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Weatherford FFA, 4H to Host the 48th Annual Livestock Show



WEATHERFORD AREA Livestock SHOW

48th Annual Weatherford Area Livestock Show

Thursday, January 23, 2025 - Friday, January 24, 2025

The 48th Annual Weatherford area Livestock Show takes place on January 23 - 24, 2025, at the Weatherford AG barn and Expo Center on the north end of the Rader Park complex.

The show which is put on with the cooperation of local FFA, 4H, and business leaders seek to promote agricultural practices and education while also fostering community among school age children in several towns throughout the area.

This year's livestock show will feature students from Arapaho-Butler, Binger-Oney, Carnegie, Clinton, Cordell, Hinton, Hydro-Eakly, Mountain View-Gotebo, Thomas-Fay-Custer, and Weatherford.

Starting off the two day show will be the crowd favorite Showstoppers event which allows special-needs students from all of the participating schools the opportunity to show an animal.

"If you know somebody who would like to stop out there for a little bit, between 10am and 12pm on Thursday would definitely be my suggestion, because it is awesome to watch," said Kyle Slagell who has helped organize this year's event.

Immediately following the Showstoppers event on Thursday will be the cattle show beginning at 12:20pm. After that goat and sheep shows will take the stage at roughly 3:30pm.

On Friday, students will get their chance to show

off their hogs and swine, with the show beginning again at 10am.

Kyle Slagell, a graduate from Weatherford High School, participated in the Weatherford Area Livestock Show when he was a high school student and he's impressed by how much pride Weatherford has taken in the show.

"I feel like in so many different areas that I'm involved with, we talk about how Weatherford has improved facilities and we have so many nice things to offer, and so it just helps take pride in our town and, I think, makes it a destination where people want to come and participate in this show," said Slagell.

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Phyllis Pebley

Phyllis Ann Pebley passed from this earth to her heavenly father on Saturday, January 11, 2025, peacefully, at home with her family by her side. Phyllis was born to John and Mary (Sauer) Reiman on March 12, 1936, on the Sauer Homestead in Weatherford, OK.



Phyllis was the apple of her dad's eye. She did everything with her dad. Growing up, she attended the Zion Congregational Church (which is now Crosspointe Church). She accepted the Lord as her savior when she was 12. She was a member of Crosspointe Church at the time of her death.

She attended Friesen Rural School, southwest of Weatherford for 7 years. Her Dad would take her to school by horseback or taking the tractor with a trailer behind when the weather was bad. On those days, her dad would pick up other children to go with them. She started Weatherford Public Schools in the eighth grade and attended until her graduation in 1954.

She met a charming and handsome man Ray (Jiggs) Pebley and on September 11, 1955, they were married. To this union they had 3 boys: Ronald Dean, Lyndon (Punkin) and Garrah Pebley. They lived in several places in Weatherford until they moved to the farm southwest of town in 1977.

Phyllis worked at many restaurants in Weatherford as a waitress such as The Porterhouse, Tiny Diner and The Cherokee West. She was a kitchen manager and cook at West Elementary, along with being a cook at all three schools on the Weatherford Campus. When she retired from the schools, she went to work at SWOSU in the Physics Dept. as a janitor. She then went to work at Chaparral Energy as a receptionist. She retired when she was 77 years old. Phyllis was loved by all; she was a kind and generous person to all she met. Everywhere she went, she knew someone who had ties to Weatherford. Phyllis loved her family so much. She loved to put in a large garden and give away and read stories of the Amish Life.

Preceding her in death are her parents John and Mary Reiman and husband Jiggs Pebley.

Survivors include her children: Ronald Dean Pebley of Weatherford, Lyndon (Punkin) Pebley of the home, and Garrah Pebley and wife Cindy of Cordell; 9 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren; two very special ex-daughters-in-law Connie Jewell and Vicki Sodders Reed.

The family would like to thank Shepherd Home Health Care, Davita Dialysis of Clinton, Dr. Jay Huser III, and More than Medicine Pharmacy for the wonderful care that was given to her.

Delores Love

Delores Ann Love was born October 22, 1953, in Hobart, Oklahoma, to M.L. and Shirley Ann (Watts) Suttle and passed away Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at home in Weatherford, at the age of 71 years, 1 month and 22 days.



Delores moved frequently when she was young, attending school in Enid and Watonga, before graduating from Anadarko High School in 1971. She had married Billy Thompson in 1970. Delores and Billy made their home in Watonga where they raised their three children: Dustin, Stephanie and Bethany. Delores moved to Weatherford in 1988, to attend college at Southwestern Oklahoma State University where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Medical Record Administration and later a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. She worked, periodically, as a registered nurse. Delores married Lyle Love in 1998 and worked alongside her husband operating businesses in oilfield service and diesel repair. Delores loved spending time with her family—hosting them for dinner and special events at every occasion, cooking for family and friends, going shopping and decorating, and spending the summer at Lake Texoma on their boat "Love Shack." She also had a special place in her heart for her dogs and enjoyed spoiling them at every chance.

Delores is survived by her son Dustin Thompson and wife Hailey of Apache; two daughters: Bethany Igo and husband Chad of Weatherford and Stephanie Lucas and husband Brandon of Weatherford; one brother David Suttle and wife Sharon of Denver City, TX; eight grandchildren: Dusti Dawn Sims, Dillion Thompson, Hayden Armentrout, Brynlee Armentrout, Josh Lucas, Ashley Lucas, Jared Lucas, Allyson Edgar; and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and grandson Nash Lucas.

