

# WEST OK WEEKLY

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December 2-8, 2020 • 10040 Hwy 54 • Weatherford • (580) 772-5939 • email: sales@westokweekly.com • www.westokweekly.com • Vol. 6 No. 47

## Thomas to host Country Christmas

The city of Thomas is hosting their Country Christmas special downtown on December 9th. The yearly holiday celebration kicks off with a Taste of Christmas holiday food contest. The food contest will be split into four categories: appetizers, cookies & candy, pies, and breads. Each category will be judged at 1 PM with category winners receiving \$75 in chamber bucks. Drop-offs for the contest will be from 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM at the Senior Citizens building.

Later that afternoon, families can grab some pictures with the jolly old man himself Santa Claus between 4:30 PM - 6:15 PM.

Then you can grab a spot downtown for the Christmas Parade at 7 PM, featuring festive floats, costumes, and more. Entries for the parade can be signed up until December 8th at the Chamber Office at City Hall.

Finally, after the parade, there will be drawings outside the post office where the chamber and donors will be giving out turkeys, hams, and gifts. Registration for the drawings can be done the day of from 5 PM - 6 PM.

## YMCA schedules breakfast with Santa

If you have a question or concern about your placement on Santa's Naughty or Nice list, you can meet him for breakfast on December 5th at Lucille's Roadhouse. The Great Plains Family YMCA is partnering with Lucille's to bring Weatherford Breakfast with Santa! On that Saturday, bring the family for pancakes, bacon, and drinks for \$10 per person.

It's first come, first served during each available time slot: 8 AM - 8:40 AM, 8:40 AM - 9:20 AM, 9:20 AM - 10:00 AM, 10:00 AM - 10:40 AM, 10:40 AM - 11:20 AM.

Register online early to save your spot. Registration links at GPF YMCA's special event page and on their Facebook page: GPF YMCA.



Courtesy of Jena Skarda

Audrey Stewart and her mom Amy of Clinton enjoy an early Thanksgiving feast last Wednesday at Western Oklahoma Christian School.

## Foss State Park plans Christmas in the Park

Foss State Park is encouraging its campers and visitors to bring their holiday cheer on December 11th and 12th for Christmas in the Park. During the event, there will be a craft show with dozens of vendors, kid activities, and a special visit from Santa Claus, himself. Campers that want to participate can decorate their campsites for display during the hayrides through Cedar Point and Cottonwood campsites each night. Come celebrate the holiday season with Foss!

## City of Clinton spreads Christmas Cheer

Clinton's Chamber of Commerce is partnering with local businesses to bring the city some Christmas cheer. This holiday season, shops around town will decorate their windows for a contest to be judged by the public. From November 28th - December 4th, folks will make their judgements and the best decorating businesses will win a trophy. Additionally, anyone who votes will also get their name in a drawing for a gift basket full of goods donated by contest participants.

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**James Cometsevah**

Funeral Service for James Cometsevah, a Clinton resident, was held at 10am., Saturday, November 28, 2020, in the Clinton Indian Cemetery, officiated by Pastor Delfred Whitecrow and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



A visitation/wake service was held from 4-6pm on Friday, November 27, 2020, in the Kiesau Funeral Home.

James Frank Cometsevah "Man On Cloud" was born September 23, 1981, to Wilma Cometsevah in Clinton, OK and passed Sunday, November 22, 2020 in Sayre, OK.

James was raised in Clinton where he attended Clinton Public Schools. He participated in football and wrestling. He enjoyed spending time with family, going fishing, and listening to music.

He is preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Frank and Louise Cometsevah.

He is survived by his mother Wilma Cometsevah, two sisters: Lucy Cometsevah and her companion, Demetria Daukei and Nadina Moulden and husband Graham of Kansas; brother William Postelwait and companion Candi Miles, three nephews; Joshua and William Postelwait, Gunner Moulder and two nieces Landri Cometsevah and Maya Moulder. He is also survived by aunts, uncles, cousins and other nieces, nephews, and grandchildren.

**James Kenny Downs**

Visitation for James Kenny Downs was from 9am to 8pm on Tuesday, November 24, 2020, at Ray and Martha's Funeral Home in Cordell, Oklahoma. The funeral was held at 11am on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at the Arapaho Gym in Arapaho, Oklahoma. Interment was held at Arapaho Cemetery in Arapaho, Oklahoma, under the direction of Ray and Martha's Funeral Home of Cordell.



**Lou Celia Sommers Woods**

Lou Celia Sommers Wood was born December 2, 1924 to Clay Louise Sommers and Ouida Rozena (Henson) Sommers at the home of her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Ezekiel Henson, in Lawton, Oklahoma. She passed peacefully in her sleep the morning of November 23, 2020, in Lawton, Oklahoma, at the age of 95 years, 50 weeks, and 5 days.



