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Red Tornadoes Football Team Wins State Title



Provided

Members of the Clinton Red Tornadoes pose with their newest Gold ball. The Clinton Red Tornadoes shut out the Tuttle Tigers 35-0 to win their first football State Championship since 2012 and their 17th state title overall, tying Jenks for the 2nd most Football State Championships in Oklahoma history.

Homestead of Weatherford Hosting Toy Drive




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Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Homestead of Weatherford is providing a Christmas Drive Thru and Toy drive in Weatherford on Saturday, December 11th. From 10 am - 12pm, families can swing by 3601 E Main Street, near Weatherford Regional Hospital, with a new unwrapped gift or clothing item and get their pictures taken with Santa. Children can also bring their letters to Santa to be mailed. All donations will go to benefit local children in the community between the ages of 3 and 14. Donuts and hot chocolate will be served.

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Marvin Dean Leppke

Marvin Dean Leppke was born on March 4, 1963, to Harry and Ida Leppke and passed away on November 25, 2021, at his residence in Norman, Oklahoma, at the age of 58 years, 8 months and 21 days.



Raised in Corn, he attended Washita Heights Schools and Corn Bible Academy, graduating Class of 1981. He attended Rhema Bible College and Taber College where he graduated with a BA in Music. After college, he travelled for one year in the US and Europe as a musician with Festival of Praise. In 1993 he graduated from SWOSU with a MBA in Accounting and Finance and established his career as a Controller for many corporations. He married Treva Blakley in September of 1991 in Colony, and together they were blessed with one daughter Courtney in 1994. He served in his church as an elder where he ministered and played in the band. His true passion was music. He was an accomplished musician, specializing in the guitar, bass and piano.

Marvin is survived by his daughter Courtney Leppke and her fiancé Cole Lauderdale of Oklahoma City, and his step daughter Charity Arnwine of Maud, OK; two brothers: Larry and Alayna Leppke of Corn, OK and Richard Leppke of Mustang, OK. He was preceded in death by his parents Harry and Ida.

James Junior Smith

James Junior Smith, early morning fisherman, avid sports fan, jack of all trades, and master junker, passed away Monday, November 29, 2021, at Corn Heritage Village of Weatherford, at the age of 87 years, 4 months and 8 days.



James was born on July 21, 1934, in Weatherford to Alvin James and Violet Gladys (Campbell) Smith. He was raised in Weatherford where he attended school and played right tackle for Weatherford High School. He proudly graduated with the Class of 1953.

James started his love of fishing at an early age, cat fishing on Deer Creek. He continued fishing until the ugly Alzheimer's reared its head about ten years ago. His best catch came on August 3, 1957, when he married the love of his life Judy Frances Powers in Weatherford. They made their home in a family-owned little rock house where their son Terry Smith, was born. Nineteen months later, their daughter Jamie Smith Sutton was born. James proudly built their forever home eight years later, where Judy still resides.

The grandson's love of fishing came from Grandpa James as he took each and every one of them out on many fishing adventures! Early mornings were always dedicated to his love of fishing, with bologna and cheese sandwiches as the staple for lunch. The boys still boast about Grandpa James's ability to locate the fish without a fish finder! Judy learned quickly not to catch a bigger fish than him though!

James loved all the Weatherford High School sporting events. He proudly followed Terry and Jamie's games through high school and college, never missing a game. He continued that tradition when his four grandsons started their sporting careers. Everyone always remembers his presence at every game, cheering on his hometown Eagles.

James worked as a TV repairman, a mechanic, and later as a maintenance supervisor at Owl Photo where he retired after 30 years. He quickly became known as the "jack of all trades," being able to fix almost anything. He began to tinker in "junk" after retirement, bringing life to many things. People from all over would bring him projects to work on.

James started attending First Baptist Church later in life, and was Baptized when he was 70. What a blessing that was to the family!

Although Alzheimer's robbed him of ten years of his life and took away so many precious things, he has always been a blessing to the family. Memorials may be made to Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation - Alzheimer's Research.

James is survived by his wife of 64 years Judy Smith of their home in Weatherford; his daughter Jamie Sutton; his son Terry Smith and wife Patsy; his two brothers Dewayne Smith and wife Dona and Gary Smith and wife Linda, all of Weatherford; four grandchildren; Randon Smith and wife Candy, Heath Smith and wife Monica, Kyle Sutton and wife Gena, Koby Sutton and wife Emma; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters: Juanita Randolph and Dorothy Weast; and son-in-law Todd Sutton.

Raymond C. Epperly

Raymond C. Epperly was born in Anadarko, OK on June 1st, 1954, to Clarence and Gwendolyn (Cherry) Epperly in Anadarko, OK and passed peacefully at home on November 29, 2021. Raymond graduated from Weatherford High School in 1972. Immediately following graduation, he set out on his life's journey. While working for local farmers and in the transportation industry, he acquired a love for hard work and gained experience that eventually evolved into a flourishing fuel and chemical transportation company of his own.



On August 2nd, 1977, Raymond married the love of his life Karen (Luckenga) Epperly in Colony, OK. Raymond and Karen made their home in Colony. In the summer of 1978, they made the important decision to be baptized together. He was a long-time member of the Colony Church of Christ. One of the last times he was able to attend services, he told the congregation, "If this doesn't work out, don't worry about me. I'm at peace, and I'm prepared for eternity." He inspired us all during this difficult journey with his peace and faith in God's plan for his life.

Raymond built a successful career of 21 years with a fuel and chemical transport company, earning awards and accolades during that time. He was nominated multiple times and received Driver of the Year for the company in 1996. He also received the Professional Driver of the Year award from the Oklahoma Trucking Association 2 years in a row as well as National awards for Outstanding Achievement in Highway Safety. During his time with this company, he developed relationships with customers who would specifically request Ray Epperly. His dedication to those customers evolved into a successful business of his own. In 2003, Raymond and Karen started Epperly Fuel and Chemical Transports. They built their business from one truck and trailer to eleven. They sold their business in 2017.

He was always planning and dreaming for the next chapter of his life. As he entered "retirement," he bought a bulldozer, track hoe and other large equipment to do work for local landowners and the family farms. He also loved the opportunity that it would bring to help those in need. He enjoyed this type of work and especially enjoyed the new freedom it brought to allow him more time to spend with his precious granddaughters. He loved "his girls" with his whole heart and more.

