

Weatherford Heartland Cruise Returns June 13



The Heartland Cruise Car Show is revving up for its 35th iteration this upcoming June 13th and 14th. With food trucks, vendors, and tons of giveaways—not to mention all of the cool cars—the Heartland Cruise Car show promises fun for everyone as well as a way to give back to the community.

The festivities will begin on Friday night at 6pm in downtown Weatherford with a welcome party. There, visitors will be able to take in the sights and sounds of a bevvvy of classic and modern vehicles. Then, from 7:30pm to 9pm, the vehicles will take to streets and cruise along a route that includes a portion of Route 66. The day will end with over \$1,000 in cash giveaways.

“If you’re old enough like I am to remember the 60’s, when people cruised Main Street...it’s reminiscent of that,” said Tommy Nabors, who’s helped coordinate the event with the assistance of other car enthusiasts from the area as well as Weatherford’s local D.A.R.E program, who will use the proceeds to purchase a company car.

Beginning at 10am on Saturday, the Heartland Cruise Car Show will take the party to Rader Park. Saturday’s car contests will offer cash prizes encompassing a variety of makes and models. This includes specialized events like a burnout contest and a loud exhaust contest. The weekend’s show is sure to satiate the appetite of any gearhead!

But the fun isn’t just reserved for the car-nuts in the crowd! There will be children’s activities, food trucks, giveaways, vendors, and even a cornhole competition for people to enjoy.

General admission for Friday and Saturday is free to public, but to participate in some events at the car show will require registration. You can pre-register your vehicles online in advance by visiting www.heartlandcruisecarshow.com/reg. The cost to register for one or all of the vehicle activities is \$30. If you pre-register before June 1st you’ll receive a free t-shirt. Online registrations will run until noon, June 13th. Afterwards, interested participants will be able to register in person at the event.

Initially started as a way to help generate more revenue for the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce, the Heartland Car Cruise Show first took place in Means Park. The popularity of the event forced a move to Rader Park in 2002. In 2016, the event was transferred to the stewardship of the Weatherford Rotary Club. It soon became a means to regularly fund Weatherford’s D.A.R.E. Program. Proceeds from the event help fund Weatherford’s D.A.R.E. Program but ambitions for the Car Show are still growing and support from the local community and businesses has never been greater.

For more information about the event you can visit www.heartlandcruisecarshow.com.





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T.J. Stephens

Teresa Jo “T.J.” Stephens of Kingfisher, OK, passed away on May 17, 2025, at the Integris Canadian Valley Hospital in Yukon, OK at the age of 68 years, 10 months, and 3 days.


Born on July 14, 1956, in Denison, Texas, T.J. was the beloved daughter of George Jr. and Jo (Wilkerson) Cundiff.

She spent her formative years on a farm, nurturing a strong work ethic while farming cattle and wheat. T.J. was known for her vibrant spirit, love of dance, and passion for music, particularly rock and country. Some of her cherished artists included Bon Jovi, Guns and Roses, Dolly Parton, and KISS, with "American Woman" being her favorite song.

T.J.'s talent was baking pies, especially her renowned coconut cream pie, which brought joy to those around her. Her most treasured moments were spent with her family, especially her children and grandchildren.

She is survived by her two sons, Jacob Smith and Rusty and Zachary Stephens, along with her daughter, Jennifer Robinson, and her husband, Chantz. T.J. also leaves behind her beloved grandchildren, John, Tripp, and Josie Robinson.

T.J. is preceded in death by her parents, George Jr. and Jo Cundiff, as well as her husbands, David Bogle and Curtis Stephens.



Jimmy Arnold


Louis James “Jimmy” Arnold was born January 31, 1962, to James Edward and Billie Jo (Fitzgerald) Arnold in Clinton, OK. He passed away May 24, 2025, at Oxford Springs Assisted Living in Weatherford, OK.

Raised in Clinton, Jimmy graduated from Clinton High School in 1980. He worked various jobs, including Heat and Air, with his father. He worked dry walling and computer technology. He later owned a computer company, which allowed him to retire and enjoy photography, storm chasing and spending time with his family and friends.

Jimmy’s wishes were to be cremated and not have a funeral. The family will have a private service at a later date.

Jimmy is survived by his sister, Andre’ McLaughlin and husband Allen; niece, Kayla Madden and husband Mike, their children Cooper and soon to come, Macy Jo; Cousins, Steve Gemaehlich and wife Toni and family; David Gemaehlich and family, Mickey Gemaehlich and wife Kim and family; close friend, Jerry Koscheski and wife Renee and family.

