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Local Writer Invites You to Write



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Vivian Zabel, a career educator and lifelong storyteller, who founded Invite to Write as well as 4RV Publishing.

Invite to Write members attending the OWFI writing conference last May. In the back row, left to right: Renee Hill, Jacque Graham, Vivian Zabel, Holly Jahangiri, Terry Godfrey; front row: Joy Gillingham, Julia Mazingo and Wayne Harris-Wyrick.

Local writer and retired educator Vivian Zabel has always had a knack for telling a good story. From the days when she was a little girl entertaining her family and friends with her imagination to her time as a mother putting her children to bed, storytelling played an important role in her life.

"From the time I could talk I would tell stories... and as soon I could write it down I started writing," said Zabel. And she can certainly prove it. She still has a copy of a book of poetry she wrote in third grade that her mother kept for her.

Zabel's penchant for writing even got her into a little bit of trouble in high school.

"My father got investigated because I was researching Russia," said Zabel, who was the daughter of an Air Force Airman living on an Air Force base at the time. Zabel, fascinated with the Russian aerospace program, decided to write a high school research paper titled "From Czars to the Moon." This was before the internet, so she had to submit requests for hard copies of research on the subject. This sent up red flags at the State Department. So much so that she had to have her English teacher write to the state department to clear her fathers name.

Fortunately, they were successful at exonerating her father. It's stories like these that shaped Zabel's life and influenced her to take up a lifelong mission to write and to help others to write as well. Zabel taught English and writing professionally for nearly thirty years in a variety of environments and while her career as a professional educator has ended, she continues to serve those who decided take up the pen and keyboard to stimulate the imaginations of readers. Either by way of founding writing clubs or starting her own publishing company where she's published her own works as well as the works of her collaborators.

Her experience with writing clubs began while browsing at a book store after her retirement. She saw a flier for an annual conference of the Oklahoma Writers Federation Incorporated, a "non-profit federation of writers' groups dedicated to promoting higher standards for the written word," according to their website. Still interested in honing her writing craft she decided to attend the OWFI conference. From there she began a club affiliate of the OWFI called "The Pen and Keyboard Writers" for writers like herself. That blossomed into a position as the Grant Director of the OWFI in 2012.

Then, upon moving from Edmond to Hydro in 2021, she was encouraged to start up another club affiliate of the OWFI for folks interested in writing, but without a writing club in their area. She named it "Invite to Write" and it serves as a monthly writing club and mini-workshop for writers across the United States. The groups mission is simple: help every member become a better writer. That's an extremely important mission today even for those who don't aspire to become a bestselling author.

"Most businesses have a complaint about employees who can not write. They can not even write a paragraph," said Zabel. "It's not just writing fiction to have a short story or novel...it's learning how to write, clear, concrete and complete. If you can write clearly you can write anything."

Zabel's writing group "Invite to Write" is planning on covering creating captivating characters in their August meeting and then they will begin poetry workshops starting in September.

If you're interested in improving your writing skills or finding more information about "Invite to Write" you can search "Invite to Write" on facebook or you can send Vivian Zabel an email at invite.to.write.owfi@gmail.com

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Sherri Price

Sherri Lynn Price was born January 20, 1963, in Clinton, Oklahoma, to proud parents James Arthur Atkinson and Mary Ann (Grimes) Atkinson and passed away Wednesday, July 5, 2023, in the Mercy Hospital in Edmond, OK following a lengthy illness. She was surrounded by her husband and family.



Sherry spent her early years in Clinton, Oklahoma. After living in Okmulgee for two years, the family moved to Burn Flat, Oklahoma, in 1971 where Sherri attended school, graduating in 1981.

Sherri was active in school and had a love for music. She learned to play every instrument so she could become a Drum Major.

One of the high points of this time for Sherri was leading the marching band during the parade for President Jimmy Carter's visit to Western Oklahoma in 1979.

Sherri was always a hard worker. She got her first job, working at the Pit Stop, and after graduation she began her career at Janesville Manufacturing where she met the love of her life William "Skip" Price. Skip vowed to win against Sherri, and he did just that. They were married on July 1, 1989, and just celebrated their 34th Wedding Anniversary, what a blessing.

Sherri worked at Janesville until the factory closed. Sherri then began working at G&W. She always had a smile on her face. Never did she complain. She always greeted the customers with a smile, never meeting a stranger. She became store manager and worked there until her health forced her to retire.

Sherri and Skip always knew they wanted a family. After trying many times, the good Lord led them to adoption in 2005.

When they met Tameka and Shonne, they knew they had their family. Sherri loved being a wife, mother, sister, auntie, and friend. Sherri enjoyed lifting others up and always had an encouraging truth to share. Most importantly, Sherri loved the Lord. She and Skip were members of the First Baptist Church in Burns Flat, Oklahoma.