Raymond is survived by his wife of 44 years Karen Epperly of Colony, OK; one daughter Amber Lawles and husband Jason of Weatherford, OK; one son Brad Epperly of Portland, OR; three granddaughters: Bayli, Bentli and Blayke Lawles of Weatherford, OK; a special cousin Mark Richmond of Austin, TX and his children: Atticus, Gemma, and Beckham Richmond, and their mother Vicki Richmond of Austin, TX; two brothers: Clayton and his wife Donna; Kevin and his wife Shawna; three sisters: Karen Slanaker, Sharon Epperly, and Kristi Epperly. He is preceded in death by his parents Clarence and Gwendolyn Epperly.



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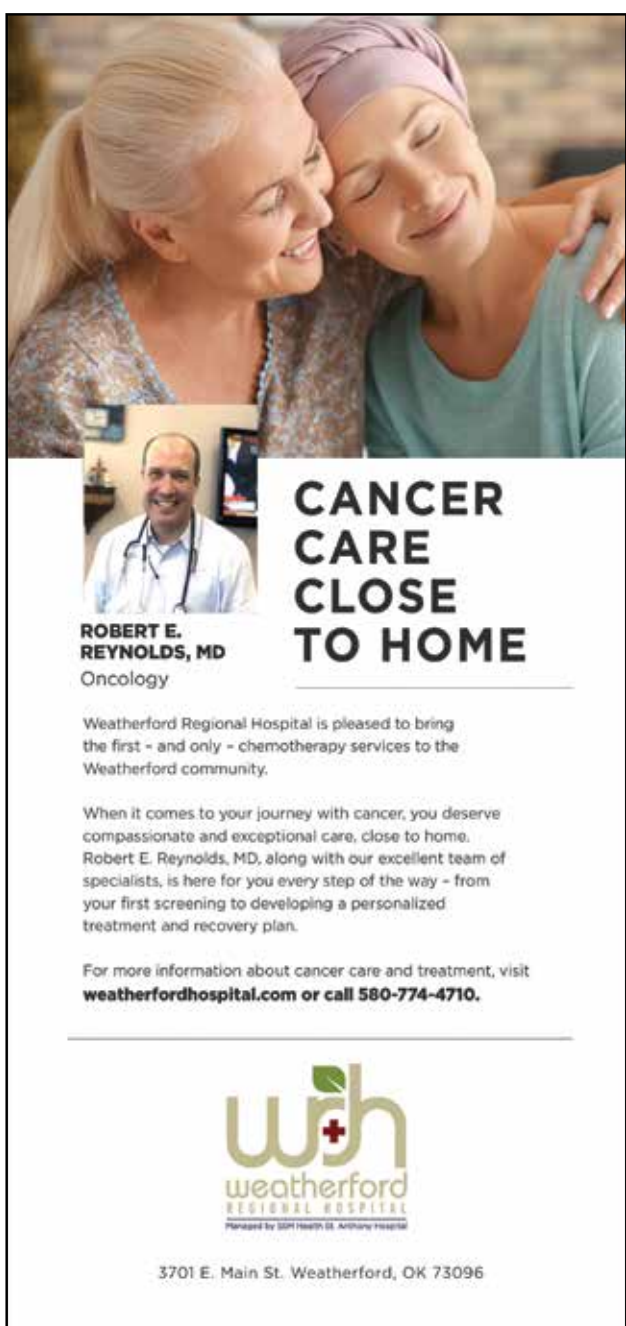
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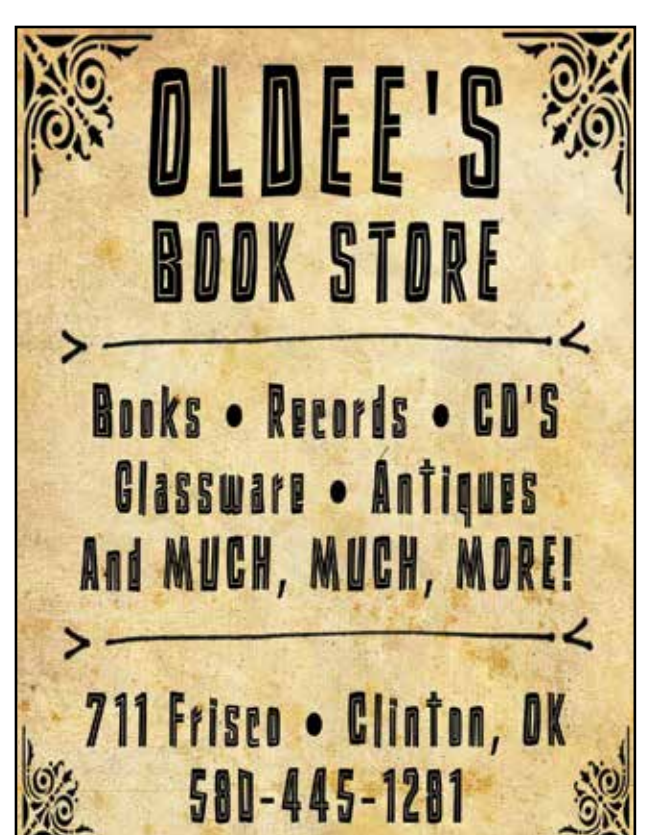
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Governor Stitt, Attorney General O'Connor Sue Biden Administration Over National Guard Vaccine Mandate

Governor Kevin Stitt released the following statement, regarding a federal lawsuit filed to prohibit the Biden administration from punishing members of the Oklahoma National Guard for not being vaccinated against COVID-19 while in Title 32 status:

"The U.S. Constitution, the Oklahoma Constitution, and U.S. Code Title 32 are all clear: as governor, I am the Commander-in-Chief of the Oklahoma National Guard.

"Therefore, unless mobilized by the President of the United States under U.S. Code Title 10, I retain the authority for all training and governance of the Oklahoma National Guard – including determining if and how training guidelines issued by the president will be implemented.

"This week, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin declared his intention to proceed with unconstitutional punishment that individually targets Oklahoma National Guard soldiers and airmen, including withholding their pay.

"It is unconscionable that President Biden and his administration are choosing to play politics with military paychecks, especially amid the highest inflation rate in 30 years and so close to the holiday season.

"Threatening the pay of National Guard members is manifestly unlawful and unfair, as unvaccinated active-duty personnel do not have their pay withheld.

