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Wright Media Announces Our Spring Livestream Broadcast Schedule



While the weather may have not made up it's mind on whether spring is here, Wright Media's spring block of scheduled broadcasts should reassure folks in Western Oklahoma that the cold days of winter are quickly fading in the rearview mirror.

Thursday March 28th through Saturday March 30th baseball teams from around Western Oklahoma will face off in the annual I-40 baseball tournament. The tournament, which pits several teams from around Western Oklahoma, will be hosted by Clinton High School and Weatherford High School with games

happening at both of the respective hosts home fields. Wright Media will be broadcasting all of the games on Red Tornado TV and Weatherford Eagle TV at Wright.Media. Follow 95.5 FM The Coyote's social media for more information regarding schedules and times for each game.

On April 11th, 12th, and 13th Wright Media will be dusting off our boots and donning our best cowboy hats for the broadcast of the 51st Annual SWOSU Rodeo at the Don Mitchell Rodeo Arena in Weatherford. Wright Media will be broadcasting each night's performance

on Bulldog TV on Wright.Media which will feature some of the best Cowboys and Cowgirls in all of college rodeo.

That same weekend on Saturday April 13th, Wright Media will be taking you to the country-filled streets of Nashville for Weatherford High School's Promenade. Check out all the cool cars and slick get-ups on Eagle TV in Wright.Media.

During the month of May Wright Media will also be broadcasting graduations for schools around the area. For more information regarding dates and schools be sure to check 95.5FM The Coyote's Facebook page.

THURSDAY 3/28

AT CLINTON
10:00 CLINTON VS. FAIRVIEW
12:30 FAIRVIEW VS. KINGFISHER
3:00 KINGFISHER VS. WOODWARD
5:30 CLINTON VS. WOODWARD

AT WEATHERFORD
10:00 ELGIN VS. TUTTLE
12:30 TUTTLE VS. CASADY
3:00 ELK CITY VS. CALUMET
5:30 WEATHERFORD VS. CALUMET

FRIDAY 3/29

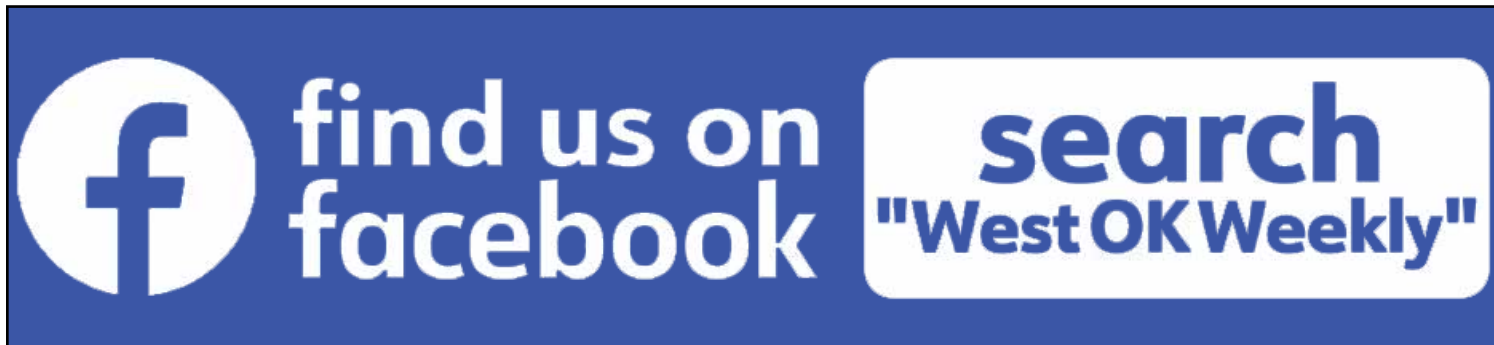
AT CLINTON
10:00 CLINTON VS. OKARCHE
12:30 OKARCHE VS. ELGIN
3:00 ELGIN VS. ELK CITY
5:30 WOODWARD VS. FAIRVIEW

AT WEATHERFORD
10:00 CALUMET VS. TUTTLE
12:30 KINGFISHER VS. BYNG
3:00 BYNG VS. WEATHERFORD
5:30 WEATHERFORD VS. CASADY

SATURDAY 3/30

AT CLINTON
10:00 CLINTON VS. CALUMET
12:30 FAIRVIEW VS. ELGIN
3:00 TUTTLE VS. KINGFISHER

AT WEATHERFORD
10:00 CASADY VS. WOODWARD
12:30 ELK CITY VS. CASADY
3:00 OKARCHE VS. ELK CITY
5:30 WEATHERFORD VS. OKARCHE





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Jeff Little

Jeff Harlon Little was born August 27, 1938, North of Weatherford, Oklahoma to JJ Little and Bessie Robertson Little and entered his heavenly home on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at his home in Oklahoma City, OK, at the age of 85 years, 6 months, and 15 days.



