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# THD FOOD FOCUS

TULSA HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION PUBLICATION



## Let us know how we're doing!

Visit our confidential web-based survey at:

<http://www.tulsa-health.org/food-safety/food-service-industry/>

### Spring Cleaning Time

With spring just around the corner, it's time to do a little cleaning. Take this time to do some deep cleaning that will allow your equipment to work more efficiently by vacuuming or brushing out your condenser coils on your coolers.

Clean all the typically overlooked areas: the undersides of preparation tables and shelving, inside equipment storage bins, fan guards, the interior and exterior of equipment, ceiling fans, wall fans, window sills, base coves, interior of drawers, walls, ceiling vents, and anywhere else dust bunnies and bacteria may be hiding.

Additionally, it's a good time to go through all those bins that are sitting on the shelf. If they are filled with items you seldom or never use, consider getting rid of them or moving them to storage. Once your kitchen is clean and organized, keep it that way. This will make for a more effective and efficient work environment.

### City License Renewals To Be Mailed!

This year your City License Renewal Application (or business license) for those operating in Tulsa, Bixby, and Broken Arrow will be mailed to you via the U.S. Postal Service instead of being hand-delivered by your inspector like in years past. Your inspector will contact you in the next few weeks to confirm your information (correct mailing address, sales tax permit information, and number of employees). Please have current and accurate information available; especially the address where you receive your mail.

After you receive your application, the process of renewing your business license will remain the same. You must mail or take the application along with the indicated fee to the location listed on the application. In addition, the Cities of Tulsa and Bixby require a copy of your sales tax to be included with information that exactly matches the application.

If you do not receive your renewal application by June 1st, or if your application contains wrong information, call our office at 918.595.4300 for a corrected application.

Remember City Licenses expire on June 30th. Please have your business license purchased by July 1st. Penalty for late purchase is 50% of the fee.

### 35 Years of Dedicated Service

On February 3, 2010 Consumer Protection Division and the Tulsa Food Advisory Council (Council) was happy to honor Dr. George Prothro for his over 35 years of service on the Council.

The Tulsa Food Advisory Council was an idea Dr. Prothro conceived in the early 70's. The Council is made up of 15 individuals representing 3 constituencies; food industry, health professionals and consumers.



This group of dedicated volunteers meets 2 to 4 times a year and guides the Consumer Protection Division through policy changes, food code revisions, and serves on hearing panels for appeals processes. The Council acts as a liaison for industry and consumers alike to provide valuable input to the Consumer staff on improving operations and customer service.

Dr. Prothro has been a member on the Council since its inception and served as its Chair for many years. The Consumer Protection Staff is honored to have been served by such a dedicated individual and wishes Dr. Prothro well in his future endeavors.

If you would like additional information about the Tulsa Food Advisory Council you may contact Elizabeth Nutt, Division Director at 595.4301.



# Getting to Know Your Inspector:

## Laurence C. (Larry) Little

### Education:

B.S. — Zoology (OSU); M.S. — Natural Science (OSU)

### Years of service:

24+

### Favorite local team:

OSU, Go Pokes!

### Hobbies or favorite pastime:

Raising animals, especially tortoises and snakes

### Favorite meal:

My wife's linguine with white clam sauce or anything that includes steak

### Favorite movie:

*The Quiet Man* (John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara)

### Favorite style of music:

Anything, as long as it doesn't degrade others

### What I like most about my job:

My coworkers (simply the best); being out in the field

### And anything else you would like the public to know about you?

I don't like to talk about politics in the office, but if you want to sit down and chat, I'll be happy to talk about almost anything. If you want to talk for two or three hours, just ask me about my grandchildren!



Disclaimer: The inspector featured here is NOT necessarily your inspector. Your inspector will be featured eventually in one of the upcoming newsletters.

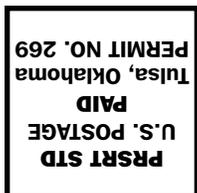
## Myth Buster

**Myth:** Foodborne illness is always the result of the last food you ate.

**Fact:** Symptoms of foodborne illness may occur hours or even up to several weeks after exposure to food borne pathogens; however, they usually occur 24 hours or more after eating a particular food. Symptoms can last up to 10 days. During this 24 hour period, you may have eaten a wide range of foods, and any of these foods could have contributed to the illness. Thus, it's often difficult to determine which food actually caused the illness.

**Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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