"Further, it is hypocritical that Secretary Austin addresses the importance of medical readiness in his letter but fails to mention that unlike active-duty personnel, National Guard members are not provided health care and must purchase it themselves. If medical readiness is truly that high of a priority to the Department of Defense, it should provide health care for all National Guard Soldiers and Airmen like it does for active duty service members.

"I will continue fighting to protect Oklahoma against this alarming pattern of unconstitutional federal overreach coming from the Biden administration."



Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt meets with Air Force National Guard Airmen. The Governor and his administration are fighting against a nation wide vaccine mandate for National Guard Members. Provided

Heartland Cruise Presents Christmas Cruise-in for Kids



Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The Heartland Cruise Car Show presents their Christmas Cruise-In for Kids! On December 9th, on the corner of Broadway & Main Street, bring your friends and family downtown for a "magical night of family fun and lights"!

Beginning at 5pm, the cruise-in at the Towne Centre will feature festive vehicles, decorated bumper-to-bumper, great food, and holiday shopping options in the many stores participating downtown. Make sure to save your receipts from participating stores to enter in to the city's Here For Cheer holiday promotion!

Donations are welcome as the night aims to

provide support to the PALS Family, Inc. PALS offers a variety of resources to families in western Oklahoma such as life skills and trauma education classes. PALS' goal is to "break generational cycles of poverty, abuse, and neglect". Accepted donation items for the Cruise-In include: Play-Doh, new/nearly new Coats, office supplies, baby items, water bottles, books, blankets, snacks, toys and hand sanitizer. Donations can be dropped off at Centennial Park.

PALS is also accepting nominations for families in Custer County that could use a little extra help with Christmas. Nominations can be submitted through their Facebook page's Messenger. Deadline for submissions is December 17th.

So, come light up the town in Weatherford at the Cruise-In, December 9th! Following the donations period, a Christmas Cruise will begin on Main Street from 7-8pm. The event and cruise are open for all!

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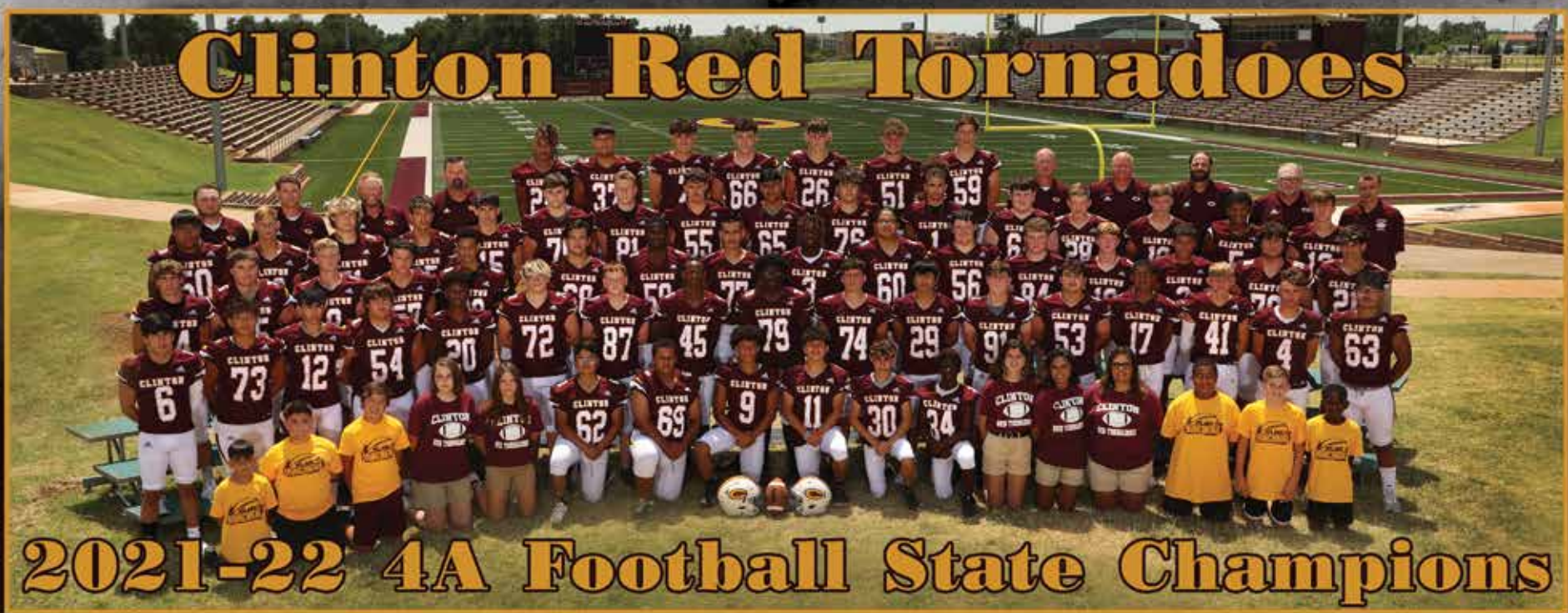
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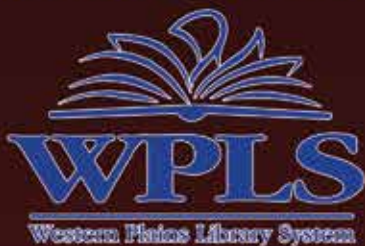
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Networking Leads to Impressive Internship for SWOSU Student

Networking has long been recommended on university campuses as a great way to land a job, and a Southwestern Oklahoma State University student in Weatherford can now attest that it works.

Arianna Martin of Broken Arrow recently landed an upcoming summer internship with British Petroleum (BP) after representing SWOSU at an international conference on supercomputing (SC21). Martin met a high-performance computing (HPC) administrator at BP and told him about the supercomputer being built at SWOSU and that Martin and the SWOSU team were interested in working in HPC systems administration like him. Martin was then put in contact with another person at BP.

On the very next day, Martin had a meeting with BP officials and was hired for an internship this summer at the BP Center for HPC in Houston (TX). The center has over 6,000 servers and is one of the largest commercial research supercomputers in the world.

It is a good result for Martin but could also lead to more good happenings at SWOSU. During a session, Martin expressed a need for parallel computing/HPC educational resources and training for computer science students and all researchers alike. Martin discovered Google can provide these resources for the computer science department and SWOSU researchers.

