WEST ON WEEKLY



BOXHOLDER

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Oklahoma's Oldest Free Fair Returns to Hydro August 14-16





Thursday, August 14, 2025

7:30am - Livestock Judging Books Open

8:00am - Livestock Judging Contest Begins

8:00am - Community Building Entries Open

12:00pm - All Baked Goods Entries Close

4:15pm - Horse Show Books Open

4:30pm - Flower Entries, Close

5:00pm - Exhibit Building Books Close

5:30pm - Horse Show Starts

6:00am - All Livestock Entries Due 6:30pm - Opening Ceremony

7:00pm - All Rides and Concessions Open

7:30pm - Free Entertainment

Friday, August 15, 2025

7:30am - Livestock Judging Begins

9:00am - Kid Races and Stunts

7:00pm - All Rides and Concessions Open

7:30pm - Free Entertainment 8:00pm - 3-in-1 Ranch Rodeo

Saturday, August 16, 2025

10:00am - Parade

11:00am - Kid Tractor Pull

1:00pm - Mud Volleyball

4:00pm - Washers & Watermelons

5:00pm Entry Deadline for Cake Auction

7:00pm - All Rides and Concessions Open

7:30pm - Free Entertainment

8:00pm - 3-in-1 Ranch Rodeo

Grab your friends and family and get ready for a great time as The Hydro Free Fair, Oklahoma's longest running free fair, is scheduled to return to the Hydro Fairgrounds August 14, 15 and 16th for the 118th time. The Hydro Free Fair began in 1907 when it "started up on Main Street as a mule show" before moving "down to the park," said Charlie Wieland, Hydro Free Fair President. The fair has only been canceled once since WWII during the COVID pandemic in 2020.

The Hydro Free Fair which features a mix of livestock shows, community exhibitions, as well as fair entertainment is most certainly highly regarded in Western Oklahoma for it's iconic fair rides and games which the fair has independently owned and operated since the 1960's. "Now in 1960, they got tired of messing with carnivals coming into town, so they began collecting their own rides. They've been owning and operating their own rides since 1963," said Wieland. Names such as the Green Machine and the Octopus hold a special place in many Western Oklahomans' hearts, but the recently renovated carousel has also helped cement the legacy of the fair as a Western Oklahoma classic and brought enthusiasts from all over the country.

The fun starts on Thursday, August 14th. At 7:30am, livestock will be accepted for the 8am Livestock Judging Contest. Entries for baked goods, flowers, and other comminuty building exhibits will also be accepted at 8am. Baked goods are due by 12pm, flowers are due by 4:30pm, and comminuty building exhibits are due by 5pm. Separate from these events, Horse Show bookings will open at 4:15pm and close at 5pm when the show begin.

See "FAIR," Page 4



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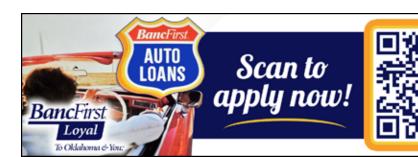
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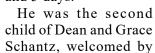
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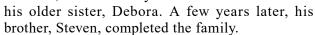




Merlin Schantz

Merlin Dean Schantz, Jr, was born on November 20th, 1958, and passed away peacefully at home on July 25, 2025 at the age of 66 years, 8 months and 5 days.





From an early age, Merlin loved being outdoors and helping his dad on the family farm north of Hydro. He always preferred time in the shop over time in the classroom. As a young child, he accepted Christ as his Savior and was later baptized.

Merlin met Lillian Thiessen of Colony, OK while serving together on a youth work trip in Idaho and fell in love. After dating for a couple years, they were married on March 11, 1978, in Weatherford, OK.

They made their first home north of Hydro on a corner of the family farm and began raising their family. They later purchased the farm from his parents and moved into his childhood home. Their children—Elizabeth, Jana, Benjamin, and Aaron—were all brought up surrounded by farm life and the values of faith, hard work, and service.

Farming was more than Merlin's livelihood; it was his calling. He farmed as unto the Lord and desired to honor God with all that he did. He partnered with the OSU Research Team to host numerous trials on his land and was an active member of several growers' organizations.

Church was central to Merlin's life. His faith was not just something reserved for Sundays—it shaped how he lived every day. He served in many roles over the years including greeter, usher, board member, and always lent a hand with building projects.

