

Driving force

Local entrepreneur keeps purchasing property, expanding existing businesses

BY PAMELA A. GRADY

WHEN IT COMES TO RUNNING A business, local entrepreneur David Box takes gratification in grabbing the bull by its horns. After all, Box is well known for running an array of successful businesses, including Box Talent Agency, Box Real Estate, Country Club Entertainment and Moving Mountains with business partner Judy Hatfield.

By year's end, Box plans to open his third office location at 6305 Waterford Blvd., Ste. 480. He currently is remodeling 2,600 square feet of space at the Waterford and later plans to expand his offices at the site by 1,300 square feet.

"We're just busy with everything that we're doing, and I need more room with more employees coming on board," Box said.

While he says he will maintain a presence in Norman, Oklahoma City is where he needs to be right now.

"We'll have more staff here than

I have in Norman," Box said. "We do more business in Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Dallas. We've been there (Norman) for 20 years, and we're still going to keep our presence in Norman, we're just going to expand more and have the majority of our staff in Oklahoma City. There's just more talent agency business here."

REAL ESTATE ENDEAVORS

Adding to his real estate portfolio, Box recently purchased the 42-unit Campus Corner Apartments, formerly known as The University Apartments, in Norman.

"It ties into what we already have on Campus Corner," Box said. "Campus Corner's on the move. We've got so much going on and all our stuff is leased. We love the way things have shaken out and it's exciting."

Box currently owns several retail buildings on Campus Corner, as well as residential properties and



David Box takes the bull by the horns in his business endeavors. PHOTO/SHANNON CORNMAN

multifamily property.

And in Oklahoma City, Box purchased the 4,400-square-foot Jackson's Automotive building, 17 NW 6, which was rebuilt after the Murrah Federal Building bombing, with plans to remodel the site. Box says he plans to lease out the building, which will have 40 to 50 parking spaces.

"We're committed to Downtown," he said.

In the near future, Box plans to purchase another building at NW 36 Street and Western Avenue, which is now under contract with a closing scheduled for early January 2008.

THE RIGHT STUFF

While Box has been successful in his business dealings, he says it takes hiring the right people to make multiple businesses successful.

"I've just got some really good people," he said. I've got two very talented vice presidents at Box Talent, Kim Johnston and Cindy Post. Andy Ridley, formerly of Grubb & Ellis|Levy Beffort, handles some of our real estate, and Tommy English is general manager and partner of The Greens." 