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## CHILI RUN 2023

**Jan 21, 2023**  
YMCA/Industrial Park  
**@ 8:00 AM**

**STORY UPDATE**

Member: \$40  
Non-Members: \$45  
College Students: \$35

**CHILI COOK OFF - \$5/ENTRY**  
Free tasting for all!  
Sign up by 1/9 to guarantee a hoodie.



## New Info Regarding Great Plains Family YMCA Chili Day 5K

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

The Great Plains Family YMCA's annual Chili Run is coming up on January 21st. The event will begin at the GPF YMCA on Airport Road at 8am. Pre-registrations are available at the front desk. Race registration is \$35 for college students, \$40 for YMCA members, and \$45 for non-members. Immediately following the run will be the chili cook-off, with \$5 entries and free tastings for all. The GPF YMCA is also doing a membership drive for the month of January where new members who join will have the \$50 join-fee waived. There's never been a better time to come out and explore what the Y has to offer. Let's get a jumpstart on any New Year Resolutions with this fun, healthy-living, race.



**THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023 AT 7 PM - 9 PM**  
**Paint Night**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2023 AT 6 PM - 9 PM**  
**Stained Glass Heart**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023 AT 11 AM - 4 PM**  
**Introduction to Quilting**

## Sayre Art Gallery Hosting First Classes of 2023

**Alexander Shook**  
WW Staff

The Gallery at 112 W. Main St. in Sayre is kicking off the new year with exciting courses and projects open to all of Western Oklahoma. On January 19th, the first "Paint Night" event of 2023 will begin at 7 p.m. This regular event invites artists of all skill levels to create beautiful paintings in a non-judgemental environment. Participants will be guided through the process with easy-to-grasp instructions to make sure everyone can leave with a decorative piece they'll be proud to show off. This month's paint project will be a red and white lighthouse, setting on a (sparsely) grassy cliff's edge and looking over the evening sea. The attendance fee for this event is \$35. The Gallery will provide everything you may need for this fun project. The Gallery is also accepting invites to their second-ever Stained Glass workshop on February 1st at 7 p.m. Participants will create simple, beautiful heart-shaped ornaments. With very little cutting and grinding involved, it's a good class for beginners. Jodi Kenneally, co-owner and operator of the Gallery, stresses that this is a relaxed course with

virtually no limits on how you can create your ornament. "Lots of different colors to choose from. You design it the way you like." The first Stained Glass event was a runaway success for the studio. Despite being hosted twice in October, seats for this course ran out quicker than usual for the studio. Similarly, this event has already run out of available slots for its first night on January 31st, and the openings for February 1st have been steadily decreasing since. There is a \$35 attendance fee. The Gallery will provide all necessary supplies. The Gallery's most recently advertised class is an "Introduction to Quilting" course, which will present the basics for making a small lap quilt. The course will be led by Janice Pipkin and Chris Duncan, two talented quilters from Sayre. The entry fee is \$15. Attendees will be expected to bring a sewing machine they can operate and a sack lunch. Demonstrations of what attendees will be creating can be found on the Gallery's Facebook page @ SayreGallery112. To reserve a spot at any of these events, call (580) 928-0002 or text (580) 243-9546.

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<p><b>Mostly Cloudy</b></p>  <p>H: 60° L: 30° <b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>Mostly Sunny</b></p>  <p>H: 54° L: 31° <b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>Sunny</b></p>  <p>H: 57° L: 33° <b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>Showers</b></p>  <p>H: 47° L: 28° <b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>AM Ice</b></p>  <p>H: 48° L: 28° <b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>Partly Cloudy</b></p>  <p>H: 49° L: 24° <b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>AM Snow</b></p>  <p>H: 43° L: 21° <b>Tuesday</b></p>
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**Tony Graham**

Anthony Lynn "Tony" Graham was born March 12, 1953, in Lindsey, Oklahoma, to Davy Lee and Alma Annie (Johnson) Graham and passed away Monday, January 9, 2023, at his home in Hydro, at the age of 69 years, 9 months and 27 days.



Tony was raised in Alex, Oklahoma, where he graduated in 1971. He attended Rose State College from 1972 to 1973. Tony married Phyllis Clift on December 22, 1973. They had two daughters: Amy and Stacey. From 1974 to 1975, he attended Oklahoma City University where he was a catcher for their baseball team. After graduating from OCU with a Bachelor of Science in 1975, he then began coaching high school football in Jones, Oklahoma.

The family moved to Mustang, Oklahoma, where he coached high school girls' basketball. In 1978, he opened Tony's Food Market in Alex. Tony coached both Amy and Stacey's softball teams for a number of years. He followed his girls to many pig shows and served on the Alex School Board for a number of years.