Martin has been involved in supercomputing for nearly two years. In that time, Martin has presented at three research fairs, the Practices and Experiences in Advanced Research Computing (PEARC 21) national conference and was a student volunteer at SC21. SWOSU placed first in their division at the Oklahoma High Performance Computing Competition in the Spring of 2021, and Martin is a member of the student steering committee for PEARC 22. SWOSU faculty and students are also building SWOSU's campus wide supercomputer with guidance from the National Science Foundation's Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (XSEDE).

"The connections that Arianna made with British Petroleum, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, and Google point to the value of research computing in the future and the ability of SWOSU to be a part of that conversation," said Jeremy Evert, associate professor of computer science at SWOSU. "Every day I get job postings from around the world looking for people with this skill set. I would love to see SWOSU help more people follow in Arianna's footsteps."

Dr. Patsy Parker, associate dean of the Everett Dobson School of Business and Technology, said networking outside the classroom is very important and she appreciates SWOSU faculty who are leading and



Provided

SWOSU student Arianna Martin of Broken Arrow visits with Dr. Jeremy Evert, associate professor of computer science, about her upcoming summer internship with British Petroleum.

encouraging networking like Martin did that resulted in a wonderful opportunity.

For more information about computer science opportunities at SWOSU, contact the department chair Karen Sweeney.

I WAS JUST THINK'N



Staff Writer
Maxine McCullogh

Have you ever thought how important the word "ready" is? How many times in our lives have we used the word ready? Now, I'll admit my mind seems to work a little left of center on most things, this might be one of the times. Indulge me. I'm "ready." You ready? They just called, they're ready? When will you be ready? Getting "ready" is a pain sometimes. I feel good when I'm getting "ready" to go somewhere. Sorry I'm late, you guys already ready? They're never ready on time. Is dinner ready? I'm "ready" to eat. No matter how hard I try, I'm never completely ready. She's ready, he's ready. Well, you get the idea. Now if you're thinking, can't Maxx do more with her life than sit around and concentrate on one particular word in the English language? Well, I guess my answer would be, I could, but just not "ready" to do that today.

Let's put all this ridiculousness aside and just get "ready" for the coming holiday season. I'm ready! You "ready"?

Lankford Prioritizes American Energy, Jobs over Biden Begging Foreign Countries for Oil

Senator James Lankford (R-OK) joined Senator John Barrasso (R-WY), ranking member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (ENR), along with Senators Steve Daines (R-MT), Jim Risch (R-ID), Mike Lee (R-UT), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), John Hoeven (R-ND), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), Roger Marshall (R-KS), and Kevin Cramer (R-ND) to introduce the Strategic Production Response (SPR) Act to prioritize American energy production.

The bill prohibits the Secretary of Energy from tapping the Strategic Petroleum Reserve for reasons other than a severe energy supply interruption until the Secretary of the Interior issues a plan to increase oil and gas production on federal lands and waters.

"It's ridiculous that Biden would try to 'cancel' traditional energy production here at home and then propose using our emergency reserves of oil when Oklahomans start to feel the pain of Biden's energy-killing policies at the pump," said Lankford. "Our bill, which requires the government to have a plan to increase energy production on public lands if they want to release any oil from the strategic petroleum reserve, ensures the federal government can't just beg OPEC, Russia, and others for foreign oil while holding back domestic energy production. This is a yet another moment we will stand up against Biden

putting his climate-change agenda over American jobs and energy needs."

President Biden's decision to release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve is not a solution for the skyrocketing energy prices that American families are facing," said Barrasso. "Before tapping the Reserve for political reasons, our bill requires the administration to issue a plan to boost federal oil and natural gas production. The Strategic Production Response Act provides a real solution to the Biden administration's reckless policies. America is stronger and safer when we are energy independent."

"Since taking office, President Biden has worked to destroy Made in America and Made in Montana energy every step of the way—from killing the Keystone XL pipeline to halting new oil and gas leases on federal lands. Now, President Biden is begging OPEC to produce more oil and is tapping into the nation's oil reserve to try and cover up the ramifications of his disastrous anti-American energy policies. These desperate moves are not the solution—investing in American energy production is, which includes oil and gas. Instead of tapping into emergency reserves, we need to boost domestic production, and any reserves removed in an effort to cover up his mistakes must be refilled, it's as simple as that," said Daines.

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director

Green Real Estate to Host Breakfast with Santa



Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Green Real Estate is hosting Breakfast with Santa on December 11th from 9:30 AM - 12 PM! Everyone is encouraged to come out, meet and greet with Christmas's jolliest fellow, and enjoy some donuts and drinks! Breakfast will be served at their new location in Weatherford, 207 W Main Street.

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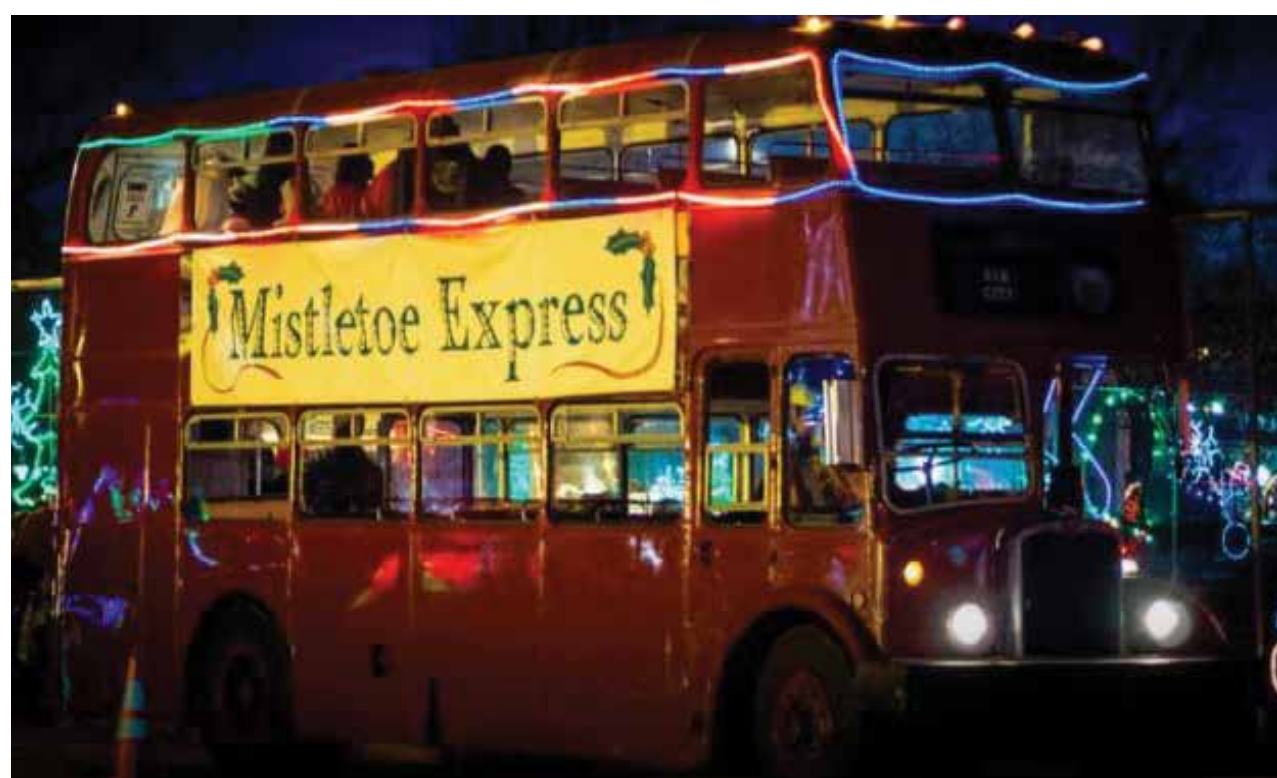
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Elk City Embraces the Holiday Spirit with Christmas in The Park