Sherri is preceded in death by her mother Mary Ann Atkinson, father James Arthur Atkinson, Mother and Father-in-law Patricia Ann and William Roy Price, Jr.; brother Edward Leroy McBrayer and sister Jamie Atkinson.

Left to cherish her memory are her loving husband William (Skip) Price, daughter Tamika Rochelle and son William Shonne all of the home; Joe McBrayer and wife Debra; Melody Crawford; Regina Labostrie; James Atkinson and wife Bobbi; Andrea McIntosh and husband Bobby; Keith Atkinson and wife Monique; Camille Phillips; Brother-in-law Ben Price and wife Sherri; Sister-in-law Kathy McNail and husband Keith, and a host of nieces, nephews, and other loved ones.

Lisa Howling Buffalo

Lisa Marie Howling Buffalo, 31, passed away Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at her home in Clinton.



Lisa was born March 14, 1992, in Stillwater, OK, a daughter of Mark and Nora Howling Buffalo Siler. Lisa was raised in Clinton, and attended the Indian First Baptist Church and The EDGE Church, was a member of the Clinton High School graduating class, and had been employed as a cashier at Braum's for a little bit. She enjoyed painting, reading, gaming, carving wood, loved loud music, and was very creative.

She is survived by three siblings: Susan Elizabeth Howling Buffalo of Clinton, Johnny Chavez Jr. of Drumright, OK, and Carlos Joe Chavez of Clinton; her mother Nora Howling Buffalo of Clinton, OK; cousin Lisa D. Fox, aunt Imo Gene Howling Buffalo, and aunt Stella Howling Buffalo. She is preceded in death by her father Mark David Siler and her cousin, Lelan Howling Buffalo and her cousin Tommy Butch Hemdon.



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Leona Hair

Leona Howlingwolf Hair was born May 30, 1959, to Asa Howlingwolf, Sr., and Dorothy (Little Raven) Howlingwolf in Clinton, OK and passed away Monday, July 3, 2023, in her Verdigris, OK home.



Leona was raised in Clinton and Arapaho, OK and graduated from Arapaho High School in 1977. She received a Soccer scholarship at Cameron University in Lawton, OK but declined. She attended and graduated from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, OK in 1988 with a degree in Allied Health. She moved to Claremore, OK in 1988 and began a career with Indian Health Services and worked in Medical Administration. She later operated a business out of her home, doing a transcript business.

She married James Hair in March 1989 in Tulsa, OK.

She was a member of the Cheyenne/Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, she was athletically inclined and enjoyed basketball, she ran in several 5 K's and played volleyball. In her younger years she enjoyed going to Indian dances and won several dancing competitions.

She is preceded in death by her parents, three brothers: Asa Howlingwolf, Jr, Wesley Howlingwolf, and Alman Howlingwolf and sister Susan One Feather.

She is survived by her former husband James Hair, Verdigris, OK, daughter Kateri Hair, Tulsa, OK and brother John Howlingwolf, Verdigris, OK.

She also has a grandson on the way and his name will be Daniel.

Tom Weichel

Thomas Edmund Weichel was born just south of Colony, Oklahoma, on November 24, 1942, to Edmund and Minnie Mabel (Sappington) Weichel and passed away on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City, having reached the age of 80 years, 7 months and 23 days.



Tom grew up working on the family farm and came to know Jesus at the age of 13 before graduating from Colony High School in 1958. Tom received a Bachelor's Degree in Math and Physics from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford in the spring of 1964, and that same year he married Elaine Francis (Willits) Weichel from Oney, OK.

Tom accepted an offer of employment with the National Aeronautics Space Association (NASA), and he and Elaine moved to Houston and made their home in Friendswood, Texas.

Tom worked on various unmanned and manned programs, including the Apollo Program which put men on the moon. Tom's last mission to work was Apollo 13 for which he was awarded the presidential medal of freedom for that team's efforts to return those astronauts to earth. Tom moved back to the Colony area to raise his family in the tradition of farming and ranching.

Tom also worked for Southwest Oklahoma Development Association and taught physics and math for the school-to-work program at Caddo Kiowa Technology Center.

Tom served the community through Colony Columbian Memorial Presbyterian Church, the Weatherford Hospital board for 23 years, and the Washita County Rural Water District #2 board for 46 years. Tom had an amazing ability to remember details about the family history and stories and authored a book on the Weichel family history which we all cherish.

Tom was preceded in death by his mother and father, Edmund and Minnie Mabel (Sappington) Weichel.