Celia was a life long resident of the Saddle Mountain Community where she loved her view of the Wichita Mountains. She attended Victory School, a one-room school in rural Comanche County. She then attended Cache High School where she graduated with the class of 1942.

Celia began her career in education in 1943, teaching in a one-room school house at Green Valley in rural Kiowa

County. She continued teaching in the towns of Cache, Sedan, Carnegie, Cooperton, and Mountain View, where she taught generations of Southwestern Oklahoma's brightest to read and write. She retired in 1982 after teaching for thirty-four years.

Celia married the love of her life Lee C. Wood on July 1, 1945, at the Holy City Of The Wichita Mountains. They enjoyed fifty-nine years together, farming, ranching, and traveling.

She is survived by two daughters: Celia Marie Brickell of Saddle Mountain, Oklahoma; Cynthia Jane Wood-Smith and her husband Eric Smith of Hurst, Texas; one daughter-in-law: Dr. Jo-Ann Harris Wood of Kansas City, Missouri; one sister: Kathryn Shoop of Tuttle, Oklahoma; eight grandchildren: Justin Brickell and his wife Carol of San Francisco, California, Daniel Harris and his wife Carrie of San Francisco, California, Dr. Erin Smith and her husband Erik Nowicki of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Caroline Cooper and her husband Michael of Portland, Oregon; Lillian Wood of San Jose, California; Gena Smith of Prairieville, Louisiana; Ian Smith and his wife, Kaki of Mesa, Arizona; Kayla Smith of College Station, Texas; two great-grandchildren: Chloe Brickell and Hayley Brickell both of San Francisco, California; many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband Lee C. Wood; son, Dr. Clayton Lee Wood; parents Clay and Ouida Sommers; many other relatives and dear friends.

There will be no public services. The family will be having a private service.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation or the Mountain View United Methodist Church.

**Vivian Mae Klierer**

Vivian Mae Klierer was born May 31, 1926, in Corn to Henry and Helen (Boese) Kroeker and passed away, Thursday, November 19, 2020, at The Commons in Enid, at the age of 94 years, 5 months and 18 days.



Vivian graduated from Elk City, Kansas High School. On June 3, 1945, she married Vester Gordon Klierer in Elk City, Kansas.

Vivian and Vester moved to Weatherford, Oklahoma, in 1947. Vivian continued to live in Weatherford after Vester's death until she moved to Enid, Oklahoma, in 2018. Vivian worked in several ladies dress shops in Weatherford. After she retired, she became a tireless volunteer. Vivian volunteered at the Et Cetera shop, Pioneer Center, and the local Food Bank.

Vivian was a woman who loved Jesus Christ. Vester and Vivian were charter members of Pine Acres Church. Vivian was active in AWANAS, choir, helping with meals, and any place she was asked to help at church.

Vivian is survived by two daughters: Judi Huebert and husband David of Moore and Donna Heath and husband, Dan of Enid; one brother: Robert Kroeker and wife Alberta of Eugene, Oregon; one sister: Martha Allison of Wichita, Kansas; four grandchildren: and ten great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Vester; two brothers: John and Elwin; and five sisters: Tillie, Ann, Lydia, Bertha and Marie.

**Lois Jean**

Lois Jean was born on September 26, 1942 to Clyde and Lola (Nichols) Jackson in Carnegie, Oklahoma. She lost her father around 18 months old while he was stationed overseas in Okinawa, Japan. This leading to her and her mother moving in briefly with her grandparents. At age eight she gained a bonus dad when her mother remarried and to this union she gained a little sister.



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She attended school in Carnegie and proudly graduated in the Class of 1960. In her junior year of high school, she married the first love of her life Roy Harrison, on June 6th, 1959. To this marriage she gave birth to their first daughter in July of 1960. Several years later in July of 1967, their second daughter was welcomed home to the family of three. In 1977 she completed her training at Eve's Beauty School after which she built and ran a successful business in Carnegie for over 20 years. In this window of time, after many happy years she and her husband parted paths. In September of 1995, she married the second love of her life John Griffin, and was blessed with eight very happy years until his passing in 2003. She then married Dwane Clinton in 2004. During this marriage and due to unforeseen health issues, she was forced to retire, causing her great sadness losing her many loyal customers that had become family. She later lost this husband after a lengthy illness in 2012.

In her retired life, she enjoyed chasing her grandchildren in their many adventures in life. This varied from high school and collegiate games as well as many state playoffs with cheer, baseball, basketball, and football. To say she loved them is an understatement. Her smile would light up a room anytime one walked in. She always greeted them with a hug, and a kiss followed by a "hello shug." She was well known in later years for her amazing baking and loved to feed her family when time allowed. She had a style and class you don't see much anymore. She was a fierce lover of her family and was always there for them no matter what time of day or night, regardless of the need. Not many dared to go against her family, or they were greeted with an adversary they were not prepared for.

