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## Chatham Rabbits Have Magical Connection with Clinton Residents



Provided by @chatham\_rabbits / Instagram

Chatham Rabbits perform in Jenn and Daniel Mosburg's backyard in 2022. This is one of three performances the band has done in Clinton since 2020. They return this Friday as part of the Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series.

This Friday evening the Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series presents their 4th night of musical performances at the McLain Rogers Amphitheater in Clinton, but this is definitely not the first time that headliners Chatham Rabbits have played for the residents of Clinton.

"They love our community and our community loves them," said Clinton resident Jenn Mosburg about Chatham Rabbits, who she befriended on social media over 3 years ago in a story that is reminiscent of a Hollywood movie. "I just kind of joke that were some kind of modern social media soul connection."

Jenn is a fan of the types of music that ring throughout the wooded hill country and coastal plains of North Carolina, so she was pleased to discover Chatham Rabbits and their music which can be described as modern "old-time" music that blends folk, country, and bluegrass with lyrical story-telling.

But it was an Instagram photo that Jenn posted of her husband Daniel harvesting asparagus in their garden with chickens at his feet that seemingly sparked the friendship between the Mosburgs and the McCombies of Chatham Rabbits. Sarah McCombie, Chatham Rabbits lead vocalist and banjo player, commented on Jenn's photo and then Jenn extended an invitation for the band to perform in Clinton. Sarah and her husband Austin, the other half of Chatham Rabbits, happily accepted her invitation while they were traveling to the West Coast right at the start of the 2020 pandemic.

The Mosburgs and the McCombies hit it off which led to Chatham Rabbits performing two more times in Clinton at concerts held in the Mosburg's backyard, as well as the Mosburg family traveling to North Carolina to visit the McCombie's family farm.

When word hit the streets of Clinton that the Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series was going to take place at the McLain Rogers Amphitheater, Jenn was excited. "I just used to drive around the Amphitheater and imagine having a musical festival there. That was kind of my dream," said Jenn Mosburg. She immediately tried to figure out ways to get Chatham Rabbits back in Clinton to perform at the Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series.

While Jenn wasn't directly involved in the selection committee, devoted to finding the bands to perform at the Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series, there were folks on the inside who remembered the Mosburg's backyard concerts with Chatham Rabbits. Chatham Rabbit's name was eventually given to the selection committee, who agreed that they were a great fit for the concert series and the rest is history.

Opening Friday night's festivities will be the Oklahoma Opry, featuring long-time members Darlin' Darla, Cindy Scarberry and Dustin Jones along with the Oklahoma Opry band. The Oklahoma Opry started "as a backyard gathering of family and friends who loved to play and sing

See "LEVITT AMP," Page 7



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Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series




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**Samuel Kidd**

Samuel Ralph Kidd, a resident of Weatherford, was born November 9, 1944, in Watonga, OK, to Ralph Jackson and Marion Josephine (Long) Kidd and passed away Friday, June 9, 2023, at the VA Medical Center in Oklahoma City, at the age of 78 years and seven months.



Samuel was raised in the Oakwood area and moved to Thomas as a youth, graduating with the class of 1963.

In 1966, Samuel joined the United States Marine Corps in the Aviation field. He spent two years in Cherry Point, NC, with the Fighter Attack Squadron VMFA-513.

He spent 13 months in Chu Lai, Vietnam, as part of a Maintenance Squadron, maintaining F-4 Phantoms. He moved up the ranks to Staff Sgt. E-6 where he kept F-4 Phantoms flying over Vietnam. He was also a Master Mason 32nd Degree.

After the military, he settled in Weatherford, attending SWOSU and graduating in 1973. He then went to work in the oil field as a petroleum engineer and mud engineer. He enjoyed fishing, sports, and riding his motorcycle.

Funeral services for Samuel were held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at the First Baptist Church of Thomas under the direction of the Lockstone Funeral Home.

Samuel was preceded in death by his parents Ralph and Marion, and sister Susie Clark.

He is survived by two sons: Justin Kidd of Moore, OK, and Jason Kidd of Enid, OK; sister Jequetta Jackson and husband Bill of Henryetta, OK; two nieces: Jequetta Kaiser and Leigh Anna Winstead; nephew Ed Kaiser; one aunt Johnnie Sue Todd; one brother-in-law Sam Clark; and a host of other family members and friends.