In 1955, Jeff joined the Marine Corps at the age of 17, where he served 5 years. He spent the remainder of his life as an owner operator truck driver. Jeff married Vera McVey and had two sons JJ and Clifford, making their home in Oklahoma City. In 1988, Jeff married Barbara Little. Jeff enjoyed spending his time on the road in his truck and spending time with family and friends – especially his grandchildren.

Those left to continue his legacy include his two sons JJ Little of Palmer, Alaska; Clifford and Laura Little of Newark Valley, New York; Daughter Carol and Earl Thomas of Stillwater; Eva Hood of Oklahoma City; Daughter in-law Tamara Little; ten grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in passing by his wife Barbara, his parents JJ and Bessie Little; Aunt and Uncle Jesse and Sam McCorkle.

Don Christensen

Don Chris Christensen was born to Jack and Alice (Gorrell) Christensen on September 19, 1956, in Thomas, Oklahoma and passed away Friday, March 15, 2024, at his home in Custer City, at the age of 67 years, 5 months and 26 days.



Don was raised west of Thomas and graduated with the Thomas High School Class of 1974, and after high school he attended OSU for one year. He was married to Charlotte Becker on January 9, 1976 and they made their home in Thomas where he farmed and ranched. Don worked at W.W. Manufacturing before retiring. Don enjoyed hunting in south Texas and had gone with Matt Smalley to Africa two times. Don also enjoyed spending time with his granddaughters at the livestock shows and watching them succeed.

Don is survived by his daughters; Kelly and husband, James J. Maddox, of Thomas and Casey and Michelle Christensen, of Oklahoma City; Brother, Roger Dean Christensen, of Thomas; and Granddaughters, Shaylee and Ashlyn. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Rolan Christensen.

Sheryl Franco

Sheryl Ann Franco was born February 1, 1955, the daughter of Clinton and Ellen Viola (Stinebeck) Howenstine in Oklahoma City, OK and passed away Sunday, March 10, 2024, in Clinton, OK.



Sheryl was raised in Arapaho where she attended school. She married Ronnie Cryer in 1973 and later married Chuck Dungan in 1993, and then married Joe Franco on December 31, 2001, in Wheeler, TX.

Sheryl was afflicted with an eye disease and became blind and worsened the older she got. She had a passion for those that were suffering from the same challenges that she had incurred. She became very active in the Western Oklahoma group for the blind. She and other members helped to raise money to help blind students in grade school through the 12th grade for students to get supplies that they might need. They had special dinners, raffles, and other fund raisers to support their efforts.

When growing up as a child she was involved in rainbows, brownies, the 4-H Club and as a preteen she was in tap dance classes and ballroom dancing.

She is a member of the Arapaho Baptist Church, and presently a member of triad, and women's Republican Group.

She enjoyed reading the Bible listening to basketball games on the radio, she likes music, motorcycles, horses, and water skiing. Her passion was spending time with her grandchildren and fur baby, Scarlet.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband, Joe, of the home, daughter, Sabrina Huddleston, Clinton, two sons, Jason Cryer and wife, Johnna, OKC, OK, and Geoff Humphers and wife, Tara, Ada, OK and brother, Alan Howenstine, OKC, OK.

She is also survived by eight grandchildren, Clint, Lauryn, Lyndi, Mason, Karson, Rome, Riley and Lilly and two great-grandchildren, Brooks and Breck and a special friend, Tommy Caviness. Clinton.

Bill Schwartz

Billy Dwayne Schwartz was born on December 9, 1946 in Clinton, Oklahoma and passed away at home in Weatherford, Oklahoma on March 18, 2024 at the age of 77 years, 3 months and 9 days.



Bill was born to John and Pauline Eva (Korfman) Schwartz. He was raised and attended school in Butler, Oklahoma graduating in 1965.

While in high school, he met the love of his life, Kay Frazier. They were married on August 4, 1967 and enjoyed 56 years of wedded bliss.

Together they had three children: Mark, Kristin, and Brandon.

He attended Oklahoma Panhandle State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Arts in 1973.

He taught school in Turpin, Oklahoma, for three years before becoming self-employed as a home builder.

He later owned and managed rental property in Weatherford; his last endeavor was establishing the S&S Mini Storage.

He displayed his expert carpentry skills in his multiple homes for his household, extended family, and others in the area.

From a young age, Bill enjoyed fishing, hunting, and being outdoors. Bill spent many happy hours in the boat trying to outsmart the fish. During his fishing years, he developed life long friends who shared his love for the sport.

He was on the water whenever he got the chance and loved to fry up the fruits of his labor for family and friends. Bill also enjoyed the sport of hunting. He had several bird dogs and each generation was named Snowball.