She is preceded in death by her parents Clyde Jackson, Marion & Lola McGill, her husbands John Griffin and Dwane Clinton, her granddaughter Dani House, her great-grandson Maverick Fudge, her brother-in-law Dean Goergen.

Surviving Lois Jean is her daughter Jeanene House and husband Harlon, grandson Kody House and wife Meg, granddaughter Cassidy Zimmerman and husband Grant, and two great-grandsons Madden Zimmerman and Maverick House.

Her daughter Lori Robnett, granddaughter Mckenna Fudge and husband Sean, granddaughter Maci Bennight and husband Jacob, grandson Austen Robnett, great grandson Jayden Fudge, great granddaughters Kaylee, Missy, Lily and Willow Fudge, Sawyer and Sadie Bennight.

Her sister Marilyn Goergen, nephew Travis Goergen and wife Courtney, nephew Johnnie Goergen, and great nieces Alexys Harmon and husband Tyler, Devry Goergen, Taylinn Harmon, nephews Ainsley and Copelyn Harmon.

**Alexa Rodriquez**

A funeral service for Alexa Rodriquez, 24, Clinton resident, was held at 2pm on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel, officiated by family members. She will be buried at a later date in Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Alexa Cheyenne Rodriquez was born April 8, 1996, in Clinton, Oklahoma to Jerolyn Juanita Rodriquez and Andrew Barkey in Clinton, OK and passed away Thursday, November 19, 2020 in her Clinton Apartment.

Alexa was raised in Clinton and received her first eight years of schooling in the Clinton Public Schools. While in junior high school, she was an outstanding basketball player. She was later home schooled and received her high school diploma. She had most recently worked as a Medical Aide Technician in local nursing homes. Her future plan was to attend Oklahoma Southwestern State University in Weatherford and receive her Nursing degree.

She was preceded in death by her mother Jerolyn Juanita Rodriquez.

She enjoyed painting, writing, reading and her four legged baby (dog) Loolee.

She is survived by her Uncles and Aunts that helped raised her, Uncle Jess Rodriquez, Clinton; Aunt Ramona Wohl, Albuquerque, NM and Aunt Rene Cooper, Arizona City, AR; her father Andrew Barkey and a brother, both of Oklahoma.

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# SWOSU Volleyball Signs Four for 2021

SWOSU Head Volleyball Coach Josh Collins announced that his program has added four high school standouts during the early signing period and all four players will join the Bulldogs for the 2021 season.

2021 SWOSU Volleyball Recruiting Class; Terez Chavez, S, 5-7, Fr.-HS, Helotes, Texas (Sandra Day O'Conner HS) "From the outset in the recruiting process, it was clear to see that Terez was a very motivated and mature young lady. She is also a proven winner and an incredible setter. As the setter for one of the top clubs and top 6A high school teams in the state of Texas, Terez has learned to make great decisions in the heat of the match and has a knack for getting the ball to the hot hitter. She is a kid who believes that it is important to give 100 percent and to be a part of something bigger than one's self. We are confident that she is going to add value not only in the gym, but in all aspects of the DAWG Life!"

Maddie Clark, OH, 5-11, Fr.-HS, Overland Park, Kan. (Blue Valley Northwest HS). "Maddie quickly got our attention in a gym full of college-bound volleyball players. She is an impressive athlete with great height and length for a Division pin hitter. Maddie has a very high contact point when attacking the ball, and she puts up a very strong block. Maddie will be prepared for the demands of DII Volleyball after playing in one of the most volleyball-rich areas of Kansas. Maddie is also a gifted student with lofty academic goals that we are excited to see her achieve. We can't wait to see all the ways that Maddie makes an impact at SWOSU!"

Lauren DeSantiago, DS, 5-4, Fr.-HS, Amarillo, Texas (Randall HS). "Lauren is a tenacious defender who will bring an infectious amount of composure to our back row. As the libero for one of the best programs in Texas 5A Volleyball, Lauren has consistently faced high-level hitters and servers with a great deal of success. Her quickness coupled with her ball control allows her to not only get



to balls that most defenders can't, but also put them right where her setter needs them. Lauren's character and values guarantee success on the court, classroom and in the community. We are confident she is going to be an incredible Bulldog!"

Zoey Sparks, MH, 6-2, Fr.-HS, Canyon, Texas (Canyon HS) "Zoey's height and length mixed with a great deal of athleticism make a college coaches jaw drop upon first impression. But, with further study of this volleyball player, her intensity and resilience become even more impressive. She is a dominant blocker for a storied Texas 4A Volleyball Program that once again went deep in to UIL playoffs this year, and we feel that she is going to be

just as dominant as an offensive player here at SWOSU. Zoey is a goal driven, head strong person that will impose her will on any obstacle that she encounters. We are excited to see Zoey Bleed Blue in what is sure to be a great career for the DAWGS!"

