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Join the “Run For Hope” to Support Families Suffering From Addiction



Hope can seem to be a luxury when a loved one is battling with addiction, but an organization in Western Oklahoma is here to support and guide families through troubling times. Hope Is Alive, a non-profit organization whose mission is to “radically change the lives of drug addicts, alcoholics, and those that love them” has scheduled their first annual ‘Run For Hope’ in Weatherford on Saturday, September 7th to raise funds for Finding Hope and Hope After Loss, a ministry of free support groups that seeks to counsel the families of drug and alcohol addicts.

Formerly known as the Sobriety Sprint, Run For Hope will feature a 5k run/walk and a 1 Mile run/walk to “remember, honor, and celebrate those who lost their lives to addiction.” At the event there will be kid friendly entertainment including a bounce house and face-painting, as well as an assortment of food trucks.

The 5k run/walk will begin at 9am and the 1 mile run/walk will begin at 9:30am with registrations fees for races being \$35 and \$20, respectively. Runners are encouraged to show up early to make sure they’re registered and signed up for the race.

“We usually call it the Sobriety Sprint and we’ve kind of transitioned,” said Jacy Burrows, the Community Outreach Coordinator for Hope Is Alive in Weatherford. “We’ve seen a very big inflow in Finding Hope and the need for it, and so the funds we raised for this race...will go support those groups.”

Finding Hope began when the Founder of Hope Is Alive, Lance Lang, noticed that the families of drug and alcohol addicts were hurting as much as the addicts themselves. Hope Is Alive sought to address this issue by offering free support groups in several communities across the United States and so Finding Hope was born.

In Western Oklahoma, Finding Hope has groups that meet regularly in Weatherford as well as Elk City. In Weatherford the group meets the first and third Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at the First Baptist Church. In Elk City the group meets the second and fourth Monday of every month at 6:30pm at the First Baptist Church.

“Mothers, sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, cousins... Whoever is struggling with a loved one in addiction, they come to an environment of people that get what is going on and understand how hard it is to love an addict,” said Burrows.


For more information about Run For Hope or to register for a race you can visit RunforHopeRace.Com. For more information about Hope is Alive, Finding Hope, or Hope After Loss you can visit www.hopeisalive.net.

Alternatively, you can contact Jacy Burrows by emailing her at jacy@hopeisalive.net.

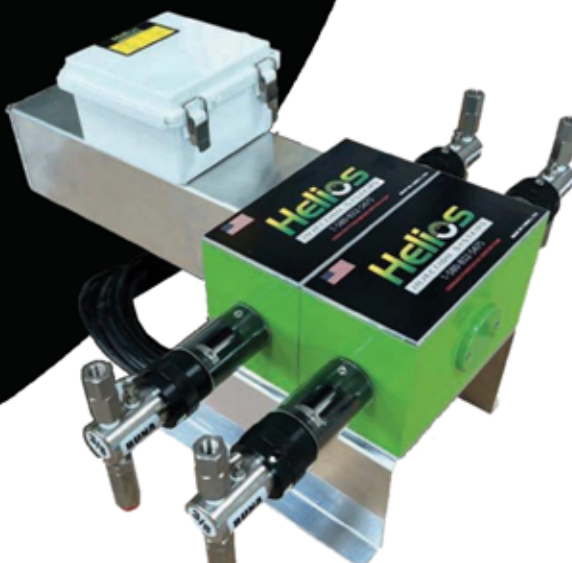
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Jesse Helzer

Jesse Dwaine Helzer was born March 10, 1930, on the family farm northwest of Thomas, to Jesse and Violet (Wanzer) Helzer, and passed away August 19, 2024, at Corn Heritage Village of Weatherford, Oklahoma, at the age of 94 years, 5 months and 9 days.



Jesse grew up on the family farm, attended Parallel School through the eighth grade, and graduated from Thomas High School in 1947.

He married Henrietta Didier from Fay on June 14, 1947. They made their home on the family farm northwest of Thomas, in Dewey County, where they raised their three children. Jesse and Henrietta celebrated their 77th wedding anniversary this year before his passing.

Jesse devoted his entire life to farming and ranching before moving to Thomas during his retirement years. He was a member of the First Christian Church.

Jesse enjoyed hunting, fishing, and playing card games with family and friends. He was an avid reader of history books and Western novels, and enjoyed listening to country music.

