



# OKC NEWS

NOVEMBER 2022

## DECEMBER EVENTS

### Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

okcdogers.com • (405) 218-1000

1-31 LifeShare WinterFest & Snow Tubing

### Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

4 A Canterbury Christmas

10-18 The Nutcracker

22-23 A Magical Cirque Christmas

30-Jan. 1 Cats

### Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.com • (405) 445-7080

3-4 Passport to Santa

17 Gingerbread House Class

### Oklahoma City Convention Center

okconventioncenter.com • (405) 768-4037

1-3 Nearfall National Wrestling Tournament

10-11 BrickFest Live

14-Jan. 8 Immersive VanGogh Experience

### OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

2-3 Santa Market Craft Show for Alzheimer's

3 Junior Botball Challenge

7-11 OKC Futurity

16-17 Wonders & Wisdom

29-31 49th Jr. Open Wrestling Championship

### Paycom Center

paycomcenter.com • (405) 602-8500

Visit [nba.com/thunder](http://nba.com/thunder) for Thunder schedule.

9-10 Luke Combs

30 Parker McCollum

### Rose State College Hudiburg Chevrolet Center

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

10 World Ballet Series: Nutcracker

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

## OKC STREETCAR PASSES MILLION-RIDER MARK



The OKC Streetcar carried its one-millionth rider in September. A MAPS 3 project, the OKC Streetcar aims to strengthen community connections, support economic growth and enhance mobility for residents and visitors in OKC's core. The streetcar launched in December 2018. It includes two route options, the 4.8-mile Downtown Loop and the 2-mile Bricktown Loop, and serves five Downtown OKC districts, including Automobile Alley, Bricktown, City Center, Arts District and Midtown.

The streetcar is the region's first local passenger rail in nearly a century. Now the Regional Transportation Authority of Central Oklahoma is conducting federal studies to bring regional commuter rail service to Edmond, Oklahoma City, Norman and Tinker Air Force Base.

## Wellness Center update

Construction continues on two MAPS 3 senior health and wellness centers in OKC. Both facilities will include an indoor heated pool, fitness center, gym, indoor track, game room, clinic, classroom space for art and programs, computer area and demonstration kitchen.

### Center #3 • NE 36th & Lincoln Blvd.

The center will be operated by Langston University, in conjunction with the YMCA. Construction is expected to wrap up this spring.

### Center #4 • 13660 S. Western Ave.

The center will be operated by Integris Health, in conjunction with the YMCA. Completion is expected in early summer.

## Shop local for holidays

Help strengthen our economy and invest in your community by shopping online or in person at OKC retailers. Shopping locally keeps your money here, supporting retailers who employ your neighbors. Learn more about sales tax in OKC at [okc.gov/tax](http://okc.gov/tax).

## Film office planned

In September, the City and the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber established the Oklahoma City Office of Film and Creative Industries. Its mission includes recruitment and support of the City's existing local film community with an emphasis on economic development and job creation for the region. The official launch is planned for later this year. The office has several functions, including:

- Marketing OKC as a location for film and television production
- Implementing OKC's Film Incentive Program
- Location scouting assistance and support databases cataloging OKC crews, talent, locations, and production services
- One-stop concierge and ombudsman with the film industry
- The local "voice" for existing film industry/filmmakers to connect our local resources, such as small businesses, minority, and disadvantaged businesses and BIPOC community members to industry opportunity

## McAtee Park named

Former Ward 3 Councilman Larry McAtee was honored for his 20 years of service by naming Larry McAtee Park at Crystal Lake after him. The parkland and picturesque fishing lake is located at 6625 SW 15th St. in Ward 3. For two decades, Councilman McAtee passionately advocated for neighborhoods, trails, economic development and beautification citywide. He helped implement the trails master plan and the trails wayfinding signage master plan. McAtee also supported MAPS for Kids, MAPS 3 and MAPS 4 and championed economic development in Bricktown and along the Oklahoma River. He represented Ward 3 from 2001-2021.

