



# OKC NEWS

DECEMBER 2021

## JANUARY EVENTS

### Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

okcdodgers.com • (405) 218-1000

**Now-Jan 2** LifeShare WinterFest-snow tubing

**Dec 31** Opening Night

### Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

**8** Rachmaninoff Festival!

**11-16** Dear Evan Hansen

**21-22** Masters of Musical Theatre

**23** Pirates of the High Seas

**25-30** Oklahoma!

### OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

**14-16** OKC Boat & RV Show

**21-23** Home + Garden Show

**22-23** Oklahoma Gun Show

**23** Rockstar Championships

**29** 2 Hip Chicks Roadshow

### Oklahoma City Convention Center

okcconventioncenter.com • (405) 768-4037

**9** Oklahoma Bridal Show

### Paycom Center

paycomcenter.com • (405) 602-8500

**27** Jeff Dunham

**30** Elton John

Full calendar of local events at [visitokc.com](http://visitokc.com)



## PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

Construction began in November on an iconic 121-foot pedestrian bridge over NW Expressway Blvd., east of Wilshire Blvd. The bridge will link the Lake Hefner and Lake Overholser Trail and provide safer passage for walkers, cyclists and runners across NW Expressway. The design represents classic cars from the 40s, 50s and 60s and nearby airports, Wiley Post and Clarence E Page. The \$5.3 million project is funded by the 2007 Bond Program and the 2017 Better Streets Safer City Bond Program. It's expected to take a year to complete.

## City signing bonuses

The City is offering signing bonuses for hard to fill positions. Amounts range from \$2,500 to \$5,500. Signing bonuses are awarded as one-time lump sum payments paid in separate checks on first regularly scheduled pay dates after the employee's start date. If you are looking for a great place to work where you can make a difference in your community, check out available positions at [okc.gov/careers](http://okc.gov/careers).

## 2020 Census results

According to the 2020 census, population growth in the Oklahoma City limits climbed from 579,999 in 2010 to 681,054 in 2020, making us the 22nd largest City in the U.S. Much of our growth took place in Canadian County, where the population grew from 44,541 residents to 84,842 making it the 20th fastest growing county in the U.S.

## Police annual report

Learn about the Police Department's operations by reading their 2020 annual report at [okc.gov/police](http://okc.gov/police). The report provides an insightful overview of policing topics including the department's budget, staffing, crime statistics, use of force policies and procedures, de-escalation training, officer-involved shootings, in-custody deaths, Citizen's Advisory Board, recruiting, internal investigations and community and youth outreach.

## Hooked on Fishing

Kids ages 5-15 can learn to fish for trout from 10 a.m.-noon on January 15 at Edwards Park Pond, 1515 N Bryant Avenue. Students will learn basic trout fishing skills including casting and knot tying. Rods, reels and bait provided. Registration required. Visit [okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup), keyword 42492.

## See the Zoo Safari Lights

Brighten your holiday with OKC Zoo Safari Lights. Safari Lights showcases wildlife themed light sculptures viewable on a driving tour through the Zoo. Guests can also enjoy a walking experience featuring interactive lights, musical light show and other activities. Open nightly through Jan. 9 from 5:30-11 p.m. Reservations required. Drive-up purchases not allowed. Visit [okc.org/tickets](http://okc.org/tickets).

## Survey results

The 2021 resident satisfaction survey shows the City is moving in the right direction. This was the 13th year the survey was distributed by mail and online to a random selection of households. A total of 1,283 residents responded, with each of the City's eight Wards representing between 12% and 14% of the surveys. The survey is important because the results drive our priorities and influence our budgeting process. Improving street conditions and traffic flow continues to be a top priority. To view the report, visit [okc.gov](http://okc.gov).

[okc.gov](http://okc.gov)



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## PARKS EVENTS

### Senior Events (age 50+)

EMBARK offers no cost, round trip rides to these senior centers for people age 60+. Schedule at 405-297-2583.