"We are very excited to welcome five new members to the family, and we can't wait to see all the things that they accomplish on and off the volleyball court! Each one of these young ladies brings a tremendous amount of talent and athleticism to the team, but they have also demonstrated that they will be just as valuable in the classroom and in the community." said Head Coach Josh Collins.



Photo Provided

Clinton Red Tornadoes advance to the semifinals with a 17-10 win of Poteau. Clinton will face Blanchard this Friday night at 7. You can catch all the action at Wright.media

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# LOCAL & AREA NEWS



**Mike Smith**  
News Director

**WEATHERFORD CITY COMMISSION FUNDING REQUEST DENIED** - The Weatherford City Commission decided to decline a request from The Weatherford Chamber Of Commerce to put \$12,000 back into the 2021 budget. Incoming Chamber President Justin O'connor says the funds are for support and continued economic development activities, information services and community events. O'Connor says the Chamber wanted to use part of the funds to re-do billboards on each side of Weatherford.

**WEATHERFORD REGIONAL HOSPITAL** - Weatherford Regional Hospital Chief Executive Officer Brian Denton told the hospital board last night that daily covid testing remains high and will likely continue to increase due to the recent Thanksgiving holiday and the upcoming Christmas holiday. Denton did tell the Board that the Covid vaccine will soon be available for health care providers but it's unknown when it will be available for the general public.

**CUSTER COUNTY DISTRICT COURT** - A Weatherford man pleaded not guilty during formal arraignment of a first degree murder charge in Custer County District Court. Twenty-two year-old Cole Isaac Phillips is charged in the April 4th shooting death of 20 year-old Joshua Price. A Custer County District Court judge de-

nied a motion to reduce bond for Phillips, which is currently at \$500,000. A pre-trial for Phillips is planned for February 26th.

**CUSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** - Custer County Commissioners have decided to remain part of the Circuit Engineering District 7 Energy District Authority. Commissioners say they did not find it advantageous to opt out of the authority. Commissioners voted unanimously to not opt out of the authority.

**WASHITA COUNTY TAX PAYMENTS** - Due to the rise in Covid-19 cases, Washita County Treasurer Sherry Nightengale is asking everyone in Washita County to pay their 2020 taxes either by mail, online at okcountytreasurers.com or at the dropbox in the breezeway on the west side of the courthouse. Nightengale says the options are for both the safety of the public and staff.

**ELK CITY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT GARRISON RESIGNATION** - Elk City Schools Superintendent Rick Garrison has announced he will close out a 32-year career in education with his upcoming retirement effective June 30th, 2021. Garrison accepted the superintendent's position at Burns Flat-Dill City Public Schools in 2002 and then at Cheyenne Public

Schools in 2008. He returned to his alma mater and was named Superintendent At Elk City Public Schools In 2016. Elk City School Board President Brandon Storm says the Board Of Education will start the superintendent search and transition process immediately.

**CLINTON EXIT 65 OPEN HOUSE** - The Oklahoma Department Of Transportation is inviting the public to view informational materials and submit feedback for the interchange project at Interstate 40 and I-40 Business/Gary Boulevard, and I-40 and Neptune Drive in Clinton. ODOT Division 5 Engineer Brent Almquist says a virtual open house is live on the ODOT website and the public may submit comments via the website, email or mail through December 16th.

**SWOSU DISINFECTANT** - Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford is now home to a machine that makes hypochlorous acid that is used to help disinfect rooms and buildings during the current Covid-19 pandemic. SWOSU was made aware of the machine by the Custer County Office of Emergency Management. The equipment was supplied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency through the Oklahoma Office Of Emergency Management.

done - sj

done - sj

## PUBLIC RECORDS

**Arrested**

Kelli Lynn Sharp, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Bryan Lee Pfeil, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, possession of controlled dangerous substance, possession of paraphernalia, receiving, holding or concealing mislaid cards, affixing license plate on a motor vehicle with the intent to conceal ID.

William Bain Helzer, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with Custer County warrants.

Jennifer Lynn Bearshield, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with Custer County warrant.

Jesse Roberto Herrera, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with Custer County warrant.

Juan Isreal Arceo-Carrizalez, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with application to accelerate.

Cook, Joshua Allen arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with eluding a police officer assault on an officer, DUS, speeding.

Taya Ann Hanson, arrested by Clinton Police Department,

charged with actual physical control of a vehicle.

Kermit Lafontaine arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with public intoxication by drugs.

Amanda White, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with Custer County Rule 8 Bench warrant, Canadian County warrants for assault and battery on a police officer, and parole violation.