Merlin had a heart for mentoring—supporting pastors, young farmers, and anyone in need of encouragement.

For the past twenty years, Merlin was deeply involved in NetMenders Ministry, a group dedicated to supporting pastors in South Texas and northern Mexico.

He made frequent trips south to plan and work on ministry projects, and spent several weeks each February with the team to lead and complete the work.

He especially loved bringing new people into the group and watching them grow in faith as they served others together.

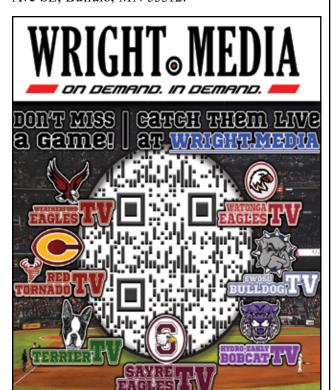
As his sons grew up, they joined him in the farming operation, and together they farmed crops including wheat, cotton, peanuts, milo, chili peppers, spinach, and carrots—just about anything he thought might grow in Oklahoma.

Though farming wasn't always profitable, it brought the family together and created countless memories and life lessons. In recent years, Merlin cherished his role as Grandpa and loved spending time with his grandchildren.

Merlin is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Lillian Schantz, of the home; four children: Elizabeth (Kurtis) Richert of Buhler, KS, Jana (Matthew) Machniak of Adrian, MI, Benjamin (Sarah) Schantz of Weatherford, OK, and Aaron Schantz of Hydro, OK. Merlin is also survived by 13 grandchildren, Abigail, Benaiah, Caleb, Gabriel, Elijah, and Isaiah Machniak; Daniel, Shoshana, David, Josiah, and Samuel Schantz; and Alexis and Nathaniel Schantz. He is also survived by his sister Debora (Anthony) Hooper, brother Steven Schantz; and many nieces, nephews, and other extended family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Merlin Dean and Grace Schantz, and his adopted sister, Lea Schantz.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: NetMenders Ministry, Tom McConn, 971 Halsey Ave SE, Buffalo, MN 55312.



Delbert Ferguson

Delbert Dwayne Ferguson was born January 12, 1962, in Boise City, Oklahoma, to Olen Dean Ferguson and Merle Stutzman and passed away Tuesday, July 29, 2025, at Watonga Mercy Hospital.



Delbert's family relocated to Carlsbad, New Mexico when he was just three years old. Throughout his childhood, he relocated to Seiling and eventually Watonga, where he completed his education.

After retaining his GED, his first job was for Armstrong Tool and Supply. He then spent the next 30 years working for Mustang Fuel, which was acquired by Enogex and later became part of Enable in Oakwood.

On February 11, 1984, Delbert married Karen Rose Magnusson in Thomas. They initially settled in Fay before eventually moving to their current home northeast of Fay. Delbert retired from Enable in 2016.

Delbert took great pleasure in being a mechanic

Delbert took great pleasure in being a mechanic. He loved fixing various things, spending time with his grandchildren, working with his sons and tinkering in the shop.

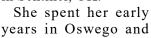
Above all, he cherished the moments he shared with his family and the time spent alongside his family

Delbert is survived by his wife, Karen Ferguson of the home; mother, Merle Stutzman; daughter, Krystal Barden and husband, Chris; two sons, Mark Ferguson and wife, Courtney and Mike Ferguson and wife, Zaida; ten grandchildren, Kharece, Jonathon, Abby, Brielle, Macie Barden, Dawson Ferguson and Parker McSperitt, Dreyan Hartico, Alexander and Benjamin Knapp; and sister, Darla Packwood.

He was preceded in death by his father and brother, Ricky Ferguson.

Alice Pingelton

Alice Lucile Pingelton was born on August 22, 1944, in Oswego, KS, to Monroe and Margaret Thompson. She passed away peacefully on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, in Sentinel, OK.



later attended school in Laverne, Oklahoma. Shortly after high school, Alice married Jerry Cotter, with whom she had two daughters, Deborah and Teresa. After Jerry's passing, she met and married Samuel Pingelton on June 8, 1967, in Spearman, Texas. Together, they had two sons, Dale and Caleb, and shared over five decades of marriage.