He was extremely proud to become a father and grandfather. With each new child, his love grew. Along with his children, his grandchildren and great grandchildren were his pride and joy.

His family was the most important thing in his life. He lit up whenever he was with them and loved celebrating all of their birthdays and accomplishments.

Bill is survived by his wife, Kay, of the home; son Mark Schwartz of Weatherford, Oklahoma; daughter Kristin Burlison of Pampa, Texas; son Brandon Schwartz and wife Heather of Weatherford, Oklahoma; grandchildren: Madison Schwartz, Matthew Schwartz, Dustin and McKenlie (Schwartz) Walker; Callin Burlison, Sawyer Burlison, Will Schwartz, and Libby Schwartz; great-grandchildren Ayden and Axl Schwartz; sister Norma Woods; and a host of nephews, nieces, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Clea.

Bill bravely fought cancer for 25 years and faced each day with dignity and courage. Special thanks to Dr. Abby Bova, Rita Matthews, Dr. Blake Badgett, RN Amy Hyde, and Shepherd Home Health & Hospice who all provided incredible, compassionate care on his journey.

Garfield Hamilton

Garfield West Hamilton was born February 7, 1945, to Alfred Hamilton and Juanita (Heap-of-Birds) Hamilton in Wichita, Kansas, and passed away Wednesday, March 13, 2024, in the Winfield Veterans Center in Winfield, Kansas.



Garfield was raised in Wichita, KS and graduated from Wichita High School in 1963.

He continued his education as the Haskell Indian Nations University. He met his soon-to-be wife, Josephine Whiteskunk.

He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force February 7, 1968, and served in Vietnam for one year, February 1970, until February 1971. He served four years in the armed forces and was honorably discharged in 1972.

He was employed as an electrician by Boeing Aircraft in Kansas.

He has made his homes in Kansas; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and Weatherford, Oklahoma.

He was a member of the American Legion and the Veteran of Foreign Wars; he enjoyed playing competitive pool and bowling.

He is preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Robert Hamilton, and Fenton Hamilton.

He is survived by his son, Garfield Lee Hamilton, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and daughter, Garnita Hamilton, Weatherford, Oklahoma, and sister, Theda Hamilton, Weatherford, Oklahoma, and brother, Norman Hamilton, of Florida.

He is also survived by several grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other family and friends.

Jackie Haynes

Jackie Marshall Haynes was born June 21, 1936, in Seymour, TX to Mike Grady and Eula Mae (Rogers) Haynes and passed away March 14, 2024, at his home in Hydro, at the age of 87 years, 8 months and 23 days.



Jackie would be the seventh child of nine children, consisting of four boys and five girls born into the Haynes family. Jackie's father, Mike, provided for his family as a barber with his shop located behind their home and Eula Mae as was custom back in the day, spent her days cooking cleaning and sewing for her large family.

In 1953, at the ripe old age of 17-years, Jackie began working for the Swenson ranch, near Throckmorton, TX. After spending five years on the ranch, the United States Army drafted Jackie. For the next two years Jackie served his country. While on leave in the Army Jackie met the love of his life at a dance in Paducah, TX. Joyce Jordan, a beautiful and petite 15-year-old walked into the door and immediately caught Jackie's attention. So much that Jackie announced to his friend that he was going to marry that girl!

A few short months later, and several hitch-hiking trips from Arkansas to see Joyce, the couple were married August 21, 1959. Their first son of three, Jackie Dean was born in 1960 while Jackie was stationed in Maryland. Jackie received a letter from his mother-in-law informing him that he was a dad. It wasn't until six-months later that he would be able to meet his first born. In 1962, their second son, Mitchell Lee was born, and their third son, Terry Wayne would make his appearance in 1963 just one year and two months after Mitchell.

While Jackie Dean and Mitchell came into the world with little to no flare the same cannot be said for Terry. At the time of Terry's birth, Jackie was working on the Rafter O Ranch in Vega, Tx. Jackie and Joyce along with four or five other ranch families were gathered together playing the board game Wa-Hoo at the LS Ranch when Joyce suddenly went into labor. Jackie along with a few of the other men decided the best thing to do was take Joyce to the nearest hospital located in Vega, 25 miles away. When they arrived at the hospital the only Doctor available was drunk and passed out. Unable to wake the inebriated Doctor the men noticed an ambulance next door parked behind the fire station.

After loading Joyce into the ambulance Jackie and one of his partners in crime, stole the ambulance and headed to Hereford, TX which was the next closest hospital. Driving at times over 90 mph the two had neglected to secure the gurney on which Joyce lay. Much to their dismay with each turn, stop, lane switch ect., the gurney would slide around in the back! After making the 35-mile trip in record time the trio arrived at the hospital and 15 minutes later Terry made his entrance into the world!

