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### WHAT'S NEW



**Oneok Field:** See renderings of the proposed stadium, read a timeline of the history of baseball in Tulsa, and view past stories and related documents. [tulsaworld.com/ballpark](http://tulsaworld.com/ballpark)

### WHAT YOU'RE SAYING

29 readers have commented on "Inhofe blasts Bush bid for rest of bailout."

**BottleCap:** "Until someone can tell us what happened to the first \$350,000,000,000, Inhofe is only doing what is right by asking these questions and coming out publicly like this. There's no accountability!"

**RMS:** "OK Mr. Inhofe like the rest of the naysayers you offer no alternatives to the TARP or other plans to get our Nation back on track. Quick to criticise, but slow to suggest ways and means to get our economy up and going again."

### TUESDAY'S TOP 5

The most popular stories read online in the last 24 hours:

1. **Downtown Tulsa ballpark to be named Oneok Field:** Oneok and the Oneok Foundation have pledged \$5 million to obtain the 20-year naming rights to the baseball park.
2. **Former Sooners offer advice**
3. **Trial ordered in DUI manslaughter case**
4. **Woman, four children slain in El Reno**
5. **Inhofe says Bush has damaged his own legacy**

### CONTACT US

Jason Collington Web editor ..... 581-8464

News staff telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed on our Web site. To e-mail any news staff member, type: first name.last name@tulsaworld.com

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### »WAY BACK WHEN Today in history

# 01.14

BY GENE CURTIS

### 1943

President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill opened a 10-day wartime conference in Casablanca, Morocco, to plan World War II strategy. It was supposed to have been a conference of the Big Three leaders, but Soviet Union Premier Josef Stalin didn't attend.

### 1958

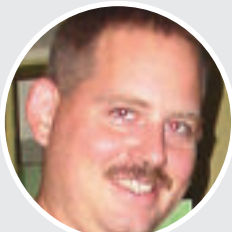
The Air Force disclosed that an American plane had crashed and burned at an undisclosed location (believed to be in the U.S.) without causing the atomic bomb it was carrying to explode. A report said the crash proved that nuclear weapons are harmless except when components are brought together by a "conscious design."

### 1964

Flying a small plane over Shawnee, Robert Lawson, a former Oklahoma Baptist University student from Inola, radioed warnings for 35 minutes to evacuate the OBU administration building. Lawson meant the building that housed administration when he was there, but OBU evacuated the new one instead. Luckily, Lawson's suicide plunge was into an empty classroom building.

### 2005

Army Spec. Charles Graner Jr., the reputed ringleader of a band of rogue guards at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, was convicted at Fort Hood, Texas, of abusing detainees. When asked after he was sentenced if he had any regrets or apologies, he answered "No, ma'am."



**Charles Graner Jr.**  
Courtesy/Washington Post

Gene Curtis, 581-8304  
[gene.curtis@tulsaworld.com](mailto:gene.curtis@tulsaworld.com)

To purchase "Only in Oklahoma," a book of collected columns by Gene Curtis, visit [tulsaworld.com/OnlyinOklahoma](http://tulsaworld.com/OnlyinOklahoma)



The new ReliOn Ventiolin HFA inhaler is touted as being easier on the environment. Courtesy

# Inhalers offer price relief, too

BY KIM ARCHER  
World Staff Writer

While Tulsa is not an easy place to live with asthma, area sufferers can expect to find some financial relief when they buy the new federally mandated "green" rescue inhalers.

"We had some patients who said they wouldn't be buying them because they couldn't afford them," said Marshan Oliver-Marick, program director for the American Lung Association of Central States.

As of Dec. 31, U.S. companies are banned from manufacturing albuterol inhalers that use chlorofluorocarbons as a propellant. The cost of the old inhalers averaged between \$5 to \$25, while the new environmentally friendly hydrofluoroalkane (HFA) inhalers cost from \$30 to \$60.

Now Wal-Mart has begun offering the new HFA inhalers starting at \$9 each.