They made their home in Perryton, Texas, where Alice worked as the Medical Records Director at Ochiltree General Hospital after earning her associate degree as an Accredited Records Technician.

Alice and Sam were also the proud owners and operators of Samco Manufacturing and Custom Welding Company, which they ran until their retirement in 2017. Following retirement, they moved to Clinton, Oklahoma.

A devoted Christian, Alice was a faithful and active member of First Assembly of God Church in Sentinel.

She gave her heart to the Lord at age 9 in a Sunday school class in Cushing, Oklahoma. She found joy in reading, shopping, and playing cards—always with a competitive spirit.

She also loved spending time outdoors camping and fishing. Her two cherished dogs, Molly and Minnie, were beloved companions.

Alice was preceded in death by her first husband, Jerry Cotter; her second husband of 52 years, Samuel Pingelton; her parents, Monroe and Margaret Thompson and her grandson, Daniel Hightower.

She is survived by her children; daughters, Deborah Bichler and husband Peter of Lindale, Texas, Teresa Hightower and husband Bret of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; sons, Samuel Dale Pingelton Jr. and wife Catherine of Sentinel, Oklahoma and Caleb Pingelton of Yukon, Oklahoma; brother, Andy Thompson; sister, Janet McEwen; 11 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Alice will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

TUBMORN



Debby Slagle

Deborah "Debby" Lea Slagle was born December 5, 1950, in Thomas, to Lue "Slick" Warren and Lea Elma (Fry) Slagle and passed away Thursday, July 24, 2025, at Weatherford Regional Hospital.



Debby was raised and

attended school in Thomas, graduating from Thomas High School in 1969. While in high school she loved being a cheerleader and working as a babysitter. She earned a Bachelor Degree in Education and a Master Degree in Education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Debby taught for 8 years in the Ringling Public Schools. She met Charlie Clark in 1987, at her father's barber shop. In the early 1990's they started dating and after a long courtship, were married March 27, 2024. Debby enjoyed spending time with her family, visiting with friends, and traveling on long road trips with Charlie. She was a lifetime member of the VFW Women's Auxiliary.

Debby is survived by husband, Charlie Clark of their home in Thomas; step-daughters, Susan Hill and husband, Brett and Sherry DeWaters; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; niece, Melissa Harris; great-nephew, Kellan Harris; and great-niece, Raylea Medicine Bear.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Susan Godwin; nephew, Landon Godwin; niece, Jessica Godwin; and great-nephew, Kendon Harris.

Margie Hill

Margorie "Margie" Marlene (Underwood) Hill was born on September 4, 1935, to Roy and Bertha (Davis) Underwood in Maitland, South Dakota. She was 11th of 12 children, with 5 brothers and 7 sisters. At the age of 3,



the family moved to Southern California, where she would grow up. Margie was a member of the Bluebirds and Campfire Girls.

After high school, Margie married and had two children: Brad (whom she lovingly called Scottie) and Melody Largent. In 1964, Margie married Darrell Hill and became a mother to his sons, Larry and Rick Hill. In 1967, they added a fifth child, Clay.

The family moved to Weatherford, Oklahoma, in March 1978, where they remained.

Throughout her life, Margie held a variety of jobs that she enjoyed. Her first job was as a waitress at a drugstore when she was just 14; she lied about her age so she could work. After that, she worked as an elevator attendant at the Guaranteed Building at Hollywood and Vine, where she fondly remembered clicking the cymbals and calling out, "Going up!" Margie also worked for the Van Nuys newspaper, taking calls for the classifieds, and at a trucking company as a dispatcher. However, she especially enjoyed her job building door switches for airplanes, which involved assembling 36 pieces using tweezers.

Once they moved to Oklahoma, Margie worked as a bookkeeper for Darrell's roofing company, Sooner Roofing. In 1984, she began working as a custodian at Southwestern Oklahoma State University and retired 10 years later. She later returned to bookkeeping when Darrell opened and operated several successful bars in Weatherford and Thomas. But her biggest job, as she often said, was always keeping Darrell in line.

