

August 10, 2006

OSU names new veterinary hospital director

Dr. T. Mark Neer, a native of Tulsa, has been named the director of the Boren Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at Oklahoma State University's Center for Veterinary Health Sciences. Neer, who also will serve as a professor of small animal medicine, has spent the last 23 years as a professor of medicine and clinical neurology at Louisiana State University. Neer's appointment is a return to his alma mater. He earned a doctor of veterinary medicine degree at OSU in 1976 and later worked as a member of the veterinary medicine faculty for three years. Neer and his wife, Kitty, have a daughter, Kelli Michelle, who is attending LSU as an art major. For more details, [click here](#) .

Network news program features OSU-CHS researcher, physicians

ABC News Primetime featured the research of Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences as part of its Medical Mysteries series on Wednesday night. The segment focused on Morgellons, a multi-symptom disease that is just now starting to be researched and understood. The OSU-CHS research team includes Randy Wymore, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacology; Dr. Rhonda Casey, D.O., assistant professor of pediatrics; and Dr. Stephen Eddy, D.O., associate professor of family medicine. For more information on Morgellons, visit the following link: <http://www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/morgellons/index.cfm> .

THE BUS offers free rides today due to heat

Because of the expected extreme high temperatures forecast for today, THE BUS will offer free service to the citizens of Stillwater from noon until 7 p.m. to ensure their safety from the heat. The free service is available on all fixed routes and for Paratransit passengers. Currently, seven transit routes are serving locations on the OSU campus and throughout the Stillwater community. Routes run from 6:20 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. One-way trip fares for Stillwater residents normally range from 50 cents for the general public to 25 cents for senior citizens, people with disabilities, and persons under 18. For more information about THE BUS and its available services, contact Transit Services at 744-2832 or visit www.transit.okstate.edu .

ALPHA orientation set for Aug. 17-20

Approximately 1,400 new students, along with 300 student and faculty/staff volunteers, will take part in Oklahoma State University's " 'X' Marks the Spot for Success" ALPHA 2006, a four-day orientation Aug. 17-20. The purpose of ALPHA is to provide opportunities for new freshmen to meet faculty, staff and other students, and to learn about what is expected of them as OSU students. Residence halls will open at 8 a.m. on Aug. 17 to receive students moving into the facilities. ALPHA check-in will be in the Student Union Atrium Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you'd like to volunteer to help with ALPHA, please contact Jill Rucker at (405) 744-5328.

New learning communities launched at OSU

Residential learning communities will see explosive growth at Oklahoma State University this semester with a total of 19 communities establishing a place for themselves, many in the new four-story suites on the west side of campus. Every college at OSU now has some type of residential learning community that provides regular interaction with peers in similar majors as well as mentoring. Learning communities with a specific focus or need such as journalism or career exploration are also available for students. The Department of Residential Life offers several other specialty housing opportunities from computer science to an honors hall. For more information about all the learning communities, go to www.reslife.okstate.edu .

OSU music grads admitted to Juilliard

Congratulations to Jeffrey Missal and Robert Gorbet, 2006 graduates from Oklahoma State University's music department, who've been admitted to the Juilliard School of Music in New York City. Stillwater native Missal plays trumpet while Gorbet, from Pryor, plays bass trombone. Juilliard ranks as the country's top school for the performing arts, so admission is highly competitive, and some of the best musicians in the world are graduates. For more details, [click here](#) .

Seretean Wellness Center selected for \$500,000 grant

The OSU Seretean Wellness Center will receive about \$500,000 over the next five years to reduce tobacco use among students in Stillwater and the surrounding area (a much larger sum than we originally reported). The center will soon invite widespread participation in a plan to address the unique needs of the student population. Tobacco use is Oklahoma's leading preventable cause of death, killing about 5,700 Oklahomans each year. The \$100,000 per year grant is from the Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Trust, which was established by voters in 2000.

Tutoring available for Stillwater students

Approximately 100 reading tutors and 40 math tutors from the Randall and Carol White Reading and Math Center in the College of Education will be available to provide after-school tutoring for Stillwater elementary and middle school students this fall. The program, offered through the School of Teaching and Curriculum Leadership, serves the dual purpose of preparing OSU students to teach and helping young students with math and reading. The reading program will begin Monday, Sept. 11 and the math program will start Monday, Sept. 18. Both programs will end on Nov. 30. The cost is \$20 for each program, and students are accepted on a first-come first-served basis. To enroll a student or to receive information, parents should call Olsen at (405) 744-7119 or come by 102 Willard on the OSU campus.

Back to school extravaganza

OSU-Tulsa is among the sponsors for a "Back 2 School Community Enrichment Extravaganza" set for the Tulsa High School for Science and Technology next Tuesday from 3 – 8 p.m. Principals and teachers from 12 north Tulsa schools will be available to speak with parents and students about curriculum and activities offered at their respective schools. Additional booths will provide parents with information about programs and services that contribute to a student's success in school. The goal is to get everyone more involved in the education process and provide an enjoyable evening. Tulsa Public Schools, the City of Tulsa and Williams Companies are also sponsors. The high school is located at 4929 North Peoria.

Tai Chi for Beginners

Dee Dutt, Ph.D., will lead a beginner's Tai Chi class at the Seretean Wellness Center. Tai Chi is an ancient practice used to improve balance, reduce the risk of falls, increase core muscle strength, lower blood pressure, and improve other areas of activity (such as golf, tennis, racquetball), and relieve stress/anxiety. The class runs Sept. 7 – Nov. 2 and will meet each Thursday from 9 – 10 a.m. Cost of the class is \$100 per person. You do not have to be a member of the O-Zone Fitness Center to attend. Class size is limited and pre-registration by Aug. 31 is required. If you have any questions or wish to enroll in the class, please contact Mary Talley, 744-6907 or mary.talley@okstate.edu. This email address is being protected from spam bots, you need Javascript enabled to view it

Stillwater Meeting Market

Planning an event for Stillwater? Mark your calendar now for the Stillwater Meeting Market set for Thursday, Sept. 21, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Payne County Expo Center. OSU will be among more than 50 exhibitors. Admission is free and you'll be able to talk to local professionals who can discuss available facilities, lodging and services with you face-to-face. For more information, contact the Stillwater Convention & Visitors Bureau or visit www.market.visitstillwater.org.

Latest cyber security tips

Protecting confidential and sensitive data from accidental disclosure is very important. For tips on properly handling data erasure and the disposal of media, click on the following link <http://security.okstate.edu/sso/Aug2006.doc>.

Wellness tip: Stretching for back maintenance

Many of us have or will experience back pain. Stretching sometimes helps to alleviate or even prevent it: Lie down on your back; pull both knees to your chest; hold for 45-60 seconds; release; repeat twice. Doing this exercise each day can often reduce the risk for future pain. However, if you already have diagnosed medical problems with your back, consult your doctor or physical therapist before doing any new back stretches or other exercises. Wellness tips are brought to you by the OSU Seretean Wellness Center, dedicated to making OSU the Healthiest Campus in