**Art—All Media:** Casual painting class in the medium of your choice with instructor tips.

Every Tues., Wed & Thurs. • 9-noon • \$5  
Woodson Senior Center, 3401 S May Avenue  
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 43060

### Dominoes:

Daily • 8 a.m.-noon • Free  
Woodson Senior Center, 3401 S May Avenue  
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 42452

### Rummikub:

Every Mon. • noon-2 p.m. • Free  
Woodson Senior Center, 3401 S May Avenue  
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 42441

**Pinochle:** Make friends while playing double-deck pinochle and other card games. Beginners welcome.

Tues. & Thurs. • 12:30-3 p.m. • Free  
Will Rogers Senior Center, 3501 Pat Murphy Drive  
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 42409

**Woodcarving Delight:** Carve your own masterpiece with the OKC Woodcarving group. Learn scraping, sanding, assembly and finishing.

Every Tues. • 1-3 p.m. • Free  
Will Rogers Senior Center, 3501 Pat Murphy Drive  
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 41939

**Tatting:** Handcraft durable lace from a series of knots and loops. Call (405) 297-1455 for supply list.

Every Wed • 9-11 a.m. • Free  
Will Rogers Senior Center, 3501 Pat Murphy Drive  
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 42029

Full calendar of City rec events at [okc.gov/parks](http://okc.gov/parks)

## Holiday recycling

With the holiday season underway, it's time to think about what's **Naughty** and what's **Nice** for your Big Green Recycle cart. Please remember that ALL recycling items must be loose in your cart. Do NOT use plastic bags. Visit [okc.gov/recycle](http://okc.gov/recycle) for details.

### Nice

- Cardboard boxes and wrapping paper tubes
- **Plain** brown Kraft paper, holiday cards and paper gift bags.
- Glass bottles and jars (*empty, clean and dry*).
- Plastic drink bottles (*empty*).
- Aluminum foil products, steel fruit and vegetable cans (*empty, clean, and dry*).

### Naughty

- Using your Big Blue trash, bulky trash or compost for items that can be recycled.
- Wrapping paper, tissue paper and gift bags.
- Christmas lights, bows and ribbons: These "tangles" get caught in equipment and delay production. Toss them in your Big Blue or re-use ribbons and bows.
- Plastic bags/wrap, including bubble wrap, cling wrap and shipping pockets.
- Shipping peanuts and protective foam.
- New or used paper plates, cups and napkins.
- Plastic cutlery.
- Trees and greenery: Compost greenery or bag them and put them in your Big Blue.

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

### New Year's Day

- Trash, recycling and bulky waste pickup as usual.
- EMBARK bus and OKC Streetcar are free and on regular schedules.
- Closed: City offices, Animal Shelter, Household Hazardous Waste, Municipal Court pay window (*pay at okc.gov*).

### Martin Luther King Day

- No trash or recycling pickup. Makeup day Wed., Jan. 22.
- EMBARK bus and OKC Streetcar are free and on regular schedules.
- Closed: City offices, Animal Shelter, Household Hazardous Waste, Municipal Court pay window (*pay at okc.gov*).

## Recover unclaimed items

Backpacks, car bumpers, jewelry, cash and TVs are just a few of the thousands of unclaimed items in the Police Property Management Unit waiting to be reunited with their owners. Most items end up in the Property Management Unit because they were: collected by police during an investigation, stolen property, recovered by police or were found by police or residents. People who believe they have unclaimed items find out how to recover them by calling (405) 297-1135.

## Shop local for holidays

Help strengthen our local economy and invest in your community by shopping online or in person at local Oklahoma City retailers. Shopping locally keeps your money in our local economy, supporting retailers who employ your neighbors. Many local and national retailers with locations in Oklahoma City offer online sales, curbside pickup and more. When shopping locally, your sales tax dollars also help pay for critical services and shopping in other cities sends that money somewhere else. Police officers, firefighters, the Zoo and homeless pets at Animal Welfare all count on shoppers in Oklahoma City for funding. To learn more about sales tax in OKC, visit [okc.gov/tax](http://okc.gov/tax).