Ladonna Alba, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with improper or altered license plate, no insurance, driving under suspension.

Victor Cruz, arrested by Clinton Police Department,

charged with city warrants for driving under suspension and no insurance.

Michelle Warledo, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with false impersonation.

Humberto Gutierrez, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, driving under revocation, possession of controlled dangerous substance, possession of paraphernalia.

Ryan Gillispie, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with public intoxication.

William Bain Helzer, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged

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with failed to appear on original charges of possession of controlled dangerous substance.

**Bond**

Shane Michael Coleman, arrested by Canadian County Sheriff's Department, charged with failure to appear for original charges of burglary in the second degree.

Curtis James Reeb, arrested by Canadian County Sher-

iff's Department, charged with failure to appear for original charges of burglary in the second degree and conspiracy to burglary.

Michael Gene Russ, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with forgery in the second degree.

Rodrigo Velasquez Lucas, arrested by Oklahoma Highway Patrol, charged with DUI and defective equipment.

done - sj

## HIGHER GROUND One Life to Live



Jim Morrison

She was only 4'3" but every inch spoke volumes. She was so unselfish that she gave away the little food she had so that Chinese children could be fed. This led to her death while on board ship in the harbor of Kobe, Japan. This is the season of giving and many churches also give special offerings to mission causes around the world. This is the story of how one woman changed the course of history. After forty years of mission work in China, Lottie was sent home to rest. But she went to her eternal rest while on board ship in the harbor of Kobe, Japan. One testified that she weighed fifty pounds at death.

Lottie D Moon was born into a well-to-do Southern home in 1843. She had unique educational opportunities for the times. At an early age she was tutored in French, music and the Classics. But as a youngster she had little interest in spiritual matters. During one year at Hollins Institute, she skipped required chapel 26 times in the last two quarters. Once she climbed up the bell tower

to silence the bell that called students to church. When asked what the middle initial "D" stood for, she replied, "Devil." She gained the reputation as a brain and a heretic. No one would imagine that she would selflessly give forty years of her life serving the poor in China.

The dramatic change came during a revival meeting led by James Broadus. She came to the meeting to scoff but came away changed forever. Not knowing what God was calling her to do, but willing to obey, she poured herself into her studies. She was proficient in Greek, Spanish, Italian, and French. Lottie became the first Southern woman to receive the Master of Arts degree. She was labeled as the "most educated woman in the South."

On July 17, 1873 she sailed to China to be obedient to God's call on her life. She was determined to give her life away to share the good news of Christ to those who had never heard. She soon saw that the fields were white unto harvest but there were far too few laborers. She wrote strong letters to mission boards and churches urging them to give sacrificially.

She challenged the Chinese culture by attacking the practice of binding the feet of children, which caused the little feet to be deformed. She was called a "foreign devil" at first but the smell of cookies baking soon

drew children to her kitchen. She began schools and rescued many young girls from a lifetime of slavery and prostitution. She would go from house-to-house to tell about a Savior to those who never heard. She was a controversial figure for her time, challenging other missionaries and her own denomination. But she never backed down, knowing that her cause was just. She noted that the Methodists called for a time of prayer and giving for Foreign Missions during the week before Christmas. She thought this was a great idea and urged her own Southern Baptist churches to do the same. So to this day almost every Southern Baptist Church has a Lottie Moon Christmas offering for International missions.

She suffered terribly during the Boxer rebellion. In seeing Chinese Christians eating bark off trees and sweet potato vines, she reduced her own salary to buy food for them. Finally, facing malnutrition she was placed aboard the ship, Manchurian, to return home to rest. Her frail body gave out and she was cremated and the ashes sent to the headquarters of the Southern Baptist Mission Board. The Chinese wept, "How she loved us!" To comment Jhm82@outlook or 580-772-2311.

**Alcohol causing problems?** Alcoholics Anonymous meets daily at 928 W. Main, Weatherford. Call (580) 819-0727 for more information...**Christian Free Store** - Donations of school supplies, clothes, shoes, etc. are needed or if you are in need. Please call (580) 637-2345 or (580) 291-3875. **Alfa, OK Community Center "Bible Study,"** Every Monday Night from 7:00-8:00 Hwy 58. (5 miles) South of Hwy 152. For Information contact 405-643-9211 **Free and Open to the Public.**

**WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!**

**Happy Day to You!**

Have a birthday, anniversary, or other special event? Email us at sales@westokweekly.com to announce it here for FREE!