Tom Kinsley

Tom Knisley, age 78, of Clinton, Oklahoma, passed away, peacefully, on January 9, 2025, in Oklahoma City.



Born on May 25, 1946, in Crescent, Oklahoma, Tom was the son of Lewis and Velta (Beckner) Knisley. He married the love of his life Carolyn Gambrell on October 15, 1965, in Clinton. Tom served in the United States Army from 1966-1968, with the majority of his service time in Germany. He started working for the United Postal Service in Cordell, OK, eventually transferring to Clinton and retiring after 30 years.

Tom dedicated his life to being a farmer and rancher. He cherished his regular meetings with the "guys" at the County Line coffee shop.

Tom had a passion for exploring the beautiful mountains of Colorado, New Mexico, and Wyoming. He enjoyed snow skiing, as well as spending quality time with his children and grandchildren. He was an avid player of cards, board games, and dominos. He took pleasure in attending horse races at Remington Park. Additionally, Tom was a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Shriners. He was also a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Evening Lions, Jaycees and was a Realtor for the National Association of Realtors.

He is survived by his beloved wife Carolyn; daughter Deidre Swails and her husband Scott, of Edmond, OK; son Kevin Knisley, and his wife Toni, of Clinton, OK, second son Lee Lowry and his wife Laura of Indianapolis, IN.; sister Patty Foster, and her husband Kerry, of Corinth, TX; and grandchildren: Dex Felch of Clinton, OK, Bo Felch and his wife Haley, of West Palm Beach, FL. Tom is also remembered by numerous nieces, nephews and friends. Special friends Renae Acosta and family, Mike and Sheri Smith and family, Courtney Goble and family, Caleb Smith and family, Caitlin Hamilton and family, Katie Williams and family, and Amy Barnett and family.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents Lewis and Velta Knisley; sister Bonnie Hardwick; and brothers: Fred Knisley and Danny Knisley; and special friends John and Sandra McCauley,

The Knisley family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude for the outpouring of love and support during this time. In lieu of flowers, the family asks contributions to be made to either Friends for Life Animal Sanctuary, PO Box 1965, Weatherford, OK 73096 or H.A.R.T. (Haven Animal Rescue Transport of OK.), PO Box 273, Clinton, OK 73601.

Faye Cullers

Merle Faye Cullers, age 104 years young of Oklahoma City, OK, was born on November 6, 1920, in Arapaho, Ok and passed away on January 13, 2025, at Concordia Life Care Center.



Faye was the daughter of John and Lola (Smith) Simpson. She graduated from Arapaho High School in 1939 and continued her education at Keen's Business College in Clinton, OK. During WWII, Faye worked for Clinton-Sherman Naval Air Base in Clinton and went on to work for the Federal Government in payroll and personnel for the next 34 years which included the VA in Muskogee, and Oklahoma City, Tinker AFB, and Indian Health Service before transferring to Denver, Colorado. She worked 17 years with the Soil and Conservation Service.

She retired in 1978 and returned to Oklahoma City. During the following years, she enjoyed family get togethers, spending winters in Ocala, Florida, and traveling across the US, Alaska, Canada, Nova Scotia, Europe, and China. She continued supporting projects as a member of the Delta Rho Delta Sorority.

Faye volunteered at Deaconess and Baptist Hospitals and also for Hospice. In 2007, Faye moved into Concordia Life Care Center across the hall from her sister Betty. Faye was an avid reader, enjoying a cup of coffee with her morning newspaper and reading on her iPad.

Faye is survived by her sister Betty Fisher of Oklahoma City, OK and many nieces and nephews and their families. She was preceded in death by her parents John and Lola Simpson, sister and brother-in-law Louise and Curtis Lockhart, brother and sister-in-law Chester and Jean Simpson, brother Lloyd Simpson, brother-in-law Ralph Harvey Fisher, and loving husbands Hoyt Lowe, Roy Tyson, and Harold Cullers.

Faye was a quiet, genteel woman with a generous heart. She was dearly loved and will be deeply missed by her friends and family.

Evalyene Williams

Lela "Evalyene" Williams peacefully passed away on January 14, 2025, at Homestead Senior Living in Elk City, Oklahoma.



Born on 11/30 1931, to Zora and Lela (Goff) Thornbrough in Rhea, OK, Evalyene graduated from Leedeey High in 1949. She married Carl Williams on May 18, 1952, and together they worked on their family farm until Carl's passing on September 9, 2013.

Evalyene was known for her exceptional culinary skills with fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, and her garden with black-eyed peas and tomatoes being some of her specialties. She also delighted her family with her holiday pies, particularly her beloved cherry and custard. A talented seamstress, Evalyene was a member of the Aledo quilting club for many years and was known for her beautiful quilts. She was a member of the Leedeey Baptist Church and enjoyed traveling, having gone on two memorable cruises with her sister Marlene.