After Tony closed his Food Market, he started his career with the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs. On May 8, 1999, Tony married Lynn Graham. They lived in Eakly, Oklahoma, for several years before making their permanent home in Hydro. Tony received his Master of Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma in 2000. He retired from the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs in 2019. He loved attending his grandkids' sporting events.

Tony is preceded in death by his parents and brother Davy Graham, Jr.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years Lynn Graham of their home in Hydro; two daughters: Amy Wynn and husband Dustin of Cement; and Stacey Graham of Chickasha. Two additional children: Shelbi Woods and husband Mike of Hydro; and Seth Unruh and wife Shelby of Hydro; two brothers: Rod Graham and wife Debbie of Wilson; Reggie Graham and wife Diane of Alex; sister Alana Barr and husband Brent of Minco; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Tony is also survived by his loving companion Rocky.

**Lorene Floyd**

Mildred Lorene Floyd was born March 11, 1931, in Sasakwa, OK, to Conce Barrett and Dora (Doner) Barrett and passed away Saturday, January 7, 2023, at Homestead Assisted Living in Weatherford, at the age of 91 years, 9 months, and 27 days.



Lorene was raised in Sasakwa, OK. In 1948, she married James Floyd in Las Vegas, NV, and they made their home in Hesperia, CA before moving back to Sasakwa, OK in 1958. In 1968, they moved to Sidney, MT, followed by Oklahoma City in 1977 before then settling in Thomas in 1993. Lorene enjoyed her family, quilting, ceramics, and family game time.

Lorene is survived by her sons: Perry and wife Norma, of Shawnee; Danny and wife Linda of Thomas, Roger and wife Therese of Thomas; daughter Jan Floyd of Thomas; fourteen grandchildren; thirty great grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; son Jim Barrett; three brothers: Arthur, Otha and Louis; six sisters: Edith, Ethyl, Vera, Wilma, Leona, and Dessie; and grandsons Chad Floyd and Corey Barrett.

**Star Williams**

Amanda Renee "Star" Williams was born September 13, 1977, and was called home to be with our Lord January 6, 2023.



Star was raised in Colony, Oklahoma, with her family. She attended Washita Heights where she loved to play basketball and softball. She later worked at Corn Heritage Village in Corn, Oklahoma, and Bar-S in Clinton.

On September 3, 2010, she married the love of her life Calvin Farmer (C.L.). Becoming Mrs. Star Williams-Farmer, they made their home in the beautiful Meers, Oklahoma area. Star enjoyed life to the fullest, riding on the back of C.L.'s motorbike, enjoying outdoor concerts, fishing, going to the casinos and cruising around the Wichita Mountains and Medicine Park. For the people that knew Star, she was a beautiful person inside and out. Always giving, always worried about others, doing everything she could for others, she loved everyone.

Star was preceded in death by her grandma Lois Williams, and fur babies Loisie and GiGi.

She is survived by her husband C.L. Farmer and fur baby Dizzy May of the home, Meers, OK. Daughter Jaylen Williams of Geary, OK. Parents Harold and Anna Tags of Colony, OK, Brothers: Jonathan Williams of Weatherford, OK; Patrick Williams and family of Colony, OK; Jeremy Tags and Family of Anadarko, OK, and many families and friends.

**Fern Shepherd**

Fernita "Fern" Jessie (Wright) Shepherd was born September 28, 1929, in Butler, OK to Jessie Oklahoma "Jack" Wright and Byna Evelyn (McCain) Wright and passed away Sunday, January 08, 2023, in the Corn Heritage Village in Corn, OK.



Fern was raised in Butler, OK where she attended school. She married Carl E. Shepherd on January 6, 1946, in Butler, OK. They soon purchased the Jay Maker farm where they lived and farmed for many years.

She instilled a Godly influence in each of her children and in all their families and taught them valuable life skills. They learned to work hard and knew the importance of taking care of their families and how to be a good neighbor. She welcomed unexpected visitors, to share a meal with and always had plenty to eat.

She along with husband, Carl liked singing, and in the 1960's they recorded an album as a quartet with Dick and Pauline Baker, their neighbors. She also played the piano and led singing for church services for over 65 years.

She was a faithful member of the Freewill Baptist Church where she served as Sunday school teacher and was the song director. She loved to gardening, canning, cooking, sewing, quilting and was an active participant in the community's Home Economics Club. She was known for making the best coconut cream pies and homemade rolls for family, friends, and church. She loved going to high school basketball games and supporting the school, she enjoyed fishing with Carl and family.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Carl who passed away in October 2022; two brothers: G.W. Wright and Leroy L. Wright and sister Bonnie Lou Wright.