Jesse is survived by his wife, Henrietta Helzer; daughter, Deana Garner and husband, Don; son, Steve Helzer and wife, Joy; daughter, Kathy Sweeney and husband, Tom; sister, Shirley Combs; brother, Gary Helzer and wife, Monica.

Jesse is also survived by seven grandchildren: James Garner and wife, Kristi; Deena Craighead and husband, Cliff; Kelli Doty and husband, J.J.; Teena Rodgers and husband, Jimmy; Stephen Helzer and wife, Janette; Krista Taylor and husband, Lane; Kaitlyn Cameron and husband, William; 13 great-grandchildren: Gaige Reese and husband, Baron; Lauren Brown and husband, Michael; Kenzie Craighead; Daeven and Rhys Cameron; Hudson, Graham, and Aubrey Taylor; Ashley O'Brecht, Josh Doty, Macee and Ryann Richardson; and Camden Helzer; and three great-great-grandchildren: Madalynn, Braxton, and Weston.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and Violet Helzer; sister, Eileen Ames; and brothers-in-laws, Lyle Combs and Jim Ames.

Carolyn Elliot

Carolyn Ann Elliot was born December 10, 1942, in Monte Vista, CO, to George Foster and Lily Idell (Jameson) Love and passed away Saturday, August 17, 2024, at Corn Heritage Village of Weatherford at the age of 81 years, 8 months, and 7 days.



Carolyn was raised and attended school in Monte Vista, CO where she graduated. On August 27, 1964, she married John Virgil Elliott in Farmington, NM.

Carolyn is survived by son, Nathan Paul Elliott and wife, Terri, of McAlester, OK; two brothers: Jack Love and wife, Nancy, of Myrtle Point, OR; and Lyle Love and wife, Cathy, of Weatherford, OK; one sister: Janet Young and husband, Dan, of Lawton, OK;

She is also survived by nine grandchildren: Cody, Tony, Kyle, Nathan Jr., Brandon, Nattali, Parker, Abigail, and Alexis; and 19 great-grandchildren: Gracyn, Allison, Lauren, Cayden, Ethan, Chloe, Leila, Elysa, Abigail, Adelyn, Body, Bear, Lucy, Wyatt, Tytus, Lydia, Donnie, Ridley, and Kaya.

She was preceded in death by her parents: George Foster and Lily Idell (Jameson) Love; husband, John Virgil Elliott; son, Jay Elliott; and brother, George Love.

Twila Ryan

Twila June Ryan, 90, of Sanger, TX, passed away peacefully on August 17, 2024, with her children at her side. Her passing followed a brief hospital stay in Denton, TX.



Twila was born in the Thomas, OK, area on December 3, 1933, to Emory and Thelma Beckley Ballew. She and her family were a part of the railroad community of Nobscot; she attended Oakwood and Thomas Public Schools along with her five siblings.

As a young girl, she enjoyed playing basketball through her junior high school years. It was in Thomas that she met William Joseph "Joe" Ryan, and they married on June 23, 1951.

As a military couple, Twila and Joe lived in Mississippi, Texas, and Oklahoma. Eventually, the two would settle in Okeene, OK, in 1962. It was there that the couple raised their three children: Sam, Don, and Terry.

Her favorite activity as a mom was to don her Okeene Whippet gear and drive all over the state to watch the boys in their sporting events. She even got into the action some herself in an adult softball league which she really enjoyed. Joe would often tease about her "wash woman's" swing at bat.

After Joe passed in 1989, she remained in the Okeene community until 2003 when she retired and relocated to Keller, TX. There she became a part of the Evergreen apartment community and made many dear friends there.

She attended the First Baptist Church in Okeene and Emmanuel Baptist Church in Enid. She worshipped at the First Baptist Church in Keller and remained a church member until her death.

Some of her favorite things to do were play bingo and cards with her friends, knit and crochet, work jigsaw puzzles, and watch her grandchildren in their sporting events and other activities. Of all of her activities, she most loved being a grandma and "gigi."

Twila was quite a "puzzler" and even remarked once that a puzzle wasn't worth working if it didn't have at least 1,000 pieces! One of her recent accomplishments was finishing a 2,000 piece puzzle, for which Terry had to cut a new tabletop to accommodate its sheer surface area.

Over the years, she worked for Siemens Drug, Woolworth, Pioneer Telephone, Amerigas, and Okeene Municipal Hospital.