She is survived by her two daughters Debra Richter and husband John of Leedeey, OK, and Terri Edwards and Rick of Woodward, OK; her brother Sam Thornbrough and Velda of Sayre, OK; her sister Marlene Rennison of Schulenburg, TX; as well as her grandchildren Kristian Houghtling, Jenni Corr, and Austin Fox, and great-grandchildren Jayden Corr, Jason Corr, Alaina Houghtling, and Damon Fox.

Evalyene was preceded in death by her parents Zora and Lela Thornbrough and her beloved husband, Carl Williams.

Don Thompson

Donald Martin Thompson came rushing into this world on August 28, 1936, and never slowed down until he received his well-deserved rest on January 15, 2025. Don was born to Ted and Eva (Robertson) Thompson in Custer County.



He grew up on the family farm west of Clinton, Oklahoma, and attended a rural school in Stafford. He met his future wife Sara Lou Calmes at a baseball game in Clinton; they were married on September 19, 1954. The father of four daughters, Don was the epitome of a Girl Dad. He was involved in all their activities, helping however he could. He loved his family and friends immensely and would do anything for them. They enjoyed 60 years together, traveling across the contiguous United States, especially Colorado. They worked hard, saved up, and built their treasured mountain cabin outside Creede, Colorado, in 1974. They spent summers there every year until Sallie's passing in 2014.

Don was the parts manager at the Chevrolet dealership in Elk City until 1968, when Davis Chevrolet in Borger, TX, came calling where he served as Parts and Service Manager for many years. He later worked for Worsham Grading and got to live every boy's childhood dream of operating big equipment. He finished his long working career at M&M NAPA Auto Parts.

Don loved automobiles; he restored several vintage trucks and traveled the country to National Historic Truck Society shows. He was the editor of the "Wheels of Time" magazine, held many leadership roles in civic organizations, and received a lifetime membership for his work with the Girls Scouts of America. He was a talented woodworker, blacksmith, and leatherworker; often combining a myriad of skills to create gifts for friends and family. He was a Master Gardener, a history buff, and an avid reader. Don was a huge sports fan and attended every game he possibly could that his grandchildren played in, often scorekeeping for his own records. He loved the Texas Rangers, San Antonio Spurs, and Dallas Cowboys.

Don loved his Lord and Savior with all his might and worked to instill those values in his family. He texted daily "Words of Wisdom" Bible verses to friends and family. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Borger and served as an Elder for many years. He had the extreme pleasure of being baptized in the Jordan River in 2018.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Sallie, his parents, and his brother Ray Thompson.

Those surviving him with cherished memories are his four daughters: Debbie (Robert) Winegar, Carla Thompson, Gayla (Buddy) Cox, and Angela (John) Kaplan; seven grandchildren, Scott Winegar, Trey (Haley) Cox, Casey Winegar, Bradley (Cala) Cox, Zach (Allyson) Kaplan, Courtney (Benjamin) Bain, Hannah (Matthew) Kennedy; and seven great-grandchildren, Camden, Stella, Darby, Calloway, Bella, Oscar, and Luke; and many other relatives.

<p>Mostly Sunny</p>  <p>H: 32° L: 24° Wednesday</p>	<p>Sunny</p>  <p>H: 52° L: 28° Thursday</p>	<p>Mostly Sunny</p>  <p>H: 48° L: 40° Friday</p>	<p>Partly Cloudy</p>  <p>H: 53° L: 27° Saturday</p>	<p>Partly Cloudy</p>  <p>H: 36° L: 32° Sunday</p>	<p>Mostly Cloudy</p>  <p>H: 34° L: 32° Monday</p>	<p>Mostly Sunny</p>  <p>H: 42° L: 28° Tuesday</p>
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SWODA: Ensuring Care and Support for Seniors During the Harsh Winter Months



As temperatures drop and winter takes hold, it is crucial to ensure seniors in long-term care facilities receive the quality care and support they need to stay safe and healthy. The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is committed to advocating for the well-being of elderly residents, even when it's cold outside.

Winter poses unique risks for seniors, including increased health issues such as respiratory infections, flu, and complications from chronic conditions.

Additionally, the cold weather can exacerbate feelings of isolation and loneliness, which have a significant impact on mental health. Long-term care facilities must take proactive steps to address these concerns.

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is dedicated to advocating for the rights and well-being of long-term care residents. If you have any concerns or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact your local ombudsman, Cherrie Nutley 580-562-5032.

Health Monitoring and Vaccinations: Regular health check-ups and ensuring residents are up to date with flu and pneumonia vaccinations can help prevent serious illnesses.

Warmth and Safety: Facilities should ensure that heating systems are functional and that residents have access to warm clothing and blankets to prevent hypothermia.

Emergency Preparedness: Staff should be ready to manage winter-related emergencies, like power outages or severe weather conditions, to ensure residents' safety.

Social Engagement: Activities and programs that encourage social interaction can help combat loneliness and keep residents mentally and emotionally supported.

Nutrition and Hydration: Providing nutritious meals and encouraging adequate fluid intake is essential, as seniors may be less likely to feel thirsty in colder weather.

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HIGHER GROUND

A Cry for Repentance



Jim Morrison

A few years ago Gateway Church in Dallas was the location of a National Solemn Assembly. It was a quality time of self-evaluation; crying out for the moving of God's Spirit across the land and a call for repentance. As Anne Graham Lotz said, "It is easy to get caught up in political correctness these days even for Pastors." Sometimes it is hard to handle the truth. Prophets are never very popular. She and other speakers challenged church leaders to proclaim the truths that may not be popular like preaching on hell, the judgment, repentance, and holiness. Most people prefer to come away from church feeling good about themselves, rather than convicted about their sins.