She is survived by son Carl Lyn Shepherd and wife Mary Jo, Edmond, OK; two daughters: Susan Diel and husband Tom, Morrison, OK and DeAnn Staggs and husband Ron, Owasso, OK.

She is also survived by nine grandchildren: Kerry Knisley and husband Jason; Casey Shepherd and wife Jayna; Shawn Diel and wife Shawna; Amber Johnston and husband Patrick; Cash Diel and wife Andrea; Monte Kelley and wife Heather; Sean Staggs and wife Keri; Paul Staggs and wife Jennifer and Zac Lindley and wife Adria; 25 great-grandchildren: Grayson, Addison, Naia, Caedmon, Rylan, Liam, Peter, Karsan, Gunnar, Aaron, Aiden, Wyatt, Ethan, Maddox, Jamal, Corbin, Taryn, Sage, Jacob, Hunter, Kalysa, Avonlea, Piper, Tucker and Ellie.

**Jodean Hostetter**

Evlyn Jodean (Shaffer) Hostetter was born July 31, 1930, to Lester and Clara (Baker) Shaffer in Forgan, OK and passed away Friday, January 6, 2023, in the Oklahoma University Hospital in Oklahoma City, OK. At a young age Jodean was well-traveled. She attended school in Oklahoma, California, Missouri, Texas and Wyoming, finishing high school at Clinton, OK in 1948. While attending Clinton High, she was a member of the Sub Deb Club, Pep Club and the music club and was a candidate for "most popular girl."



A highlight in her traveling career was taken in the summer of 1947. She traveled to Ecuador, South America, to visit her father who was an employee of Shell Oil Company, stayed three months, spending most of her time in Ambato, Ecuador. While there, she visited native villages in the jungles and was the first white girl to visit in the jungle camps.

She continued her education of the Oklahoma University for one year and was a member of Alpha Phi Sorority.

She married Mr. Claude "Sonny" Hostetter on June 14, 1952, in Clinton, OK. They made their homes in Butler, Reydon and Burns Flat, OK. She was a stay-at-home mom for her children, but in later years, she was employed with the Washita State Bank, first in Foss and later in Burns Flat.

She was a member of the Church of Christ, a Charter member of the Western Oklahoma Quilters Guild, enjoyed sewing, crocheting, working cross word puzzles, and playing bridge.

Jodean was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and a grandson Curt Lester Williams.

She is survived by a daughter Kema Williams, and husband Tommy, Dill City, OK; three sons: Mark Hostetter and wife Bonnie of OKC, OK, Hos Hostetter and wife, Lisa of Foss, OK and Chet Hostetter of Burns Flat, OK.

She is also survived by six grandchildren: Ricky Hostetter, Jamie Hostetter, Megan Hostetter-Weeks and husband Brett, Kevin Williams and wife Kerstin, Mitchell Hostetter and Hayden Hostetter and wife Baylee; nine great grandchildren: Jacie Hostetter, Justin, Hostetter, Harlan Hostetter, Harper Williams, Rhett Williams, Grace Williams, Cohen Weeks, Allie Weeks and Ava Weeks.

**Wilma McLemore**

Wilma Freeda McLemore was born February 1, 1934, near Eakly, to J.D. and Nora (Shelton) Harris and passed away Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at Carnegie Hospital, at the age of 88 years, 11 months and 10 days.



Freeda grew up in the Eakly-Colony area. She started school in Colony grade school before moving to California. They moved back to Oklahoma where she attended Elm Grove, a one room school. When that school closed, they moved back to Colony where she graduated from Colony High School in 1951. Freeda attended Hills Business College in Oklahoma City. She came back to Colony where she worked for the Horn's Canna Farm all the while dating her love Jack McLemore. They married August 4, 1952, in Chickasha and made their home on Cobb Creek where they started their family: Bob, Bev, Tom and Clay. They continued farming and raising their family. Freeda enjoyed sewing, attending school functions: sports, 4-H, FFA, and spending time with family and friends.

Freeda was preceded in death by her parents, husband, three sisters: Mildred, Wanda and Jean; and one brother Jack.

She is survived by one daughter Beverly Lowry and husband Ron of Colony; three sons: Robert Duane McLemore and wife Aquila, James Thomas McLemore and wife Pam and Clay McLemore and wife Carla all of Colony; one brother William Harris of Purcell; two sisters: Letha Hutto of Moore and Lynda Nelson and husband Bob of Oklahoma City; eleven grandchildren; and fourteen great-grandchildren.