Twila is survived by two sons and their families: Sam Ryan and his wife Druanne of Sentinel, OK; Terry Ryan and his wife Jill of Sanger, TX; daughter-in-law Cheryl Ryan of Mustang, OK; grandchildren: Jeff Ryan and his wife Sara of Piedmont, OK; Starr Ryan of Port, OK; Kristin Price of Mustang, OK; Reed Ryan of North Platte, NE; Rana Lewallen and her husband Caleb; and Rhett Ryan, all of Sanger, TX;

She is also survived by five great-grandchildren: Trevor, Teagen, Garrett, Levi, and Landry; two nephews, Mark and Charles; and two nieces, Diane and Rhonda.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, granddaughter Barri Hope, and siblings Dewayne, Jeannie, Bob, Charles, and Richard.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the senior adult ministry at FBC Keller. Thank you to everyone for lifting her up in prayer as she made her journey home to be with the Lord. She loved you all.

Elmer Davis

Elmer Alfred Davis, 82, of Clinton, OK passed away Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 5:00 pm in the Ranchwood Nursing Center in Yukon, OK



Elmer was born August 14, 1941 in Poplar, MT, and was raised in Wolf Point, MT, where he graduated from Wolf Point High School. In his younger days, he was a drummer for a small Country-Western band that toured establishments in Northeastern Montana.

Elmer married his late wife Clairnell on November 1, 1992 and as a beloved and dedicated husband. He spent every evening with his wife while she was in long-term care and sharing dinner with her before going home until she passed on January 7, 2018.

On September 1, 2021 Elmer retired from the Department of Transportation (DOT) Office in Clinton, OK as a certified Material Management Specialist. It was reported by his colleagues that he was an industrious and hardworking man who was highly respected by his peers.

Elmer was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, four brothers, and two sisters.

He is survived by his children, Kally Wilson, United States Navy Retired of Fayetteville, NC and Robert Davis United States Navy Retired of Green Bay, WI and grandsons: Justin Ansley of Lynchburg, VA, Michael Davis of Saucier, MS, and Mason Davis of Jacksonville, NC, and his sister Virginia "Ginny" LaRoche. Mr. Davis was a member of the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe of Montana.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations or contributions be made to Kiesau Lee Funeral Home to help with expenses.

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86TH ANNUAL ELK CITY RODEO OF CHAMPIONS

AUGUST 30, 2024

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August 31st is International Overdose Awareness Day: “Together We Can”

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31 AUGUST International Overdose Awareness Day

Kendra Dilbeck
SWODA Coordinator

Local communities around the world are coming together on August 31st, 2024, to remember those who have died or suffered permanent injury due to drug overdose. Observed on August 31 every year, International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) seeks to create better understanding of overdose, reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths, and create change that reduces the harms associated with drug use.

Global overdose rates have skyrocketed in the last 25 years. In 2020, an estimated 284 million people worldwide had used a drug in the past 12 months, a 26 per cent increase from 2010. The situation is especially severe in the US. Nearly 110,000 Americans lost their lives to overdose in 2022 an increase of roughly four per cent from 2021 and the second consecutive year of more than 100,000 overdose deaths

“By coming together to remember them, we stand together to say that more needs to be done to end overdose in our community,” said Kendra Dilbeck, Assistant Project Manager for Prevention at the South Western Oklahoma Development Authority. “We encourage members of the community with lived experience to stand in solidarity with the men and women who have been personally affected by overdose.”

International Overdose Awareness Day is convened by Penington Institute, an Australian not-for-profit. This year for the first time, they have announced a campaign theme: Together we can.

“With our theme for 2024, “Together we can”, we’re highlighting the strength of coming together and standing in support of those connected to the tragedy of overdose. While every individual action matters greatly, coming together as an international community creates a powerful collective action.” A full list of the IOAD 2024 events currently planned around the world can be found online at this website: www.overdoseday.com/events-2024/

The South Western Oklahoma Development Authority is working on Substance Misuse Prevention in 13 counties in Western Oklahoma. If you are interested in getting involved with these efforts, please contact Kendra Dilbeck (kendra@swoda.org) and she will connect you with the coalition coordinator in your area.

You can also visit our website at www.swoda.org/substance-use-prevention-treatment-and-recovery for more information.

Our prevention programs are funded by Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, South Western Oklahoma Development Authority, and local coalitions.