**Deedra Collins**

Deedra Kaye Collins was born May 2, 1988, to John Coleman Reeves and Loneva Kaye (Stach) Reeves in Shawnee, OK and passed away Tuesday, June 13, 2023, in Yukon, OK from the results of an automobile accident.



Deedra was raised in Seminole, OK and graduated from New Lima School in 2006. While in high school, she was active in softball and basketball. She married Doug Ward on April 19, 2006, in Seminole, OK. They made Clinton their home. She later married Chad Collins on July 24, 2017, in Wheeler, TX. They made their home in Butler, OK. She became the wife of a farmer/rancher and learned to help in the fields and work with cattle and do all the other chores that farm wives do as well as being a full-time mom.

She was an active and faithful member of the Community Fellowship Church in Hammon, OK, she was active with Arapaho-Butler 4-H Club, she was serving on the City Council for the city of Butler, secretary for the Butler Round-Up Club as well as secretary for C.D. Collins Farms.

She loved going to the lake, boating, waterskiing, going horseback riding and spending time in the Mountains with family.

She was preceded in death by her husband Chad who passed away from an automobile accident about an hour before her; maternal grandparents Jack and Loneva Stach; and paternal grandparents Alma and Jess Reeves.

She is survived by daughters: Madison Ward, Mylee Ward, and Maizley Ward, all of Weatherford, OK; stepdaughter Miriam Ward of Norman, OK; stepsons: Colt Collins, Chant Collins and Coit Collins, all of Butler, OK; parents John and Kaye Reeves of Seminole, OK; sister Amanda Follett and husband Joe of Seminole, OK; and brother J.J. Reeves and wife Kourtney of Seminole, OK.

**Chad Collins**

Chad Brandon Collins was born April 21, 1978, to Bobby Gene Collins and Doris June (Smith) Collins in Elk City, OK, and he passed away Monday, June 12, 2023, in Butler, OK, as the result of an automobile accident and his wife Deedra passed away in Yukon, OK, while in route to an Oklahoma City hospital.



Chad was raised in Butler, OK, where he graduated from Butler High School in 1996. While in high school, he was active in Future Farmers of America (FFA) and participated in basketball and baseball.

Chad married Julie Renee Lodge on June 15, 1996, in Clinton, OK, and to that union, three sons were born: Colt, Chant, and Coit. Later in life, he married Deedra Reeves-Ward on July 24, 2017, in Wheeler, TX. He gained three bonus children from this union: Madison, Mylee, and Maizley. They made their home in Butler, OK, where they loved farming and ranching. He was also a custom harvester, operated a fertilizing operation, a Trucking Company, and operated Triple C Cattle.

He was a member of the Community Fellowship Church in Hammon. He enjoyed riding horses and going to the mountains. His passion was working and spending time with his family.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Robert and Thelma Smith, and paternal grandparents Gene and Ruth Collins and Uncle Gary Collins.

He is survived by three sons: Colt Collins, Chant Collins, and Coit Collins, all of Butler, OK; three stepdaughters: Madison Ward, Mylee Ward, and Maizley Ward, all of Weatherford, OK; parents Bobby and Doris Collins of Butler, OK; sisters: Nichole Moore and husband Josh of Arapaho OK; Rebekah Scott and husband Jon of Weatherford, OK; Kristi Orange and husband Dereck of Hammon, OK; and one brother: Shane Collins and wife Jessica of Fritch, TX.

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Courtesy Corn Bible Academy

A group of students during a class held at Corn Bible Academy. CBA offers a private education for families interested in educating their children based upon a Christian worldview.

## Corn Bible Academy Builds Leaders With a Foundation Based Upon a Biblical Worldview

Corn Bible Academy is gearing up for the 2023-24 school year and while the school has offered an exceptional education built upon a biblical worldview to families of all income levels for over a century, the passing of Oklahoma House Bill 1934 promises to allow more Western Oklahoma families an opportunity to have their children educated at CBA.

Boasting “ACT scores three points higher than the Oklahoma state average,” according to the schools website, as well as a school academic team that has won 4 state championships in the past decade, CBA does not slouch when it comes to preparing students academically.