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Hot House Red - Yellow - Orange Bell Peppers...	4 for \$5.00
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Lemons.....	3 for \$0.99
Yellow or Zucchini Squash.....	\$0.99 lb.
Iceberg Lettuce.....	\$1.29 head
Navel Oranges.....	\$0.99 lb.
Frozen	
Chungs Egg Rolls 4 ct.....	\$3.88
Red Baron Pizza 20 - 22oz.....	\$4.48
Blue Ribbon Ice Cream 4 Qt. Pail.....	\$5.99
Stouffers Lasagna 10.5oz.....	2 for \$7.00
Blue Bunny Cones Variety Pack 6 ct.....	\$5.99
Meat	
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Pilgrims Pride Thighs or Drumsticks.....	\$1.49 lb.
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Dry Grocery	
Cascade Fresh Packs 25 ct.....	\$5.88
Charmin Bath Tissue 9 Mega Rolls.....	\$11.88
Tide Pods 16 ct.....	\$5.39





## Graft & Walraven Offers Retirement Planning and More

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

The historic Oklahoma law firm Graft & Walraven, PLLC traces its roots back to the 1960s when firm patriarch C.B. Graft first began the practice of law in Clinton, Oklahoma. Word of Mr. Graft's client-first mentality and keen legal mind quickly spread throughout Western Oklahoma and his law practice thrived. As the firm grew, with C.B.'s daughter Chaille Graft Walraven and her husband, Mark Walraven, joining the firm in 2012, they saw a need for a second office location in Northwest Oklahoma City which opened in 2018.

Andy Carruth moved to Weatherford in 2007 to partner with local legal legend John Arney who first opened his Weatherford law practice in 1948. Mr. Arney retired in 2011, and Andy continued serving Weatherford and

surrounding communities as a solo practitioner until joining forces with Chaille, Mark, and the Graft & Walraven team in 2020.

Graft & Walraven, PLLC now has nine attorneys operating from offices in Clinton, Weatherford, and Oklahoma City. Their commitment to the standards of excellence and integrity set by Mr. Graft and Mr. Arney all those years ago is put into action every day to help Western and Central Oklahomans with matters pertaining to Oil, Gas, & Mineral Rights, Real Estate, Estate Planning, Probates, Trusts, Business Planning & Development, and Farm & Ranch planning.

In recent years, the Graft & Walraven team has identified a need for experienced eldercare and Medicaid planning services and has expanded their practice scope

to address such needs. Medicaid planning anticipates that a client may one day need long-term nursing home care and offers planning alternatives intended to preserve legacy assets like land and mineral rights for future generations while qualifying the client for Medicaid benefits which can help pay the high costs of nursing care. Attorney Staci Masquelier-Sweeden, who is focusing her work with Graft & Walraven on elder law and Medicaid eligibility matters, tells her clients that "it's much better to plan earlier than later."

All who are interested in quality representation can easily schedule a consultation by simply contacting any of Graft & Walraven's three office locations. Additional information is available through their website: [www.gwlawok.com](http://www.gwlawok.com).

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# Estate Planning & Tax Prep Edition

## The Baca Family is Ready to Help with Your Financial Planning

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

Bryan Baca, founder and president of Advanced Financial Strategies, started the firm in 1994 and is entering his 29th year in business. Throughout his time, he's seen firsthand how financial planning is fluid in its preparation and solid in its execution. He's identified that financial wellness is an ongoing and evolving process; one that you can thrive in with an updated plan against today's economical adversities.

This passion, in which he serves his clients, has led him to ensure each clientele has intimate knowledge of their assets and financial strategies as well as the full understanding of risks, rewards, and effects of investment choices as their lifestyles or needs change.

One of the most importance pieces of his philosophy to help his clients stay ahead of an ever-changing environment is "having a personal relationship with clients, which involves adjusting plans as needs change".

Bryan is a fiduciary who has served on many professional and community boards, and that experience

allows him to navigate a diverse industry. He's known for his ability to identify appropriate avenues for his clients to consider to reach their financial goals.

Bryan's son, Briley Baca, is a Certified Financial Planner Professional from the CFP Board of Standards, meaning he has met and exceeded the CFP Board's high standards of professional competency and ethics. The CFP Board is a non-profit serving the public by setting "professional standards in personal financial planning". CFP certified members are committed to expertise and excellence in financial planning, earned by financial planners who put their clients' best interests first. Currently, Advanced Financial Strategies is the only independent firm with a Certified Financial Planner Professional on staff in western Oklahoma.

Briley, CFP®, is the Vice President of Advanced Financial Strategies, and provides clients with an all encompassing view of the current economic climate. Briley also holds a Series 65 (a securities license required by most U.S. states to act as an investment advisor) and is an Investment Advisor Representative

with Royal Fund Management, LLC.