Preceding him in death were his parents James and Billie Jo Arnold; grandparents, George and Alta Arnold, Luke and Olivia Fitzgerald and Josephine Chody; aunt and uncle LeRoy and Norma Gemaehlich.



Mary Neece

Mary Lou Neece, 89, of Elk City, OK was born on June 23, 1935, in Foss, OK to Roy Wayne and Lucy Lucile (McAlister) Shirey. Mary looked upon the face of her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at Elk City Nursing Home in Elk City, OK.

Mary married her best friend and sweetheart, Glen Richard Neece on November 9, 1956, in Clinton, OK. They raised their family and spent fifty-eight wonderful years of marriage together. Glen preceded her in death on October 21, 2014.


Mary started school at Reed, OK then attended at Vernon, Texas and graduated from Stafford High School, Stafford, OK with the class of 1955.

She was employed as a cook with Elk City Public School and Merritt School for many years. Mary was a farmer's wife; she helped her husband on the farm anywhere help was needed.

Mary enjoyed many hobbies including, gardening, growing beautiful flowers, sewing, doing crafts, and cooking for her family and friends. For many years she always decorated her house and yard with Christmas lights. Mary treasured spending time with her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, she will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Cherishing her memory is one daughter, Brenda Welch of Willow, OK; one son, Bobby Neece and his wife, Lisa of Elk City, OK; four grandchildren, Jason Welch and his wife, Lillie of Sayre, OK, Shelly Smith and her husband, John of Willow, OK, Nolan Neece of Elk City, OK, Nathan Neece of Midland, Texas; six great grandchildren, Savanna Smith, Jessica Smith and Scarlett Smith all of Willow, OK, Breanna Welch of Blair, OK, Matthew Welch of Sayre, OK, Rosilynn Neece of Elk City, OK; three nieces and their families, Lori Wells and her husband, Rowdy all of Elk City, OK, Karen Cook and her husband, Morris of Fairbanks, Alaska, Mel Reese of Elk City, OK; two nephews, Donnie Shirey and his wife, Barbara of Elk City, OK, Kennie Shirey and his wife, Cathy of Elk City, OK; numerous cousins; and many other relatives and friends.

Mary is preceded in death by her loving husband, Glen Richard Neece; her parents, Roy W. and Lucile Lucy Shirley; one grandson, Jamie Welch; one brother, Wayne Shirey; one son-in-law, Bruce Welch; one sister-in-law, Shirley Griffiee; one niece and two nephews, Sharon Thacker and her husband, Danny, and Bill Reece.



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Clinton Classic Run Returns June 7 @ 8 AM

Saturday, June 7

7AM - Registration

8AM - Races Start

Frisco Ave & 5th Street

The 4th annual Clinton Classic Run is coming to downtown Clinton on Saturday, June 7. The event will host a 5K and 10K run at 8 am, and a “1-Mile Fun Run” at 9 am.

The runs will begin on Frisco Ave and “the route will take [participants] through the streets of downtown by local businesses, neighborhoods, through one of our lovely parks, and down a bit of our historic Route 66,” according to the events Facebook page.

Registration is open on the events website clintonclassicrun.com/event-info to all interested individuals. All benefits will go towards the benefit of Clinton’s McLain Rogers Park. The packages available are listed to the right.

Clinton Classic Run’s website describes the event as “an engaging and fun event, geared towards people of all ages and from all walks of life. We believe that fitness equals happiness, and encourage our participants to challenge their bodies while maintaining a healthy lifestyle.”

For more information visit Clinton Classic Run’s website at www.ClintonClassicRun.com or find them on Facebook by searching Clinton Classic Run.

1 Mile Fun Run (9-10 AM)
\$25 (for all participants)

This package is available for those looking for a more casual experience at whatever pace and route participants feel comfortable taking.

5K Run (8-10 AM)
\$45 (\$30 for participants 18 and under)

This package follows the certified route previously listed, starting and finishing on the corner of Frisco Avenue and Fifth Street.

10K Run (8-10 AM)
\$60 (\$45 for participants 18 and under)

This package follows the same certified route as the 5K, except participants will be running the loop twice.

Ghost Runner
\$25 (for all participants)

This package is for those who cannot attend or physically participate, but would still like to show their support through donation.