Provided

Elk City's very own double decker bus, The Mistletoe Express, carries guests through Ackley Park's Christmas light display in Christmas in the Park.

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Holiday festivities continue in Elk City as the Chamber of Commerce's "Christmas in the Park" ushers in this winter season. Every Friday and Saturday night, between 6 PM - 9 PM and through December 18th, the park will host fun activities, sweet treats, and be lit up with a wonderful light display courtesy of many gracious sponsors and donation.

All of the activities are free throughout the celebration and include: a ride through the park on the Mistletoe Express, rides on the Centennial Carousel, visiting Santa at his Park Place, touring the Gingerbread Gift Shop, miniature train rides on the Candycane Express, and Holly Jolly Trolley rides. Hot chocolate, apple cider, coffee, and popcorn is

available!

Additionally, for those looking for some extra yuletide entertainment, swing by the Red Carpet Community Theatre nightly at 7:30 PM (2:30 PM on Sunday) on November 10th, 11th, and 12th to catch "A Christmas Carol". Reserve tickets by calling or purchasing through their website: www.rect.org.

Elk City's Christmas gifts don't stop there! Grand drawings will be given away on December 16th at 8 PM at Main Street Coffee and Cafe. To enter the drawing, just visit the participating Retail Christmas businesses through December 15th and shop to get your name entered for a chance to win one of their gifts or the big holiday drawing!

Christmas is just a few weeks away. So, Bring your family and friends to Elk City!



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WRH/COVID VACCINE POLICY- The Weatherford Hospital Board approved a COVID vaccine policy. Hospital Chief Executive Officer Brian Denton said the policy affected 192 members. Denton said there are about 50 employees who have not yet responded if they plan to get the vaccine or submit an acceptable exemption.

CUSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/RED STAR WATER- The Custer County Commissioners heard a presentation from Red Star Water System Manager Landon Holcomb about purchasing new water meters for use in the county using ARPA money. Commission chairman Lyle Miller said the project could be done in the future. The commissioners will check with emblem strategies to ensure the project fits the ARPA guidelines and revisit the proposal at a later date.

WEATHERFORD CC/CLARITY TELECOM- The Weatherford City Commission approved a non-exclusive franchise to clarity telecom for the construction and operation of a cable system. Vice president Desi Stoops said the company will offer internet and cable services inside the city limits of Weatherford. Clarity recently came to terms to provide the same service in the city

of Clinton and is under construction to provide those services in other Oklahoma communities.

WEATHERFORD CC/FIRE UNION CONTRACT- Following an executive session, the Weatherford City Commission approved the 2022 fire union contract. Mayor Mike Brown said this year firefighters will get a 50 cent an hour raise, 75 cents for lieutenants and a dollars for captains.

CUSTER COUNTY SHERIFF/ MOSES STARR JR.- The Custer County sheriff's office honored former Cheyenne and Arapaho Chief Moses Starr Jr. by replacing a picture of General Custer with a picture of Starr in the sheriff's office. Arapaho District 3 legislator Travis Ruiz said the picture is a great way to honor Starr and to close out Native American heritage month. The picture will be replaced with a larger painting later.

CLINTON SCHOOLS/PUBLIC MEETINGS- Clinton school officials held their first two out of five public meetings over improving facilities and meeting the needs of students. District Superintendent Tyler Bridges said additional meetings will be held at Clinton middle school December 9th and 14th beginning at 5:30pm.



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Happy Birthday Wishes for December 8th- Kimberly Fisher, Falcon Taylor Hinchey, Jeff Jackson, Eugene Jefferson Jr., Mario Llamas, Rita McLemore, Rich (Cable Guy) Miller, Paula Price, Misha Prichard, Daniell Rippee, Ryan Walker; **December 9th-** Cale Courtney, Andrew Foster, Dennis Martin, Lynn McCauley, Mellisa McCulley, Glenn McCulley, Chad Nabors, Joy Nix; **December 10th-** Richard Coit, Betty Donovan, Carolyn Elliott, Ethan Hines, Parker Jacks, Steve Juarez, Angela Morrison, Michelle Mounsey, Nicole Page, Michael Russ, Chris Sanchez, Cassidy Skinner, Kimberly Sumner, Jeffrey Willis; **December 11th-** Andrew Davis, Elisabeth Fraser, Matthew Goeringer, Debra Hupfer, Penny Lanier, Mary Ralston, Monty Reynolds, Jenna Scales, Bob Schmidt, Brenda Williams, Laurie Wood, Emma Jean Wynn; **December 12th-** Leonard Boyd, Megan Fite, Jina Hampton, Mike Hopper, Chet Hunter, Lonnie Hymer, Joy King, Alice Peet, Sue Ross, Josh Vandeburgh, Lisa Wandrie, Amber Wood; **December 13th-** Valerie Farris, Tre Ingram, Steven Kixmiller, Sara Martin, Pat Miller, Richard Meyer, Kaleb Miller, Addison Miller, Irl Nikkel, Holly Noel Ronan, Lisa Snider, Bret Wood; **December 14th-** Audrey Christian, Elsie Cox, Rodolfo Guyman, Amber Koch, Martha Martinez, Joella Paouty, Jackie Robinson, Tember Thomas, Michael Tippens, Mark Woods, Glenn Wynn...