Like Bryan, Briley's history as a fiduciary is focused on safe-money investing and mitigating risks. Highly devoted to helping retirees and those near retirement protect their money, Briley understands how to avoid common pitfalls. "Plans people make need to be by choice and not by chance.", Briley explains "my job is to help clients follow a defined roadmap towards retirement".

As seen on the Retire Happy Hour on ABC, CBS, Fox, and NBC, Bryan and Briley are client first, single point of contact advisors that can seamlessly coordinate your wealth management plan. With a robust network of connections and a collaborative team of specialists, each client can be confident that they're receiving the highest level of service.

Services include: Efficient Tax planning, Retirement income planning, and Wealth Management. Contact Advanced Financial Strategies by phone: (580) 323-6800, in person at the Clinton, OK office, or through their website: RetireWithBaca.com.

## Experienced Legal Advisor Carissa King Now Opening Independent Firm

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

Carissa King is opening up a new independent law practice to ensure everyone at all stages of life can protect and form a plan around their assets. "You can be straight out of college and still have things you want to protect," Carissa says.

As an attorney with over ten years of experience, Carissa knows the ins and outs of multiple fields like real estate, probate planning, trusts, and estate planning. In her eyes, "it's never too late to start planning and to ensure the people you love are protected."

Carissa likes to coordinate with her client's financial advisors to form a rock-solid support group with a single, steadfast goal: their clients' continued success.

Initial consultations for her clients are highly encouraged so Carissa can understand their financial situation. As a result, she lays the groundwork to develop a plan that may even exceed the client's initial goals. She wants to create a no-pressure environment.

You can read more about her new practice's services, history, resources, and contact information at the site: [www.kinglegalk.com](http://www.kinglegalk.com).



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# SPORTS

Presented by:



	<b>75</b>	Southwestern Okla.	7-7,3-5 GAC	
	<b>70</b>	Henderson St.	7-7,4-4 GAC	
		1	2	F
Southwestern Okla.		33	42	75
Henderson St.		29	41	70

Team Statistics		
	SWO	HSU
FG%	.473	.407
3FG%	.407	.385
FT%	.545	.700
RB	33	39
TO	13	15
STL	6	4

## SWOSU Bulldogs Pick Up Road Win at Henderson State

**Jon Chidester**  
SWOSU Assistant AD

SWOSU Men's Hoops picked up a solid 75-70 road victory over Henderson State on Saturday to conclude their Arkansas road trip.

The Bulldogs led nearly the entire game, besting the Reddies on the scoreboard for nearly 37 of the game's 40 minutes. SWOSU did not trail in the game's final 20 minutes and led by as many as 16 points nearing the midway mark of the second half.

Henderson State made a late push to make things interesting when they turned a 14-point SWOSU lead into just three over the course of the final three minutes

of the game. The Dawgs knocked down just enough free throws down the stretch to ward off the Reddies and got back in the win column in the process.

Ben Smith continued his role as the top scoring threat in conference games. He finished with a team best 16 points which included a 4-for-8 day from beyond the three-point line. Entering Saturday, he had made just eight three pointers all season.

Smith led the way, but the offense got contributions from nearly everyone. Five Bulldogs scored between 8-9 points, including Mason Hart whose nine points are a season high for him. DeAngelo Adkins also turned

in a solid nine point and nine rebound performance. Kamden Gipson added eight points and had six assists.

As a team, SWOSU shot 47% from the field compared to HSU's 41%. The Dawgs connected on 11-of-27 (41%) shots from three that helped give them a boost – the third highest number of three-point makes, and percentage, this season.

The win moves the Bulldogs back to an even 7-7 on the year and improves their conference record to 3-5. They'll return to Oklahoma but will remain away from Weatherford when they travel to Oklahoma Baptist next Thursday, January 19.



	<b>65</b>	Southwestern Okla.	3-10,3-5 GAC			
	<b>85</b>	Henderson St.	8-6,5-3 GAC			
		1	2	3	4	F
Southwestern Okla.		13	18	16	18	65
Henderson St.		19	17	20	29	85

## Ladies Drop Second Game of Arkansas Trip

**Grant Kopycinski**  
SWOSU Sports Asst.

The Lady Bulldogs took a loss at the hands of Henderson State on Saturday afternoon, 85-65.

This loss makes SWOSU 3-10 on the season and 3-5 in GAC play. Their next time on the court will be Thursday when league leading Oklahoma Baptist hosts the Lady Dawgs.

