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32nd Annual Heartland Car Cruise Set for June 17-18

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The 32nd annual Heartland Cruise Car Show will be held over

Father's Day Weekend in Rader Park in Weatherford. On Friday, June 17th, grab a spot on Main and swing by the Towne Center from 6 PM - 9 PM for the Block Party! The party kicks off the official start to the weekend bash with a craft fair, food trucks, \$1,000 in cash prizes and classic cruise. Many of the downtown businesses will be open for some Father's Day and Summer shopping, and the Hi-Fi Hillbillies will be performing live for the party!

On Saturday, June 18th, the car show will kick-off at 7 AM with a full day of burnout & exhaust contests, a poker walk, vendor expo, cornhole tournament, and best in show cars in over 20 different classes. There will also be goody bags filled with product samples, coupons & more for the first 250 entries. Registration for the events is \$30 to enter one or all of the activities.

There will also be a blood drive by the Oklahoma Blood Institute at the park on Saturday from 9am - 2pm. All donors will receive either an All American t-shirt, lawn chair, or OKC Dodgers ticket and their choice for 1 entry into Frontier City, Science Museum Oklahoma, or 2 entries into Safari Joe's H2O/Water Park.

Admission is free into the park; so, come out, have some fun, see some cool cars, and support the Weatherford Police Department's D.A.R.E. Program!

32nd Annual Heartland Cruise Car Show

Friday, June 17th
6-9pm in Towne Centre

Welcome Party
Cruise
Live Music
Craft Fair
Food Trucks

JUNE 17-18 2022
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\$30 Entry Fee
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Saturday, June 18th
7am-3pm in Rader Park

Car Show
Craft Fair
Burnout & Loud
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Family Fun Activities

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Craft Fair

Over 250 Cars

FOR MORE INFO:
heartlandcruisecarshow.com
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Join the Fun & Support the Weatherford Police Department D.A.R.E. Program!

Rotary

Groundbreaking Ceremony Planned for Hodge Center



Groundbreaking for the Jerry and Margaret Hodge Center for Pharmacy and Rural Health is June 17 at 1:30 pm on SWOSU's campus in Weatherford. The public is invited to attend this historical moment for SWOSU and the community.

The Hodge Center project will allow SWOSU to substantially increase Nursing and Allied Health capacity while enhancing the university's pharmacy doctoral

program. The building will also expand community health services by SWOSU's Center for Rural Health.

More strategic partnerships with other higher education institutions could lead to SWOSU students having access to a physician's assistant program and opportunities for dual-degree programs through SWOSU's College of Pharmacy.

The vision of the Hodge Center is made possible through a historic private-public partnership. SWOSU will combine \$10 million in American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funding authorized by the Oklahoma Legislature with \$5 million in private support received from SWOSU alumnus Jerry Hodge and his wife, Margaret, of Amarillo, Texas.

The Hodges' contribution, announced in 2021,

represents the largest charitable gift in SWOSU history. Both Jerry and Margaret will be present at the groundbreaking ceremony.

An additional \$7 million in support for the Hodge Center will be provided via the "Yes! Weatherford" economic development sales tax extension initiative, approved by Weatherford voters in 2020.

Those who plan to attend are asked to RSVP to Ms. Jessica Perry, 580-774-3267.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved to the Skyview Suite of the Pioneer Cellular Events Center, and a notice will be issued to all who have confirmed their intent to attend.

For more information, please contact the SWOSU Office of the President at 580-774-3766.



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Terrell Vann Leonard

A Celebration of Life Service for Terrell Vann Leonard, 64, Clinton resident were held 11:00 A.M., Friday, June 10, 2022, at the Weatherford First Methodist Church, officiated by Chuck Horton and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Terrell was born March 13, 1958, to Robert Max "Cotton" Leonard and Mildred Eloise (Slemp) Leonard in Weatherford, OK and passed away Friday, May 20, 2022, at OU Medical Center.

Terrell was raised in Weatherford and graduated from Weatherford High School in 1976. He received his bachelor's and Master of Education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Terrell's first job was teaching history at Burns Flat High School. He later changed his career and became a Licensed Professional Counselor working at New Horizons Mental Health and currently was working at Red Rock Behavioral Health Center.

He was a member of the Weatherford First United Methodist Church. He loved music, all animals, traveling, boating, skiing, fishing, and anything to do with water sports. Terrell especially loved spending time with his daughter, Gina, and the grandbabies.