**Happy Birthday Wishes for December 2nd** - Becky Ball, Raevyn Cavanaugh, Doni Duggan, Gavin Hayslip, Ronnie Hazel, Lisa Hearn, Terry Jensen, Janet King, Cassandra Ladd, Natalie Miers, Sy Stewart, George Wilkinson; **December 3rd** - Tarra Barton, Morgan Brown, Verda McKellips, Brian Tompkins; **December 4th** - Fred Atha, Kristen Bailey, Elizabeth Byrd, Beverly Leonard, Richard Miller, Aubrey Roberts, Avery Spottedcorn; **December 5th** - Robin Cates, Retha Flue, Donna Gates, Scott Haven, Heather Hock, Kaylee Holland, Elizabeth Janning, Melissa Jett, Amanda Johnson, Madison Lax, Ted Lilly, Adam Lockstone, Gary Long, Rachal Maxon, Chuck Meyer, Kristen Robertson, Carl Schneberger, Chris Shaw, Susan Steiner, Randy Stucker, Harland Unruh; **December 6th** - Austin Barragsee, Catherine Bryant, Larry Cozart, Lacy Crawley, Sarah Ivy, Debbie Kauk, Bonnie Moore, Kayla Schmidt, Season Simon, Odessal Tebhoe; **December 7th** - Marie Burgard, Tabatha Cabaniss, Saige Carpenter, Shelly Chase, Kevin Davis, Fay Jackson, Renee Kester, Stefani Lamb, Canon Lyles, Mary Lou Mirkey, Ashlyn Newton, Mikka Ronan, Eithel Simpson, Bonnie Stucker, Kay Weaver, Kathy Whitson, Amber Wood; **December 8th** - Kimberly Fisher, Falcon Taylor, Jeff Jackson, Eugene Jefferson, Mario Llamas, Rita McLemore, Rich Miller, Paula Price, Misha Prichard, Daniell Rippee, Ryan Walker.

done - sj

# SPORTS *Presented by:*



## Final Bulldogs of the Week for Fall Semester Chosen



**Doug Self**  
SWOSU Sports Information Director

The SWOSU Athletic Department is proud to continue the selection for Bulldogs of the Week during the fall by choosing Lauren Lessig of the SWOSU Pom Squad and RJ Powell from Bulldog Football as the latest award winners.

The award is brought to you by Wright Wradio, the home of the Bulldogs over the airwaves on both 95.5 'The Coyote' and 100.3 'Coyote Classic.'

Lessig (Chickasha, Okla.) is a senior on the Pom Squad and she chose to attend SWOSU because both

of her parents graduated from here and always spoke so highly of the university. Her favorite memory is being on the sideline at the start of football season because of the excitement of the first game and her performances with the Pom Squad.

Quote: "For me, the best part of this semester has been that we were still able to have classes and practices, even though we had to learn to be more flexible and adaptable due to the always-changing circumstances."

Favorite Athlete: Laurie Hernandez. I have always been such a huge fan of her ever since the 2016 Olympics and she is such a gifted athlete.

Personal Goals for Season: To keep putting in work to do well in my classes and activities, despite the challenges that COVID-19 and online classes provide.

Powell (Sayre, Okla.) is a sophomore on the SWOSU Football team and he chose to be a Bulldog because of the people, saying he built a good family bond with the players and coaches during his official visit. His favorite memory of playing at SWOSU was the first home game last year when his team defeated East Central, which was really an amazing experience as a freshman.

Quote: "The best part of this semester was getting to still go out on the field for football practice. Even though we weren't getting to play a game at the end of the week, it was still amazing to be a part of it!"

Favorite Athlete: Michael Johnson. I'm a big track fan and the dude was a raw talent.

Personal Goal for Season: To get better all-around as a person, whether in the classroom, weight room or the field.

## Clinton and Thomas football teams advance to semifinals

**Danny Henderson**  
Wright Wradio Sports Director

The Clinton Red Tornadoes had a tough battle in Poteau last Friday night when they played the defending Class 4A champion Pirates in the quarterfinal round of the high school football playoffs. The Red Tornadoes overcame a four-plus hour bus ride and beat Poteau, 17-10 to advance to the semifinal round this Friday night.

Clinton and Poteau were tied 10-10 at the end of the third quarter when quarterback Caden Powell scored on a 2-yard keeper in the fourth to put the visiting Red Tornadoes up 17-10 for the final margin of victory. Defensive back Nathan Jones solidified the win with an interception of a Poteau pass at the goal line. Clinton out-gained Poteau 306 yards to 226 yards.

Clinton will now go to Blanchard this Friday night and play the Blanchard Lions in one of two semi-final games. Blanchard got by the Bristow Purple Pirates last Friday, 21-18. The Lions won the District 4A-2 championship and are 10-2 and on a nine game winning streak. The Red Tornadoes are at 7-3 and are 3-1 in their last four games.

The Thomas Terriers are on a roll themselves. They manhandled the Tonkawa Buccaneers last Friday night at Ross Field by the final score of 44-8. The Terriers advance and will host the Pawnee Black Bears this coming Friday night for the last home game of the season.

