### For Immediate Release

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Installation of 21-foot Buck Atom Space Cowboy
Roadside Attraction on Historic Route 66
Celebration to be held at Buck Atom's Cosmic
Curios on 66
May 11, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. CST



**TULSA, OK, MAY 11, 2019**— Tulsa's historic stretch of Route 66 will celebrate the installation of a 21-foot Buck Atom Space Cowboy Roadside Attraction on May 11, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. CST at Buck Atom's Cosmic Curios on 66. The American giant will be welcomed to Tulsa's Meadow Gold and Pearl Districts with coffee and food from Laurannae Baking Co., The Pop House and Daddy Oh's Tropical. TJ Mayes will spin his Oklahoma western records. These American giants are also referred to as, "muffler men," and are made of fiberglass.

Joining us at the celebration includes Mayor G.T. Bynum, Lieutenant Governor Matt Pinnell, local author and historian Michael Wallis, Abby Kurin the Director of Tulsa Office of Film, Music, Arts & Culture for Tulsa Regional Tourism, owner of American Giant Co. Joel Baker, and Mary Beth Babcock, owner of Buck Atom's Cosmic Curios on 66.

"Route 66 is already a worldwide destination and a vital and beloved part of Tulsa's history. With the addition of the Buck Atom Roadside Attraction, Route 66 will continue to provide a unique experience for travelers and our local community to enjoy for years to come. I want to thank Mary Beth Babcock for her commitment and vision to this project and our city." Mayor Bynum said.

"We are ecstatic to see this new addition of public art in Tulsa and Route 66. The Buck Atom muffler man will be a must-see attraction and photo opportunity for locals and tourists. Mary Beth Babcock is a creative visionary, and this will continue to propel Tulsa's stretch of infamous Mother Road to new heights," said Abby Kurin.

"I guarantee, this colossal addition to the Mother Road will become an instant icon for road warriors from around the world," said Michael Wallis.

Please join us on May 11th at 10am CST to welcome this new roadside attraction to Tulsa, Oklahoma on Route 66! Learn more about muffler men at https://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/37422.

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### **Fact Sheet**



#### What is a Muffler Man?

Muffler Men are made of fiberglass and stand 14-25 feet tall. They are depicted as lumberjacks, cowboys and American Indians. Buck will be the first space cowboy!





#### Who is Mary Beth Babcock?

Mary Beth Babcock dreamed up this idea to create a new Roadside Attraction along Route 66 in her beloved city of Tulsa, OK after a trip on the Route in 2018. "I have been dreaming of creating a new roadside attraction for about a decade and now it is becoming a dream come true thanks to all of the support with the community and City of Tulsa," Babcock said.



#### Who is building Buck?

The Muffler Man is being built by Mark Cline of Enchanted Castle Studios, and Buck's rocket ship was built by Chris Wollard. Joel Baker of American Giants will install Buck.





#### What is Buck Atom's Cosmic Curios?

Buck Atom's Cosmic Curios on 66 is a gift shop celebrating the magic of Route 66 The Mother Road. Buck Atom is a Space Cowboy whose mission is to help celebrate the Route's past and bring life to its future!



#### Why is this important to Tulsa?

Oklahoma is home to the longest section of Route 66.
Tulsa's own Cyrus Avery,
"Father of Route 66," played a vital role in the construction of the highway. Today, Tulsa is home to some of the most iconic spots along the Route.

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FAMILY FOUNDATION

About the Lobeck Taylor Foundation:

Founded in 1997 by Bill Lobeck and Kathy Taylor, the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation (LTFF) has grown into a second generation investment in making Tulsa an innovative, collaborative and thriving city.

Under the leadership of CEO Elizabeth Frame Ellison, LTFF aims to decrease the barriers associated with Tulsans achieving their goals. To fulfill this mission, LTFF acts as a grantmaker, innovator, and convener. LTFF supports the entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystems in Tulsa through its owned-and-operated programs including Kitchen 66, Kiva Tulsa, Mother Road Market and Tulsa StartUp Series, as well as through grants to organizations including 36 Degrees North, Tulsa Area United Way Social Innovation Grants, Sustainable Tulsa, T-Town Tacos and many more. For more information about LTFF, visit www.lobecktaylor.com.

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