Terrell is preceded in death by his father, "Cotton".

He is survived by his daughter Gina Zorola (who was the apple of his eye) and husband John of San Antonio, TX; mother Mildred Leonard of Weatherford; brother Gary Leonard and wife Cheryl of Weatherford; two granddaughters Marijke Zorola and Mallyck Zorola of San Antonio, TX; stepsons Brandon Lee, Clinton, Ok and Gavin Powers; a special uncle Garland Leonard and Aunt Helen of Weatherford. He is also survived by his close companion Leisa Fox of Clinton.

The family has suggested that memorial contributions may be made to Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge, 33 Refuge Headquarters Road, Indianahoma, OK 73552.

Merrick V. Warren

Funeral Services for Merrick V. Warden, 35. Clinton resident were held 1:00, P.M., Wednesday, June 8, 2022, in the Indian Baptist Church of Clinton, officiated by Pastor Delfred Whitecrow. Burial concluded in the Colony Indian Cemetery in Colony, OK under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Merrick Vaughn Warden was born June 4, 1986, to Ricky Vaughn Warden and Martina Rose (Tenorio) Warden in Clinton, OK and passed away three days shy of his 36th birthday on June 1, 2022, in Holdenville, OK.

Merrick was raised in Norman and Clinton. He was a member of the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma. He is preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by Malaine G. Arriago, Clinton, OK, daughter, Abriana Drury, Tulsa, OK and son Nevin Vaughn Hines, Clinton, OK, sister, Delena Warden, four brothers, Josh Warden, Jerron Warden, Chabon Warden and Harlen Warden, all of Clinton.

John Tyler Hoffman

An all-night wake for John Tyler Hoffman 79, of Oklahoma City was held at 7:00 PM on Friday, June 3, 2022, at the Emergency Response Center in Hammon, Ok. Funeral Services were held at 10:00 AM Saturday, June 4, 2022, in the Hammon High School Auditorium with burial at the Indian Hammon Mennonite Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



John Tyler Hoffman was born April 18, 1943, to Fred Buster Hoffman and Kathryn (Youngbull) Hoffman in Clinton, Ok and passed away Saturday May 28, 2022, in the Oklahoma Heart Hospital in Oklahoma City, Ok surrounded by loved ones and family.

Mr. Hoffman was raised and attended school in Hammon, Ok. While in high school he was active in sports, especially basketball. He graduated in 1961. He continued his education at the Okmulgee Technical School in Okmulgee, Ok and obtained a certificate in accounting.

Mr. Hoffman was a veteran of the United States Air Force. He was honorably discharged after 4 years of active-duty service. He later moved to California where he met and married the love of his life, Pauline Cheromiah on August 27, 1971.

He was employed by the University of California, San Francisco, Indian Action Program of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe of Oklahoma and later became the Director of the Farmington Inter-Tribal Indian Organization of Farmington, New Mexico. He then began his career with Indian Health Service (IHS) as an Information Technology Specialist. During his career with IHS he worked in New Mexico, Alaska, California and Oklahoma. He retired from IHS in 2007 after 20 years of service.

He was a member of the Assembly of God and the Native American Church. He participated in fasting ceremonies at Bear Butte, SD. He loved to spend time with his grandchildren, travel and go to the casino.

He is preceded in death by his parents, infant daughter Christina, brothers Frederick Hoffman, Archie Hoffman, sister Mary Patricia Rhodes, niece and nephew Jewell Michelle and Archie Hoffman Jr.

He is survived by his wife Pauline, son John Paul Hoffman of MD, daughter Janelle Hames (Gary), of AK, son Randolph Tyler Hoffman of OK, sisters Lucy Snyder, Thelma Kauahquo, Ida Hoffman, Sheila Arlene Chapman (Johnnie) all of OK and niece Trish Lime (Darwin) of OK.

Glenna Miller

Graveside Services for Glenna Miller, 93, Clinton resident were held 10:00 A.M., Friday, June 3, 2022, in the Clinton Cemetery officiated by Pastor Roy Dobbs and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Glenna Marie (Snethen) Miller was born April 5, 1929, to James Pearl Snethen and Greta (Cross) Snethen in Altona, OK and passed away Saturday, May 28, 2022, in her Clinton home.