HIGHER GROUND

Psalms 16

Jim Morrison

I received a pocket-sized New Testament as a child. It included the Psalms and Proverbs, and I have been a fan of these two Old Testament treasures ever since. I am amazed that these two vessels have been preserved over thousands of years for our encouragement.

Inspiration, and instruction.

Today, we will look at Psalms 16 and try to partially unpack the truths provided for our instruction and enjoyment. I have found that slow reading, even reading a chapter multiple times allows me to gain an understanding for application. Meditating thoughtfully will uncover truths that escape the attention of those who have a goal of reading many chapters a day.

David’s first cry was for God to keep him safe. David may have had in mind the armies of Saul that were threatening him. We likely don’t face physical armies such as David did. But we face the onslaught of spiritual enemies that are likewise harmful to our spiritual growth and effectiveness.

The Devil will use anything that will keep us from advancing the Kingdom. One of the greatest weapons might be spiritual laziness, or complacency. I have a book that is made up completely of the prayers of Charles Spurgeon, the great English preacher of the 19th century. As I read those prayers over and over, I am overwhelmed with the broken heart he displayed for the salvation of his London townspeople. He had 100 men praying in the basement of his church during the services. We have dispensed with Wednesday evening prayer meetings because people are too busy or uninterested to attend.

Another weapon that Satan uses is our self-sufficiency. We have so many gadgets and technology that we fail to give God his proper place. We need to return in humility, to our dependency on God. The proverb that says, “In all your ways acknowledged him,” has not been repealed. (Prov. 3:6a)

Another verse in the Psalm that captures my attention is Vs.4. “The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods.” A companion to that thought is Jonah 5:2 “Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.” If our idol is self-achievement, pleasure, or making money we will shortchange ourselves. Anything that comes between us and our seeking after Him will only rob us of God’s favorable plan for us.

David then gives the answer to this in verse 8: “I have set the Lord always before me, because he is at my right hand. I will not be shaken.” To live under the Lordship of Christ is to freely accept his plan for us—simply surrendered obedience. David’s final word in this passage is found in verse 11, “You have made known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in y our presence., with eternal pleasures at your right hand.”

The end result will be the joy of God’s presence and an eternity filled with freedom from our imperfections and our inability to do all we aspire to do. David was yet to find that in his humanity he would fail miserably. We too will fight the battle with our sinful nature, never attaining perfectly the goals we desire. Yet our greatest failure would be in never striving, accepting a lower level instead of reaching for the higher ground.

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Date: June 22nd-26th
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Age: Finished K-6th Grade

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CLINTON CLASSIC RUN

CLINTON, OK JUNE 7, 2025

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Race Day Packet Pickup:
7:00 am – June 7th – registration
ends at 7:45 am – June 7th

**Race will begin in downtown Clinton
on Frisco between 4th & 5th St.**



**Proceeds will go for improvements
at McLain Rogers Park.**

Western Oklahoma’s Pools Open for Summer



With school out for the summer, cities across western Oklahoma have opened their pools to the public. If you’re looking to have some fun in the sun, here are a few locations that’ll be more than worth your time.

Clinton’s public pool, located east of the DMV, is now open. Stop by to experience its 30-foot water slide anyway (except for Mondays), 1pm - 6pm, until August 1. General admission is \$3 per day. Reservations for private parties are available outside of active hours until 9:30pm.

Elk City recently refurbished their Ackley Park pool into a full aquatic center, “Thunderbird Bay.” It features two pools, one with a diving board and one with a hub of water slides. The pool opened for the summer on May 23. Activities are open Monday-Saturday, 11am - 7pm, and Sundays from 1pm - 7pm.

Hydro’s swimming pool is currently undergoing a few renovations and refurbishings. These improvements are expected to be completed before June 1. Pool hours are Monday - Friday, 12pm - 5pm. Like Clinton, party reservations are available after active hours. The price is \$80 per hour, at a minimum booking of 2 hours.

Weatherford’s Splash Pads are located in Means Park and Rader Park (just south of the Hiking Trail). Free admission is open Monday - Saturday, 10am - 8pm, and Sundays from 1pm - 6pm.

If you don’t have the free time this summer, there are also non-seasonal pools you can look into. Weatherford’s GPF-YMCA offers a pool to all active members, and Clinton’s Water Zoo Indoor Park is open year-round, with the temperature set to 83°F, even in the coldest winter days.