“Academics and the faith foundation are our top priority,” said April Javorsky, Admissions Director for CBA. “We teach from a Christian worldview... and really every subject can be taught from a Christian worldview.”

Javorsky is herself an alumnus of CBA as well as the proud parent of 3 CBA graduates, the most recent graduating this past spring. Because of the academic preparation CBA provided, her two oldest children were able to receive full ride scholarships to SWOSU and test out of 20 to 30 college credits at the university.

“My three children have learned how to become leaders; both in school, but also in their community and they’ve carried that into their adult lives,” said Javorsky. “They’ve grown spiritually and they’ve built a strong foundation to weather the storms of life.”

Certainly, most people have faced those storms of life at some point and without a doubt family finances are often at the root of those storms, but CBA doesn’t want Western Oklahoma families to feel that their finances exclude them from offering their children a world class education at CBA.

“People assume that since we’re a private school that it’s just wealthy kids, but I would say that is a very small percentage of the [children] that attend our school. We are not like the big city schools,” said Javorsky.

Javorsky and CBA regularly work with low to mid income families to provide financial assistance based upon each family’s individual needs.

Upon completing an application to attend CBA, and after meeting with Javorsky, CBA performs an unbiased independent financial assessment through FACTS, a company that specializes in aid assessment, for each family. Based upon that financial assessment CBA then tailors scholarship packages, funded through donors around the globe, for every prospective CBA student.

And with the passing of Oklahoma HB 1934 this spring, which plans to offer tax credits beginning January 1 of 2024 of up to \$7500 each year for families paying tuition at Oklahoma private schools, CBA is prepared to assist more Western Oklahoma families than ever before. But Javorsky encourages interested families apply as soon as possible if they would like to take advantage of those tax credits in 2024.

CBA’s faculty and schedule can only accommodate a limited amount of students, so “If [we] reach capacity, [we’ll] have to put folks on a waiting list,” said Javorsky. CBA’s student to teacher ratio sits at 8:1 and they credit those small class sizes in maintaining their outstanding academic culture.

CBA offers classes for students in grades 7-12. For more information about CBA or to fill out an online application, you can visit [www.cornbible.org](http://www.cornbible.org)

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## HIGHER GROUND

### The Mission Continues



Jim Morrison

The time was 7:49. A.M. Dec. 7, 1941. Mitsuo Fuchida was leading a squadron of 360 Japanese fighters over the island of Oahu, Hawaii. Seeing the American fleet peacefully at anchor below his plane, he smiled as he ordered “All squadrons, attack!” “Tora, Tora, Tora,” the attack had begun. On that day that lives in infamy, 5 battleships were destroyed and 14 more were sunk or damaged. More than 2,300 Americans lay dead or dying. Fuchida later described the day as the most “thrilling exploit of my career.”

At the same time, Sgt Jacob Deshazer was on K.P. duty at his base in Oregon. When he heard the news over the radio he threw a potato against the wall, screaming, “The Japs are going to have to pay for this.”

Some months later, Deshazer volunteered to join a special squadron being formed by Jimmy Dolittle to take the war to the Japanese in a daring bombing raid over Tokyo.

While it had little military success it was a morale booster to the U.S. But Deshazer’s bomber ran out of fuel before it could reach a safe area in China, and he and his crew were forced to bail out over Japanese held territory. Deshazer would spend the next 40 months as a prisoner of Japan, 34 in solitary confinement, during which time he was routinely tortured. And his already burning hatred of the Japanese was fanned into an inferno. Fellow prisoners were executed or died of starvation, disease, or torture.

Fuchido went on to fight other battles for Japan. Three years later, after Nagasaki and Hiroshima, Japan would be forced to surrender.

Meanwhile, solitary confinement gave DeShazer time to ponder the human condition. He wondered what could cause such hatred among fellow human beings. He remembered some Sunday School lessons from childhood and asked his guards for a Bible. Two years after his capture he finally received one and he eagerly devoured it, gulping down lessons on mercy, forgiveness, and redemption. He later wrote, “I discovered that God had given me new spiritual eyes and that when I looked at the enemy officers and guards who had starved and beaten my companion so cruelly, I found my bitter hatred had changed to loving pity...I prayed for God to forgive my torturers and I determined by the aid of Christ to do my best to acquaint these people with the message of salvation.”