International Overdose Awareness Day is an initiative of the public health not-for-profit organization Penington Institute, based in Melbourne, Australia (penington.org.au) – email: info@overdoseday.com; please find more information about the overdose crisis at overdoseday.com.

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HIGHER GROUND

Lifechanging Bible Study

Jim Morrison

Most of us as believers in the importance of Bible study really desire to grow in that area. There are numerous plans or suggestions, most of them are very helpful. I would like to share a few thoughts that I have found helpful in my search for the truths of God’s word.

First of all, we need to recognize that we read the Scriptures primarily to change our lives to more accurately reflect the image of Jesus Christ. The facts are important but they should result in changed lives, or behavior. That brings us to ask questions of the text instead of just fulfilling a goal or plan for the day.

This requires some effort and thought. But the reward is great. Using an acrostic that I learned from Rick Warren when he visited our campus in 1978, consider using this in the study of the letters of Paul, Peter, James, and John.

A SAMPLE OF STUDYING SCRIPTURES IN A WAY THAT CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

Sample Passage - Phil. 1: 1-17

T. Is there a truth or teaching in this passage?

1. Paul was a slave of Jesus
2. He was an apostle sent with a message
3. The resurrection of Jesus validated him
4. The gospel brings salvation through God
5. We must live by faith
6. We must encourage each other
7. Obedience comes through faith or trust in God.

A. How can I apply this passage to my life?

1. My actions reveal I belong to Jesus
2. Don't be ashamed to share the Gospel.
3. Know that His Holy Spirit lives through me.

P. Is there a promise or prayer to make?
 “Lord, make me bold and filled with faith; that I might not hesitate to let my faith in you be known.

E. Is there a question I need to ask myself?

1. Will people talk about my faithfulness?
2. Is the desire of my heart to encourage others?
3. Am I praying for the church regularly.

S. Is there a sin that I need to avoid?
 (Though not stated, it is true that often my silence about my faith becomes disobedience.)

Phil 1:16 - I am not ashamed of the gospel because it is the power of God for salvation (deliverance from the binding and blinding effect of sin).

Prayer - “Lord, help me to remember that first of all I belong to you, not to my family, my job, or career, not to my selfish wishes. May my life be an encouragement to others. May my faith lead to obedience.

To comment: jhm82@outlook.com, 580-302-1142

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LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director

Don't Miss the 86th Annual Elk City Rodeo Of Champions August 30th

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ELK CITY Rodeo of Champions
August 30 - September 1, 2024

Grab those boots and shine your belt buckles because the Elk City Rodeo of Champions is coming back to town! For three nights, starting on Friday, August 30th and ending on Sunday, September 1st, come see one of the greatest rodeos in the state of Oklahoma.

The Elk City Rodeo of Champions is scheduled to begin each night at 8pm and will feature a great lineup of events that includes bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, tie down roping, team roping, women's barrel racing, and bull riding.

Attendees can also expect additional performances throughout the rodeo: from rodeo clown and barrelman Dusty Myers; trick riders Dusti Crain-Dickerson and the Flying Arena Stars; as well as bullfighting by Chuck Swisher and Weston Rutkowski.

The event will be announced by ten-time Wrangler National Finals Rodeo announcer Wayne Brooks, who's been an Elk City Rodeo staple since 2008.

On Saturday, August 31st at 10am join the Elk City Rodeo Champions as they parade through downtown Elk City before starting the 2nd night of the rodeo. On Sunday night, the Elk City Rodeo of Champions has partnered with the Western Oklahoma Alzheimer's Collaborative to help those suffering with Alzheimer's and dementia. The Elk City Rodeo of Champions encourages all attendees to wear purple on Sunday night. You can purchase a shirt to help fund the WOAC by visiting www.woac-ec.org/

For more information about the Elk City Rodeo of Champions or to purchase tickets you can visit www.elkcityrodeo.com/

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ELK CITY / BRIDGE DAMAGE - The Oklahoma Department of Transportation says, due to damage caused by an oversized vehicle carrying an excavator, the South Randall Bridge over Interstate 40 at Elk City is closed. Officials say the impact cracked three of the four main support beams, requiring significant repairs. The repair process will take approximately 4 to 5 months.

WATONGA / OFFICER TERMINATED - The Watonga police officer at the center of two use-of-force investigations by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is no longer with the department. Watonga Police Chief Beth Massey confirmed that the officer was no longer with the department but did not comment further.