It was essentially the same game script as last game. The first and second quarters were quite competitive. The Reddies ran out to an early 12-2 lead, but SWOSU kept the pace. They went back and forth with HSU throughout the first half and were only down five at the intermission.

Henderson State came out of the break focused

and extended the lead to double digits multiple times in the third period. SWOSU shot abysmal in this quarter. The past game foreshadowed how the fourth quarter of this one would go.

Three-point shooting sparked a run right out of the fourth quarter gates. Before the Lady Bulldogs knew it, their hole went from nine points to 17 points in two and a half minutes. SWOSU just ran out of gas and the gap never got closer than that for the rest of the game.

SWOSU shot 39% overall and 32% from three. Henderson State shot 48% from the field and 52% from three. SWOSU got to the line 27 times, but did not convert well. They only shot 59% at the free throw line. Henderson State dominated the glass, ending the game with a 47-28 advantage on the boards.

Morgan Smith had a team high 16 points. Shamica Smith added 11 points and five rebounds. Layni Zinn also scored 11 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

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# LOCAL AND AREA NEWS

**Mike Smith**  
News Director

## "The Coin Guy" — The Prolific Collection of Buddy Ebsen



Buddy Ebsen, star of "The Beverly Hillbillies," was a prolific actor and dancer during his 70-year career. His other talent was a rare coin collector.

He took great interest in building his coin collection and learning as much as he could.

He assembled many type-sets of gold coins (a type-set collector chooses to buy all the mintmarks and dates of a certain series of coins).

He collected sets of the 1915-\$50 gold Panama Pacific coins minted to celebrate the 1914 completion of the Panama Canal. One was round the other an octagonal (8 sided). The San Francisco mint produced 25,000 pieces. Just 483 of the round design and 645 of the octagonal sold. Each type sold for \$100 each. The remaining mintage was melted.

Each \$50 gold coin routinely sells for \$200,000+ at auction.

Rare coins are always an excellent investment. Investors should consult with reputable dealers such as Finest Known in Palos Verdes, CA at 888-900-9948. Ask for Karl. Thanks for reading.



## Et Cetera Shop Pauses Donations Until February

**Chad Gray** WW Staff The Et Cetera Shop, located at 121 N. State Street in Weatherford, has paused all community donations until February 1st in order to process what can best be described as an avalanche of generosity.

The thrift store, which usually accepts clothing and other miscellaneous donations Monday through Saturday, has run out of storage space, including two mobile storage containers and their back room, where staff members process all donations.

"We're blown away by the generosity of the community and surrounding communities," said Krisha Shantz, manager at The Et Cetera Shop, "but we physically don't have the space."

Winter weather during December and January usually slows the pace of donations, but that has not been the case this year. This pause in contributions will give the store's staff ample time to sort out "the organized chaos" the massive amount of donations has created.

"We never thought we'd see this day," said Shantz, who noted that the only time they have paused donations before now was during the COVID-19 pandemic. "It's not that we don't want stuff. We would just like you to hold your donations for two weeks and come see us on February 1st."

While donations have been paused until February, the store will remain open for shoppers. "We'll still be processing donations and putting out new stuff every night for shoppers," said Shantz.

Et Cetera on Main, located at 121 E. Main Street in Weatherford, which sells furniture, bedding, baby items, books, movies, and holiday items, will continue accepting donations, but they can't take any items that the State Street store accepts.

Donations from the Et Cetera Shop help support several other community organizations around Western Oklahoma, such as Food For Kids, The Agape Clinic, Step Up, and CASA, as well as local schools.



*Provided*  
**Lister Home Team**, a group of professional real estate agents based in Oklahoma City, have slated their Weatherford Ribbon Cutting event for January 31st At 2:00 PM. The festivities will be hosted at 210 W. Main St. in Weatherford, OK.

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**WEATHERFORD / GARRETT** - Allison D. Garrett, the Chancellor of Oklahoma's State System of Higher Education, was in Weatherford during a regional legislative tour luncheon on the SWOSU campus. While there, Chancellor Garrett discussed the workforce development incentive programs.

**WRH / WATER PIPE** - Weatherford Regional Hospital CEO Brian Denton says, during the freezing weather last month, the hospital did experience some flooding in a couple of rooms. Denton says as of last week, one room did remain closed but should reopen soon.

**CORDELL / STRUCTURE FIRE** - A home on 7th street in Cordell was destroyed by fire Sunday. Fire Chief Seth Slaughterback says one person was pulled from a window of the structure and suffered some smoke inhalation. Slaughterback says he believes the fire was accidental in nature. Rocky, Bessie, and the Cloud Chief Fire Department provided mutual aid.