On Aug. 20, 1945, a smiling Japanese guard opened the door and said, “War over, you go home now.”

DeShazer wrote a book called “I was a Prisoner of Japan” and after studying at Seattle Pacific College, returned to Japan, this time as a missionary to his former enemies.

In the meantime, Fuchida, tried to return to a life of farming. He was deeply shamed by Japan’s loss. He was married but had a mistress in Tokyo where he traveled frequently. He led a very unsatisfying life. In October 1948, while getting off the train in Tokyo, he saw an American handing out leaflets in Japanese. The title caught his eye. “I Was a Prisoner of Japan.” He was taken with Deshazer’s Christian testimony. A friend told him to get a Bible. He bought one for 40 yen. He was struck by Jesus’ words in Luke 23:34, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” He later wrote, “I was impressed that I was certainly one of those for whom Jesus had prayed. The many men I had killed had been slaughtered in the name of patriotism, for I did not understand the love of Christ...” He went on to become an evangelist throughout Japan and Asia, and he and Deshazer eventually became close friends.

Seventy-five years ago the two men were bitter enemies. Yet they became brothers in Christ, a testimony to the power of God’s grace.

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# LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



## Dawg Days Organization Fair Registration is Open



The SWOSU Dawg Days Organizational Fair is planned for Wednesday, August 30, outside the Memorial Student Center on the Weatherford campus.

The popular Fair is held during the Dawg Days celebration, welcoming SWOSU students arriving on campus. The annual fair will showcase SWOSU student organizations, local businesses, and churches.

Organizations interested in reserving a free booth at the Dawg Days Organizational fair must complete an application.

Applications are due by August 23 and are available in the Dean of Students Office (Stafford 214) and at [www.swosu.edu/forms/dawg-days/index](http://www.swosu.edu/forms/dawg-days/index).

Outside organizations and businesses must provide their own tables and chairs.

Email Registration forms to [deanoffice@swosu.edu](mailto:deanoffice@swosu.edu), fax them to 580-774-3034 (delivered to Stafford 214), or submit them online. In case of inclement weather, the Organizational Fair will be held at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.



## West OK: Meet Your New Connections Food and Resource Center Volunteer Coordinator!

Meet Crystal Hamons! She has joined the Connections team as their new volunteer coordinator. If you're someone who frequently works with the Connections Center, you might already know Crystal because she filled in as volunteer coordinator for several months last year.

"The best part of hiring Crystal, besides the fact that we don't have to train her, is because her heart is in the mission," says Dena Friesen, who will now jointly share her responsibilities with Crystal. "She's fully invested in serving our hungry neighbors and our incredible volunteers."

Crystal has been an active Connections volunteer for 3 years. She is a past member of the Connections Board of Directors. Crystal grew up in Hydro, but now makes her home in Weatherford with her husband, Damon, and their three children: Mason, Reno, and Cora.

The Hamons own All-American Insurance Services in Hydro and are active members of the Church of Christ in Weatherford. Spending time with family, going to her kids' activities, traveling, hiking, kayaking, and volunteering is what Crystal enjoys most.

Crystal also volunteers for Bulldogs for Christ, VBS, children's Sunday School, Hydro Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the amusement company board of directors for the Hydro Free Fair, and numerous Weatherford Public Schools booster clubs.

Dena will be covering Mondays and Crystal will be covering Tuesdays-Thursdays through July 16th. Crystal will become the full-time volunteer coordinator on July 17th. Contact Dena and Crystal at (580) 774 - 5377 or by emailing [volunteer@connectionscenter.org](mailto:volunteer@connectionscenter.org).



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*Provided by Van & Jon in the Morning*

**Pictured from left to right: Avery Anderson, Lori Gwyn, Danielle Araujo, Jaiden Kerr, and Anna King from the SAGE STEAM Camp at SWOSU joined Van & Jon in the morning this past week. The SAGE STEAM Camp at SWOSU gives young girls "hands-on experience in science experiments, technology applications, design and building, writing reflections, and math applications while interacting with other girls like them," according to the SWOSU website.**

**RETRACTION / CORRECTION** - The WestOK Weekly published a caption on page eight of our June 14th edition that incorrectly named the "McLain Rogers Park Amphitheater" the "Levitt Amp Theater." We apologize for this error and any incorrect assumptions that the Levitt Foundation owns or maintains the McLain Rogers Park Amphitheater or endorses or sponsors other independent events held at the venue. We strive to provide honest reporting for happenings all around Western Oklahoma, but editorial mistakes sometimes happen and we apologize for any confusion we may have caused as a result of this error.