Coach Bob Ward's Terrier offense scored early and often. Senior running back Ethan Hamberlin scored the team's first two touchdowns – a 71-yard sprint on the first play from scrimmage and the second TD of the night

after a punt was blocked by the Thomas punt-return unit. Hamberlin finished with 191 yards on nine carries – a 21 yard average per carry – and the two scores.

Senior quarterback Jaxon Ward threw two touchdown passes – one for 25 yards to senior wideout Jaxen Mannering and a 20-yard TD reception to senior receiver Noah Rainwater. Ward was 8-12 for 117 yards passing and has only two interceptions this season. The Terriers piled up 444 yards of total offense in the game.

The Terriers' defense continues to take away the ball from the opponent at an impressive rate. They now have 18 interceptions and 14 fumble recoveries. Combined, they are averaging nearly three defensive turnovers per

game.

Thomas will host one of four Class A quarterfinal round games this Friday night when the Pawnee Black Bears visit Ross Field. Pawnee is 9-1 and finished second in District A-6. They have scored, on average, 54 points over the last five games.

The Mountain View – Gotebo Tigers continue to win. They beat Medford last Friday, 76-28. The Tigers will next play Tyrone (9-2) in one of two semi-final games in Class C. The winner of the game will play the winner of the Timberlake at Buffalo semi-final game for the championship at Northwestern Oklahoma State in Alva at 2:00 next Saturday afternoon, December 12.

	<b>Poteau</b>	<b>17-10 W</b>
	<b>Tonkawa</b>	<b>44-8 W</b>

**Tune in to the Chuck Edward's SportsCast on The Coyote 95.5 at 7:50am and 5:30pm and NewsTalk 99.3 at 7:40am and 5:30pm for more information. Tune in to the Zoo SportsCast on the Zoo 101.7 at 8:40am & 5:40pm.**

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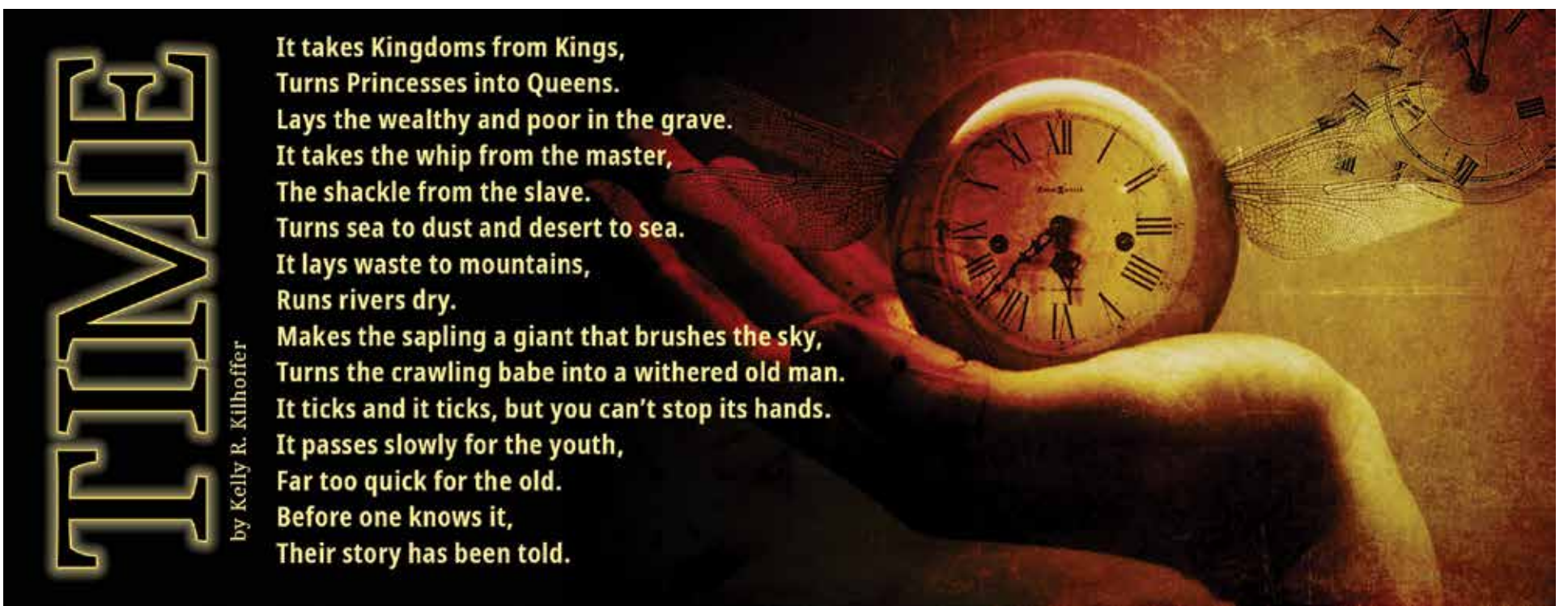
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# TIME