Glenna was raised in the Kingfisher area and graduated from Omega High School. She married Johnnie Miller, Sr. on March 16, 1957, in Arapaho, OK. She was employed 23 years at the Methodist Nursing Home, and she spent 12 years at the Wear It Again Store that helps provide for the Clinton Mission House for the homeless.

She was a faithful member of the First Church of God, she enjoyed, sewing, canning, doing crafts and ceramics and spend hours gardening.

She was preceded in death by her husband, both parents, sisters, Wilma Rich, Lena McAdams.

She is survived by son, Johnnie Miller and wife, Shiela, Arapaho, OK.

She is also survived by three grandchildren, Terra McCathern and husband, Chris and their children, Melissa, Wyatt and Morgan; Jacob Miller and wife, Christina and their children, Caselyn and Jaelyn; Justin Miller and wife, Britney and their children, Bristol and Maddie.

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SWOSU & DRG Launch Aerospace & Defense Workforce Development Initiative



Manufacturing Engineering Technology (ABET). Degrees in Engineering Technology, Engineering Physics and Computer Science set students on the best possible career path to explore their passion for aerospace and defense, Oklahoma's second largest industry.

"We're thrilled to launch this initiative alongside our esteemed partners and longtime benefactors at Delaware Resource Group," said SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell. "We know just how beneficial our degrees are to students striving to excel in aerospace and defense, and we want to ensure that prospective students and employers from around the world are just as aware."

SWOSU, with locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon, has produced numerous graduates who have achieved an extraordinary level of success in aerospace and defense. SWOSU alumni have excelled and continue to serve at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the U.S. Armed Forces, government institutions such as the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and leading aerospace and defense corporations such as Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman.

Distinguished alumni, faculty and partners include Brian Busey and Philip Busey, John Aaron, Herbert Fix, Benny Hill, Gina Ligon, Harry C. McCool, J.R. Pratt, General Thomas Stafford, and Tom Weichel, all of whom have made

pivotal contributions to the history and development of global aerospace and defense.

For more information on SWOSU and DRG's joint Aerospace & Defense Workforce Development Initiative, please visit swosu.edu/aerospace-defense or contact SWOSU Chief of Staff, Mr. Garrett King at garrett.king@swosu.edu, (580)774-3706.

About Southwestern Oklahoma State University Established in 1901, SWOSU offers affordable and reputable graduate and undergraduate degree programs online and on-campus with locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon.

Today, SWOSU educates more than 5,000 students each semester and employs more than 200 dedicated faculty and staff. SWOSU holds more than 1,000 classes a semester, has 14 nationally accredited programs and is nationally recognized for its online programs.

About Delaware Resources Group Established in 2002, Delaware Resources Group (DRG) is a Native American-owned leading global aerospace defense contractor based in Oklahoma City. The company is a total training systems integrator providing services and support all over the world. Thousands of service men and women around the world count on DRG to provide critical training and logistics services for many of today's modern military programs and aircraft. DRG is a certified Minority Owned Business (MBE) and a recognized Indian Economic Enterprise (IEE).

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) has launched its aerospace and defense workforce initiative, the university announced. The initiative will promote current students and degrees as well as the university's rich aerospace & defense heritage.

The initiative is a partnership between SWOSU and Oklahoma City-based Delaware Resource Group (DRG) with a mission to place a greater emphasis on the impressive accomplishments of SWOSU's degree programs, which include accredited programs in Applied Engineering Management (ATMAE) and

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director

SWOSU Biology Students Earn Awards at National Convention

Three Southwestern Oklahoma State University biology students presented their research findings at the 2022 Beta Beta Beta (Tri Beta) National Biological Honor National Convention on June 3rd. This convention marks the 100-year anniversary of the founding of Tri Beta at Oklahoma City University, who served as hosts for the event. Forty chapters brought fifty-five students from across the country and Puerto Rico to give oral and poster presentations on their work.

Larry Cossey of Yukon and recent graduate from the SWOSU Department of Biological Sciences was awarded first place for the John C. Johnson Award for Outstanding Poster Presentation in the Ecology & Environment session. His presentation was titled: Detecting Variations in Microbial Concentrations in Oklahoma Lakes.

Megan Strotman of Moore and junior in the SWOSU Department of Biological Sciences was awarded third place for the John C. Johnson Award for Outstanding Poster Presentation in the Molecular & Microbiology session. Her presentation was titled: Investigating Potential Circadian Oscillations in Pseudomonas syringae.