Jackie loved being a Cowboy and was good at it. Whether working and branding cattle, breaking colts or mending fences Jackie loved the ranch life. Over the next several years Jackie and his young family continued their adventures on several different ranches in the Texas Panhandle. Feeling the need to make more money for his young family Jackie made the hard decision to take a job with a powerline company. While the money was good, Jackie missed the ranch life.

After four years with the powerline company Jackie's wishes came true, after a casual conversation with an acquaintance he learned of an opening for a Ranch Manager on the Donoha Ranch located in Henryetta, OK. Shortly thereafter the Haynes family were loaded up on their way to Henryetta where they would spend the next four years on the Donoha Ranch.

While on the ranch Jackie and Joyce would welcome their last child and only daughter Deann into the family. As you can imagine the Haynes household was filled with chaos most days with four children under the the age of eight, three of whom were boys, all within a three and a half year age difference.

This coming August, Jackie and Joyce would have celebrated 65 year of marriage. Together the couple stood side-by-side surviving all the ups and downs life threw at them. In addition to their four children and their spouses, they have 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren with number 14 on the way. Always remember, "you only live once, but if you do it right, that's enough!"

Jackie was preceded in death by granddaughter, Kamber Lucas-Doback.

He is survived by his wife Joyce; sister Becky Goodwin and husband Sonny; brother Ray Lynn Haynes, sisters-in-law: Jean Harvey and Linda Jordan Kinney; sons: Jackie Haynes and wife Ladonna, Hydro; Mitchell Haynes and wife Dee, Hydro; and Terry Haynes, Faye; daughter: Deanne Lucas and husband Mitch, Ardmore; grandchildren: Rowdy Haynes; Melissa Stewart and husband Reno; Dual Haynes and wife Bri; Kirsten Lucas; Brody Haynes and wife Taylor; Dancie Murray; Dylan Lucas; Tory Haynes; Ty Lucas, and Hattie Haynes.

He is also survived by 14 great-grandchildren: Maisie, Ridge, River, Maverick, Kylo, Suede, Sunny, Kaiden Haynes; Kaizly and Kalli Jackson; Owen and Kodi Stewart; Grayson Doback; and Beckett Murray, as well as countless nieces, nephews, and friends.

Cloudy H: 55° L: 31° Wednesday	Sunny H: 65° L: 50° Thursday	Partly Cloudy H: 75° L: 53° Friday	Partly Cloudy H: 80° L: 60° Saturday	Mostly Cloudy H: 81° L: 62° Sunday	Partly Cloudy H: 80° L: 48° Monday	Mostly Sunny H: 62° L: 39° Tuesday
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Courtesy Connections Food & Resource Center

Josh and Sarah Adkinson, owners of Daisy Exchange Weatherford, filled Connections' warehouse with their retail, brought themselves and their employees to work, and hosted their yearly garage sale last weekend. Josh recently presented Eddie Bennett, Connections Asst. Director, with a check for \$3,500.

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Courtesy Connections Food & Resource Center

During spring break, athletes from Weatherford High School and Junior High's track teams generously dedicated their time to volunteer at Connections Food & Resource Center.



Courtesy J. Boone Clemmons / SWOSU

A group of 16 students and five staff/faculty members from SWOSU recently participated in a tour of Boeing facilities in Oklahoma City. The tour provided an invaluable opportunity for students to gain insights into career pathways within the aerospace and defense industry.

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HIGHER GROUND

Thy Kingdom Come...



When Jesus spoke about the Kingdom of God, most of his followers were certain it referred to an earthly empire which he would establish. That was their only reference point. That was the only kingdom they knew anything about. They were tired of being ruled by Rome and its rigid law.

They were convinced that in and through Christ the might of Rome would be shattered and they would be free again. That is why they were so confused and shattered when he was crucified.

But Jesus was talking about another kind of kingdom. When Jesus used the phrase "Thy Kingdom Come" in the Lord's prayer he was asking the Father to establish His Kingdom, His Lordship in the hearts and lives of man. This is true for us as humans today. It is to invite God to set up His

government, his sovereignty in our lives.

It is a simple statement to make and we do so glibly, often without thinking of what we are asking. But if I'm honest I have to admit if I seriously ask God to establish his rule in my life there will be a major confrontation on several levels. There is a conflict between my self-willed ego and his sovereignty.

My inclinations are often to be on the side of selfish pleasure rather than self-denial. The pressure I get from the culture is to fulfill myself, be my own man. Death to self doesn't sell very well in today's market.

When Jesus made the simple statement, thy Kingdom Come...the pictured the very Spirit of the living God coming into the human heart to live there in control. He saw a human being as a temple or residence of the most high God. This relationship is a privileged position. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords is living in our very being. I Peter 2: 9 calls us a "chosen people, a holy priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession..."

