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PARTING WAYS: FOUR YEARS OF UPS AND DOWNS

Coach out at TU

Bill Blankenship is back in the football coach's hot seat at TU.

Blankenship, who coached at TU from 2009 to 2013, was hired as the new head coach of the Tulsa Golden Hurricane football team. He is the 11th coach in the program's history.

Blankenship coached at TU for four years, during which the team finished with a record of 20-20-1. He was fired in 2013 after a 1-10 season. He was hired as the head coach of the Tulsa Golden Hurricane football team in 2014.

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Blankenship is the 11th coach in the program's history. He coached at TU from 2009 to 2013, and was hired as the new head coach of the Tulsa Golden Hurricane football team in 2014.

Hiring new football coach to be expensive TU investment

The school board's decision to hire Bill Blankenship as the new head coach of the Tulsa Golden Hurricane football team is expected to be a costly investment.

Blankenship's salary is expected to be in the range of \$1 million per year. The school board also will be expected to pay for his travel and other expenses. The school board also will be expected to pay for his travel and other expenses.

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Supreme Court rejects TPD officer's suit over mosque order

The Oklahoma Supreme Court has rejected a lawsuit filed by a Tulsa Police Department officer over an order to allow a mosque to be built in a residential neighborhood.

The officer, who is a member of the Tulsa Police Department, filed the lawsuit in 2013. He claimed that the order violated his constitutional rights. The court ruled in favor of the mosque, stating that the order did not violate the officer's rights.

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