CUSTER COUNTY / JAIL GENERATOR

The generator at the Custer County Detention Center was reportedly experiencing ongoing issues. “There was a [power] spike, and the generator came on. But when the power [came back], it didn’t turn back on,” says Emergency Management Director Mike Galloway. “PSO (Public Service Company of Oklahoma) and Sheriff Dan Day were over there, and it did the same thing. It’s the second time in 10 days.” Galloway says it’s unclear whether the problem lies with the transfer switch or a programming malfunction. The issue is expected to be addressed by Culver Electric, Cummins, or the Public Service Company of Oklahoma.

CUSTER CO / OPIOID GRANT PROCESS

Custer County Commissioners recently met with Oklahoma Alliance for Recovery Resources’ Director of Certification and Training Amanda Coldiron. The meeting allowed for the discussion of the Attorney General’s opioid abatement grant aimed at addressing individuals fighting opioid addiction. Commissioners received an update on services provided over the past quarter and the associated costs. At the time of this meeting, the project’s biggest hump has been in housing assistance at \$17,758. According to Coldiron, there has been only one referral for transportation services, with most of the support going to housing assistance. “Typically, we see a lot more requests from the defense system, as those attorneys are doing their best to try to keep people from going to incarceration with transportation,” explained Coldiron. “The transportation has not been picking up the way that we thought it would, but once we open it up to probation and parole, they usually are the first ones at the table.” Commissioners voiced concern about the structure of the 12-month grant, saying it has forced them to pay for services that were not actually delivered.

CLINTON / ARTS & HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Despite this being the final year of the Levitt AMP Concert Series in Clinton, Mayor David Berrong says there are plans to keep providing entertainment in the future through a 501c3 arts and humanities council. Aside from outsider art shows, Berrong also speculated on what could succeed the Levitt AMP Concert. “People are used to seeing in Clinton and having a concert series. [A successor] won’t be identical to what’s happening with Levitt...but we have a lot of plans for making this an established outdoor entertainment area.”

WATONGA / PROJECTS -

With the recent completion of the new gymnasium for Watonga Public Schools, District Superintendent Kyle Hilterbran revealed other projects are also in the wrap-up stages. “Looking over the football field, we are also finishing up the End Zone Facility with new weight rooms, concession stands, bathrooms, and locker rooms [for] football, baseball, and softball,” expressed Hilterbran. The Nutrition Center and new wrestling rooms should be done by the end of June.” The district was able to open the new gym late in the basketball season. Officials look forward to playing the 2026 basketball season in the new facility.

WEATHERFORD / YMCA GRANT -


The City Commission has approved an agreement between the city of Weatherford and the Southwestern Oklahoma Development Authority (SWODA) for the writing of a tobacco settlement endowment trust grant. Lisa Church with SWODA says the matching grant could help secure the necessary funding for construction of the new Community Center in Rader Park. Out of the \$150 million, Church reported the non-profit is planning to apply for \$20 million. “I’ve actually talked to the YMCA and part of that grant will [include] a year of free access to the new YMCA for everybody,” explained Church. Additionally, as part of the agreement, the city will pay SWODA \$20,000 to write the grant. The application deadline is June 16.

WEATHERFORD / SSM CONTRACT -

The Weatherford hospital board recently approved renewal of the management contract with Sisters of Saint Mary Health (SSM). “The management fee that the hospital pays to SSM...is changing to 1.8% based on current figures,” says Hospital Chief Executive Officer Darin Farrell. “It’s not a large increase. It’s less than \$7,000 [more per year]. The SSM contract renewal is for three years.

WEATHERFORD / STAFFORD PARK -

Stafford Air & Space Museum Executive Director Colton Parkinson says lots of progress is being made on the Shooting Star Park. “You will be able to fully engage...there’s something for everybody out there,” expressed Parkinson. “Some of the crew is coming to set up some more of the equipment. There’s been quite a bit spent on equipment out there.” Parkinson says other attractions will include, among other things, a splash pad and amphitheater.