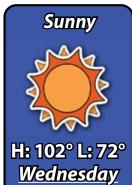
Margie enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, gardening, reading, playing cards, and going to the casino. She will be remembered for her delicious meals and her enthusiasm for sharing great recipes. Margie also took great pride in keeping a spotless home, so much so that once her sister-in-law caught her washing her mailbox. When asked why, she replied, "I can't have a dirty mailbox. The mailman might think my house isn't clean."

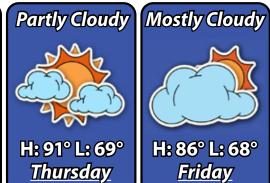
Several bonus grandchildren found a welcoming home at Margie's, and she loved them all, claiming them as her own. Special ones included Nadia and Eva Lopez, Reagan and Jace Rosenkranz, and Stirling and Hudsen Gilliland.

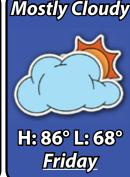
In recent years, Margie enjoyed visits from good friend Carol Vance, her special neighbors Clay and Brandi Gilliland, and especially her dinner dates with Candace Lopez.

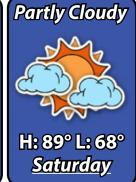
Margie is survived by her daughter, Melody Largent; her son, Clay Hill and his wife, Amanda, all of Weatherford, OK; her sister, Peggy Butler of Puyallup, Washington; nine grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Darrell, five brothers, six sisters, three sons – Larry, Brad, and Rick – one granddaughter, Laura Largent, and a great-granddaughter, Julia Adams.



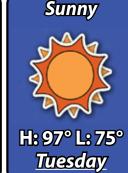












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Your Gift to Weatherford-WOCS Can Go Twice as Far During their \$25,000 Matching Challenge

WEATHERFORD CAMPUS: PARENT TEACHER FELLOWSHIP



Heather Spain

We have exciting news to share—and an incredible opportunity to make your support for Weatherford WOCS go twice as far!

Thanks to the generosity of a dedicated supporter, every dollar you give will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$25,000. That means your \$50 gift becomes \$100, your \$250 becomes \$500, doubling your impact on the work we can do here at Weatherford WOCS.

But here's the catch: We have until December 1, 2025 to unlock the full \$25,000 match. Your support has always helped us grow. Now, with this matching challenge, your generosity can go even further to finish out the first step remodel project of our newly purchased building.

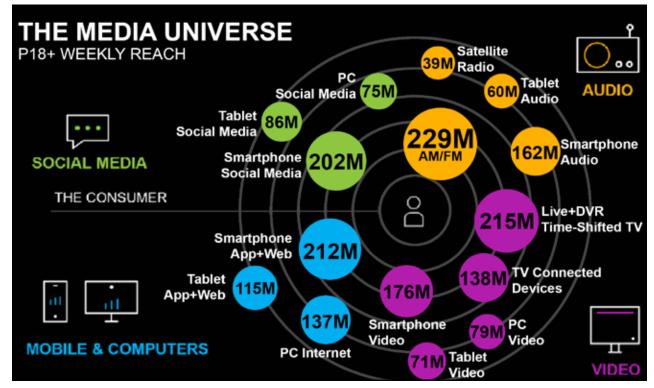
We will also use your donations to work towards our goal of raising \$350,000 towards next summer's remodeling project. The remodels will feature larger bathrooms with more stalls, as well as a second story with four more classrooms.

Let's rise to this challenge together. Every dollar counts, and every dollar will be doubled. Donate now and help us meet the match!

Donations Should be made out to the "Weatherford Campus: Parent Teacher Fellowship" (WCPTF) for them to be tax deductible. This is Weatherford-WOCS's non-profit and can be mailed to P.O. Box 1592, Weatherford, OK 73096

Don't wait, the deadline is December 1, 2025. Let's make the most of this generous offer and reach our \$25,000 goal together.

Radio Advertising Bureau: Radio is Still #1



Annette Malave

If you have read RAB's RadioMatters blog in the past, you have read about radio's inarguable strengths. You've read about radio's ability to connect, engage and deliver results. This story is different.

This article is focusing on radio's greatest strength: reach. Despite all the entertainment options today, radio still reaches more adults each week than any other medium. Radio is still #1.

The latest Nielsen Audience Insights Data reports that radio reaches 225,780,000 adults 18-and-older every single week. Radio touches the lives of more people than other media options.