Tom is survived by his wife of 59 years Elaine Weichel, daughter Tammy and husband Tim Johnson of Atlanta, GA; son Thomas Jr. and wife Terri Weichel of Lucas, TX. Brother Jimmy Weichel and wife Jane of Colony, OK. Grandkids Michael and Ashley Johnson of Tulsa, OK, Britnee and husband Zack Ziegler of Carrollton, GA and Matthew Johnson of Atlanta, GA, John and Maddie Weichel of Atlanta, GA, Emily and Schuyler Logan of Grapevine, TX, Lizzie Weichel of Lucas, TX, and Annie Weichel of Lucas, TX. Great grandkids Landon, Liam and Brynleigh Johnson and Joyce Weichel.

Linda Carpenter

Linda Lucille (Wilhite) Carpenter was born February 6, 1943, to William Scott Wilhite and Burnice Irene (Burgess) Wilhite in Elk City, OK and passed away Tuesday, July 11, 2023, in the Corn Heritage Village Nursing Home in Weatherford, OK.



Linda was raised and attended school in Butler, OK. She married Bob Carpenter on May 6, 1960, in Clinton, OK. They farmed and raised cattle north of Arapaho, OK. Before her 50-year career as owner and operator of the Custer County Abstract office, she was employed at the Custer County Clerk's office, the Clinton Sale Barn and secretary for C.B. Graft, Attorney at Law.

She enjoyed cooking, going to ballgames and supporting her family in their events. She was also a long-time member of Kiwanis and served on the Arapaho School Board for numerous years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, daughter Pam Cabaniss, sister Margaret Ann Martin, and infant brother Billie Earl Wilhite.

She is survived by her husband Bob, of the home, son Randy Carpenter and wife Penny, Arapaho; daughter Lucretia Lockhart and husband Scott, Clinton, OK; son-in-law Riley Joe Cabaniss, Arapaho, OK.

She is also survived by eight grandchildren: Barry Carpenter and wife Jennifer, Colt Carpenter and wife Jessica, Randi Weatherly and husband Nathan, Morgan Runyan and husband Chase, Madison Williams and husband Jason, Carson Cabaniss and wife Cassidy, Brayden Lockhart and wife Sylvia and Mackie Francis and husband David. She has 17 great grandchildren: Jessalyn, Cade, Carli, Whit, Cameran, Coulson, Reese, Daphne, Caesan, Beckham, Hayes, Lincoln, Lennon, Madalin, Landry, Ivie, Ezrie, and two more on the way. She is also survived by a host of extended family, Friends, and business associates.

Gabino Martinez

Gabino A. Martinez, age 72, was born on February 19, 1951, to Francisco Martinez Castillo and Maria Aguilar Garcia in La Canada de Pastores, Cardenas, San Luis Potosi, Mexico and passed away Friday, July 14, 2023, in Southwest Integris Hospital in Oklahoma City.



Gabino was raised in La Canada de Pastores, San Luis Potosi, Mexico, and moved to the United States of America at the age of 27 to work and help the family. While growing up in Mexico, his love of farming started at the young age of six. Upon moving to Houston, Texas, he continued working in farming. Later in life he worked at Collins & Aikman factory and the oilfield.

He married Maria Mercedes Juarez at the young age of 23.

He made his home in Clinton with his loving companion Maria Elena Rivera of 35 years. Their love of life took them on many travels, dancing, gardening, and meeting new friends.

He was blessed with three loving children: Jesus Martinez, Alfonso Reynaga Martinez, and Santa Reynaga Martinez.

He accepted Christ at Hammon Community Fellowship Church, where Pastor Ivey always made him feel welcome and at home. He loved watching WWE wrestling, cowboy movies, rodeos and going to casinos. He loved to visit family, especially his grandkids and was so proud of their skills in sports, especially soccer and baseball.

He was lovingly referred to as Honey, Apa, Flaco, Wuelo, Gaby, Gambino, PawPaw, Suegro, and Senor.

He is preceded in death by his parents Francisco Martinez Castillo and Maria Aguilar Garcia; sisters: Silvestra, Amalia; ex-wife Maria Mercedes Juarez; grandson Alfonso Daniel Reynaga; and granddaughter Ciara Dawn Rivera

He is survived by two daughters: Santa Reynaga Martinez (Sergio), Georgina Miramontes (Anthony); four sons: Jesus Martinez (Kristi), Alfonso Reynaga Martinez (Salome), Lee Paz Rivera (Jacque) and Israel Michael Rivera (Michelle); three brothers: Mario Martinez (Antonia), Francisco (Atanasia), Felipe (Rosa Maria); four sisters: Maria Martinez Tovar (Angel), Amada Martinez Gonzales (Jesus), Teresa Martinez Aguilar (Esteban), Reyna Martinez Aguilar (Joquin).

He is also survived by 14 grandchildren: Shanna (Owen), Jesus Jr., Kelli (Preston), Christian (Celeste), Tyler, Esteban, Austin, Matthew, Amber, John (Marin), Zakari (Haley), Jude (Jazzy), Ashli (Dillon), Raelee; 19 great-grandchildren: Jayden, Lance, Tayler, Kapri, Savannah, Lucian, George, Kaylee, Zachary, Taylor, Brynlea, Tyson, Talon, Brystil, Zella, Jeremiah, Jayceon, Cory, Elena, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.