## Appointments to new HRC

Oklahoma City Council recently approved nine residents to the City's new Human Rights Commission:

**Valerie Couch**, At-Large Member/Chair  
Ward 1 **Ralph Crawford**  
Ward 2 **Cindy Nguyen**  
Ward 3 **Councilwoman Barbara Young**  
Ward 4 **Leslie Shaw VanBurskirk**  
Ward 5 **Brian Wall**  
Ward 6 **Ana "Deisy" Escalera**  
Ward 7 **Marsha Herron**  
Ward 8 **Rhonda Hooper**

Among other duties, the HRC will be responsible for addressing alleged harm to people who have been discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, creed, sex, gender, national origin, age, familial status, genetic information, or disability related to employment, housing, and public accommodations as provided by Oklahoma laws regarding discrimination. The first Commission meeting will be held in January 2023.

## Snow routes on okc.gov

Visit [okc.gov](http://okc.gov) to find a map of streets that will be salted and plowed during snow and ice events. There are 8,500 lane miles in OKC. Of that, 1,800 lane miles are on snow routes. Crews typically drive 200 miles in a 12-hour shift. If you must drive, have someone to call in case you are stranded. And if you get stranded, try to move your car off the road so other vehicles can safely pass.

## Flood info

Contact the Public Works Department for flood information from our community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), including whether a property is in a special flood hazard area or floodway, historical flood information, flood depth data, special flood-related hazards, natural floodplain functions, problems not shown on the FIRM and more. Copies of FEMA elevation certificates of structures built in the floodplain after April 2013 are also available upon request. Call (405) 297-2581 for details.

## Coaches needed for PAL

The OKC Police Athletic League needs volunteer coaches to mentor fifth and sixth-grade OKCPS students. Sports include football, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball and soccer. You don't have to be an expert, just someone who is willing to help teach students valuable character lessons. Participation is free. Uniforms, equipment, venues and officials are paid for by OKC PAL. PAL will work around your schedule and location. Contact OKC PAL [okcpal.org](http://okcpal.org) or call (405) 632-2240.

## OKC employment benefits

A career with the City offers many benefits including access to our Employee Medical Center. Full-time employees and their covered dependents can use the center for their primary care and get certain generic medications filled at no cost to them. In addition to visiting the clinic in person, patients can conveniently schedule appointments, conduct virtual visits, view lab results and manage medications through a secure patient portal. To review more of the City's great benefits and job openings, visit [okc.gov/careers](http://okc.gov/careers).

## Be "Fire Safe"

Have a safe holiday. Carefully inspect indoor and outdoor holiday lights, looking for frayed or exposed wires, loose connections and broken or cracked sockets. Pay particular attention to your electrical outlets - more than three light strands can overload the outlet. And make sure you have at least one working smoke detector.

## Prepare for winter's freeze

Prepare for freezing weather:

- Disconnect garden hoses
- Insulate exposed pipes along walls
- Inspect your water meter and report cracks or loose lids
- Drain sprinkler system lines if your system isn't self-draining
- Find the water shut-off valve for your home and know how to use it
- Teach your family how to shut off water and what to do if there is a plumbing leak
- Ask someone to check on your home or business when you're away

Protect your pipes from freezing by dripping an indoor faucet and open cabinet doors below sinks on exterior walls. If your pipes bust, Utilities Department emergency service crews are on call 24/7 at (405) 297-3334.



## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

### Day before Christmas Eve (Friday, Dec. 23)

- Closed: City offices & Municipal Court (pay online at [okc.gov](http://okc.gov)).
- Trash and recycling collection as usual.

### Christmas Eve (Saturday, Dec. 24)

- Closed: OKC Animal Shelter
- EMBARK bus and OKC Streetcar on regular schedule.  
Customer Service: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Christmas Day (Sunday, Dec. 25)

- Closed: OKC Animal Shelter
- EMBARK bus on weekend schedule. Free fares. No Norman service. Customer Service closed. OKC Streetcar on reduced schedule from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free fares.

### Day after Christmas Day (Monday, Dec. 26)

- Closed: City offices & Municipal Court (pay online at [okc.gov](http://okc.gov)).
- No trash and recycling service. Makeup day Wednesday, Dec. 28.