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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 June 4th- Jordan Nel, Hayden Boone, Jeff Brown, Ken Keeton, Bo Lovelace, Deb Mooney, Elizabeth Olguin, Larry Parker, Kendra Parkhurst, Heather Randy, Janice Smith, Laura Lynn Trent, Charmaine Yellow Eyes; **June 5th** - Leonard Abrahams, Caren Edwards, Richard Ratcliffe, Sue Ringler, Luke Sewell, Blake Shaddon, Alisyn Shellhorse, Micahel Shipman; **June 6th** - Kaci Axtell, Raymond Cole, Daryl Jones, Jasmine Lamp, Janet Little, Donna Poeling, Janet Roulet, Dwight Slagell, Brittany Theis, Bo Thomason. **June 7th** - Deon Basler, Angeline Evans, Ryan Fox, Tommy Klein, Nickie Lee, Ashley Oliver, Denise Slagell, Denis Slagell, Raymond Vermillion; **June 8th-** Kathy Barchkoltz, Clare Blakeslee, Evelyn Bouma, Kathy Hanson, Lillie Peach, Melissa Reeves, Dawnellen Settles, Grant Sheperd, Elizabeth Sikes; **June 9th** - Savannah Jo Collins, Whitney Carder, Kim Cooper, Debi Duff, Justin Edler, Michelle Furhmann, Mary Graham, Wade Haugan, Jack Walton; **June 10th** - Beverly Axtell, Lonni Boone, Carla Maddox, Kirsten Nestell, Mary Perkins, John Postelwait, L.R. Sights, Chad Spencer, Lance Waldrop, Gavina Whitley.

Oklahoma History: Washita County and the Clinton-Sherman AFB



Retrieved from spaceport.ok.gov

The OSIDA's foundation preceded corporate prototype testing at the Clinton-Sherman AFB.



Courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society

One of the U.S. Air Force's "Strategic Air Force (SAC) Tankers," among other US and UK planes not pictured, were put on display for the Clinton-Sherman Air Force Base.

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The Oklahoma Air & Space Port is a public-use airport known as the Naval Air Station Clinton, later renamed to the Clinton-Sherman Industrial Airpark. Located in Foss, OK (near Burns Flat, located about 15 miles southwest of Clinton), the airport has had a colorful history of uses and, all the while, maintained its status as a premier airstrip for different operations.

Today it continues to serve as a strategic and one-of-a-kind port and base for testing, licensing, and training in use by branches of the Department of Defense, Boeing, and the Oklahoma Highway Patrol.

The port was originally built in 1942, but was not officially established until October of 1943 during the height of World War II as “Naval Air Station Clinton.”

The base would close for nearly a decade following the resolution to the war. Ownership was transferred to the city of Clinton, OK, on January 27, 1949. The only caveat: the government could dawn control of it at any point if a national emergency required it.

Despite it no longer being a national Base, the federal government still invested its resources into improving it, especially with the Cold War on the horizon and world-ending nuclear annihilation become more and more of a potential reality.

On September 15, 1954—the same month that the base was repurposed as a Strategic Air Command (SAC) base—the federal government began an extension of one of its runway to be nearly 3 miles long.

During this period, the air station had multiple facilities and strips built, acted as a salvage site, and became a site for the Air Force to develop and train specialized air equipment. This is also the period in which the base underwent its most recent change to become the Clinton-Sherman AFB.

Before its inactivation in 1969, bombardment squadrons used the site to practice new strategic readiness and training and acted to support operations of the Air Force globally.

The main group, the 70th Bombardment Wing, loaned several aircraft, crew, and maintenance personnel during 1968-1969 for combat operations in Asia.

After being labeled as inactive on December 31, 1969, the base’s operation was put under the ownership of the city of Clinton for the second time in its life.

Later, in 1999, Oklahoma Senate Bill 720 created the Oklahoma Space Industry Development Authority (OSIDA), and shortly after, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). granted a license to them to use the port and designated it as a licensed orbital launch site. The reason: the port has access to “The Infinity One”, the longest air strip (152 miles long and 50 miles wide) that is not in restricted airspace and not in a Military Operations Area (MoA). It is one of only 12 licensed FAA launch sites in the U.S.

Soon, different aerospace companies began conducting tests for astronautical prototyping. One of these companies was Armadillo-Aerospace, who used the base for space prototypes like its lunar lander. Their tests ended in 2009.


Alongside sub-orbital testing, many attempts were made to establishing a rocket racing league on the base. The first of these was established in 2005, with plans to race rocket-powered aircraft in a closed-circuit track. The rocket racers would be viewable by the public live and virtually through devices with internet access. Three prototypes were created and tested, but funding failed during plans to host their 2008 inaugural race. Additional funding was picked up, and one exhibition race was held in 2010. Unfortunately, funding again ran out before another race could be held and by 2014, the league ended.