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Yukon Public Schools and SWOSU Provide Updates to Academic Partnership Changes



Yukon Public Schools (YPS) and Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) have announced changes in their academic partnership that provides higher education opportunities in Canadian County.

YPS and SWOSU are partners in providing Oklahoma students with access to quality programs of higher education via concurrent coursework as well as courses offered to YPS employees. This partnership began in August 2020 and has grown substantially. The partnership has resulted in several YPS employees completing both undergraduate and graduate degrees, and hundreds of YPS students completing college courses while still in high school.

In 2021, YPS and SWOSU agreed to expand their partnership by reserving dedicated space for SWOSU in the YPS College & Career Center; the Center was approved by the YPS patrons in a Fall 2021 bond election.

YPS and SWOSU leaders have worked closely towards this goal over the last year.

Unfortunately, economic volatility combined with inflation and supply chain disruptions have dramatically increased the construction costs associated with the YPS College & Career Center. In the interests of prioritizing students and instruction over facilities, YPS and SWOSU have now mutually agreed to forgo the inclusion of a dedicated SWOSU space within the YPS College & Career Center.

“The partnership between Yukon Public Schools and SWOSU is of tremendous value to our students, and we look forward to its continued expansion,” said YPS Superintendent Dr. Jason Simeroth. “The realities of the costs involved with the College & Career Center must be faced, and I thank our friends at SWOSU for working with us to provide our students with an accessible, comprehensive opportunity at higher education. This partnership has been and will be anchored in what is best for the students YPS and SWOSU are so privileged to mutually serve.”

SWOSU will continue to serve as YPS’s exclusive preferred provider of in-person instruction and coursework. SWOSU faculty and staff will continue to work with YPS faculty and staff in YPS facilities as has been done since the partnership began in 2020.

“SWOSU remains committed to providing Canadian County residents with access to a high-caliber, workforce-aligned program of higher education,” said SWOSU President Dr. Diana R. Lovell. “It is our great honor to collaborate with YPS administrators, faculty, and staff to help ensure student success.”

For more information, please contact Ms. Desarae Whitmer, YPS, at desarae.witmer@yukonps.com, 405-354-6608, or Mr. Garret King, SWOSU, at garret.king@swosu.edu, 580-774-3766.

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LORI BOYD
 SWOSU Interim Administration VP

Provided by Regional University System of Oklahoma (RUSO)

SWOSU officials have announced that Lori Boyd of Yukon will be the next Vice President for Administration & Finance at SWOSU. Boyd will succeed Brenda Burgess, who will retire effective December 21st. The appointment is subject to confirmation from the Board of Regents of the Regional University System of Oklahoma (RUSO).

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HIGHER GROUND

The Grace of Forgiveness



Jim Morrison

On one occasion Jesus was invited into the home of a Pharisee named Simon. In the culture of that day, meetings or meals were more public than private. If the door was open, anyone could come in and listen to the discussions. The food was on a low table. Those eating would recline on the floor with their feet behind them.

People were still trying to figure out who Jesus was. The Pharisees were the religious leaders of the day. They could be described as:

- (1) The Proper: keep all the rules, go to church every Sunday.
- (2) Separists: Hangout only with the proper people who look and act like them.

(3) Experts: always had the right answer. They thought they only had the closest place to God.

We don't know how Jesus came to be at the dinner. He always goes where he is wanted. Simon had a lot of questions about Jesus, so he invited this man who had such a large following. He did not provide water so Jesus could wash his feet, so he was not a gracious host which suggests that it was not a friendly visit.

Then a strange thing happened. A woman, apparently known to be a woman of the street, appears. She breaks a bottle of perfume, a costly ointment, and pours it on Jesus feet. They she lets down her hair, another culturally no-no in the day. But she uses her hair to wash Jesus feet. While Simon had socially snubbed Jesus, she risked all to express her extravagant love for him. Jesus saw her heart, and as some suggests, acknowledges his forgiveness that had previously been done in a private setting. Perhaps she had heard him preach and say, “Come unto me, all you who are weak and heavy laden and I will give you rest. She was a broken woman who saw the love of Jesus and responded in submission.

Jesus saw not the shape of her body but the shape of her heart. Simon had welcomed Jesus into his home but not into his heart.

The woman falls down at Jesus feet in total submission. She was aware of her sin. Simon was only aware of his self-righteousness.

The question we must ask ourselves is: (1) Thinking I am better because of eternal blessings. (2) I do not rush to give Jesus praise. I'm too seldom broken. (3) I point out other's faults too quickly (4) I neglect opportunities to serve God. (5) I want more information than transformation.