CUSTER CO / GRANT - Custer County Commissioners recently approved an Attorney General Sheriff's Office funding grant program application for 2024. Custer County Commissioner Wade Anders says it's helpful for the Sheriff's Department. The funds can also be used for capital projects. Custer County is getting \$250,000 as a result of the grant program.

SWOSU / ENROLLMENT - Classes are officially underway for Southwestern Oklahoma State University. President Dr. Diana Lovell says enrollment looks good, stating that, for the first time in over nine years, SWOSU is seeing over 5,000 concurrently enrolled students. Dr. Lovell also says the recruiting and enrollment team along with financial aid has helped with increased enrollment at SWOSU.

CUSTER CO / ROAD DAMAGE - Custer County Commissioner Bruce Walker expressed concern over some recent damage on roads that were repaved in 2023. "We have had so much tractor and plow damage on our roads over the last two weeks," said Walker, explaining how turning sharply during hot weather can cause significant road damage. "Please move equipment during the cool part of the day, if at all possible. Think when your turning...to turn slowly."

FFA / PSO GRANTS - The Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) is awarding over \$36,000 in grant funding to 17 FFA chapters across the state. The American Electric Power Foundation FFA STEM After-School grant is part of the charitable arm of PSO's parent company, American Electric Power (AEP). Locally, Burns Flat-Dill City, Carnegie, and Mountain View-Gotebo school districts received grant funding, with each grant ranging from \$700 to \$2500. Everything from vet science, lasers and watering systems will be funded by these grants.

WEATHERFORD / EXERCISE - Area First Responders recently teamed up with Devon Energy in Weatherford for a simulated emergency. Weatherford Fire Chief Mike Karlin says the drill was a success. "There's always things that we find that we can do a bit better, but we didn't find anything that we didn't do a good job with" said Karlin. "From start to finish, we think that we had a very, very successful exercise." The simulated emergency involved a mock plane crash with a structure collapse.

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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 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 August 28 - Monica Hinojosa, Sandy Koop, Sharon Mahan, Bobby Nailon, David Shaw, Dylan Stewart, Lyndsey Taff; **August 29** -Anthony Friebe, Misti Gregston, Ashley Kelley, Sandy Lenius, Ron Pebley, Alvaro Ramos, Chris Ruiz, Bentley Sperle, Ashlyn Taylor, James Thompson; **August 30** - Sarah Belanger, Scott Fisher, Madeline Minnix, H.J. Moore, Jason Neufeld, Taylor Pitzer, Jacob Silman, Kaylie Smith, Michelle Strong; **August 31** - Taylor Baker, Karen Davis, Perry Fraser, Lauren Horn, Amber Klein, Cathy May, Manny Parsons, Kevin Pearey, Cinda Rice, Pam Ruiz; **Sept. 1st** - Diana Campbell, Gregory Castorena, Chuck Edwards, Trent Ellis, Jimmie Johnson, Amy Outhier, Hunter Short, Cindy Smith; **Sept. 2** - Fred McMurphy, Divonne Collins, Malichi, Meredith Counts, Charlotte Englebrecht, Sara Juarez, Tom Litsch, Carol Mapel, Doyle McMurphy, James Newman, Melissa Pendleton, Brittney Reed, D.L. Willis; **Sept. 3** - Joni Ebisch, Darren Johns, Keaton Kardokus, Ashley Kimble, Guadalupe, Jason Palmer, Dayna Reed, Jessica Rhoads, Jim Silver, Lavonda Wilson, Jeremy Wray.

Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma Seeking Applications for Kids Café Sites



Austin Prickett
RFBO Marketing Manager

The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma is seeking applications for new Kids Café Program sites to provide free meals and snacks at afterschool programs and during school breaks.

"The Kids Café Program is an important hunger fighting tool across the Regional Food Bank's service area," said Stacy Dykstra, chief executive officer of the Regional Food Bank. "More importantly, our Kids Café partners give Oklahoma children a safe place to go after school for activities and to get a nutritious meal before going home. The impact our partners have on children in our communities is immeasurable."

Sites interested in applying must fill out an application at rfbo.org/kids-cafe-app before Friday, August 30. Last school year, Kids Cafés served 290,643 meals and snacks at 64 sites in the Regional Food Bank's service area. All snacks and meals are prepared and packaged by volunteers in Hope's Kitchen, the Regional Food Bank's production kitchen.