When a person becomes aware of this awesome fact it can revolutionize his whole life. It can change his entire outlook, his attitude, and redirect all his activities.

I remember, while on a mission trip to the Philippines with 12 college students in 1986, hearing a group of Philippine young people singing, "There's a flag flying high in the castle of my heart, cause the King is in residence there."

In fact, the difference between a defeated Christian and a victorious, vibrant Christian lies in direct proportion to the degree that Christ is in control of his life. When you recognize God's royal presence it becomes a delight to do God's will. It's an honor to become His subject.

If indeed the Kingdom of God is within me, I will make sure that nothing will enter there that would offend or harm the Spirit of the living God. What I eat and what I drink is of concern to me. What I take into my mind and emotions needs to be monitored. The material I read and things I watch on the screen can cause me to lose my focus and direction.

I will see to it that no attitudes, suggestions, or human philosophies contrary to the teachings of Christ will infiltrate my mind.

The Government of God in my life establishes an inner state in which righteousness, peace, and joy in a spiritual dimension dominates my life.

To comment: jnm82@outlook.com, 580-302-1142

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Mike Smith
News Director

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J. Boone Clemmons
SWOSU Public Relations VP

The 2024 Friends of Crowder Lake members-only cocktail hour & dinner is April 5, 2024, marking the official opening of Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Crowder Lake University Park for the season.

The popular annual event will be held in the North Family Building at Crowder Lake University Park immediately following the 5:00 p.m. North Family Endowed Lecture Series presentation by 2017 & 2019 SWOSU alumna Rhetta Cypert.

Catered by Blue Mountain Smoke, the cocktail hour/dinner is exclusively available to members of the SWOSU Friends of Crowder Lake organization. Individual, friends, group, and sportsman memberships are available, each offering a unique set of benefits.

Those who wish to attend the cocktail hour and dinner may join Friends of Crowder Lake and take advantage of these exclusive benefits at www.FriendsofSWOSUCrowderLake.com.

To reserve your spot at the dinner, RSVP to Taylor Adler by emailing taylor.adler@swosu.edu.

Operated by SWOSU since 1997, Crowder Lake University Park, a park with a rich history and tradition, is a 158-acre water and 159-acre land park located seven miles south of Weatherford.

The park boasts several facilities and numerous outdoor activities for the public to enjoy. A ropes course, cabins, campsites, fishing, kayaking, and many other amenities and activities are available for visitors of all ages.

The Friends of Crowder Lake program and the North Family Endowment are managed by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc., which was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy and distribute funds to support SWOSU's activities and programs.

For more information about Friends of Crowder Lake or the North Family Lecture Series, visit www.FriendsofSWOSUCrowderLake.com or contact Taylor Adler at 580-774-3267.

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RUSS / EDUCATION SAVINGS PLAN - A state program is giving Oklahoma residents a tax deduction as well as saving on their children's college education. State Treasurer Todd Russ of Cordell recently spoke about the program on News 9. "[The program] has been broadened to all sorts of education purposes," says Russ. "You can use it for Career Tech, apprenticeships, [...] and even K-12."

CLINTON / SETTLEMENT - A settlement has been reached in a wrongful death claim in Custer County District Court naming the Clinton solid waste authority. Kelly Kissee had filed the claim as personal representative of the estate of Oscar Davis Washa, who was struck and killed by a City of Clinton trash truck in May of 2022. Court records do not reveal the amount of the settlement.

WEATHERFORD / FIRE DEPT. EXPANSION Weatherford Fire Chief Mike Karlin says as Weatherford grows, he sees an occupied second fire station as a necessity in the future. "In 2020, the city was able to purchase the old Chaparral Building on Airport Road," explains Karlin. "We've since turned it into a Fire Safety Training building with a fire training tower [and engine housing]. We hope that it will provide a very good location for a second occupied fire station." The Department has been in its current facility on Kansas Street since 2011.

WATONGA / RATE INCREASES - Watonga City Council adopted an ordinance to modify the rates charged for utility services including electricity, water, sewer and refuse collection. Mayor Bill Seitter says the increase helps pay back a portion of a \$13 million loan from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for the construction of a new water treatment plant and replacement of the sewer treatment plant. Voters in the city also passed a one-cent sales tax to also help pay back the \$13 million loan.

HINTON / PRISON DEATH - An inmate at the Great Plains Correctional Facility in Hinton died of bacterial meningitis over the weekend and part of the prison is still quarantined to prevent an outbreak. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections says the 59-year-old inmate died Saturday. No other cases have been confirmed. Visitation has been canceled at the prison through this weekend and the Oklahoma Department of Corrections will reevaluate the situation next week.