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SPORTS *Presented by:*



Balanced Bulldog Offense Not Enough Against Oklahoma Baptist

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

Four Bulldog starters logged double-digit points and all scorers on the afternoon finished with at least eight points, but it was not enough in SWOSU's 79-67 loss against Oklahoma Baptist on Saturday.

Despite the balanced scoring effort, the Dawgs shot just 38% from the field as a team and could not produce the scoring run they needed to get past the Bison.

On the other side, OBU finished at 49% as a team and was able to get to the free throw line consistently throughout the game. The Bison shot 15-of-19 from the charity stripe, compared to just 4-of-8 from SWOSU.

A pair of made free throws by Chris Braggs, Jr. at the 10-minute mark of the second half had the Bulldogs within two at 50-48, but the Bison were able to capitalize on SWOSU's cold shooting to push the lead back out to double digits where the margin would stay the rest of the way.

DeAngelo Adkins (14), Kamden Gipson (13), Mark Berry (12) and Ben Smith (12) all finished in double figure scoring. Tanner Meraz and Braggs, Jr. added eight points apiece.

SWOSU was outrebounded 44-32 in the contest, but won the turnover battle 8-6.

Next week will only house one GAC contest for the Bulldogs, when they take on East Central on Saturday (Dec. 11) inside the Pioneer Cellular



Provided
SWOSU Forward Mark Berry, Lawton, drives into the paint past OBU forward Nigel Wilcox, Alpharetta, GA. The Bulldogs lost against the Bison 79-67. The Bulldogs next matchup is December 11th against East Central.

SWOSU Lady Bulldogs Stay Rolling Against OBU



Provided
SWOSU Forward Mark Berry, Lawton, drives into the paint past OBU forward Nigel Wilcox, Alpharetta, GA. The Bulldogs lost against the Bison 79-67. The Bulldogs next matchup is December 11th against East Central.

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

It took a half of basketball to get the momentum where they needed it, but the #22/25 Lady Bulldogs outscored Oklahoma Baptist 43-28 in the second half and went on to defeat OBU 85-64 for their seventh consecutive win.

SWOSU trailed 21-16 after the first quarter in a slow, half-court style of basketball. It was not until the second quarter that the Lady Dawgs found their groove. SWOSU went on to shoot a game best 64% during that stretch and entered the halftime locker room leading 42-36 and feeling good about the pace finally applied.

(See ROLLING, page 8)

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Franks and Gipson Named Bulldogs of the Week

John Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/ Media Relations

Basketball standouts Kamden Gipson and Bethany Franks have been named the newest Bulldogs of the Week. 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.'

Franks (Norman) averaged 15 points last

week in SWOSU's pair of conference victories, while also doing what she has done her entire career – rebound. The senior averaged 8.5 rebounds per game last week and had a season high five steals against Oklahoma Baptist. The Lady Bulldogs were ranked No. 22 & 25 respectively in both national polls last week and will only rise on those following their undefeated week with wins against OBU and

Southeastern.

Gipson (Oklahoma City) also averaged 15 points in SWOSU's two conference games last week including a stellar game against Southeastern where he scored a season best 17 points, grabbed seven rebounds, had a pair of assists, and one steal. The junior shot 41% on the week overall and knocked down 6-of-11 three-point shots.

Tramble Wins GAC Player of the Week



John Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/ Media Relations

SWOSU Women's Basketball sophomore guard Makyra Tramble has been named the Great American Conference Player of the Week, announced from the conference office.

Tramble (Shawnee, Okla.) averaged over 22 points per game in SWOSU's three non-conference games last week. She scored 27 points against both Cameron and Fort Lewis and was one rebound shy of a double-double against Western Colorado when she scored 14 points and grabbed nine rebounds. In three games, Tramble posted 68 points, 23 rebounds and 16 assists

This is now the second Lady Bulldog to earn GAC weekly recognition. Karly Gore first earned the honor back on November 16th.

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ROLLING

Continued from Page 7

A 15-5 run after halftime set the tone for the final 20 minutes, and SWOSU did not look back.

The Lady Bulldogs continued to turn on the pressure throughout the rest of the game and it showed in the turnover category. OBU was forced into 27 turnovers, compared to just seven by the home team. Those 27 turnovers translated to 38 Lady Bulldog points and played a large factor in the lead that continued to grow in the second half.

Nearly one in every two shots SWOSU took went in. The Lady Dawgs finished at 49% shooting as a team, compared to OBU's 47%. Though the Lady Bison were efficient shooters, they had eight fewer field goals in the game and lost the turnover battle by a steep margin.

After a quiet scoring game on Thursday night, Makyra Tramble showed back up with 24 points and added four assists and a pair of steals.

Macy Gore ended with 14 points, four steals, and four assists. Bethany Franks finished with 13 points and eight rebounds. Layni Zinn, off the bench, chipped in 10 points. Karly Gore's lucky number was eight – with eight points and eight rebounds.

SWOSU (8-2) will take their seven-game winning streak into the second week of conference play with a home matchup next Saturday (Dec. 11) against East Central.

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HIGHER GROUND

Down From His Glory

We live in a mixed up world. I know I don't have to tell you that. It's not news. In fact the evening news more accurately could be called the crime report. A shooting in a high school in Michigan that claims the lives of four young people. A crazed 18 year old driver, released too soon from jail, intentionally ramming his van through a crowd, killing as many as he could. Drive-by shootings that claim innocent victims. The Supreme Court, deciding if it is alright to kill preborn babies, just because they are inconvenient.

On the other hand there is so much good in the land. This is the season of giving and we are a giving people. While ringing the bell for a local mission, I am excited about the generosity of many. Recently I set by a young lady who described a local ministry called "Harley's House." She shared how it exists to show love and grace to those in need. They serve families with young children from birth to 4 years of age in

Jim Morrison

Western Oklahoma. They provide childcare at no cost to the family and supply children with a backpack filled with diapers, wipes, clothing and other needed necessities such as car seats, formula and food.