"This community is so thankful for Kids Café because so many children around here need the food. The extra attention they get in our program is a blessing as well. We are feeding kids that would otherwise be hungry," said Shawnda, a Kids Café director at an Oklahoma City afterschool program.

Kids Café is operated as a partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Education and U.S. Department of Agriculture. Anyone with questions should contact Patrick Tadlock, Food for Kids support manager at the Regional Food Bank, at

ptadlock@rfbo.org or 405-600-3151.

Find a Kids Café site operating in your area at rfbo.org/kids-cafe.

Kids Café meals are provided through support from the USDA. Meals will be provided equally and without charge to all children age 18 and younger, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

There will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, call 800-795-3272 or write to:

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Director
Office of Adjudication 1400 Independence Ave.
SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma is leading the fight against hunger in 53 counties in central and western Oklahoma and envisions a state where no one goes hungry.

Founded in 1980, the Regional Food Bank is the state's largest domestic hunger-relief 501(c)(3) nonprofit that distributes food through a network of community-based partner agencies and schools. The majority of people served by the Regional Food Bank are chronically hungry children, seniors living on fixed incomes and hardworking families struggling to make ends meet.

The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma is a member of Feeding America, the nation's network of food banks. To join the fight to end hunger, visit rfbo.org.

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Oklahoma History: Carl Magee's Journalism and the Parking Meter



Courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society

A headshot of Carlton Cole "Carl" Magee, taken during his time as publisher of the MaGee's Independent (renamed to the "Albuquerque Tribune" in 1933.



Courtesy Terrie Todd / Heroes, Heroines, & History

An article mentioning parking meter amid its success and early lawsuits from disgruntled citizens. Its success outweighed the cost of those early outrages and was soon adopted by cities nationwide.

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Carl Magee was a man whose inventive mind and deep diving journalism left an incredible mark on the state of Oklahoma and beyond. Born in 1872, Magee's life unfolded during a time of great transformation in America. Though he is often remembered for his invention of the parking meter, Magee's contributions to journalism and community leadership are just as impactful.

Magee's journey began in Oxford, Mississippi. Life in rural America during the late 19th century wasn't easy. Education and opportunities were scarce, yet Magee was determined. He attended the University of Mississippi, studying law and developing a deep commitment to public affairs.

After completing his studies, Magee honed his skills in legal reasoning and public advocacy in Mississippi. His early legal career was marked by a strong sense of justice and a desire to contribute to society. These experiences laid the foundation for his later work in journalism and invention.

Before moving to Oklahoma, Magee made a significant impact as the editor of the Albuquerque Tribune in New Mexico, before it became the award-winning journal it's known for. Under his leadership, the paper gained a reputation for its fearless reporting and commitment to uncovering corruption. Magee played a crucial role in exposing the infamous Teapot Dome scandal, one of the biggest political scandals in U.S. history. The scandal involved the illegal leasing of federal oil reserves by Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall, who had taken bribes from private oil companies. Magee's investigative work brought national attention to the issue, leading to Fall's conviction and imprisonment. This exposure of corruption underscored Magee's commitment to integrity and justice, qualities that would define his career. Issues following the aftermath with complications towards angered parties towards Magee caused him to transfer to Oklahoma.

After moving to Oklahoma, following the same pursuit for truth, Magee shortly became the editor of the Oklahoma News. In this role, he used his platform to influence public opinion and advocate for reforms. He championed causes such as improvements in public infrastructure, education, and governance. His writing was clear, direct, and deeply committed to the welfare of his adopted state, earning him respect and recognition as a leader in the community.

While Magee's journalism career was impressive, it was his invention of the parking meter that would secure his place in history. By the 1920s, the increasing number of automobiles in America were creating chaos in cities like Oklahoma City. Streets in the city like Broadway Avenue, which became known as Automobile Alley, were often clogged with parked cars, which made it difficult for businesses to thrive and for people to navigate the city efficiently.

Magee recognized this growing problem and sought to find a practical solution. Drawing on his legal knowledge and understanding of urban planning, he devised the concept of a coin-operated machine that could regulate how long a vehicle could occupy a parking space. This simple yet revolutionary idea aimed to create turnover in parking spaces, which would help alleviate congestion and support local businesses.