**CLINTON / GARVER** - Clinton City Council has tabled agreements with Garver Engineering for professional engineering services and waterline and sewer line relocation for the Exit 65 construction project. City Manager Robert Johnston says the reason for tabling the agreements was with the engineers' payment, as their payment would need to be re-calculated at an hourly rate. The council will consider the arrangements at a future meeting.

**ELK CITY / BUSES** - The Elk City School Board of Education approved the purchase of five new route buses. District Superintendent Mike Sparks says the district can also replace its activity buses through a transportation bond allocated by voters. Sparks will oversee the replacement of nine buses, six transportation buses, and three activity buses with the bond money.

**WEST OK / DROUGHT** - Recent rain has dramatically impacted the drought in western Oklahoma. Much of Custer County and a small area of Beckham and Roger Mills counties are now in the moderate drought category. However, Dewey and much of Washita, Beckham, and Roger Mills counties remain in severe drought. Additionally, southwestern Roger Mills County and northwestern Beckham County have been classified as abnormally dry.

**CLINTON / BUDGET WORKSHOP** - A budget workshop was held by Clinton City Council last night. City Manager Robert Johnston says one item in the fiscal year 2024 budget is purchasing the transfer station from the republic. The city council is scheduled to act on the new spending plan during its meeting next Tuesday evening.

**WEATHERFORD / CONTRACT** - After a five-hour executive session that ended after 1 A.M., the Weatherford School Board of Education decided to table the 2023-24 contract for Superintendent Dr. Jill Henderson with Board Member Chris Gregston making the motion. The board also decided to hire Roland High School Girls' Basketball Coach Greg Pratt to take over the girls' basketball program at Weatherford, taking over for Grant Givins.

**WEATHERFORD / NEW FIRE TRUCK** - A push-in ceremony was held last night at the Weatherford Fire Department for the newest fire engine that will serve the community—an old tradition for fire departments. The new Quint 1 Fire Engine will "be a huge benefit to the city," according to Weatherford Mayor Mike Brown. Fire Chief Mike Karlin says he is hopeful the new unit will be in service in early July.

**WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!**

**HAPPY Day TO YOU!**



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**Happy Birthday Wishes for June 21st** - Jared Broadbent, C.L. Goodwin, Debby Green, Barbara Holt, Gladys Jones, Beverly Kissler, Charm Reeves; **June 22nd** - Mark Becton, Brownie Browne, Flying Out, Sage Fox, Robert Ingram, Jr. McCrary, Monty Proffitt, Keenan Kaylor, Shawn Twines; **June 23rd** - Debbie Blakeslee, Ruby Dillon, Madison Dudgeon, Stetson Flaming, Gary Friesen, Meg Hook, Rayna Lax, Ruby Polly, Lisa Rockett, Steve Sauer; **June 24th** - Bruce Belanger, Heather Hall, Chelsea Lantz, Genny Lathrom, Naveenah Matrix, Dorothy Sloan, Dalton Sloan, Cecil Smith, Betty Snider; **June 25th** - Jordan Estes, James Fielder, Casandra Fraser, Greg Gainers, Mary Page, Jo Dawn Parrish, Dwayne Roark, Jana Rucks, Justin Savage, Larry Sharp, Michael Wright; **June 26th** - Marissa Gay, Briana Mooney, Rex Patne, Trey Waldro, Jennifer Wiest; **June 27th** - Dustin DeGarmo, Raydon Kuehne, Ayn Lamke, Duane Mapel, Bertha Miller, Connie Ringler, Dale Roark, Irving Schmidt, Cutter Taff, Derah Thomas, Polly Thompson, Kenneth Weightman.

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## Weatherford Lady Eagles Gets New Head Coach



Krystal Blackwell / WW

Weatherford Public Schools hires Head Coach Greg Pratt for the 2023-24 Lady Eagles Basketball season. Coach Pratt comes to Weatherford from 3A Roland where he led the Lady Rangers to a state runner up title in 2021.

