



The

Tower View

The Newsletter for Marathon Oil Tower Tenants

January, February, March 2011

CAFÉ FEATURES FRESH LOOK & NEW MENU ITEMS

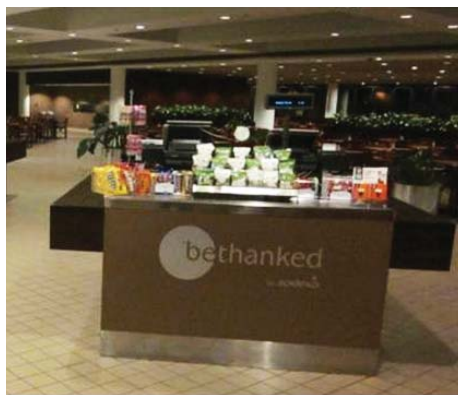
If you've visited the P-10 Café recently, you've no doubt noticed the new, fresh look and menu offerings. Renovations, which included new paint, accent pieces, and an overall streamlined look and feel, were completed in November. Enhancements to the food program were directly related to the preference survey that so many of you kindly returned a few months ago.

One of the most noticeable changes is the relocation of the deli and grill which are now conveniently located in the main Café. At the deli, a line of healthy wraps was introduced, and an expansion of the menu brought a more abundant choice of breads and protein selections such as albacore tuna, fresh oven roasted turkey, and mediterranean chicken salad.

A daily BBQ selection (one of the top picks from the survey) was added to the grill menu. BBQ brisket, chicken, and sausage platters are now offered daily along with the REAL DEAL combo which includes two meats, two sides, and a drink for \$7.19. Sodexo is also excited to introduce the fresh made Texas Colossal Burger, Chorizo Burger, and the BBQ Beef and Cheesy Mac Panini. Enjoy homemade Onion Rings or Fresh Cut French Fries prepared daily by Chef Lon Washington and his staff along with your sandwich.

The salad bar also received a makeover and now offers a greater selection of fresh, healthful vegetables and salad toppings. Customers will continue to enjoy their previous favorites as well as new items such as roasted asparagus, yams, and tofu. Top it off with an in-house prepared Asian Vinaigrette or Roasted Red Pepper Caesar dressing, and you have your own salad masterpiece.

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A Note From the Manager



Wow! I can't believe it's 2011 already. It seems like 2010 went by in the blink of an eye. Maybe that's because there was so much going on at the Tower this last year. Did you know that in 2010, the property management team . . .

- Remodeled the security desks and the lobby interior landscaping, furniture, and artwork?
- Remodeled the coffee bar on the first floor?
- Added T&K's car wash/detailing on the 8th floor of the garage?
- Painted both the lobby ceilings as well as the breezeway ceiling?
- Added a new security guard booth and gate arm at the main loading dock driveway on Yorktown?
- Updated the landscaping around the monument signs and fountain?
- Began recycling all electronics?
- Hosted the Cystic Fibrosis Stairclimb on 9/11?
- Helped five new tenants move into the Tower?

That's a busy year! 2011 looks to be just as busy and successful. Check out the recent changes in the P10 Café mentioned in the cover story, and be on the lookout for upcoming visitor garage elevator upgrades, additional amenity offerings, etc. . . I don't want to spoil all of the surprises we have in store for Marathon Oil Tower tenants!

HONORING OUR VETERANS, HOLIDAY GIVING & CELEBRATIONS



Marathon Oil Tower showed its appreciation for our country's veterans during the **Annual Veteran's Day Ceremony**. The **McLemore Detachment of the Marine Corp League** (pictured above) once again joined the proceedings for the raising of the American Flag and bugle Taps. **Pastor Gerald Boldt** gave the benediction, and **Jennifer Shiver** sang a beautiful, a cappella rendition of the National Anthem. Marathon Oil Tower veterans were recognized during the ceremony, and everyone was invited to a reception following the singing of "God Bless America".

Sixty-six units were donated during the November 8th **Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center Blood Drive**. Generous Marathon Oil Tower tenants potentially saved 169 lives during the blood drive! The November Golf Apparel Sale **brought in \$150 in proceeds for the Firefighters Foundation of Houston**.

Marathon Oil Tower was filled with the sights and sounds of the holidays during December. The **Browning Elementary School choir** gave a heart warming performance of their winter program in front of the Christmas tree to thank everyone at Marathon Oil Tower for their continued support of the school. Tenants gathered in the second floor lobby to enjoy gourmet desserts catered by Sodexo as the **Cy-Fair High School choir** sang holiday favorites during the **Annual Holiday Tenant Reception**. The **4th Annual Holiday Craft Market** brought in **\$1,045 for the Firefighters Foundation of Houston**. Marathon Oil Tower tenants and visitors shopped for handmade goods such as jewelry, quilts, African artifacts, baby bibs, home and yard décor, and more. Tenants and visitors also enjoyed strings, bass, harp, keyboards, and Victorian carolers in the lobby each morning a few weeks before Christmas.



WELCOME & CONGRATS!



NEW TENANT WELCOME - THE 100 CLUB

Hanover Real Estate Partners and Transwestern would like to welcome our newest tenant, **The 100 Club**. The 100 Club is a 57 year old non-profit organization that provides financial support to the dependents of Law Enforcement Officers & Firefighters in an 18 county region surrounding Houston. They also provide life protecting equipment to law enforcement agencies in that coverage area and scholarships for Officers to receive either an undergraduate or graduate degree in Criminal Justice.



Additionally, the Club provides line of duty benefits to dependents of Texas Department of Public Safety Officers (DPS), Texas Parks & Wildlife Officers (Game Wardens), Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Agents, and Texas Department of Criminal Justice Institutional Personnel (prisons) killed in the line of duty anywhere in the State of Texas. The 100 Club offices are in Suite 520. You'll find more information about The 100 Club at www.the100club.org or give them a call at (713) 952-0100.

