



DeMille is in the details

Broken Arrow actor's first filmmaking effort a learning experience

By **TIM STANLEY**
World Staff Writer

Bending over a board with his portable circular saw, tangerine shirt streaked with sweat, Brian Shoop looks right at home.

It's been more than a decade since the onetime carpenter hung up his tool belt to become an actor. In reprising his original role, though, Shoop doesn't have to act.

It still comes natural.

After doing radio spots all morning, Shoop is spending a 95-degree August afternoon expanding the front porch of a vacant house — the soon-to-be setting for his latest project.

Shoop, who's appeared in independent films and a big-screen feature, is getting ready to make a movie of his own for the first time.

Setting the saw aside, Shoop seems satisfied with his handiwork and ready for a breather. Whether it's a wood porch railing or a wooden actor, the former drama instructor knows how to work it till he gets what he wants.

"That's been a real benefit of all those years," he says, adding that carpentry skills can come in handy on a movie set.

Shoop's filmmaking debut is called "Treasure Blind" and besides directing the independent film, he wrote the script and will play a key role.

Film actors naturally gravitate toward filmmaking, Shoop says.

"This way I can cast myself in the biggest role," he jokes.

The cast and crew are a blend of professional and amateur, with members of Shoop's church, Tulsa Bible Church, lending their various talents.

Private investors are helping pay for the \$100,000 project, described as part-family drama, part-adventure story with a Christian message.

The transition to filmmaking is an adventure in its own right, Shoop says.

"There's a lot more to it than you ever know till you start wading into it," he says.

It was during his long construction career that Shoop became interested in acting and after raising a family, he and his wife decided he should pursue it full time.

Between teaching drama and working with theater groups, Shoop beefed up his screen-acting resume. Scoring a part in the 2002 feature "The Rookie" was a high point, but he's also appeared in several commercials, industrial training films and

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TIM STANLEY / Tulsa World

Aspiring filmmaker Brian Shoop stands in front of a vacant house in north Broken Arrow that will serve as a principal location for his debut movie "Treasure Blind." The city resident has acted in independent films and a major feature.

New service added for builders, contractors

By **VERONICA SCOGGINS**
World Staff Writer

A new system offers builders, contractors and inspectors 24/7 access to inspection information.

The Interactive Voice Response system, which started Aug. 7, allows builders, contractors and inspectors to request or cancel an inspection, leave messages for the inspector, listen to messages the inspector left, or hear inspection results.

"We wanted to help contractors streamline the process of requests," said Vaunda Pendergraft, the customer service supervisor at the city of Broken Arrow's One-Stop Center.

The One-Stop Center, which handles building information and requests, is often flooded with calls, Pendergraft said.

"We get a lot of calls, and some of them want the same information, so it takes a lot of time to handle all their requests."

Since the center is open only Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., service isn't always available when it's needed.

"Builders had to get ahold of us when we were available," Pendergraft said. "Now, inspectors, contractors and builders can make one phone call and get all the information they need."

They don't have to wait until Monday if they want results over the weekend.

"The information will be available whenever they call, even if it is after hours or on a weekend."

The One-Stop Center is adding a similar Internet program, "Click2Gov." It will allow people to access more information about different city divisions.

"We are working on that program right now," Pendergraft said. "We want that running as soon as possible."

The IVR system and the "Click2Gov" program are things the city is doing to accommodate the public, said Chief Inspector Allen Stanton.

"It is one more step in the city's process to facilitate things for the public faster," he said.

The IVR system is easy to use, Pendergraft said.

"Most people have been able to figure it out on the first try," she said. "We've been getting a pretty good response with the system."

The inspection line gives step-by-step instructions for each service offered.

"This allows inspectors to report results while

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Battle Creek Golf Club begins transition next week

City expects no interruption in services; new managers predict bright days ahead

By **TIM STANLEY**
World Staff Writer

A switch in management at the city's Battle Creek Golf Club shouldn't affect golfers, officials say. And in the long run they'll enjoy much improved services.

"Our goal is for the public not to see any interruption in services," Parks Department Director Scott Esmond said. "As time goes on, they'll begin to see some new things offered by the management company, changes in the way the

facility is presented. But our goal in the meantime is for a smooth transition."

Greenway Golf Management will take over course operations Sept. 1 from Buffalo Golf Group, which had managed the course since 1998, the year after it opened.

City officials revised the management contract to make profit a bigger incentive, awarding it to Greenway after interviewing four firms. The course has lost money since it opened, including some \$200,000 last fiscal year.

California-based Greenway also manages Bailey Ranch Golf Club, a public course in Owasso, and it was the turnaround the company engineered there that helped sell them to Broken Arrow.

Greenway principal Ken Campbell of Tulsa said they took over the course, a money-loser for Owasso since it opened in 1993, two years ago.

"They were frustrated because not only could they not make a profit, but they couldn't even cover the expenses of being open," Campbell said. "Since we took

over, the course is now funding all its expenses and capital improvements and the city is making payments toward its debt."

A \$600,000 Battle Creek clubhouse addition completed in July should help with marketing efforts, Esmond said.

The Battle Creek clubhouse was expanded to include a 4,400-square-foot banquet area with space for up to 200 guests.

Previously the facility offered a snack bar area with a handful of tables.

"A lot of golf tournaments — corporate, associations, etc. — need a staging area

where the players can sign in and then afterwards, they like to have a place where they can all have dinner and awards can be presented. Now we can offer them that," Esmond said.

Operating public courses in Broken Arrow and Owasso will allow Greenway to offer special membership packages.

"We're going to have some membership opportunities to play both courses starting after the first of the year," Campbell said.

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Watch it

Police keep eye on speeders in school zones

By **DAVID R. MILLION**
World Staff Writer

Broken Arrow motorists having a hard time watching their speed, especially in and around school zones, are getting plenty of help.

And, those who feel safe driving "just 1 or 2 mph over the 25-mph school zone speed shouldn't feel safe at all," says Sgt. Ed Ferguson, who heads the BAPD Traffic Unit.

Drivers going even 1 mph over the speed limit are likely to receive the minimum speeding ticket — \$154. Anyone caught going 11-15 mph over will be ticketed \$204.

Flagrant violators face much stiffer fines: \$254 for 16 to 20 mph over the speed limit; \$454 or mandatory court appearance for 21 mph and over.

The fine for failure to stop for a school bus with its warning stop sign extended and lights flashing is \$254 and four

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DAVID R. MILLION / Tulsa World

A Broken Arrow school bus is among vehicles that stop as Carol Hill helps four Rhoades Elementary students cross Main Street after first day classes Aug. 14.

Police to patrol heavily over Labor Day weekend

By **DAVID R. MILLION**
World Staff Writer

For most folks, Labor Day weekend will be roughly Friday through Monday, Sept. 1 to 4.

But for many in the Broken Arrow Police Department and 12,000 law enforcement agencies across the United States, it has already begun.

Increased enforcement began Friday and will continue through Sept. 4, said Sgt. Ed Ferguson, who heads the BAPD Traffic Unit.

The annual effort, known as National Impaired Driving Enforcement Crackdown, is a collaborative one aimed at reducing the accident on American highways caused by intoxicated motorists.

"While we'll be focusing on impaired drivers, we'll also be watching for any traffic violation that can cause collisions," Ferguson said. "We're committed to increased enforcement during this program. We hope anyone inconvenienced by being stopped in a check point will understand we're trying to make the highways safer for them," he said.

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