The key to spiritual growth is not committing fewer sins. It is the recognition of how great a sinner I am.

AD 55. Paul says, “I am the least of all the apostles. AD 60 Paul says, “I am the least of all the believers.” A.D 64 Paul says, “ am the greatest of all sinners.

C.S. Lewis said, “ The closer you get to the light the more you see the stains on your shirt.” I might add that my wife is usually the first to tell me.

The kind of person Jesus welcomes is the one who loves him in gratitude for his forgiveness.

We would do well to read Psalm 51, David's great cry for mercy and forgiveness after the prophet Nathan had pointed out his great sin with Bathsheba.

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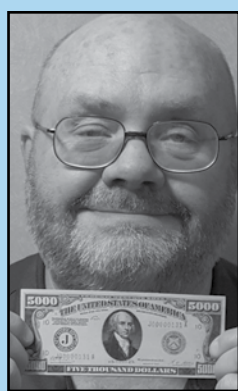
LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director

"The Coin Guy"

An Article
All About Silver



Trent Boesen

On July 26, 1963, weekly newspaper Coin World published a story about the rising price of silver.

This was important news as the half dollar, quarter, and dime all contained 90% silver and 10% copper. It was noted the price of silver had increased to \$1.29 an ounce! It broke a 44-year record and was a danger point for the U.S. Government.

The price of silver in 1963 was nearing the point where the value of silver in coins would soon be more than the face value. This would encourage "profiteers" to melt the coins and sell the bullion on the open market. The Government had to change the metal content of its silver coins to prevent them from being melted.

Get more money for your coin collection by calling The Coin Guy 580-890-8076. Thanks for your support.



Jena Skarda / WOCS

Students return to Western Oklahoma Christian School (WOCS) on August 10, and teacher Cher Brown is already preparing her classroom. The school has campuses in Clinton, Weatherford, and Elk City. Applications available at www.wocs.org.



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In their most recent meeting, the Weatherford Rotary Club heard from Garrett King about the role of OETA, PBS, and educational media.



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WEATHERFORD / P&Z - It will be October before the Weatherford Planning & Zoning Commission acts on a proposed conditional use request to allow an AT&T communication tower to be constructed at the Rader Park West addition on North Lyle Road. AT&T is seeking a new 145-foot communication tower that will be used for both 4G-LTE and 5G service for that section of Weatherford. The tower is currently pending FAA approval.

CLINTON / NEW SCHOOL - Plans will be delivered soon to Clinton School District officials to construct a new middle school, says Superintendent Tyler Bridges. The estimated \$24 million middle school building will be able to hold 550 students. The project is expected to be completed in time for the 2025-26 school year in August.

BECKHAM / RAMIREZ - A trial has been set for October 11th and 12th in Beckham County District Court for a Mangum man charged with misdemeanor negligent homicide after a fatal accident. Court records allege that 30-year-old James Ramirez was driving a semi and failed to yield at an uncontrolled intersection, which led to a collision and the death of Travis Lee Gartner. Ramirez was reportedly operating "for hire" without any authority, did not have a Department of Transportation number, and was not insured to operate a commercial vehicle in a commerce status.

CLINTON / CAPITAL - Clinton Superintendent Tyler Bridges updated the School Board on district construction projects. Bridges says the district did sustain some wind damage recently at Nance Elementary when an unsupported wall fell. A few beams must be remade due to the damage.

WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!
or **HAPPY Day TO YOU!**

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


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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. OK 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@OKpa.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 July 26 - Kathy Badalamente, Billy Bailey, Lance Carney, Jennifer Deffenbaugh, T. Kay Harrelson, Sherrill Lovelace, Joey Meyers, Josh Pitchford, Lisa Seibold, Dale Snider; **July 27** - Nicole Curtis, Bert Goodwin, Rylan Moore, Raul Perez Jr., Michelle Russel, Skyler Weaselbear; **July 28** - Kasey Barton, Pamela Burton, Brian Exenia, Brad Fry, Kalie Kerth, Mattie Mortimer, Jonathan Pigg, Rick Webster; **July 29** - Rene Bickle, Ryan Folks, Cammie Hodges, Dana Matlock, Lindey Smith, Aimee Stobbe, Stacy Twins; **July 30** - Tommy Holt, Ruth Mejia, Don Mullennix, Chester Walker; **July 31** - Carol Sue Almon, Billy Gentry, Robbie Gilbert, Jerry Hardin, Loyd Lasley, Russell Lee, Sherri Martin, Kassidi Rice, Rosa Sinclair, Eric Stoney, Ray Sutton, Daniel Tallbear, Barbie Trebay, Bryce Waldrop; **August 1** - Todd Brunner, Jennifer DeGarmo, Ally Dobbs, McKenna Gentry, Joey Lacy, Beranna Leon, Jamie Moody, Larry Joe Scott, Christian Sharp, Randy Sloan.