by Kelly R. Kilhoffer

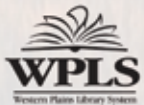
It takes Kingdoms from Kings,  
 Turns Princesses into Queens.  
 Lays the wealthy and poor in the grave.  
 It takes the whip from the master,  
 The shackle from the slave.  
 Turns sea to dust and desert to sea.  
 It lays waste to mountains,  
 Runs rivers dry.  
 Makes the sapling a giant that brushes the sky,  
 Turns the crawling babe into a withered old man.  
 It ticks and it ticks, but you can't stop its hands.  
 It passes slowly for the youth,  
 Far too quick for the old.  
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## SWOSU Reminds of Important Upcoming Dates

SWOSU Saturday was recently held on the Weatherford campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

It was the first time the university hosted a virtual SWOSU Saturday, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“While having a virtual event was not an ideal SWOSU Saturday, I believe that we were able to make the most of the event and experienced good participation,” said Garrett Decker, admissions counselor and head of SWOSU Saturday. “We were able to record all of our presentations, which we will use in future recruiting endeavors.”

Decker said many faculty and staff organized departmental presentations for the prospective students.

For students who were not able to participate, students can tour the SWOSU campus by setting up an appointment with the Admissions & Recruitment Office at 580.774.3782. SWOSU is providing campus tour/info sessions by reservation only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

Visits include an admissions presentation and a walk around campus. The office can also arrange for a conversation with a department if the student has their major already selected.

Decker said seniors should plan to be admitted by March 1 if they want to be fully considered for academic scholarships. The online application is free. Once the application is submitted, students must follow-up by sending their high school transcripts and ACT or SAT scores. SWOSU can admit students without an ACT score, but the students must provide one by March 1 to be fully considered for scholarships.

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# Trio Benefits from SWOSU's Reach Higher Program

Southwestern Oklahoma State University students Dee Downs of Weatherford, Justin Nelson of Hinton and Laney Stover of Binger each have received a \$1,000 "Reach Higher" scholarship from the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. on the Weatherford campus.

Reach Higher is a program for adults who have successfully completed some college coursework but have not yet finished a college degree. Students can still be admitted to the upcoming spring semester at SWOSU.

Todd Wiggen, coordinator of the SWOSU program, said the Reach Higher adult-friendly degree completion options available through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education encourage adults who have earned some college credit to successfully complete their degrees.

Downs said she enjoys the pleasure of learning from motivated instructors with a wide range of experience, resources, advice, knowledge and insight into industry networks to help her realize her own potential.

"Completing my degree will benefit me in the form of personal gratification because my education has been a lifetime goal that has required an immense amount of effort, dedication, sacrifice and determination," Downs said.

Nelson, who is 43 years old, said he has spent the last 25 years failing to finish his education through traditional classes and environments.

"Thanks to the Reach Higher program, I am on track to finally graduate with my Bachelor's in the fall of 2021," Nelson said. "It means so much to have a clear path to graduation set out in front of me. I know without a doubt that I would not be committed to graduating next year if it were not for the Reach Higher program."

Nelson said he has missed out on many great career advancements over the past 25 years, simply because he could not check the box of having a degree.

"I avoided trying to go back to college for many years because I was afraid of failing again," Stover said. "I was to the point of quitting college again the semester before I discovered the Reach Higher Program. This program



Provided

Southwestern Oklahoma State University students (from left) Laney Stover of Binger and Dee Downs of Weatherford and Justin Nelson (not pictured) of Hinton each recently received a \$1,000 "Reach Higher" scholarship from the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. on the Weatherford campus. With the students is Dr. Todd Wiggen, coordinator of the SWOSU Reach Higher Program.

means success for me and it will forever be a reminder to me that although I failed and sometimes struggled, I got back up and came out better in the end."

Stover said the degree will hopefully benefit her daughters.

"I hope that me leading by example and continuing my education and being able to show that it pays off and helps in the long run will be something they take note of," Stover said.

Reach Higher provides two distinct degree completion

program strands for adult learners. Reach Higher: FlexFinish offers flexible enrollment and online options to working adults who wish to pursue an associate degree in enterprise development or a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership. Reach Higher: DirectComplete offers adult students the opportunity to complete a degree program connected with workforce development needs that align with Oklahoma's 100 Critical Occupations list.

Additional information is available by contacting Wiggen at [todd.wiggen@swosu.edu](mailto:todd.wiggen@swosu.edu).

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Trent Boesen



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The need for dollars is so desperate causing traders to repair old dollar bills by using glue, thread or tape. The serial numbers must be seen in order to use the dollars.

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