## Eight Cowboys and Cowgirls from the SWOSU Rodeo Return from the College National Finals



Provided by SWOSU Athletics

Eight total college students with the SWOSU Rodeo competed at the 2023 College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR), held June 11-17 at the Ford Wyoming Center in Casper.



## Pioneer is Official 2023 SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame & Auction Events Sponsor

Jon Chidester  
 SWOSU Marketing / PR

Longtime Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) benefactor Pioneer will serve as underwriting sponsor of the 2023 SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame recognition and of the 17th Annual Athletic Auction & Dinner. Pioneer will provide key financial support for the SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame celebration scheduled for Friday, 18-August and will underwrite the 17th Annual SWOSU Athletic Auction & Dinner on August 19.

Pioneer's sponsorship makes possible SWOSU's recognition of the 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees as well as SWOSU's signature on-campus philanthropic event, the annual Athletic Auction & Dinner.

"Pioneer's generous sponsorship allows SWOSU to bring alumni and friends together to recognize our new Hall of Fame inductees," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. "Further, our partnership with Pioneer is a critical part of successfully raising much-needed scholarship dollars for our student athletes."

All net proceeds from the Athletic Auction benefit SWOSU's student-athletes across all athletic programs. "Pioneer is proud of its long partnership with SWOSU and SWOSU Athletics over the last decade as the Underwriting Sponsor of the annual SWOSU Athletic Auction and as the Official Sponsor of the SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame," said Pioneer Vice President of Marketing, Sales & Service Ms. Kim Grellner.

Silent bidding in the Auction will take place online at www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com beginning on 1-August and running through 17-August. The 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame Honorees will be recognized at a dinner held on Friday, 18 August at 5:30 p.m.

"We have committed to continue our partnership with SWOSU for the next decade as our company transitions from cellular to fiber optic, and we are deeply invested in bringing the fastest, most reliable fiber optic internet service to SWOSU students, their families, and to businesses of all sizes and locations. Pioneer and SWOSU work closely together to provide millions in scholarships support to students throughout the Pioneer service area," says Grellner.

The main event on 19-August will kick off with a cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Participants will be able to fellowship while bidding on "Super Silent" items prior to the live auction which will begin at 8:00 p.m.

The live auction will feature a wide variety of premium items and experiences available to participants. Event food and beverages are all-inclusive with ticket purchases.

Tickets and tables for both the Athletic Auction & Dinner and the Hall of Fame Banquet are on sale now. Single tickets for the Auction are \$100 and Tables of 8 are \$1,000.

To purchase your ticket or reserve a table, visit www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com or contact Allie Hoang, SWOSU Advancement Athletics Coordinator at 580-774-6330 or emailing allison.hoang@swosu.edu.

The 2023 SWOSU Athletic Auction and the Hall of Fame Banquet are both hosted by the SWOSU Athletic Association. The Association is a subsidiary of the SWOSU Foundation, Inc., which was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy and distribute funds to support the activities and programs of SWOSU.

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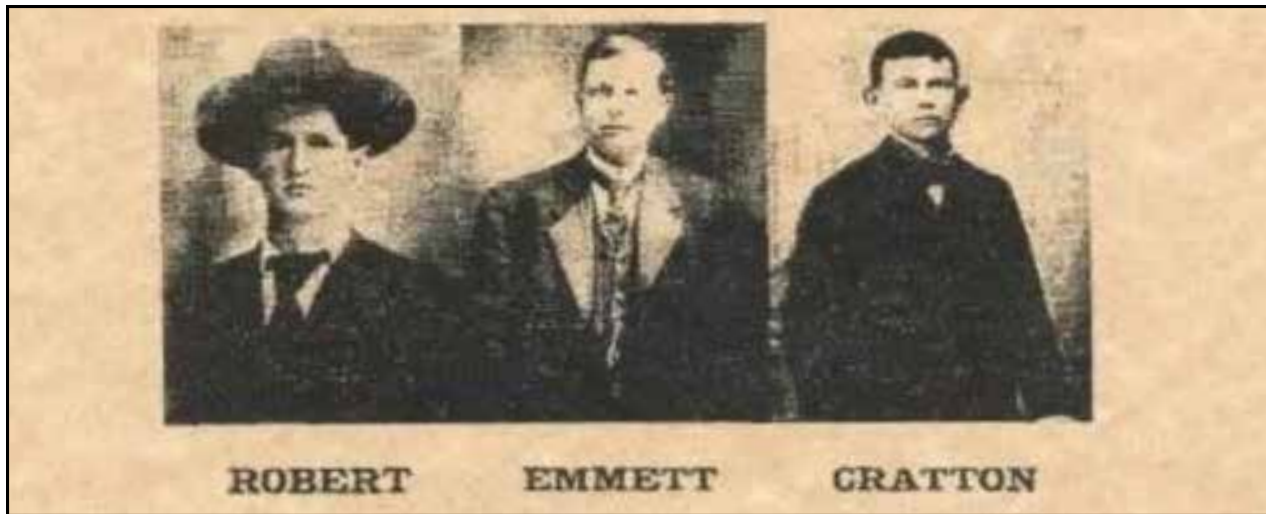
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# Oklahoma History: The Dalton Gang Train Robberies