Both Cossey and Strotman were mentored in their research by Dr. Gina McGrane, associate professor of Biological Sciences.

Payden Farnsley of Oklahoma City and sophomore in the SWOSU Department of Biological Sciences gave an oral presentation on the work of the Microbial Analysis

of Regolith-Grown Species (MARS) Research Team. This team was mentored by Dr. Lisa Castle, professor in the SWOSU Department of Biological Sciences.



Students from the SWOSU chapter of the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society, Delta Sigma, attended the National Convention in Oklahoma City to present their research. From left: Megan Strotman, Payden Farnsley, and Larry Cossey.




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SWOSU Set to Host Summer Music Camps

SWOSU's Department of Music invites middle and high school musicians to join the 67th SWOSU Summer Music Camps.

The 2022 SWOSU Music Camp offerings include the following:

- Choral Camp (June 12-16)
- Cantiamo Solo Voice Camp (June 16-17)
- Marimba Camp (June 19-22)
- String Camp (June 21-24)
- Middle School Band Camp (June 26-29)
- Band Camp (July 10-15)

These camps bring a special energy and excitement to SWOSU's campus each year. They give students the opportunity to work with top-notch conductors and teachers, participate in ensembles and hone musical skills while making lasting friendships and memories. Over 1,000 students and faculty travel from around the region to attend SWOSU's music camps each year.

Both residential and commuter options are available.

For information regarding auditions and registrations and general information you can visit www.swosucamps.com or you can call 580.774.3296 with questions about the camps.

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WEATHERFORD/INDUSTRIAL PARK- During an economic development meeting, Weatherford Economic Development director Yolanda Creswell provided an update on the business & technology north park. Creswell said the city has received a grant to bring in a site consultant company to help boost development of the park.

WESTERN OKLAHOMA/SALES TAX- Sales tax figures released for April sales showed a mixed bag of results in Western Oklahoma municipalities. Weatherford, Thomas, and Cordell all showed increases, while Clinton and Elk city experienced declines. The city of Weatherford was up 3.3% at \$1 million, 36 thousand dollars. Thomas had a 25% hike at just over \$49,000. Cordell was up just under 2% at a little more than \$98,000. Clinton had a less than half percent decline at nearly \$522,000 and Elk City was down 4.1% at just under \$1.2 million.

CUSTER CO/FLOODING DAMAGE- Another bout of heavy rain and storms in Custer County did some structure damage to roofs and trees in the Clinton area. Weatherford fire crews were called to Payne Lake Road for a water rescue of a motorist in flood water. Additionally, at least two county roads have been closed due to wash outs.

ELK CITY/WATERLINE REPLACEMENT- Officials in Elk City say the biggest waterline replacement program in over 30 years has begun. The replacement program will begin on Adams Avenue and continue to the south. City officials say there should be minimum water service interruptions. Customers should only lose water temporarily while the new service line is being connected to the meter. The project is scheduled to run through October of this year.

ODOT/DIST 5 RECOGNITION- Oklahoma department of transportation District 5 in Clinton was recognized with a director's safety award. Division 5 engineer Brent Almquist says district wide traffic crew in Clinton was recognized for working injury free in 2021.

SWOSU/ATHLETIC AUCTION- Officials at SWOSU are gearing up for this year's athletic auction. Spokesperson Jessica Perry said online bidding goes from August 1st-August 18th. Perry said items should be online by the end of this month at swosuathleticauction.com. The live auction will be held August 20th. Additionally, the hall of fame banquet is planned for August 19th.