This is a far cry from the days of Jonathon Edwards and John Wesley or even Billy Graham's call for repentance.

It was not to be a night of entertainment; we get too much of that already. But I believe it was an honest look at the increasing secularization of our society and uneasy satisfaction that we find with that. As long as our ease and affluence are not sacrificed, we are not bothered enough to enter into a deep and urgent prayer life that will be necessary for true revival.

The four areas of focus were personal repentance, a call for the stabilization of the home, revival within the church, and national brokenness and awakening. Priscilla Shirer gave testimony of her intentionality in directing their children to stand firm, clothed with the full armor of God, as they face the onslaught of the world they will face. Too often, parents let the church lead out when it starts in the home.

Tony Evans said changes must start in the church house rather than expecting change through the White House. He encouraged lay people to live out their faith in the market place, houses of business, and the daily arenas of life.

Kaye Arthur called for a return to consistent Bible Study that calls for meditation and application. Several African/American pastors spoke of their concern for the anger and racial strife and called for reconciliation and genuine love to be answer to the uneasy situation. The group has plans to develop a later conference designed to encourage disciple making as opposed to the emphasis on membership. As someone has said "it is better to equip an army than build a crowd."

As I read of the spiritual hunger that exists among Christians in areas where there is much persecution, I wonder what they would think if they walked among our castles, luxury cars, and supermarkets. Our self-sufficiency has dulled our ears to the bleating of sheep without a shepherd and dimmed our eyes to the vision of the fields that are white unto harvest. Every Christian should take the opportunity to visit a third-world country. Certainly every church leader would have his vision broadened and his heart broken with a greater focus on equipping the saints for the work of the ministry

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LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
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Elk City Names “Pam Gregory Volunteer of 2024”



TERESA KILHOFFER
 Pam Gregory Volunteer of the Year

Mike Smith
 News Director

The Elk City Chamber of Commerce recently held its annual banquet. Among the evenings highlights included the presentation of the prestigious Pam Gregory Volunteer of The Year award to Teresa Kilhoffer of Wright Media.

Kilhoffer says that the significance of receiving an award named in honor of Pam Gregory, a cherished

figure in the community, means the world to her. “Anybody that knows Pam Gregory knows how much of a wonderful woman she is,” said Kilhoffer. “It’s just such an honor.”

Kilhoffer says she enjoys volunteering most by representing Elk City in every way she can, whether through ribbon cutting ceremonies, attending events, or finding other ways to show her support.

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ELK CITY / OSDE - The Oklahoma State Department of Education will be making a visit to Elk City Public Schools on February 5. According to District Superintendent Mike Sparks, the OSDE is wanting to see what other schools in Oklahoma are doing to have success. “We’ve seen what has happened at Elk City, and not only did we have a major improvement, but it’s been sustained over three years, and they asked if they could come spend the day with our teachers, kids, and principals. We’re excited to have them.”

WEATHERFORD / MIDTERMS - Weatherford Schools Superintendent Mark Harmon recently told the School Board of Education that the district has received its mid-term adjustment surrounding the state aid allocation for the district. “Our initial allocation, we thought that we were going to get that they send out in August was \$8.1 million; now it’s going to be about \$8.2 million. That’s always good news when the state’s going to give us a little bit more money.” Harmon also says the district has increased enrollment with 2,404 students across the district.

ELK CITY / SPARKS CONTRACT - The Elk City School Board of Education has extended the contract of Superintendent Mike Sparks for another 3 years. Sparks has been superintendent at Elk City for the past 4 years. “[Elk City] is a great place, and so I’m honored to have another three-year contract be a part of this school system in this community,” said Sparks.

CLINTON / SUPERINTENDENT BRIDGES Clinton Schools Superintendent Tyler Bridges has been granted a 3-year contract extension, ensuring his continued leadership for the district. Following the announcement, Bridges shared his vision for the future of Clinton schools. “People see us as a district of choice and coming to us for various reasons [as we] continue to improve all the programs that we have,” Bridges boasted in an interview with Wright Media. “We want to be one of those [districts] that people come to and say, “Man, we got to figure out what they’re doing [different]!” Bridges says that enrollment increase and academic achievement in the district are his areas of focus.

WEST OK / VOTING RESULTS - The next step in an effort to sell Clinton Regional Hospital to Rural Hospital Solutions can proceed after voters in the city gave nearly 95% support for the sale of the hospital. In Elk City, voters approved two propositions. One was a franchise renewal with Oklahoma Natural Gas. The other will change the amount of money that goes into the city’s sinking fund and will be used for streets, water and sewer infrastructure. Meanwhile, in the town of Binger, voters overwhelmingly supported a proposition to allow the town to utilize a percentage of a one-cent sales tax for beautification projects and equipment purchases.



WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

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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 Jan. 22nd - Brian Adler, Robert Betche, Michael Brooks Jr., Jason Davis, Alexandria Dry, Dalaina Horn, Daniel Hughes, Kassie Jackson, Jeremy Jacobs, Joyce Kenney, Brandon Murray, Fred Parrett, Gabriel Simpson, James Spain, Creed Thomas, Debbie Wagner, Renee Wilkins, Bob Yoder; **Jan. 23th** - Steve Daniel, Kristi Mackin, Janis Scott, Ally Townsley; **Jan. 24th** - Hadley Andes, Erceel Tonya, Bryan Buckner, Beth Cozzont, Myka Davis, Marissa Gathers, Dealrey Hertel, Meri Hix, Cindy Kessler, Paula Merchant, Sue Mingus, Marcus Murray, Ray Nesmith, Marcie Rhoades, Meagan Stewart, Carie Strauch, Larry Thomason, Mitch Turney, Carlie Wood; **Jan. 25th** - Cassandra Conway, Stephanie Daniel, Tressa Hobbs, Mike Karlin, Derek King, Kennedy Merrill, Karah Moxley, Nataly Newman, Ralph Schreiner, Debbie Waggoner, Wilma Smith; **Jan. 26th** - Amanda Anders, Verla Barber, Matthew Bird, John Creswell, Kim Davis, Mike Ferguson, Don Groth, Heather Hawkins, Jevin Jefferson, Kari Jones, Bill Kern, Autumn Lettkeman, Alexander Mack, Rick Oliver, Tyler Vassar, Abby Wright; **Jan. 27th** - Brent Avery, Eddie Bird, Vickie Clonce, Josiane Garrison, Elisa McCurley, Kelly Pease, Noelle Price, John Radke, Billie Rodriguez, Angie Schmidt, John Smith, Amy Thornburg, Chris Thurman, Cyline Weatherly; **Jan. 28th** - Todd Boyd, Tina Goucher, Stacie Henderson, Johnetta Lindsey, Lara Menke, Zainia Moorhead, Pedro Rodriguez, Collin Shaw, Jenna Sheffield, Jamie Steffenson, Tara Stockton.

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Plains Happy Orange 64 oz.	2 for \$5.00				
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SENIOR LIVING

HEALTH SERVICES

River Valley Offers High-Quality Local Physician & Therapy Services

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

There's more to life than just getting by. It's about the people we meet, the experiences we share, and the fondness we feel as we look back at the windy paths our lives took. These life aspects are the fundamental backbone of River Valley Skilled Nursing & Therapy in Clinton, OK. The on-site and experienced staff don't call it a job, they call it a lifestyle.

With 24/7 skilled staff, the care given to the residents at River Valley is unmatched. Care that checks off each component of wellness and health. Every member at River Valley is licensed, certified, and specialized.

From therapy services conducted by occupational and speech language therapists to physician services to dietary services overseen by registered dietitians to nursing services that include focused care for diabetes management, IV Therapy, Respiratory Services,

cardiac care, Mobile Lab services, and more, the sheer work put into surrounding residents with highly sought-after medical professionals is staggering.

Every section, service, and activity has been hand-picked to provide residents with the highest level of happiness and support they can receive.

Alongside top-of-the-line medical care, River Valley hosts a robust set of community options for their members so they can continue to make real connections and record more experiences with each other.

Community options include church services, a beauty salon with barber services, an activity calendar, and an active resident council where residents ensure their voices can be heard. The council focuses on enjoying fellowship and providing "constructive input that helps govern activity choices, dining options and more."

The only qualified person to run your life is you, and that should apply to the care you seek and the way you spend your time.

River Valley Skilled Nursing & Therapy understands that, and as part of their ongoing mission to create comfortable environments with access to the best suite of care professionals and "to [serve] people with compassion and dignity", they work hand-in-hand with residents to schedule appointments and provide transportation to and from those appointments with doctors, labs, and radiology.

River Valley focuses on long term care, as well as care after hospital stays when physical, occupational or speech therapy and skilled nursing is recommended before going home. One of the most effective strategies to quickly recover from an extensive hospital visit is skilled therapy. That's what River Valley wants to be: the bridge between hospital and home.



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SENIOR LIVING

HEALTH SERVICES

Corn Heritage Offers Personalized Care to Meet Wellness Needs

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Stop and think about someone you care about; think about the things you would do to ensure they're happy, comfortable, and looked-after.

Do you see your care ending after a little bit of work, or will it continue long into the future, through any ups & downs and rocky roads? How does the support look – is it hands on? Focused on renewing things they've lost? Or is it simply the ability to be nearby if they require help? Our loved ones deserve the best care, and at Corn Heritage Village & Rehab, they are the best.

Offering services for rehabilitation, independent living, and long-term care, Corn Heritage Village & Rehab continues to provide Nursing Home Care with "in-house benefits that you won't find anywhere else."

As a top-quality service provider for years, their robust benefits and access to skilled nursing staff comes as no surprise.

Some of the in-house benefits include:

- A 24/7 Pharmacy Service
- Resident Activities & Events ("shopping, cook-outs, arts & crafts, music therapy, & more")
- Rehabilitation with state-of-the-art equipment
- 24/7 RN coverage with staff that truly treat each resident like family

With over 70 years of experience as one of the "top rated Oklahoma nursing Home & Senior Care Communities" in the state, Corn Heritage Village & Rehab is no stranger to innovation and adaptability.

Two of the recent ways they've continued to elevate their care has been with the development of their in-house memory care unit at the Corn facility.