from the United States Marshals Service

Photos of three Dalton Brothers (from left: Bob Dalton, Emmett Dalton, and Grat Dalton) from a Wanted Poster first posted in 1892.

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

The Dalton Gang, the infamous band of brothers that operated in Oklahoma and Kansas in the early 1890's, specialized in bank and train robberies throughout the territory. Also known as the Dalton Brothers, four of the gang's founding members were brothers with most of them coming from federal lawmen backgrounds.

Initially, the brothers began stealing horses for extra cash with brother "Bill" Dalton acting as spy and informant; Bill never actively participated in any heists. They quickly graduated to stagecoach robberies, and from there, to banks and trains.

Their spree was unmatched and led them to their biggest score on July 14, 1892, the most daring deed to date: the high stakes robbery of the "Katy" train near Adair, Oklahoma, (which was Indian Territory at the time). The Katy train referred to one of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas, MKT, trains that connected the frontier military bases and delivered supplies between them. At the time, MKT's Kansas-Texas train was simplified to "KT" for timetables and the stock exchange. The Katy's valuables were a highly sought after market for the gang, and on that historic Thursday, their target approached.

Four members of the gang captured the night operator at its incoming station and had him signal the train to halt. When it reached a stand-still, two members took control of the conductor and train men. The operator was then taken to an express car where he was to order the messenger to open up. The messenger refused. So, the train's fireman was brought and forced to break down the door. Finally inside, the gang quickly began looting the safe's contents.

Unbeknownst to the gang, a special detachment of railroad guards was aboard the train, and after noticing the commotion, exited the train opposite the depot. There, the eight guards encountered members of the gang and a fierce firefight began.

Done inside, the gang onboard quickly sprung out and through the town dodging bullets and firing their own. Stray bullets fatally wounded Dr. W.L. Goff and injured Dr. Youngblood, who were chatting outside a nearby drugstore. Others injured included the two captains: J.J. Kinney, Chief of railroad detectives and commander of the guards onboard, and J.H. LaFlore, Chief of Cherokee Nation Police. They both recovered.

The gang escaped unscathed, and the railroad company promptly posted a bounty of \$5,000 per bandit of the robbery. Stories of their daring deed spread throughout the country and a sensation of embellished publishings and myths began. Their success led many members of the gang to seek bigger and better robberies, and none more-so than Dalton brother Bob, quoted with the claim that he could "beat anything Jesse James ever did — rob two banks at once, in broad daylight." A comment made from a braggart which then turned to a serious possibility.

On October 5th, 1892, the Dalton gang attempted this insane feat in Coffeyville, Kansas. They had their eyes on the C.M. Condon & Company's Bank and the First National Bank, located on opposite sides of the street. This fateful day would lead the gang to its meeting of famous outlaw Henry Star, to their biggest tragedy, and to their ultimate transformation into the most notorious gang in the west: The Wild Bunch (an inspiration to Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch).

## Levitt AMP

Continued from Page 1

country music" and has been proclaimed as "Oklahoma's Official Country Music Show," according to their website.

Following the Oklahoma Opry will be SWOSU classical instrumentalists Carey Morrow, playing classical guitar, and Dr. Shelley Martinson, playing classical flute.