In Weatherford, the Care and Share program makes sure that every child receives a Christmas gift. Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree program, tries as much as possible to see that every child of an incarcerated parent receives a gift. This gift is purchased by some unknown person to be given in the name of the incarcerated parent.

Samaritan's Purse provides a shoe box filled with gifts and the story of God's love and forgiveness for millions of children around the world.

There was an old radio program in the 40's with the opening phrase; "Who knows what evil lurks in the heart of man?" The response was "The Shadow Knows!" You may not be old enough to remember that program but the awful truth is that there is the potential for evil in the heart of each of us, given the right circumstances. We are all flawed creatures. That is what Christmas is really about. God seeing our evil heart, knew that the bridge from our heart to the love of God would be laid at an awful cost. The babe in

the manger took upon himself the cross of Calvary. An old hymn written by William E Booth-Clibborn in 1921, tells it well:

Down from his glory, Ever living story, My God and Savior came, And Jesus was His name; Born in a manger, to his own a stranger, A man of sorrows, tears and agony.

Refrain: Oh, how I love Him! How I adore Him! My breath, my sunshine, my all in all; The great Creator became my Savior, and all God's fullness dwelleth in Him.

What condescension, Bringing us redemption; That in the dead of night, Not one faint hope in sight, God, gracious, tender, Laid aside His splendor, Stooping to woo, to win, to save my soul.

Without reluctance, Flesh and blood His substance, He took the form of man, Revealed the hidden plan, Oh, glorious myst'ry, Sacrifice of Calv'ry, And I know Thou art the great "I Am."

Oh, how I love Him! How I adore Him! My breath, my sunshine, my all in all; The great Creator became my Savior, and all God's fullness dwelleth in Him. To comment: 580-772-2311 or email jhm82@outlook.com

Oklahoma History: Oil in OKC

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Oklahoma City's bustling economic and political status as the unrivaled capital hub for the state came from a series of events that were greatly sped up by the discovery of oil in the city on December 4th, 1928.

In April of 1889, OKC saw an initial boom of settlers when it was officially opened for settlement with the first Land Rush into the newly unassigned lands of the former Indian Territory. It's overnight growth was so sudden and large that the provisional governments planned for the unassigned lands were quickly replaced with the Organic Act on May 2, 1890. The act temporarily placed Nebraska's laws over the land until local governments could setup legislation.

OKC was brought in to the county system and given a seat as one of the 7 Oklahoma counties. At the time, the city of Guthrie held the title of capital. Throughout the next few years tensions began to rise between OKC and Guthrie as conversations called for OKC to become the new capital. On June 11, 1910, OKC was officially given the title due to popular vote. Guthrie leaders called foul play and speculated that the state seal was stolen during the night to ensure OKC got the transfer.

With its new title, OKC leaders quickly began scaling the city's growth with public entertainment, the purchase of fairgrounds, housing editions, paved roads, and a secondary railroad system to support the city's status as a central hub. The growth continued at a steady rate until the discovery of oil spiked its growth tremendously. Oil wells popped up all over the city, including in the flower bed of the capital building (rig: Petunia). Oil money accelerated the city's progress and managed to stave off some of the effects from the Great Depression for a lucky few. Many of the citizens were not so fortunate.

By the mid 1930's, many citizens who had lost their homes and jobs erected a massive shanty town dubbed "Hooverville" by the river. The river banks often flooded, leading to disease and overall misery for the occupants. As part of the "New Deal," one of the first public housing setups was built in OKC, and the river's water level was severely reduced. The public housing works lasted until 1939 but were canceled due to fear that they would bring more homeless refugees to the city.



Provided

Horse-drawn carriages and streetcar tracks line Broadway Ave in 1907 Oklahoma City just three years before the city was officially named the State Capital by the residents of Oklahoma.

When WWII began, worldwide industry increased and brought a system of recovery to the United States and to Oklahoma. During the post-war period, OKC saw major steps forward in progress. With the Interstate Highway System, it became a central hub, and as Tinker Airforce Base became the largest depot in the country, national security feared OKC would be a priority target for a Soviet nuclear strike.

All of the attention on OKC led it to be a leader during certain civil rights revolutions, including the first "Sit In." It became a national test site for tests, regarding Sonic Booms. Certain stagnations caused the city to falter in growth for a short period until the 21st century.

Today, the city has grown with the addition of professional sports teams, corporate headquarters, and the Devon Energy Center and Dell call center which have all brought in a high amount of jobs and growth. The future continues to look bright for Oklahoma's capital.

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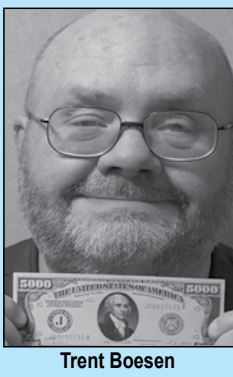
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On April 22, 1889, the first land run started the new territory of Oklahoma. Guthrie and Oklahoma City were formed by nightfall with populations of at least 10,000 people.

The U.S. Mint in Carson City, Nevada, began producing new shiny silver dollars. The final mintage total was only 350,000 coins. Unfortunately, most of them were melted. Silver dollars in uncirculated condition are as scarce as the proverbial "hen's teeth". Those with shiny surfaces are even more rare.

The above 1889-CC silver dollar was certified by the Numismatic Guaranty Company as a Mint State 62 Deep Proof-like. On November 11, 2021, it sold for \$30,000.

Do you need extra money? Do you have a coin or currency collection to sell but did not know who to ask? Call The Coin Guy at 580-890-8076 so we can meet and discuss your options. Thanks for reading.

VISIT ELK CITY'S CHRISTMAS in the PARK

November 27th - December 31st

This fantastic holiday light display can be viewed nightly from 6-11 p.m. and concludes on New Year's Eve. With wonderful sponsors and donations merrily accepted from visitors, Christmas in the Park is a holiday tradition!