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Happy Birthday Wishes for June 8th- Kathy Barckholtz, Clare Blakeslee, Evelyn Bouma, Kathy Hanson, Lillie Peach, Melissa Reeves, Dawnellen Settles, Grant Sheperd, Elizabeth Sikes; **June 9th-** Cory Elder, Linda Ford, Sean Lampshire, Sarah Short, Cylan Tompkins; **June 10th-** Jasmine Cardenas, Russ Goerend, Dustie Hart, Dormie Klaassen, Vinson Lackey, Teal Pool, Gavin Powers, Keith Weichel; **June 11th-** Beverly Axtell, Lonni Boone, Carla Maddox, Kirsten Nestell, Mary Perkins, John Postelwait, L.R. Sights, Chad Spencer, Lance Waldrop, Gavina Whitley; **June 12th-** Mindy Cash, H.R. Cornell, Brandi Estrada, Susan Gates, Victoria Gonzalez, Crystal Hamons, Carlewchee Hutto, Meisha Johnson, Jon Matthews Stinks, Fern Patrick, Chris Post, Richelle Ridling, Anna Kate Ross, Javan Shaw; **June 13th-** Paige Barnes, Letha Brown, Kale Ellis, Sue Meacham, Antonio Mejia, Alicia Van Huss; **June 14th-** Tyler Bowman, Darlene Cardwell, Steve Crane, John Gerber, Amanda Greer, Andy Janning, Gina Leonard, Lillian McCaskill, Mark Roark, Cody Don Wilburn

SPORTS *Presented by:*

Jessica Boone Hired as Head Softball Coach



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton has announced the hiring of Jessica Boone as the new head softball coach of Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

“Coach Boone brings valuable college coaching experience from both the MIAA and the GAC, but what stood out even more was her passion for the game of softball and her ability to relate to today’s student athletes,” said Helton. “She is well suited to grow the SWOSU softball program to new heights and we can’t wait for the journey to begin.”

Helton continued. “I would like to personally thank the search committee, and all involved for their time and effort. After an extensive search both in our region and nationally, and we are very excited to welcome Jessica Boone to the Bulldog Family.”

Coach Boone becomes the fifth head coach in program history.

Boone comes to Weatherford from Oklahoma Baptist University where she spent the 2022 season as an assistant coach. She and the Bison finished 33-22 in Shawnee last year – marking the most wins in the program’s Division II history.

“I’m very grateful to Coach Helton and the committee for the opportunity to lead the softball program,” said

Boone. “From the moment I stepped on campus it felt like home. I look forward to being in Weatherford and growing this program which will be based on family and culture.”

Prior to OBU, Boone was a graduate assistant for three years at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma – the same school she spent four years at as a student-athlete from 2015-2018.

Playing for the Riverhawks, she started in 206 of her 207 games played and had 183 career hits. She was a three-time All-MIAA selection and capped her career off as the program’s first and only CoSIDA Academic All-America honoree.

A native of Sapulpa, Oklahoma, Boone holds a pair of degrees from Northeastern State after obtaining her bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education in 2018 and master’s degree in School Administration in 2021.

An official summer meet and greet for Coach Boone will be scheduled at a later date.

- The Boone File:**
Coaching Career:
 2022-present: SWOSU (Head Coach)
 2021-22: Oklahoma Baptist (Assistant Coach)
 2018-21: Northeastern State (Assistant Coach)
Playing Career:
 2015-18: Northeastern State
Education:
 Northeastern State University
 M.A. School Administration, 2021
 B.A. Elementary Education, 2018

SWOSU JUNIOR GOLF and SKILL CAMP

8:30am – 11:00am (Boys & Girls)

DATES
 Camp 1: July 11-13 – Ages 7-11
 Camp 2: July 18-20 – Ages 12-17

SITE
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What To Bring:
 Campers will need to be dressed in weather appropriate attire. In addition, campers must have their own equipment (Golf Bag, Golf Clubs)

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Chad Gray/WW
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Marathon Petroleum Funds Summer Chemistry Research at SWOSU

Marathon Petroleum Foundation's Workforce Development program has provided funding for two students to conduct full-time chemistry research at SWOSU this summer. The research will be conducted in the laboratory of Dr. Andrew N. Bigley in the Department of Chemistry and Physics and will focus on novel methods to remove toxins from the environment.

"This is a really exciting opportunity for our students," said Dr. Bigley. "Summer is one of the best times for students to gain research experience and see how real scientific research proceeds. We are exceptionally grateful to Marathon for providing this opportunity to our students."

Jenn Hagerman and Gabe Shepherd, both SWOSU alumni, visited the campus to present the \$12,000 award to provide funding for the students. Hagerman stated, "The proposed research is appreciated, as the future of environmental responsibility and safety is immeasurably impactful. We are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of funding this research."

On their visit, Hagerman and Shepherd met current SWOSU students Garrett Herring and Andrew Davis, who will be conducting the 10-week research program, and SWOSU President Dr. Diana "Diane" R. Lovell, all of whom expressed their gratitude for the opportunity that Marathon Petroleum has provided.



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