The nights festivities will also feature the Key to the Arts giveaway, organized by the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, participating Clinton businesses, and Scissortail Productions that offers prizes for concert-goers who attend performances of the Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series as well as visit 5 participating vendors affiliated with the Clinton Chamber of Commerce.

The Key to the Arts giveaway rules stipulate that concert-goers must obtain a Key to the Arts card at either a Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series Concert or from a participating vendor and then concert-goers must obtain 5 stamps from participating vendors. Concert-goers can then submit their Key to the Arts card at the concert to enter the giveaway. Participants who attend at least 8 performances throughout the summer concert series will then be eligible to enter the final giveaway for a 75 in. television.

Performances are set to begin at 7pm on Friday June 23, at the McLain Roger Amphitheater. For more information about the Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series or to RSVP for the event you can visit their website at [www.scissortailproductions.com](http://www.scissortailproductions.com)

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May 30th through June 29th

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**BREAKFAST and LUNCH**  
for  
**Children 18 and under**

Breakfast served from 8:30 am to 9:30 am  
Lunch served from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

**ALL Meals will be served and MUST be eaten at**  
**Thomas P Stafford Elementary**

Adult meals may be purchased. Prices for adult meals are:  
Breakfast \$2.30  
Lunch \$4.85

**Cash Only**

If you have any questions, you may call 580-772-3327 or email [cnhelp@wpsok.org](mailto:cnhelp@wpsok.org)

# Photos From the 33rd Annual Heartland Cruise Car Show Weekend



Chad Gray / WW

People stroll down Weatherford's Main Street during the Heartland Cruise Car Show's "Welcome Party" this past Friday evening.



Chad Gray / WW

Proceeds from the Heartland Cruise Car Show fund Weatherford's D.A.R.E Program. Hundreds of people participated in last weekend's events.



Chad Gray / WW

A classic muscle car drags Main St. in Weatherford, sporting a large pair of fuzzy dice in the front window, during the car show's "Welcome Party."



Chad Gray / WW

One of the muscle cars that participated in the Father's Day weekend activities surrounding the Heartland Cruise Car Show.

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## Davis Departs for Head Coaching Role



Jon Chidester  
SWOSU Marketing / PR

Women's Basketball  
Assistant Coach for SWOSU

Heather Davis will depart the program to pursue a head coaching opportunity at Rogers State University.

Davis, who was an assistant coach at Central Oklahoma (UCO) for eight years prior to her time at SWOSU, became a Lady Bulldog after Jeff Zinn took over the program in the summer of 2022. She recently completed her first full year of coaching at SWOSU this spring.

Rogers State, located in Claremore, Oklahoma, is a member of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) – a fellow NCAA Division II conference that competes in the same region as SWOSU.

"I loved my time at SWOSU and will always cherish the relationships I built here," Davis said. "I want to say thank you to Coach Zinn who provided me with the opportunity and privilege to be a Bulldog. It will be bittersweet leaving such an awesome community, but I am excited to take the next step in my coaching journey as a head coach."

SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton spoke on behalf of the entire athletic department. "We'd like to thank Coach Davis for her dedication to the women's basketball program during her tenure and we at SWOSU wish her the best of luck in her new head role."

Coach Zinn will begin his search for a new assistant basketball coach immediately. A job posting for the new opening is forthcoming.

**CORN, OK**  
Town Wide Garage Sale  
June 24, 2023  
Starts at 8am

**Corn Cafe** will be open throughout  
Homemade Food - New specials Everyday!  
207 West Main Street - Corn, OK 73024  
Public Restrooms available at Pavilion on Main St.

**WRIGHT MEDIA**  
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**Now Hiring**  
Seeking Marketing / Sales Rep for the Clinton, Elk City and Surrounding areas

**Job Description**

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Purchase tickets & reserve tables through the QR, over the phone, or at the door.



**KEVIN FOWLER**  
WITH OPENING ACT DEAN JACKSON BAND  
Friday, June 23rd  
Show Starts 8:30PM

**JE COWBOYS**  
Steakhouse & Bar  
Fri - Sat, 6PM - 9PM  
Must be 21+ to Enter  
580.772.2851

**WADE HAYES**  
Saturday, July 8th  
Show Starts 9:00PM

Buy online to reserve tables.  
Call us today to schedule a Courtesy Ride!