Corn Heritage is a non-profit and faith-based service provider with a high focus on personalized care and community involvement.

This "industry leading treatment for Alzheimer's, Dementia, and related conditions" has unlocked new possibilities for care never seen before. The new upgrades include "modernized rooms, cafeterias, ice cream bars, and more."

The second way they've elevated their care is with upgraded facilities. You cannot focus on the future if your equipment is living in the past.

From working with local doctors, to transportation to community shopping, activities, and outings, Corn Heritage is committed to their mission, "to provide the highest level of Long-Term Care & Rehabilitation Care in Oklahoma."

As a top care provider since 1948, Corn Heritage Village & Rehab wants to meet you! Browse their listings or schedule an appointment. Give them a phone call at 580-772-3993 or visit their community at 801 N Washington Avenue in Weatherford

Russell-Murray Hospice Offering Nursing Care for Oklahomans

Russell-Murray Hospice Offering Nursing Care for Western Oklahomans. A terminal diagnosis is one of the hardest things to face. It's commonly understood that each moment is precious but when you're told explicitly that your finite amount of time is quickly approaching, the news can be overwhelming. After receiving a diagnosis like that, families & patients may ask: What's the next step? What should I do? What's the point? In the wake of shattering news, a little bit of help can go a long way. Russell-Murray Hospice, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that provides in-home care to patients that have a terminal diagnosis of 6 months or less. Following the diagnosis, families who reach out following a referral will be able to meet with a supervisor to discuss their needs.

After, the team goes through the medical records with the doctors and determines the best treatment paths and equipment they'll need. Then, the Russell-Murray team will get the necessary equipment installed and setup in the patients home, even before they're discharged from the hospital. The goal is to ensure the families can focus on each other and the time they have. All other cares & worries can be handled (transportation, visits, etc.). Russell-Murray offers in-depth and varied counselor and therapy services per patient need. If new developments come up and additional therapy, like respiratory or physical, is needed, the team comes together to discuss if it can be covered and implemented.

When providing care, the Russell- Murray caregivers can also train the patient's primary caregivers in specific care like wound dressing so they can ensure the comfort of their loved one. Russell-Murray Hospice, Inc. has four locations: El Reno, Weatherford, Kingfisher, and Oklahoma City. They cover a 75-mile radius from El Reno and any office can direct you to the service office for your location. They also offer extensive bereavement services for the family, including explanations and assistance in planning. Russell-Murray's goals are to "Take care of the patient and their family, and to ensure they are able to experience these last stages together." When facing a terminal diagnosis, please remember that you don't have to face it alone. "We want to help. We want to be there. It's never too late."

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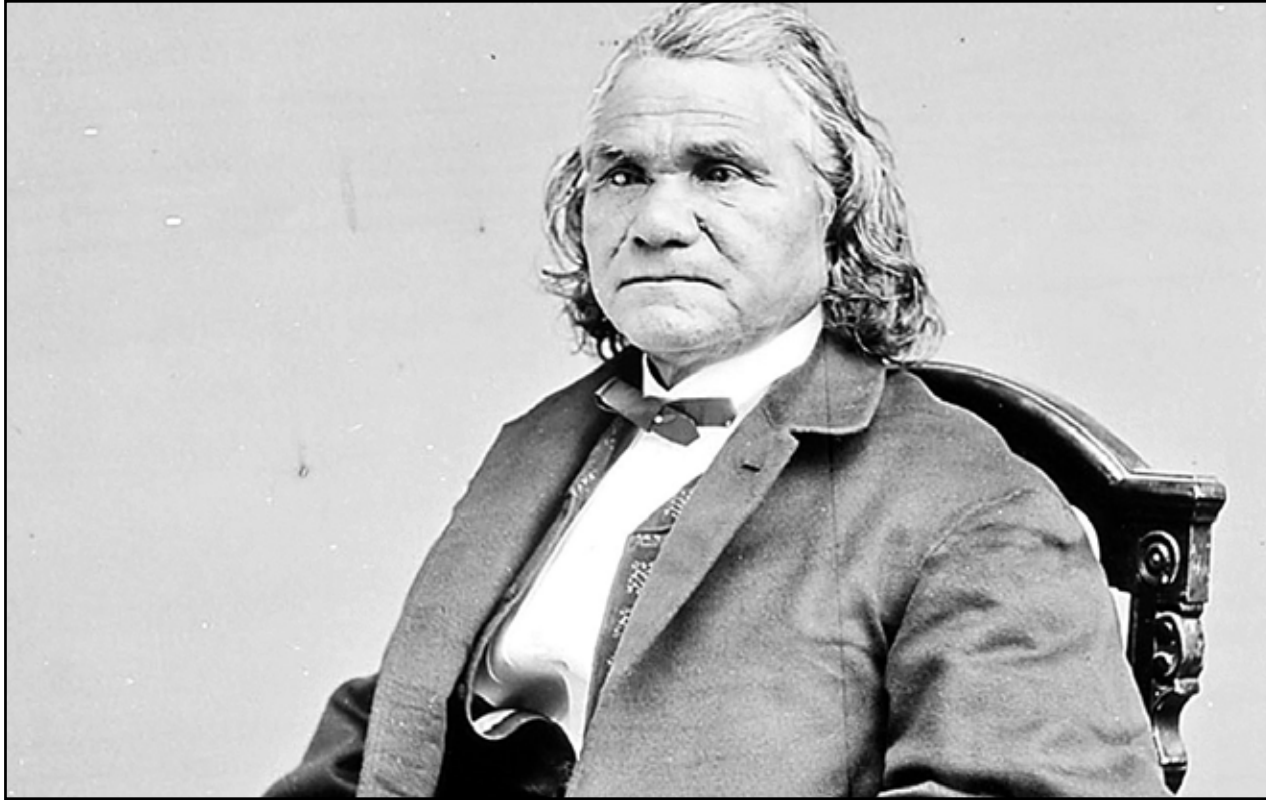