"As an advocate for our customers, we're committed to ensuring they have access to affordable medicine they cannot live without," said Sandy Kinsey, Wal-Mart's divisional merchandise manager for pharmacy.

Asthma is a chronic lung disease that inflames and narrows the airways. More than 20 million U.S. children and adults live with it. In Oklahoma, asthma affects nearly one in 13 school-aged children and is the leading cause of school absenteeism due to a chronic illness, according to the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

"This is really a viable solution for everyone with asthma," said Oliver-Marick. "HFA inhalers are the only way to go now."

Dr. James S. Seebass, a Tulsa pulmonologist and public health physician, said he is pleased Wal-Mart is offering ReliOn Ventiolin HFA inhalers because its 60 metered doses help patients and doctors monitor and track usage via the dose counter.

The inhaler allows patients to plan ahead, he said.

Seebass warned that inhalation with the new HFA inhalers feels different and many people overdose because they don't realize they got the medication.

"It comes out warmer and at a slower speed than the old inhalers. A lot of people don't feel that blast of cold in the back of their throat, so they think they're not getting anything. So they overuse it," he said. "In reality, they are getting enough."

Overdosing can lead to cardiac arrhythmia and other heart problems, Seebass said.

Asthma treatment today focuses less on relieving symptoms and more on controlling the disease, he said.

"An inhaler is a reliever for acute episodes of wheezing," Seebass said.

If people use more than two canisters of inhalant each year, it is a sign their asthma is out of control, he said.

Those people need to see their doctor to get medical treatment that will control their condition, Seebass said.

The new inhalers can be traced to a 1989 international agreement, the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. It called for a complete phase-out of the use of chlorofluorocarbons and similar substances by 2000, he said.

After several medical extensions for albuterol inhalers, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced it would ban the sale and production of CFC inhalers by the end of 2008.

"The CFCs were ostensibly poking a hole in the ozone. In my view, it's like peeing in the ocean compared to everything else," Seebass said.

Kim Archer 581-8315  
[kim.archer@tulsaworld.com](mailto:kim.archer@tulsaworld.com)

### »MAKING HEADLINES Top stories in your World

# Inside Today



**FLAT GROWTH:** Many farmers were unable to overcome bad weather to take advantage of high prices in 2008. **E1**

### NEWS

**BAILING OUT:** A businessman who apparently tried to fake his death in a plane crash, secretly parachuting down and speeding away on a motorcycle, is in custody. **A6**

**BIG ABOUT IT:** An agency that helps children wants people to know the gift of time can transform lives. **A9**

**ORU CUTS COSTS:** The cash-strapped university lays off 53 workers and trims 40 unfilled positions. **A9**

### SPORTS

**DECISION LOOMING:** Sam Bradford's father thinks his son has made up his mind about the draft. **B1**

**HEUPEL STAYS FOR NOW:** The OU quarterbacks coach says he isn't a candidate for a position at Minnesota. **B1**

**UNBLEMISHED:** Oklahoma's women's basketball team gets a crack at undefeated Kansas State on Wednesday. **B2**

### SCENE

**HOW SWEET IT IS:** On a chilly winter morning, you may want to skip cold cereal for these Land Run Sweet Biscuits. **D1**

**OUTSIDE THE BOWL:** A mushy breakfast isn't the only way to eat oatmeal. **D3**

**BRIGHTER DAYS:** Look ahead now for the seeds you can plant in the spring to brighten up your garden and kitchen. **D3**

### BUSINESS

**DYNAMIC DUO:** Oilman T. Boone Pickens and environmental advocate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. appear on Capitol Hill to push for U.S. energy independence. **E1**

**NEW ENERGY:** Energy Secretary-designate Steven Chu promises to address climate change and achieve greater energy independence by developing alternative sources. **E3**

## TULSA WORLD

World Publishing Company  
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**Robert E. Lorton III**  
Publisher  
**John R. Bair**  
President  
**Bernie Schutz**  
Advertising Director 581-8509  
**Bill King**  
Circulation Director 581-8532

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