**WEATHERFORD / ROADS** - Weatherford City officials say Airport Road construction started Monday. Construction crews are closing the outside southbound lane, but the inside southbound lane will remain open. Lyle Road construction will begin next week.

**WEATHERFORD / WHATABURGER PLANS** - According to economic development director Yolanda Creswell, the city of Weatherford has officially filed plans to construct a Whataburger restaurant on Eagle Road. Construction begins February 6th and will take 90 days (about three months) to build. The \$1.4 million structure will be just over 3700 square feet and have an occupancy of 89 people.

**STATE HOUSE / DISTRICT LEADERSHIP** - The Oklahoma House of Representatives Committee Leadership and Republican Majority Leadership appointments have been made for the 59th Oklahoma legislature. State Representative Anthony Moore of Clinton will serve as presiding officer and will serve as Committee Chair for Higher Education and Career Tech. Nick Archer of Elk City will serve as Vice Chair of the General Government Committee.

**WEST OK / SALES TAX** - The City of Weatherford was slightly down in sales tax for November sales. Mayor Mike Brown says sales tax for the month was down less than 1%, Collecting just over \$1.115 million. Clinton was up 3.2% at more than 493,000. Elk city had a 2.83% increase collecting \$1.259 million, and Cordell was up 13.9%, raising over \$91,000.

**WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!**

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**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. **Alfalfa, OK Community Center "Bible Study,"** Every Monday Night from 7:00-8:00 Hwy 58. Five miles South of Hwy 152. For more information contact (405) 643-9211. **Free and Open to the Public. Oklahoma Parkinson's Alliance,** monthly support group meeting the second Thursday of each month, excluding December, at 5:30 p.m. at Weatherford's Pioneer Center, 1000 Gartrell Place. Patients, caregivers, family or friends are welcome. **Questions? Contact OK Parkinson's Alliance (405) 810-0695 or [info@oklahomapa.org](mailto:info@oklahomapa.org).** **Iron sharpens Iron** is a Christ centered adult support group every Tuesday night at 7pm. 233 E Main in Hydro, First Christian Church.

**Happy Birthday Wishes for Jan. 18th** - Chris Cote, Brianna Etheredge, Jeremiah Lopez, Dennis Robison, Sandy Rothmeyer, Hal Stambaugh, Kelly Tautfest, Rebecca Thomason, Chrissy Warrior; **Jan. 19th** - Brodey Davis, Mary England, Allen Entz, Raydon Epp, Ryan Foster, Amy Haris, Garrett Hoffman, Jo Klingman, Candace Lanier, Phil Schmidt, Darrell Sheperd, Gracie Snow, Faye Trent, Delenna Williams; **Jan. 20th** - Kurt Conway, Gena Cornell, Christy Green, Carolyn Keeton, Logan Moser, Stephanie Schaunaman, Scott Steiny, Marie Stelling, Michelle Wolf; **Jan. 21st** - Brent Bellamy, Richard Carpenter, Daniel Funkhouser, Nicole Garcia, Steve Gilbert, Cassey Green, Kim King, Pamala Knauf, Tracee Mcphearson, Danielle Merchant, Kelsey Schumacher, Joyce Skipworth, Betty Watson; **Jan. 22nd** - Brian Adler, Robert Betche, Michael Brooks Jr., Jason Davis, Alexandria Dry, Dalaina Horn, Daniel Hughes, Kassie Jackson, Jeremy Jacobs, Joyce Kenney, Brandon Murray, Fred Parrett, Gabriel Simpson, James Spain, Creed Thomas, Debbie Wagner, Renee Wilkins, Bob Yoder; **Jan. 23th** - Steve Daniel, Kristi Mackin, Janis Scott, Ally Townsley; **Jan. 24th** - Hadley Andes, Ercel Tonya, Bryan Buckner, Beth Cozzont, Myka Davis, Marissa Gathers, Dealrey Hertel, Meri Hix, Cindy Kessler, Paula Merchant, Sue Mingus, Marcus Murray, Ray Nesmith, Marcie Rhoades, Meagan Stewart, Carie Strauch, Larry Thomason, Mitch Turney, Charlie Wood.



# Zinn & Smith Named Latest Bulldogs of the Week

Layni Zinn (women's basketball) and Ben Smith (men's basketball) have claimed the newest edition of Bulldogs of the Week. The award is brought to you by Wright Wradio, the official partner of SWOSU Athletics for both livestream and radio.

Zinn (Anadarko, Okla.) contributed in a big way for the Lady Bulldogs last week. She had a team high 16 points on an efficient 6-12 shooting from the field and 4-7 from three against Ouachita. She came back on Saturday against Henderson State and scored another 10 points while grabbing a career high seven rebounds.