The first working model of Magee's invention, known as the "Park-O-Meter No. 1," was installed in Oklahoma City in 1935. He worked with designers Holger George Thuesen and Gerald A. Hale who were engineering professors at Oklahoma State University. This early parking meter was a mechanical device, made largely of metal, designed to be durable and easy to use. When a driver wanted to park, they would insert a nickel into the meter, which would activate a timer. The meter displayed the remaining time on a dial, and when the time expired, a red flag would appear to signal that the vehicle's time was up.

The simplicity of the parking meter belied its profound impact. By charging a small fee for parking, the meters encouraged drivers to move their cars after a certain period, freeing up spaces for others. At the time, it charged 5 cents. This system not only helped to reduce traffic congestion but also generated revenue that could be reinvested into the community.

The introduction of the parking meter had a significant impact on Oklahoma City. It quickly alleviated the parking congestion that had plagued the downtown area, allowing businesses to flourish as parking spaces became more available. The revenue generated from the meters was used to fund public projects and improve the city's infrastructure, helping to modernize Oklahoma City.

But Magee's invention didn't just benefit Oklahoma City. The parking meter was soon adopted by cities across the United States and around the world. Magee's solution became a model for managing urban parking problems globally, demonstrating how a simple, practical invention could have far-reaching effects.

Despite the widespread adoption of his invention, Carl Magee remained modest about his achievements. He wasn't driven by the pursuit of fame or wealth but rather by a desire to solve the problems he saw around him. In Oklahoma, Magee was recognized as a visionary who had a lasting impact on the state's development. His work as a journalist, coupled with his inventive spirit, left a legacy that continues to influence urban planning to this day.

His parking meter, while a small device, symbolizes the progress and innovation that characterized the early 20th century. Carl Magee's exposure of the Teapot Dome scandal highlighted his commitment to justice, while his creation of the parking meter addressed a pressing urban problem and left a lasting legacy across the world. Magee's life and work exemplify the spirit of innovation that continues to drive progress in our world today.

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Towns all around Western Oklahoma are ready to turn on those Friday night lights, but only two teams on the Wright Media Network are getting their regular season started this Friday.

Tune into Wright.Media to catch the Clinton Red Tornadoes and the Sayre Eagles as they kick-off the 2024-25 Football season. You can watch all of the games live or on-demand at Wright.Media.

The Clinton Red Tornadoes travel to Oklahoma City this Friday night to play against the John Marshall Bears. The Red Tornadoes handily defeated the John Marshall Bears 58-18 last season, but are looking to improve upon last year's overall record of 7-4. A win to start the regular season could help spark that improvement. You can watch the game on on Red Tornado TV at Wright.Media/ two or listen to it on the radio at 97.3FM The Score. The pregame is scheduled to begin at 6:30pm with kick-off occurring at 7pm.

The Sayre Eagles start their regular season at home with a match-up against the Cordell Blue Devils. Last year the Sayre Eagles started their season with a 48-0 drubbing of the Blue Devils in Cordell, but quickly lost momentum and finished the 2023-24 season with an overall record of 4-5-1. You can watch the game on Sayre Eagles TV at Wright.Media/four. The pregame is scheduled to begin at 6:30pm with kick-off occurring at 7pm.

Next week the Clinton Red Tornadoes and Sayre Eagles will be joined by the remaining Wright Media teams in welcoming the 2024-24 football season. The Weatherford Eagles will play the Kingfisher Yellowjackets in a match that pits them against their former Head Coach and Athletic Director, Reagen Roof. The Thomas Terriers will face-off against the Sayre Eagles at Thomas. And the Watonga Eagles will travel to Hobart to compete against the Bearcats.

SWOSU Announces 2024 Homecoming Theme

DAWG THROUGH THE DECADES

SOUTHWESTERN

SWOSU HOMECOMING 2024

October 26 2024

During their 2024 Athletic Auction, SWOSU announced the theme for this year's Homecoming: "Dawgs Through the Decades," a celebration of students athletes at the university since its founding in 1907. As of August 17th, the public was alerted of the coming festivities, presented by MA+ Architecture.

More information will be released in the coming weeks. Visit SWOSUhomecoming.com to stay up-to-date on all homecoming activities.

SWOSU Homecoming 2024 Schedule

October 25:

- Homecoming Mixer, 6 PM, Jerry's Diner

October 26:

- Homecoming Parade, 10 AM
- Brunch/Tailgate, 10 AM, BEC Building
- 50 Yr. Alumni Recognition, 12 PM, BEC
- Football Game, 2:00 PM at FlexChem Field

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