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Oklahoma History: The Importance of the Battle of Cabin Creek



Courtesy Wikimedia Commons

General Stand Watie, A Cherokee Chief and Confederate General at Cabin Creek. He was the last general to surrender in the Civil War.



Courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society

The Cabin Creek Battlefield monument, the last major civil war engagement in Oklahoma.

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 its 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. 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, and its outcome heavily relied on the forces at Cabin Creek.

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. It was the last major battle of the Civil War in Indian Territory and allowed General Watie for the Confederates to be the last one to surrender on June 23, 1865. 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.

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.

There's an award-winning documentary available on Amazon to watch about the raid called Last Raid at Cabin Creek - An Untold Story of the American Civil War, and there's a companion book called "The Second Battle of Cabin Creek: Brilliant Victory". Both were written and produced by Steven L. Warren, a Civil War Historian from Oklahoma.

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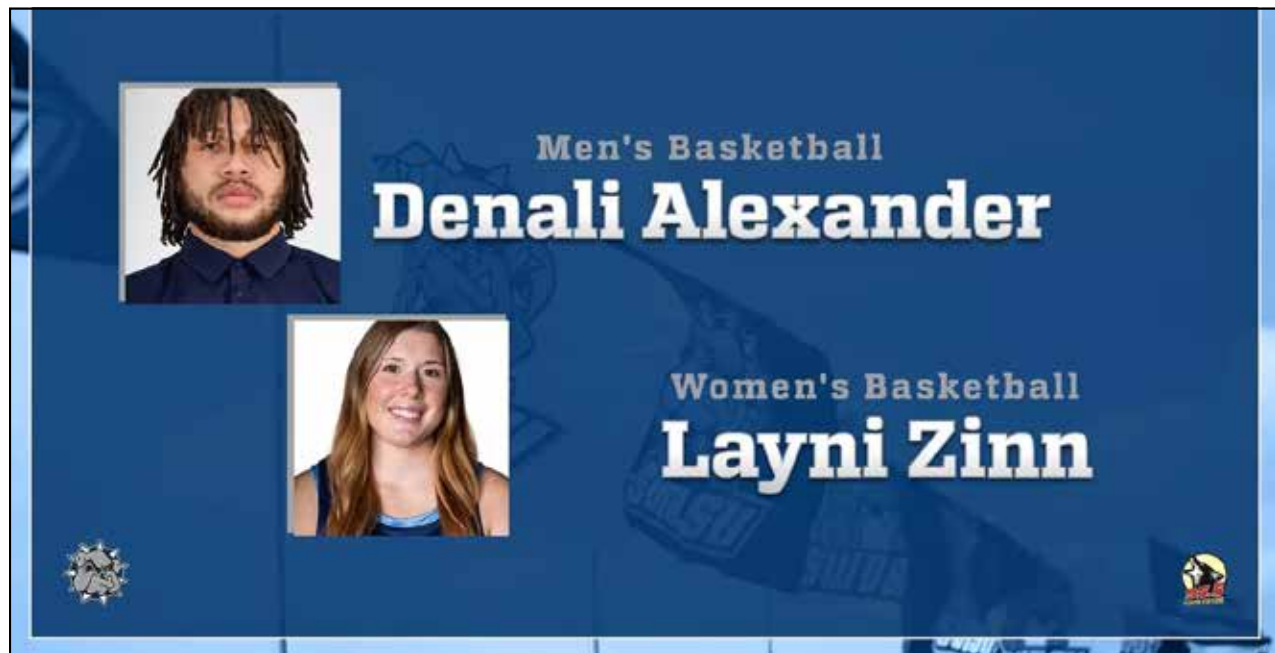
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Chloe Cantrell & MJ Warrior Earn Latest SWOSU Bulldogs of the Week



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Media Relations

Denali Alexander and
Layni Zinn have been

named the latest Bulldogs of the Week. The weekly student-athlete recognition is brought to you by Wright Media, the home of SWOSU Athletics for both livestream and radio.

Denali Alexander (Tulsa, Oklahoma) scored season highs in back-to-back games last week, capped off by a 16-point performance against Arkansas-Monticello.

He shot 46% from the field and shot 20 free throws on the week.

Layni Zinn (Anadarko, OK) also scored a season high against UAM, with 16 points on 5-of-12 shooting and a perfect 5-for-5 at the foul line.

This was her tenth time reaching double figures this year. She had eight points against Southern Arkansas two days prior.

Harlem Globetrotters 2025 World Tour Coming to Western Oklahoma



Get ready for high-flying fun as the world-famous Harlem Globetrotters make their victorious return on Friday, March 21, 2025, with doors opening at 6 p.m. and the event starting at 7 p.m. They'll be playing at the Pioneer Event Center on the SWOSU campus in Weatherford.