The company Boeing picked up use of the base to test their autonomous landing system for their jumbo jets. By 2015, they were also using the site for proficiency training, flight tests, and recertification flights.

Other aircraft manufacturers and companies began to do the same, and the Department of Defense is still using it for flight training crews to this day.

The bunker facilities created prior are now used as the Law Enforcement Driver Training Center for the Oklahoma Highway Patrol and the Oklahoma Department of Safety. The annual Cadet Lawman Academy for high schoolers uses the site for their summer programs. According to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, the facility is recognized as one of the top law enforcement driving centers in the nation.

In a 12 month operation period ending in June of 2020, the port saw over 30,000 successful operations. Today, the north and west WWII runways, while unused, can still be seen from aerial photographs.



2025 WPLS
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June 12th: Rocky
Mountain Puppets
June 19th: Mad Science
June 26th: Will Stuck
July 11th: Extreme Animals

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219 E. Franklin
www.wplib.com







BRUBECK BROTHERS
JAZZ QUARTET

Chris and Dan Brubeck have been making music together all their lives. Drummer Dan and composer Chris cut their first record together in 1966—nearly a half century ago. They’ve subsequently played a variety of styles in a number of different groups, as well as with their father, Dave Brubeck.

Guitarist Mike DeMicco and pianist Chuck Lamb complete this dynamic quartet that perform across North America and Europe. The Quartet’s last CD, LifeTimes, was a hit on the Jazz Week radio chart where it made the Top Ten list as one of the most played jazz recordings of the year.



JARED DECK
AMERICANA ROCK SINGER




Thomas Native Jared Deck is an Oklahoma-based folk/americana singer, winner of the Woody Guthrie Folk Festival songwriting contest.


Deck sings of hard work and hard luck, harkening upon his days as an outsourced factory worker, an oil field roughneck, and a full gospel church musician.


Like roots in the ground, Deck sets his feet firmly in Americana and the traditions that inspired him to pick up the pen and write.


Brubeck Brothers - Friday, June 6th @ 7pm
Jared Deck - Friday, June 13th @ 7pm

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Legendary Jazz Quartet Makes Their Levitt AMP Debut This Friday



Pictured, from left: Chuck Lamb (Pianist); Chris Brubeck (Trombone and Electric Bassist); Dan Brubeck (Drummer); and Mike DeMicco (Guitarist).

This Friday, June 6, the Brubeck Brothers’ Jazz Quartet will perform live in McClain Rogers Park, as part of the Levitt AMP Concert Series.

Dan and Chris Brubeck are the sons of pianist Dave Brubeck, whose quartet was the epicenter of “cool jazz” in the late ‘50s and early ‘60s. The Dave Brubeck Quartet was best known for the 1959 album “Time Out,” which featured the highest-selling jazz single of all time, “Take Five.”

The quartet’s name and lineup would change many times over the decades, with Dan and Chris filling the shoes of jazz giants like bassist Eugene Wright and drummer Joe Morello. Today, its legacy lives on with his children, alongside guitarist Mike DeMicco and pianist Chuck Lamb.

The four members of the Brubeck Brothers have had very distinguished careers: Chris Brubeck was nominated for a Grammy for his symphonic tribute to Ansel Adams; Dan Brubeck performed live for the Grammy awards in 1993 and 1996; Mike DeMicco was featured in the Emmy nominated PBS series “Jazz (in America);” and Chuck Lamb co-founded “Dry Jack,” cited by Rolling Stone’s History of Music as “one of the premier, cutting edge bands of the electric jazz movement.”

As with all Levitt AMP concerts, their show is free to the public and will begin at 7 pm.

Senate Review by Senator Darcy Jech: 2025 Session Has Adjourned



Sen. Darcy Jech

R-Kingfisher, District 26

The Legislature has officially adjourned from the 2025 session. It was an incredibly productive year as we worked to pass policies that will improve the lives of Oklahomans and move our state forward. Most importantly, we passed a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2026. The final agreement includes flat budgets for most state agencies, with some seeing slight budget cuts. The budget agreed to by the Senate, House and Governor maintains core agency services and leaves our state savings in a strong position at \$3.5 billion, ensuring we can weather future shortfalls, while also making strategic and significant investments.