SPORTS

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JAMES BAGWELL
ASSISTANT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH



James Bagwell

Bagwell Joins Women's Basketball as Assistant

SWOSU Women's Basketball Head Coach Jeff Zinn has announced James Bagwell as the new assistant coach for the Lady Bulldogs.

He replaces Heather Davis who recently left the program to pursue a head coaching opportunity.

Coach Bagwell is no stranger to Weatherford having spent the previous two years as an assistant coach for the men's program. He played a part in the 2022 postseason run that saw SWOSU crowned as Great American Conference Tournament Champions which earned them a spot in the NCAA Tournament for just the second time in Division II history.

Bagwell began his collegiate coaching career at Oklahoma Christian University as a graduate assistant after a four-year playing career at OC. He has accumulated five-plus years of additional experience across AAU ball.

Bagwell has been a coach and club director, spanning from grade school kids to the high school level.

Alongside his current coaching commitments, Bagwell has also trained youth, college, and overseas professionals on an individual basis which he began doing in 2017.

During his time as a student-athlete, he earned Academic All-Conference status in three consecutive seasons.

A native of Edmond, Oklahoma, Bagwell holds two degrees from Oklahoma Christian – a bachelor's in Sports Wellness & Recreational Management and a master's in Business Administration with an emphasis in Leadership.

He resides in Weatherford and is engaged to his fiancée, Kait. The two are set to get married next summer.

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SWOSU Volleyball Adds Five Players for 2023 Campaign

SWOSU Volleyball Head Coach Josh Collins has announced the addition of five student-athletes who have signed on to the program for the upcoming 2023 season.

Three hail from the high school ranks while the other two transfer in from NCAA institutions.

"We are extremely excited to be adding these five pieces to our program this fall," said Collins. "All of these student-athletes are very talented and will be equally important additions to the community here in Weatherford. We're ready to get them in Bulldog Blue and get to work!"

Hailey Smith, previously at Nova Southeastern University, transferred in at the start of the spring semester last season.

The other four recruits will be ready to hit the ground running with the team in August.

Smith brings experience at the Division II level but will still be classified as a sophomore with three seasons left to produce for the Dawgs.

SWOSU's other transfer, Keana Holloway, comes to Weatherford from one of the top Division I programs in the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) – New Mexico State University – and will be a junior this fall.

SWOSU brings in a pair of local high school standouts – Jenna Houk from Deer Creek High School in Edmond and Libbie Hughs from Yukon High School.

The third freshman, Jada Permenter, is from three hours west down I-40 in Amarillo, Texas and is a two-time state champion at Bushland High School.

The five listed will join nine returning players from the 2022 roster. The upcoming 2023 season begins August 31 where SWOSU will take part in two tournaments before finally hosting a home match on September 21.

Quotes from Coach Josh Collins

Jenna Houk • Freshman • Outside Hitter

Jenna is coming to SWOSU from a highly competitive 6A Oklahoma Volleyball school. She has played at the highest level of competition in the state for 4 years and will look to translate that experience to SWOSU. Jenna is a 6 rotation outside who will increase our athleticism. We cannot wait to see the impact Jenna has on this community and this program.

Jada Permenter • Freshman • Libero

Jada is entering our program as a decorated High school Libero from Bushland High. During her time at Bushland she was able to win two state titles and one runner-up. Not only is Jada a high level athlete, she will also add IQ and experience to our backcourt. We are excited for Jada to become a member of Bulldog Nation.

Libbie Hughs • Freshman • Libero

Libbie is a great local addition who enters her freshman campaign with tons of experience at the libero position. She has a strong, natural passing platform and is sure to impact our program in all areas, but especially in serve receive.

Hailey Smith • Sophomore • Middle Hitter

We were lucky enough to have Hailey transfer at semester. We had the opportunity to see what she brings to the table this past spring. Hailey has great size and will add another dimension to our block. She is a unique transfer in that she brings in experience from the DII level but will still only be classified as a sophomore.

Keana Holloway • Junior • Libero

Keana comes to us from one of the top programs in the DI Western Athletic Conference. She is a solid defender who can pass serve, but possibly her greatest attribute is her ability to keep opponents out of system from the service line. Her experience will be useful to better the dynamic of our program.

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SWOSU Junior Golf Camp Continues for Ages 12-17, Ages 7-11 Hit the Links July 24-26



Alex Shook / WW

Coach Brad Fleetwood (featured second from the left) explains to his four high school men how advanced golf lessons typically work, stressing that not every "rule" of golf is necessary to know at a moment's notice and that ideas such as form, swing, and techniques will always be the focus of golf lessons.



Making up a smaller portion of attending campers than the boys, all girls ages 12-17 were combined into one group, where they practiced chipping their golf balls onto the green. Seen left is a "target" with five zones that campers were tasked to land their shots onto.