Free Activities Every Fri. & Sat. 6-9 PM • Dec. 11th- Dec. 19th

- Tour the Park on the Mistletoe Express, a Double Decker Bus
- Visit Santa at Santa's Park Place
- Candycane Express Miniature Train Rides
- Ride the Centennial Carousel
- Holly Jolly Trolley Rides

November 27-29
Untitled Pop Up Theatre
"A CHRISTMAS CAROL"
A RADIO PLAY

Nightly at 7:30pm • Sunday at 2:30pm
Museum Opera House

\$15.00
Limited Edition Christmas Ornaments

Make it a Tradition!
Ornaments can be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce, Transportation Museum, City Hall and the Ginger Bread Gift Shop on Friday and Saturday Evenings at Christmas in the Park.

The Elves of Elkwood S'mores Shop
Dec. 11-12
6-9 pm
Christmas in the Park

The Way Church COMMUNITY CANDLE Light Service
Ackley Park
December 18th
8:30pm

STOP SHOP to Win! \$100 GIFT

Nov. 19th- Dec. 16th

Thousands of dollars in Gifts and Chamber Dollars to be Given Away December 16th & 17th

<p><i>Participating Businesses:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 580 Mercantile BTB's Records & Rarities Barber-Dyson Ford-Lincoln Bella Vita Carroll's Shoe Corner Chicken Express Currell's Do It Center Damron Jewelers Davis Printing Co. DF's Rentals and Sales Doug Gray Auto Group Dr.'s Bintz & Ellis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elk City News Galleria Furniture Outlet Garage Bicycle Works Grandview Pharmacy H & H Electronics Ionix Keith's Butcher Shop Killhoffer Flooring Center LaDonna's Wine & Spirits L & R Tire & Truck Service Main Street Coffee & Cafe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> McAlary ATV & Cycle Merrifield Office Supply Midwest Farm Supply Mostly Mail Mountain Man's Ave Throwing & Grub Page Jewelers Paul Jones Drug Pizza Hut S & S Quality Carpet Sears 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shannon's Custom Paint & Body Southern & Co Marketplace Terry's Furniture Showroom The Attic Door The Everett Blake Society The Lift CryoSpa The Natural Way Dispensary The Tool Box The Vogue Boutique The 200 101.7 Troy Jones Equipment
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> Need not be present to win Dec. 16th drawing <

WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.

Elk City Chamber of Commerce

580.225.0207 • elkcitychamber.com

Please give to a local charity

WESTERN OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

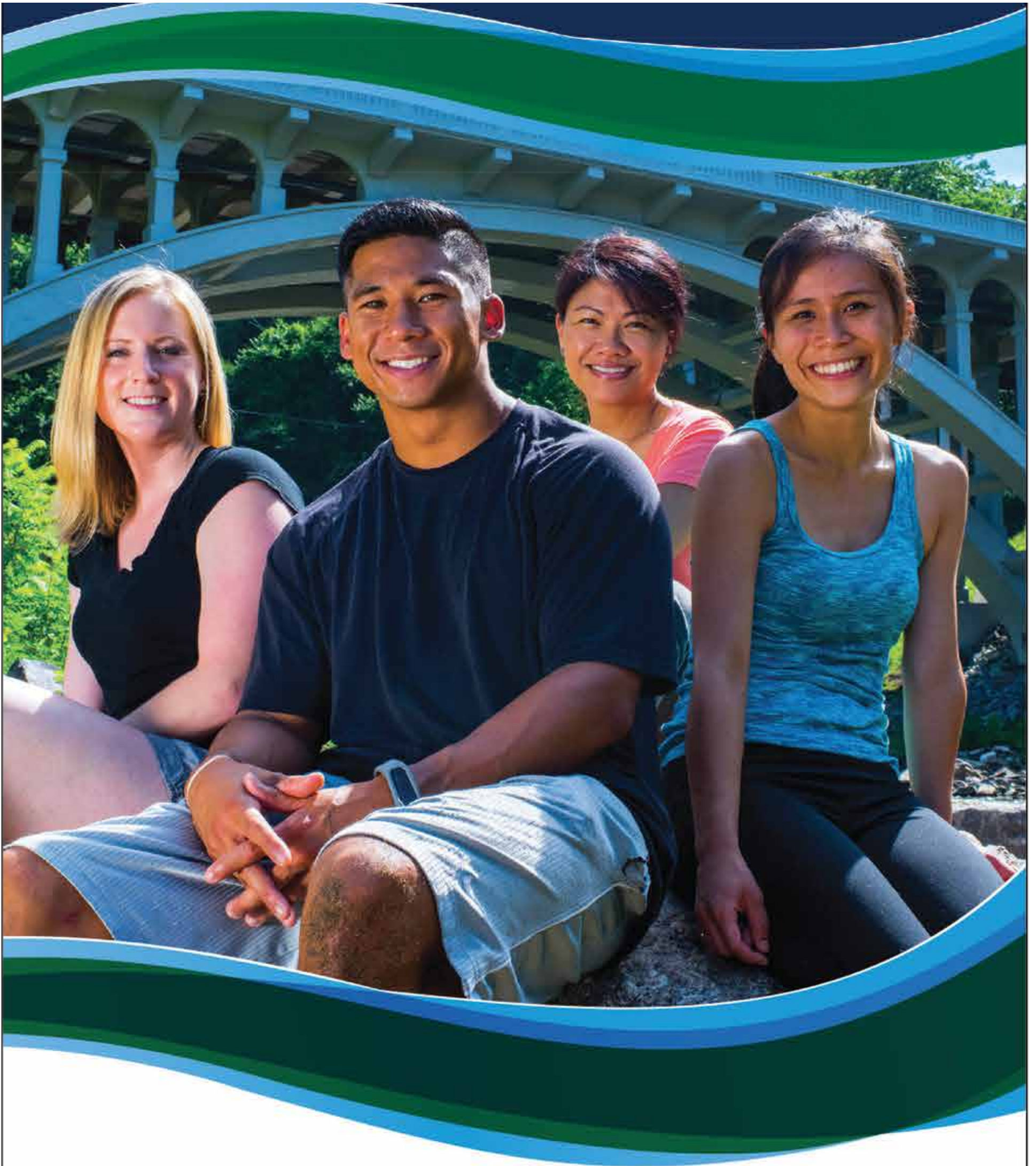
ANNUAL GIFT WRAP FUNDRAISER

Dec. 13-16, 9AM to 5PM
Dec. 17, 9AM to 1:30PM

Life Fellowship Gym
1709 Lyle Road
Weatherford, Ok

SMALL \$4
MEDIUM \$6
LARGE & ODDLY SHAPED \$9

All Proceeds go directly towards building fund



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