



DAILY BRIEFS

Briefs, from 1

and Williams Cos. professor to Williams Cos. chair, Finance.

From the Veterinary Health Sciences, Jing Liu Pope, title change from research scientist to research associate professor, Physiological Sciences.

RETIREMENTS: Charles B. Cox, 4H Youth Development Programs, December 31, 2013; David W. Freeman, Animal Sciences, December 31, 2013; Harold J. Harmon, Physics, January 6, 2014; Gary L. Foutch, Chemical Engineering, March 1, 2014.

E-CIGARETTES BANNED ON OSU STILLWATER CAMPUS

The OSU/A&M Board of Regents approved an update in Oklahoma State University's tobacco use policy to prohibit the use of e-cigarettes on the Stillwater campus.

OSU's revised Tobacco Use and Smoking Preparation Use in or on University Property policy creates a tobacco-free environment and smoking preparations now "include but are not limited to hookahs, electronic cigarettes, vapor devices, and clove cigarettes."

"Oklahoma State was a leader in establishing a tobacco-free campus so this revision is consistent with our health and wellness efforts," said Dr. Suzy Harrington, chief wellness officer. "To protect the health of OSU faculty, staff and students these products should be prohibited until more research on their safety has been completed."

Harrington discussed the revision broadly, presenting it to Faculty Council, the Student Government Association, the Staff Advisory Council and the Dean's Council.

In a resolution supporting the change in policy, the OSU Student Government Association said "the use of electronic cigarettes in the classroom setting is distracting and

Airport bond sale 'very successful'

'Stable' rating given

BY LARRY LEVY
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Sale of two revenue bond issues totaling \$36.9 million was "very successful," the Tulsa Airport Authority and its financing trust was told at its December meeting.

The 30-year bonds rated in the "stable" category by both Standard & Poor's Rating Service and Moody's Investors Service with payment guaranteed by Build America Mutual Assurance Co. of New York, said Mike Newman of First Southwest Co. of Dallas, the authority's financial advisors.

The bond sold quickly at an interest rate of 5.58 percent to new investors and as well as those who have a history of investing in the Tulsa airports, Newman said, despite a decline in passengers.

Airport data indicates that airlines will board slightly more than 1.3 million passengers at Tulsa International projected by year's end, the fewest since 1983 when airlines boarded 1.27 million

passengers.

Boarding in Tulsa peaked at 1.74 million passengers in 2000.

It is boarding passengers through the government approved Passenger Facility Charge at the rate of \$4.50 each that will be used to pay off the bonds. The authority received \$5.24 million from PFCs during the fiscal year that ended June 30.

Newman said the decline in Tulsa is less than the national passenger boarding rate.

The prospectus for bond buyers of more than 200 pages showed that during the fiscal years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 there were also declines in freight traffic and — at both Tulsa International and Jones-Riverside — aircraft operations.

Purchases by existing bond buyers shows they are pleased with previous issues and comfortable with the authority, but it is always important to attract new buyers to replace those no longer in the market, he said.

The insurance indicated that Build America was "very comfortable" with Tulsa International's ability to repay the

bonds.

When the bonds are fully paid in 2043, Tulsa International will have paid \$36.1 million in interest, Newman said.

The two new bonds along with older bonds expiring in 2031 will cost the authority \$302.88 million in principal and interest, according to the prospectus.

The largest of the two bond issues — \$33.67 million — is for modernizing Concourse A while the second for \$3.28 million is taxable at the federal level will be used for refinancing of 2003 bonds.

The prospectus said the average one-way Tulsa fare is \$211 or 11 percent more than the average U.S. fare of \$190. On a cent-per-mile basis rises from 15.94 cents nationally to 22.47 cents for Tulsa, an increase of nearly 41 percent. The average fare at Oklahoma City is \$206.

Authority assets total \$364.67 million for the 4,360 acres of land at Tulsa International, the 776 acres at Jones-Riverside, buildings and equipment, according to the prospectus, which excludes the 332 acres of Air Force Plant 3 land adjoining Tulsa International but are not airport property. «

Morgen, from 1

owner, a man, had beaten the dog severely while trying to train her to be a guard dog."

It took time for Monroe to gain his new pet's trust.

She would tremble, try to avoid people and would yelp and run when her new owner would try to touch her.

Slowly however, the two became friends and companions.

It was during that time Monroe's mother-

"I had to plead my case since the previous owner, a man, had beaten the dog severely while trying to train her to

to adults, but the dogs don't care. Autistic children pet the dog and read to her, behaving as if they do not have any difficulties.

Leon Mullis who owns Boo, a 17-pound bichon friese, also noted Morgen's behavior.

Mullis invited Morgen and Monroe to check out the court dog program utilized by the Tulsa District Court.

That invitation was the beginning of a new adventure for the pair.

"We meet with children and basically

UPGRADED AT LIBRARY

Smartphones have a new status at the Tulsa City-County Library.

"With the incredibly high use of smartphones today, Tulsa City-County Library recognizes we can reach customers and help them find information and entertainment beyond the walls of the libraries throughout Tulsa County," said Charlotte Frazier, deputy director of support services. "Customers will enjoy the immediately available access to e-books and audiobooks. With 'BookLook' they can quickly scan any book's barcode to see if it is available for checkout from the library." «

...nished to each day, Monroe said. One day a lady stepped forward and asked me if I would take my dog to visit her mother in that same facility."

The woman explained that her mother was blind and in a wheelchair. Entering the room, the Doberman went straight to the woman who touched her. As she petted the dog she was told the various colors of the animal's coat.

Because of those experiences, Monroe started looking for a dog therapy group so he could do more visits. At first, the search seemed hopeless.

One day he was attending a gun club meeting and the speaker was from the Kar-

ing K9s, a therapy dog organization.

That visit opened the door and the evaluations and certifications started.

Now there are regular visits to nursing homes, the Laura Dester Shelter and adult day care facilities.

People know Morgen is coming but Monroe has to reintroduce himself with each visit. That is why the business card has the doberman's, not his handler's picture.

Library visits and the PAWS program are a special time for Morgen.

Children read to the dog and improve their skills, Monroe said. Children often fear they will make a mistake when reading

...some of the tension is broken when children are asked to note the grey near Morgen's nose.

Monroe tells them that she is trying to look more like her owner who has grey hair.

"I have not had anything as genuinely satisfying as that experience of working with kids at the district attorneys office," Monroe said.

Not all dogs can be therapy dogs, he said. Morgen has compassion and the ability to sense when someone is in need. She can go from chair to chair in a room filled with people and know when an individual is hurting. «

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