This is your chance to witness the world record-breaking, trick-shot stars of basketball LIVE as they bring their signature SPINS, DUNKS, and SLAMS to the court, taking on their determined rivals, the Washington Generals.

This year we're bringing FUN and innovative CHALLENGES to showcase our superstars' impressive skills and seemingly impossible feats of athleticism. Watch in awe as players go head-to-head in an exhilarating battle of skills featuring epic dunks, jaw-dropping four-point shots, and more—it's friendly competition at its most exciting!

Unrivaled fan engagement continues with pre-game offerings like our Magic Pass, unforgettable post-game access, and more in-game fan interactions than ever before. Shop from our merchandise collection to take a piece of the magic home online or in-store on game day.

The Harlem Globetrotters will soon celebrate their upcoming centennial in 2026, bringing laughter, joy, and long-lasting memories to fans that transcend generations. Don't miss your chance to be a part of the Harlem Globetrotters 2025 World Tour presented by Jersey Mike's Subs.

See the world famous Harlem Globetrotters as they run circles around the Washington Generals on the court and bring hype to the fans in the crowd! YOU might even find yourself mid-court as a part of the FAN-FILLED Halftime Skills Showcase!

Harlem Globetrotters fans can score the best seats by scanning the QR Code above.

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SWOSU Squashes Weevils in the Second Half



After a three-game skid, SWOSU earned a hard-fought 71-63 win over Arkansas-Monticello. The Dawgs found their groove on offense, scoring 42 second-half points led by a combined 25 second half points from Denali Alexander (15) and Eli Al-Debaran (10) in his first game back after missing over a month due to injury.

SWOSU had to weather a first half that saw them shoot 1-9 from the deep ball. The game was tied at 29-29 before UAM notched seven straight points in the final two minutes to close out the half. UAM's 36 halftime points were the most for the Boll Weevils in the first half against any NCAA opponent.

The Bulldogs fell behind by nine after a layup opened the second half. However, Kray Rogers knocked down a much needed three, and Nate Reheman finished off a layup in heavy traffic to get back into the game.

The big momentum shift came when Al-Debaran knocked down his first two shot attempts after coming off the bench, closing out a 13-0 run in five minutes of game time to give them a 42-38 lead – a lead they would not relinquish for the remainder of the game.

SWOSU took 28 free throws, the second-highest mark of the season, with 20 free throws coming in the latter half. Tobias Roland led the way by shooting 9-11 (81.8%)

Alexander led the way with 16 total points, a season high, going 7-10 from the line and grabbing four rebounds. Roland and MJ Warrior both contributed 13 points, with Warrior dishing out five assists and a career-high five steals. Al-Debaran added his 10 points, all in the second half.

The final numbers had SWOSU at 22-46 (47.8%) from the field, the highest shooting percentage in the last eight games. They went 5-18 (27.8%) from deep. UAM shot 22-59 (37.3%), making the same number of shots as the Dawgs but attempting 13 more due to a 12-7 advantage on the offensive boards and a free throw disparity of 28-13 in favor of SWOSU. UAM went 8-28 (28.6%) from three, with both makes and attempts being the most for the Boll Weevils this season.

SWOSU will be on the road again next week, starting with Northwestern on Thursday, January 23. The Dawgs will travel to Oklahoma Baptist on Saturday, January 25, to close out the week's games.

Lady Bulldogs Get a Wire-To-Wire Victory



SWOSU Women's Basketball did not trail against Arkansas-Monticello on Saturday, collecting a 63-48 wire-to-wire win over the Blossoms to conclude a perfect 2-0 week of action inside the Pioneer Event Center.

The Lady Bulldogs got a season high scoring effort from Layni Zinn, shot 40% from the field as a team, and went a perfect 10-for-10 at the foul line on the afternoon.

Despite the result, it was just the second time all season SWOSU turned the ball over more times than their opponent. The 18 turnovers the Lady Dawgs committed tied for second most this year. UAM's 11 was the fewest a SWOSU opponent has been forced into making through 16 games.

SWOSU led 14-12 after the first quarter, before opening up a double-digit 34-24 lead by halftime. They edged the Blossoms by a possession each in the third and fourth quarters to eventually beat UAM handily.

Two days after holding Southern Arkansas to 34.5% shooting – second lowest for an opponent this

year – SWOSU limited UAM to 32.7% for a new second-best mark defensively. That final number came mainly from a lockdown fourth quarter that saw the Lady Bulldogs hold the Blossoms to just 2-of-16 (12.5%) shooting to eliminate any chance for a visitor comeback.

Layni Zinn had 16 points on the day – seven of those in the early part of the first quarter – and added nine after halftime. She accounted for half of SWOSU's made free throws in the contest. Hailey Grant finished with nine points and seven rebounds, which tied Chloe Cantrell for the most rebounds on the team.

The win pushes SWOSU to a 9-7 record on the year and to 5-5 in conference play. They'll be on the road the next four games to close out the month before finally returning home for a matching four-game homestand in February.

Northwestern awaits the Lady Bulldogs first next week in Alva on Thursday, January 23. The week will conclude Saturday (Jan. 25) on the road against Oklahoma Baptist.

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