STAFFORD / FUNERAL - General Stafford will lie in state at the Stafford Air and Space Museum on Wednesday and Thursday, April 3rd and 4th, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The funeral service will be held on Friday, April 5th, at 10 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Weatherford or the Pioneer Center at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. The grave side service will also take place on April 5th at 2 p.m.

WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!



HAPPY Day TO YOU!

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

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 to 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 March 27 - John Kokalis, Russell Ladd, DeLois Newton, William Pigg, Quinton Pye, Rhonda Ray, Jana Savage, Garrett Smith, Carol Stevenson, Scott Stinson; **March 28** - Linda Bennett, Toni Gentry, Carlos Gomez, Jill Henderson, Kendrick Johnson, Jaxon Jones, Bryan Robertson, Teresa Rodgers, Madison Shalla, Jeff Vaughn, Taylor Willis; **March 29** - Jaclyn Coxwell, Shannon Hamburger, John Leonard, Jason McGinnis, Art Parker, Marion Prichard, Summer Skinner, Kendall Stephens, Preslee Stephens, Hunter Williams; **March 30** - Milan Davis, Kathy Dobrinski, Jessi Eidem, Zayne Grogan, Justen Hunnicut, Darren Johnson, Derwin Mahan, Thomas Rains, Barbara Sewell, Sarah Sillins, Betty White; **March 31** - Kalie Bryant, Bruce Burdick, Denise Davis, Hudson Graybill, Becca Jones, Trevor Keeton, John Marley, Clayton Rogers, Almata Schneider, Robert Seward, Johnnie Thomas, Jean Weightman; **April 1** - Kyle Bartel, Bobby Barton, Jason Barton, Kaitlyn Belanger, Dee Downs, Mason Folsom, Peter Fong, Bruce Lewis, Jason Martin, Sophia Martinez, Anthony Nail, Thomas Parker, Mike Purdum, Paisley Vickery, Tonya West, Raymond Wolf; **April 2** - Jackie Basler, David Cleek, Rita Dowty, Lauren Ellis, Angel Gorshing, Brandon Lee, Jordan Mahan, Stacey Purintun.

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Weatherford Environment
EARTH DAY EVENTS
April 1 - 30, 2024

Weatherford Environment Group Promoting Annual Earth Day Recycling Event for April 2024

The Weatherford Environment Group (WEG) announces Earth Day Recycling events happening in April 2024.

Bring items to the Weatherford Materials Processing Building, located at the 602 E. Clark St., two blocks south of Main St. on Illinois.

These Weatherford Recycling Events are sponsored by WEG composed of volunteers working to keep our city green, clean, and beautiful. The recycling event is organized by the efforts of our Weatherford citizens and it not a City of Weatherford function.

**SPECIAL EMPHASIS ITEMS ACCEPTED
APRIL 1 - 30, 2024**

TIRES – place tires on the flat-bed trailer at 602 E. Clark (all sizes will be accepted as long as it is a tire-motorcycle, lawn mower, ATV, car, pickup, Semi, Ag)

NOTE: We will not be accepting rims, track tires, or anything foam filled.

**SPECIAL EMPHASIS ITEMS ACCEPTED
APRIL 27, 2024 – 9 am - 3 pm**

- Visit the [Materials Processing & Education Center](#).
- Large Metal Items and Appliances
 - Non Working Electronic Items
 - Old TV and computer monitors. (a \$10 donation is requested for each TV/monitor)
 - Fluorescent Light Bulbs (8', 4', spiral)
 - LED Light Bulbs
 - Incandescent Light Bulbs
 - Lead Acid Batteries (found in cars and equipment)
 - Household Batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, 9-Volt, etc.)
 - Phone Books

**ITEMS ACCEPTED ALL THE TIME:
Drop-off bins for these items are located in the RECYCLING CENTER drive-thru.**

- Cardboard
- Plastics (#1 and #2, no styrofoam will be accepted)
- Aluminum, Steel, and Tin Cans
- Office Paper
- Newspaper
- Magazines

**GLASS RECYCLING INSTRUCTIONS
Times Available and Landfill Location Directions**

Glass is accepted Monday-Friday and the first Saturday of each month from 8am-12, 1-5pm at drop-off bin located at the old Weatherford Landfill.

Go south on Custer Street. Before you reach the H&H Salvage yard, you will find E 1035 Rd and see a green sign that indicates Glass Recycling.

Turn onto this road and go through the security gate to the City landfill property area. Ahead, you will see a small white guardhouse that is usually staffed checking people who bring brush and yard trimmings to be disposed.

Just before the white guardhouse, there is a cement pad with a large roll-off container with Glass Recycling sign. You need to toss the glass you are recycling into the bin. Please be careful as you dispose items, watch for broken glass, and don't attempt to reach into the bin.

Contact Faye Henson, (580) 772 - 5984 if you have questions about recycling or if you would like to schedule a program for your organization or company.