Smith (Edmond, Okla.) had arguably his best performance of the season against Ouachita last week. He scored a season high 21 points, one point shy of his career high, and grabbed 10 rebounds to secure his second double-double of the year. Smith then scored 16 points and shot 4-8 from three on Saturday to lead the Bulldogs to a 75-70 road victory over Henderson State.



## 2023 A/2A High School West Central Basketball Tournament Starts Jan. 16, Hosted by SWOSU

High school basketball teams from across central and western Oklahoma will be squaring off for the "West Central High School Basketball Tournament." The games will be hosted by SWOSU and held at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center. An event that attracts nearly 5,000 attendees to Weatherford and the PCEC each year, the basketball tournament will be an exciting chance to see regional high school basketball teams compete.

These are the dates and times for the games at the PCEC: Monday, Jan. 16, 4:30 p.m.-10 p.m.; Tuesday, Jan. 17, 4:30 p.m.-10 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 19, 4:30 p.m.-10 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 20, 4:30 p.m.- 10 p.m.; and Saturday, Jan. 21, 3:40 p.m.-10 p.m. There will be four games each day, Monday-Friday, and six games on Saturday, two of which will be held at Hydro.

The tournament will begin on Monday with a game

between the Canute Trojans and the Burns Flat-Dill City Eagles at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to come out and support the teams as they compete for the championship. These 16 teams include high schoolers from all over West Central Oklahoma, with eight teams on the boys' bracket and eight on the girls' bracket.

"We look forward to hosting this tournament and hope to see members of the community showing their support for the players," said SWOSU's Marketing Assistant Vice President Johnathan Clemmons in a recent press release.

"We are proud to continue the tradition of hosting the West Central Tournament for our surrounding communities," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. "We look forward to another exciting week of high school basketball inside the Pioneer Center."

## HIGHER GROUND

### The Joy of Learning



Jim Morrison

It is probably true that no football player ever had more people praying for him this last week than Damar Hamlin. After his collapse on the playing field the news quickly spread as the two teams gathered together to pray for this young man. Even the ESPN football analyst, Dan Orlovsky, verbalized a heartfelt prayer that was heard by millions across the land. Orlovsky, who wears a bracelet with Proverbs 3:5, 6 printed on it, was obviously at home with prayer. He is a bold Christian who tries to live out his faith on his job as well in his family life.

Another bold statement of faith was expressed by Stetson Bennet IV, quarterback of the Georgia Bulldogs as they repeated as National Champions. The family legacy of faith was passed down by the

Stetson Bennett Sr., the great-grandfather of the Georgia quarterback who was a farmer and part time bootlegger of moonshine before he was converted. He later became a preacher, riding his mule to preaching assignments.

When Stetson IV was preparing for his first career start, his dad was asked if he was nervous, he replied with Ephesians 2: 4, 5. Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ when we were dead in our transgressions, it is by grace that we have been saved."

In spite of, and in the midst of academic liberalism on the elite, Ivy League schools there has emerged a new movement which is making an effort to bring Spiritual Revival across our land. Since 2002, Christian Union has worked to bring spiritual change in America. Their work is primarily focused on the most influential universities in America—Ivy League Universities, Stanford, Cal-Berkley, etc. Zeroing in on the spiritual disciplines of Bible study, prayer and fasting, they are making inroads into the hearts of students and faculty who have mostly heard only one voice; that of anger and censorship of those who would voice another opinion. Check it out on their website, ChristianUnion.org

Our young people, from kindergarten on through college are desperately in need of prayer as they process more information in one year, mostly from non-religious

sources, then we did in 12 years. In this technical age the discipline of reading books has become outdated. One study, in 1983, found that the average college graduate does not read one serious book in the course of a year. That was 40 years ago. That was before the internet. What would the study show today? Parents need to lead the way with their children. Parents need to read to and with their children. Pastors need to challenge their congregation, not only to read the Bible but also the works of men and women who have walked with God and gained insights from their victories and defeats. Charles Spurgeon once said, "It is strange that we think so highly of what God says to us through the Bible but so little of what He says to others in their reading of His Word." One of the most serious readers in our church is a lady who has 7 children under the age of 10, homeschooling those of school age. Don't tell me you don't have time to spend 15 minutes a day in reading.

We like to be spoon-fed because it doesn't cost us any effort, it's convenient and free. Proverbs 18:15 says "The heart of the discerning grows knowledge; the ears of the wise seek it out." Dr. Donald Whitney in his book, Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life, said "To follow Christ and to become more like Him, we must engage in the spiritual discipline of learning." To comment: jhm82@outlook.com or 580-302-1142