Marathon Oil Tower is glad to welcome back a familiar face. Some of you may remember **Chandra LeViege** from the Marathon Oil Company Reception desk where she served as a security guard/concierge for six years. Chandra joined the Transwestern team over a year ago and has recently returned to the Tower as an **Administrative Associate**. We'd also like to congratulate **David Navarro**. David joined the Transwestern team last year as a painter. His hard work, attention to detail, and team attitude were an asset and made him the perfect candidate when the Tower Lightman position became available. **Congratulations, David, on your promotion!**

ELEVATORS: FACT OR FICTION

Did you know that elevators are the safest form of transportation in the world? Here are a few fiction-busting facts about elevator safety and operation.



Fact: Each day in the United States, elevators move the equivalent of twice the population.

Fiction: In Hollywood action movies, elevator hoist ropes break, sending the car plummeting down the shaft. In the real world, there is little chance of this happening. Redundant safety systems will prevent the elevator from falling.

Fact: The elevator hoist rope is made of tightly wound steel. One rope is capable of holding the weight of the elevator car. At Marathon Oil Tower, each elevator has six of these steel hoist ropes.

Fact: The only time in American history when all the ropes broke on an elevator occurred in 1947 after a B-29 bomber struck the Empire State Building.

Fact: Another safety feature of today's modern elevators, like the Otis Elevonic cars at Marathon Oil Tower, is the use of counterweights. Hoist ropes attached to the car travel up around the elevator hoisting machine and back down, attaching to a counterweight. The elevator counterweight weighs more than the elevator passenger car. Therefore, elevators can only "free-fall" up. Even if all the ropes were to break, the elevator car would not fall to the bottom of the shaft.

Fact: Elijah Otis invented the first elevator safety brake in 1852. Roped elevators have a built-in braking system called safeties, which grab the rails if the car moves too fast.

Fact: The Otis elevators at Marathon Oil Tower have car and counterweight safeties. This prevents the elevator from moving too fast in either the up or down direction.

The next time you see a free-falling elevator in an action movie, you'll know better!

FRESH LOOK & NEW MENU

Continued from the Cover

Patrons will find the comfort and seafood dishes that you have always enjoyed at the Main Line and the ever popular Asian and Italian menus at the Theme Line. The new Burrito Station features Grande Beef or Chicken Burritos stuffed with your choice of fillings.

In the coming months, you'll notice décor and menu changes to accommodate each new season. The culinary and management team are tracking daily trends, gathering feedback, and looking at adding more menu options and enhancements.

The recent changes have not gone unnoticed. Café patronage increased 12% in the first month following the renovation, and positive customer comments regarding the new look and added menu items are coming in every day.

The Sodexo staff would like to thank you for all the kind words and your patronage. They are pleased to prepare your favorite dishes each day and take great pride in the foods they bring to the table for your enjoyment.



Marathon Oil Tower Tenants!

Win 4 tickets & transportation to see **Lady Antebellum** at the **Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo!**





Just drop-off your business card in the Management Office, Suite 110, between now and February 23rd.

The winner will be drawn during the Go Texan event on February 24th.

ENERGY ADMIRAL DISPELS COMPUTER POWER MYTHS

HooRah and Happy New Year Mates! Don't forget to send in your energy saving ideas to me at EnergyAdmiral@Transwestern.net. Who knows Mate, you could be the next to win a home energy conservation kit!

Speaking of ways to save energy . . . Here are a few myth busters and a few reasons you should turn off your computers when not in use:

-  Turning your PC off uses more energy than leaving it on. **Not true.** The small surge of power you use when turning it on is still much smaller than the amount you use keeping it on for lengthy periods.
-  Turning your PC on and off wears it out. **Today's PCs are designed to handle 40,000 on/off cycles** before a failure and that's a number you likely won't reach during the computer's 5 to 7 year life span.
-  Screen Savers save energy. **Not true.** Screen savers use, at a minimum 42 watts. Those with 3D graphics can use as much as 114.5 watts.
-  Your computer uses zero energy when "off". **That's true only if it is unplugged.** Otherwise, the PC uses "flea power", about 2.3 watts, to maintain LAN connectivity. In "hibernate" mode, your PC uses the same 2.3 watts and in "sleep" mode, your PC uses 3.1 watts. Monitors do use zero energy when turned off.

Fair winds and following seas,
The Energy Admiral

JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH AT THE TOWER

Valentine's Day Fair

Wednesday, February 9
Thursday, February 10
Ground Level Lobby

Take advantage of this convenient shopping opportunity and pick-up just the right piece of jewelry or bottle of perfume for that special Valentine.

A Night At The Rodeo Drawing

Enter Now through
Wednesday, February 23
Property Management Office
Suite 110

Drop-off your business card for a chance to win 4 tickets and transportation to see Lady Antebellum at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo! See the ad on page three for more information!

Go Texan Day Celebration

Thursday, February 24
Tanglewood Terrace

Celebrate Go Texan Day a day early! Sodexo will offer discounted barbecue. There will also be a DJ playing all your favorite country hits and hopefully some two-steppers.

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center Blood Drive

Wednesday, March 2
P10 Deli
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please make an appointment by emailing stephanie.scott@transwestern.net. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Books Are Fun Book Fair

Tuesday, March 15
Wednesday, March 16
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Stock-up on graduation, baby shower, and birthday gifts and pick-up a book or two for yourself.



The Tower View is published by the building owners and management for the tenants of Marathon Oil Tower. If you have any questions or comments regarding the publication, you may contact Heather McMillon, 5555 San Felipe, Suite 110, Houston, TX 77056 or call (832) 369-5800.