Thank you for your efforts to make Weatherford clean, green, and beautiful!

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Wings of Time, Volume VI: Thomas Stafford, Exploring the Final Frontier



Courtesy NASA

Commanders Astronaut Stafford and Cosmonaut Leonov together in the Soyuz Orbital Module during the joint Apollo-Soyuz Test Project.



Courtesy Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center

Thomas Stafford (left) and Alexei Leonov (right) at the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Star City, Russia.

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Here we are: the last installment of The Wings of Time series. Weeks ago, we began a lookback at aviation history meeting a colorful cast of Oklahoma pilots, engineers, inventors, and pioneers. The final entry for the series The Wings of Time was slated to feature the legendary Lt. General Thomas P. Stafford and his culture-defining career in shaping the future of space operations. On Monday, March 18th, General Stafford passed away, remaining in the hearts of his close family and friends while his legacy lives on through many of his donations and support for public programs and works.

Wonderful articles and dedications have come out recently highlighting his accomplishments and accolades, further capturing the impact he had around the world. To learn more about his life, we highly recommend visiting the Stafford Air and Space Museum in Weatherford, OK, where Stafford was born and raised. The museum, named in honor of the legendary test pilot and astronaut, is full of aviation marvels and displays, including actual rockets and spacecraft that were flown in space. To commemorate his impact, we'll look back at one of his defining moments as the Commander of the Apollo-Soyuz project, the first crewed international space mission.

Mission prepping began in 1973, shortly after Stafford's promotion to the rank of brigadier general at the end of 1972. Stafford was the first of his Naval Academy class to pin on stars of a general officer. He ended his career as a 3-star general. When the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project (ASTP) began planning, Stafford was chosen from his experience on the Gemini missions and from his time as Commander of Apollo 10. The 10 was responsible for taking the lunar landing craft for a final test run before Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin made their historic steps. Stafford was well known for his love of flight and for his daringness as a test pilot, reaching the highest speed ever reached at 24,791 mph with his Apollo 10 mates as they returned from the moon. A record they still hold within a crewed spacecraft.

The Apollo vehicle chosen for the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project was the last left over after the cancellation of the numbered Apollo missions. At the time, tensions

were high between the Soviet Union and the U.S. during the Cold War, and they were critical of each other's moves in what would be known as "The Space Race". The ASTP was designated as a joint operation between the two world superpowers as a symbol of their willingness to work together and put down arms. Stafford and his team were the first Americans to work at the cosmonaut training center and the first to visit the top-secret launch center in 1974.

The 3-man team aboard for the United States was comprised of Director of Flight Crew Operations astronaut Donald K. "Deke" Slayton, astronaut Vance D. Brand, and the Commander Brigadier General Thomas P. Stafford. The cosmonauts aboard the Soyuz 19 module would be the crew members Commander Alexei Leonov and Flight Engineer Valery Kubasov.

A rigorous training program had the teams going back and forth between Russia and the United States. New docking mechanics and mathematics were tested to ensure the mission was even possible. Once everything had been greenlit, the teams launched on July 15th, 1975. After two days in space, the crews began their docking initiative with Stafford propelling the engine of the Apollo craft to get into a visual for the Soyuz. They neared and made radio contact. As the teams exchanged ecstatic words over the radio, they each began making the series of maneuvers needed to line up their craft. They officially locked together on July 17th. Millions around the world were tuned in to the historic moment with General Stafford and Leonov meeting and shaking hands at the connecting tube. As they met face to face high above the earth's surface, Leonov said in English to Stafford, "Very good to see you!" and Stafford replied in Russian, "Very happy, my friend!"

The crews were read an announcement from the Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev and the crews received a phone call from U.S. President Gerald R. Ford to congratulate them. The crews exchanged gifts and pieced together the two halves of a plaque they each carried into space. The day was busy as they gave televised tours of the spacecraft and began "the first major joint scientific experiment(s) in the history of mankind" (Leonid Brezhnev – Soviet leader).

They filmed many scientific experiments for

classrooms and broadcast the views from within the cabin of the earth to viewers in America and in Russia. The crews held a press conference together with reports from the U.S. and Moscow. The bonds the crew formed would last a lifetime as Alexei Leonov and Thomas Stafford became best friends, being important in each other's lives. Leonov was the godfather of Stafford's younger children. When Alexei passed away in 2019, Stafford gave a eulogy at his funeral. The ASTP was the last spaceflight for both men.

On the second day of the project in space, the crews undocked and began maneuvering for an arranged eclipse of the sun. The Soyuz ship had a special lens to capture photographs of the solar corona. The corona is the outer aura projected by the sun which was, and still is, only visible during an eclipse. By using the Apollo to create a manmade eclipse, the teams were able to study the corona at length. The technique has been used in future studies and those have revealed that the earth's temperature has a greater relationship with the changes of the corona than previously thought.