One investment to note is the \$250 million appropriation to construct a new, state-of-the-art veterinary medicine teaching hospital at Oklahoma State University. This facility will help return OSU to its position as a top veterinary school, while also supporting our state’s workforce, economy, and the rural communities that rely on critical veterinary services. The budget also includes funds for deferred maintenance projects at various state-owned sites, as well as investments in public education, county roads and bridges, and other key areas.

Dozens of good policies made it across the finish line this session, I’m pleased to report that two particular bills I authored, Senate Bill 713 and House Bill 2161, were among them.

SB 713 requires the owner or operator of a new wind energy facility to apply to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for installation of a light-mitigating technology system that complies with FAA regulations and industry standards.

HB 2161 relates property guidelines for museums and provides timelines to obtain ownership of an item if it is not claimed by the lender. This measure will offer clarity for museums across our state as they work to maintain archives and preserve our history.

Among other legislative business is the Senate’s confirmation of executive nominations for individuals selected to serve on various state boards and commissions. I was proud to carry the nomination of Ryan Deatherage of Kingfisher to serve on the State Board of Education. I appreciate him serving our state in this capacity and look forward to seeing the positive impact he will have in shaping the future of education in Oklahoma.

Many of our accomplishments this session can be credited to Pro Tem Lonnie Paxton, who has exhibited exemplary leadership in his first session in this role. I’m deeply grateful for his guidance and commitment to investing in the future of our state, and look forward to seeing what we accomplish under his continued leadership.

We also welcomed more than a dozen new Senators to our body, and I enjoyed working with them on various initiatives, as well as hearing their unique perspectives on matters affecting our state and their home districts.

Through the busy session, I am thankful to have had many from Senate District 26 visit the Capitol, whether to serve as a Senate page, celebrate a day of recognition, advocate for an issue, or simply tour the Capitol and its historical exhibits.

I’m looking forward to visiting with many more constituents through the interim months and continuing collaboration on projects throughout the district.

There are many exciting things to come in this year’s interim as we plan for interim studies, prepare for the Route 66 Centennial celebration, and gear up for legislative work in the 2026 session. To top it off, the Oklahoma City Thunder is bringing more cause for celebration to the state by claiming the NBA Western Conference Championship and advancing to the NBA Finals.

It is an exciting and proud time to be an Oklahoman, and it is an honor to serve you and work on behalf of our community. If I can assist you in any way, please contact my office at 405-521-5545 or darcy.jech@oksenate.gov.

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Weatherford Little League Baseball/Softball Begins for Spring 2025



Krystal Blackwell / WW
Lane Brown (left) and Hayes Hargis (right) played ball in the 10-U division of the city of Weatherford’s baseball team.

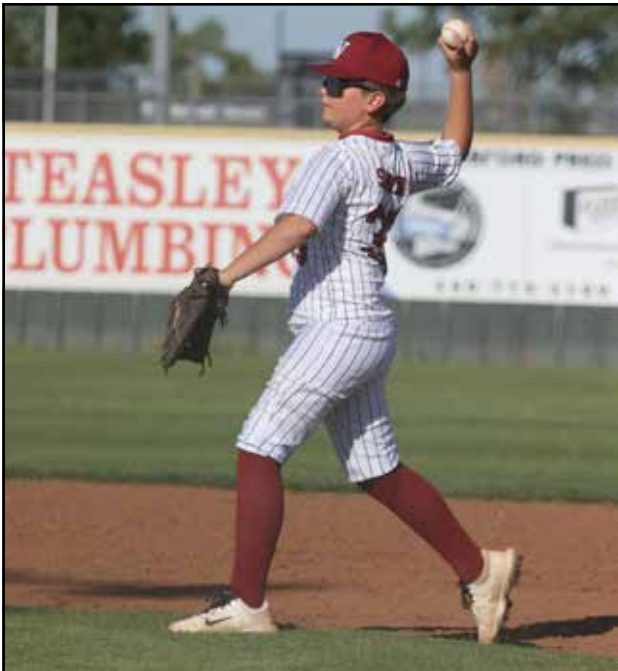
Krystal Blackwell / WW
Lakley Bates, age 9, catching and batting for the Pink Eagles, the Little League Softball Team for Weatherford.



Krystal Blackwell / WW
The kids in the dugout smile for the camera during downtime at 8-U Coach’s Pitch.



Krystal Blackwell / WW
Cody Silman taking some practice swings at 8-U Coach’s Pitch.



Krystal Blackwell / WW
Colby Silman warms up his throwing arm at 12-U Baseball Camp.

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