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Last Chance to Register for Elk City High School Reunion

Time is running out to pre-register for this year's Elk City school reunion. Registration is open until July 27. The reunion will be held at the Elk City Convention Center this August 4 and 5. Of those students who attended or graduated through the 2003 school year, over 400 have already registered. There will be food and drink, catered, lots of visiting, and the Slim Pickens band, providing entertainment both evenings until midnight. Rick Nagle is organizing a golf scramble for 1:00 p.m. on August 4th. For registration information, please call Linda Cook at 580-799-0432 or Basil Weatherly at 580-821-2795.

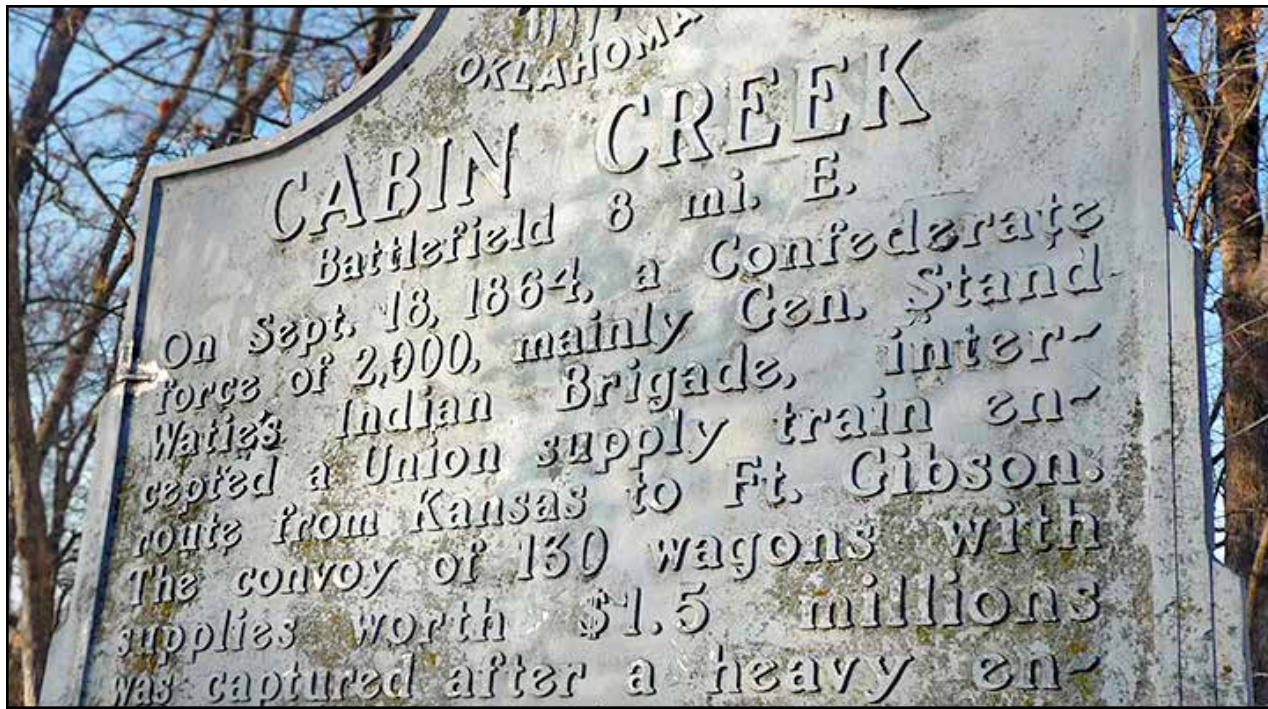
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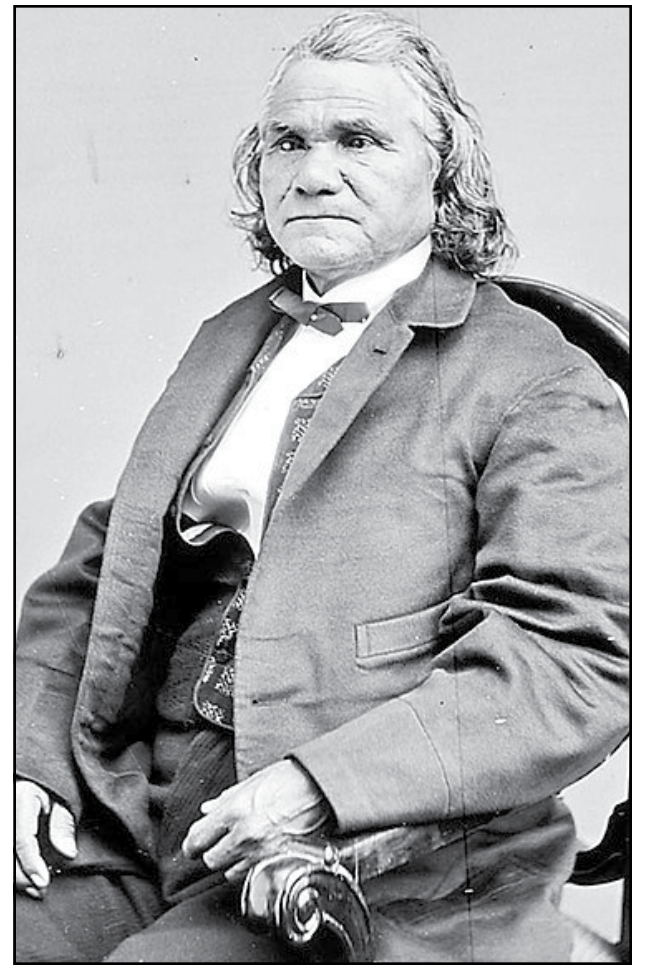
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Oklahoma History: The Last Major Civil War Battle in Indian Territory



Courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society

Pictured Above: This marker was placed 8 miles away from the Cabin Creek Battlefield in 1950 by the Oklahoma Historical Society and the State Highway Commission.



Pictured Right: Confederate General and divisive Cherokee leader Stand Watie was one of the combatants in the second major engagement at Cabin Creek. Watie would lead his Indian Brigade to capture a Union convoy of 130 wagons at Cabin Creek in the Confederacy's greatest raid in Indian Territory.

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Cabin Creek Battlefield was the site of two major engagements between the Union and the Confederate forces during the Civil War. The battlefield is located where the Texas Road crosses Cabin Creek, near the town Big Cabin, Oklahoma. The crossing lay along the Texas Road, a historic trail used by explorers, pioneers, herders, and traders. The trails popularity for transport of goods led many armies and Forts to utilize it for transportation of military supplies, like those from Fort Scott, Kansas to Fort Gibson, Indian Territory. Cabin Creek saw its fair share of skirmishes, but it's two engagements were exciting moments that could tip the scales during the Civil War.

The first major engagement between the Union and the Confederacy at Cabin Creek Battlefield took place on July 1st & 2nd, 1863. The first battle was an attempt by Confederate forces to capture a Federal supply wagon train. The Confederate troops failed to stop the Union's supply train, which played a pivotal role in the Battle of Honey Springs later that month. We discussed the impact that battle had on the war as a whole.

The Oklahoma Historical Society noted that, "The Battle of Honey Springs was in both size and importance the Gettysburg of the Civil War in Indian Territory". Honey Springs solidified the Union's hold on Arkansas and marked the top of Confederate forces power west of the Mississippi River.

The second major engagement at Cabin Creek Battlefield took place on September 18th & 19th, 1864. This time, the Confederate raid on another Union supply train was successful – majorly successful. A Confederate force of 2,000 led by Gen. Stand Watie's Indian Brigade were able to secure the convoy of 130 wagons full of supplies after a grueling fight. The supply train's mules and wagons were a great asset for any army and the supplies they carried were listed at over \$1.5 million dollars. However, the victory was short-lived because Confederate forces in other parts of the nation were being pushed back, and the snowball effect from the Battle of Honey Springs left the Confederate foothold in Indian Territory shaky at best. The capture of the supply train came too late, and it failed to have a major strategic impact on the outcome of the war.

A portion of the land where the two battles were fought was purchased from Joseph Martin, who built up a ranch of over 100,000 acres named Pensacola over the period of 1940 – 1960. In 1958, 10 acres at the heart of Cabin Creek Battlefield were purchased and finalized by 1961 after raising funds. That same year, the land was donated to the Oklahoma Historical Society. The Vinita Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) were responsible for purchasing the land. In 1964, the Chapter donated a monument for the 100th anniversary and the Oklahoma Historical Society created a circle drive with small monuments to commemorate the battle positions of the forces.

During 1992, the OHS and Grand Lake Chamber of Commerce held a reenactment of the battles and had around 15,000 visitors participate. Its success led the event to be scheduled every three years and the park to be cleaned up from vandalization during waning years. In 2011, the Civil War Trust bought more land around the battlefield, and today, the park covers most of the original battlefield of the Cabin Creek. The Park is open 365 days a year and continues to host reenactments every three years.

SWOSU Football Camp Sessions Begin, Hosted by Interim Head Coach



Chad Gray / WW

SWOSU's Interim Head Coach Ruzell McCoy Jr. addresses parents at his SWOSU Football Camp for high school freshmen through college sophomores.



Chad Gray / WW

Campers perform warm-up drills on FlexChem Field at SWOSU. Coach Ruzell McCoy Jr. stands out of frame to the right, tracking students' progress.



Chad Gray / WW

Campers huddle up around Coach McCoy before breaking off into position training groups.

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