After 44 hours together, the two crafts returned to earth. The Soyuz returned on July 21st and the Apollo descended on July 24th. During its descent the Apollo command module began to fill with nitrogen tetroxide, a propellant for rockets. The crew put on their oxygen masks but Brand lost consciousness. Stafford assisted him, and the crew landed safely, recovered by the USS New Orleans. They were taken to the hospital for treatment from the fuel inhalation and made successful recoveries. The Apollo-Soyuz Test Project was a success.

The mission was the first of its kind and the last of the dawning of the space age. The teams used complex new designs, machines, and training, and the USSR and the US recognized the mission as an act of peace and respect. They met back up on the ground several times as they made tours and conferences around the world about their experience. This milestone of humanity is generally considered an iconic cap at the end of the Space Race that began way back in 1957.

In honor and memory of General Stafford, The Wings of Time series is dedicated to him and to the wonderful aviators who inspired generations to look to the stars. We salute him as he explores the next frontier.

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SPORTS

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SWOSU Baseball Drops Three Games Against ATU in Russellville



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Asst. AD

SWOSU Baseball could not snag a win against Arkansas Tech in two tries on Saturday, falling 4-2 and 9-3 to the Wonder Boys to conclude the series.

The losses push the Dawg's record to 15-15 overall and 7-11 in the GAC. SWOSU travels to face Cameron on Tuesday in midweek action before returning home next weekend to host Southern Nazarene.

Game One – ATU 4, SWOSU 2

Tech's RBI single in the second and solo home run in the fifth had them leading 2-0 into the seventh. Jackson Syring cut into that lead with a top of the seventh solo shot of his own, followed by an RBI single from Marco Barrera which tied the game an inning later. In the home half of the eighth, in response to the Dawgs tying things up, ATU plated the go-ahead runs to win it.

With two outs, a two-run double spoiled the comeback.

Josh Fluet got the start and threw 6.0 innings before Grant Ewy relieved him. Both allowed two runs in their appearance. Fluet struck out three and scattered six hits in his no decision. Ewy was handed the loss.

Reece Burke finished 2-4 to lead the lineup. SWOSU finished with five hits – four singles and Syring's bomb. Tech had eight hits, four of which went for extra bases.

Game Two – ATU 9, SWOSU 3

A nine-hit, eight run sixth by the Wonder Boys ruined SWOSU's chance to salvage the series. The Bulldogs entered the inning leading 3-1 and in need of six outs to earn a much-needed win.

Instead, Tech scored a run on three-straight hits to make it 3-2 and chased starter Jackson Phillips from the game. Now 3-2, the Wonder Boys struck out after a pitching change before unleashing six more hits with two outs including three more doubles to break the game open.

SWOSU had built a 3-0 lead with two runs in the second inning and another in the third. Geoff Marlow hit a solo home run, his eighth of the year, followed by a Connor Jeffers sac fly that same inning. The Bulldog scoring was capped off in the third thanks to an RBI single from Ty Eastwood.

The lineup finished with six hits in the game. Tech had six hits until adding nine more in the sixth inning and finished with 15.

SWOSU Softball Claims Series 2-1, Lose to Tech in Saturday's Finale



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Asst. AD

SWOSU Softball fell to Arkansas Tech 3-1 in Saturday's series finale. Despite the loss, the Bulldogs captured the series victory after collecting a pair of shutout

wins over the Golden Suns in Friday's doubleheader. It's the first series victory over Tech while competing in the Great American Conference. SWOSU moves to 12-18 overall on the year and 8-9 in league games.

With no midweek scheduled for the upcoming week, SWOSU returns to action against Southern Nazarene in an earlier than usual weekend schedule to accommodate Easter weekend. The Bulldogs will travel to face the Crimson Storm on Thursday and Friday.

Against Tech on Saturday, the offense was kept at bay but made a late push.

SWOSU managed one hit through five innings until two more in the sixth gave them their first run. Trailing 3-0, Rebeca Fajardo doubled off the wall to lead off the inning followed by a Jadyn Hook single. Fajardo later scored from a sacrifice fly by Katie Boline.

The Golden Suns plated three runs in the first two innings, which proved to be enough scoring on the day. With a 3-1 lead, they loaded the bases in the seventh but were held without a run by Courtney Hill.

Hill, in relief of Blaire Gentry starting in the third, threw five scoreless innings of relief to keep SWOSU in the game. She pitched 12 scoreless innings on the weekend after a complete game shutout a day prior.

In the home half of the seventh, SWOSU put the game tying run on first base with one out after Shallen Mershon and Skyla McPhillips both singled. They went quietly from there – stranding both runners to end the game. The home Bulldogs finished with five hits. Tech had eight.



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