Radio's strong connection and engagement among diverse audiences is indisputable. Based on this same data, radio reaches 29.2 million black adults 18+ and 40.5 million hispanic adults 18+ every single week, quantifying radio's role within their lives.

The role that radio has in the lives of radio listeners 18+, including among black and hispanic listeners, is significantly greater compared to the time spent on social media networking sites on their smartphones. Across the board, these adults spend well over nine hours every week tuning into broadcast radio versus seven-plus hours among all adults 18+, hispanic adults 18+, or eight hours among black adults 18+.

When it comes to the elusive 18-49-year-olds, radio is on their radar. Broadcast radio connects with 115.2 million weekly, dispelling the perception that the younger generation doesn't listen to radio.

Given today's complex media landscape and the options available to consumers, radio ranks high for entertainment and information. Radio is a federally licensed medium that delivers music, news and companionship in the markets where these listeners is still #1.

work and live matters and it matters to them. Radio NOW HIRING · PART TIME SALES ASSOCIATE Must be self-motivated, dependable, honest, detail-oriented, and possess customer service skills. Must Pass a Background Check and Drug Test.

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Loving, Launching, Letting Go



It is here! That day that you both dreaded and anticipated has arrived. Whether it is your first, last or in-between collegiate there is nothing quite like the transition from home and high school to the university campus.

How quickly time flies! It seems Jim Morrison like only yesterday that you enrolled them in kindergarten.

Now, he/she is no longer a child but a young adult, growing, struggling to become independent, and out to change the world! Deep down you wouldn't have it any other way, but that does dissolve the lump in your throat, or fill the empty bedroom back home.

As a campus minister for thirty-seven years, I watched literally thousands of freshmen move into this strange world called the academic community. I never grew tired of those exciting first days. Even, in retirement, I miss them.

Those phone calls from a parent sharing her concern for daughter. Parents trying to get their shy daughter out of the car and into the Howdy Week festivities. The exhilarating freedom that accompanies being away from the watchful eyes of Mom and Dad...all this is part of the landscape of being a freshman.

Can I share some things from my experience that might be helpful. This may not fit your situation at all, but one or two ideas might save you some worry and anxiety. Read on and may God give you peace.

8 Things I've Always Wanted to Tell Parents:

- 1. Don't insist that your young adult come home every weekend. There is real growth in learning to do laundry. There is great value in getting acquainted with the community where they will be living for the next 4-5 years. They will form relationships and possibly meet the needs of others who cannot go home because of distance. You will survive, and they will grow stronger, more independent, and more self-reliant.
- 2. Do encourage them to get involved in a local church and the opportunities for growth and service they offer. Encourage them to get to know some adults in the church community.
- 3. Develop a support group in your church or community that will surround with prayer all the college students from your church. Give some thought to the challenges they will face, the decisions they will make, the character they will be forming. This probably sounds like a radical idea, but nothing could be more eternally significant. They will be facing more life changing decisions, temptations, and new ideas than ever again in their lives. This is reason enough to call upon God to put a hedge of protection around them, to provide wisdom, for their faith to grow, and for them to catch a vision of God's love and his call and direction for their lives.
- **4.** Be their greatest cheerleader. They will make some mistakes. Let them find and realize their dreams, rather than your dreams for them.
- **5.** Emphasize character over performance.
- 6. Do encourage them to spend at least one summer overseas in a mission's experience. This will enlarge their world.
- 7. Encourage them to become involved in a campus Christian organization or ministry.
- **8.** As they miss their high school friends, help them to realize that their long-lasting friends will be found in their college experience.

Despite all the negative things you see on the news, there are some exciting things happening on campuses across the land—great prayer movements, mission's involvement, and sacrificial service. Google Christian Union to see what is happening on the Ivy league campuses that the media will never report.

To comment: jhm82@outlook.com, 1-800-302-1142

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FAIR -

The Opening Ceremony for the Free Fair begins at 6:30pm. All midway rides and concessions will open at 7pm and the free entertainment program kicks off at 7:30pm.

Friday, August 15th, will feature several livestock shows in the morning—featuring swine, goat, sheep, and cattle—as well as some kids races and stunts beginning at 9am. A 3-in-1Ranch Rodeo is also scheduled for 8pm and will feature roping, pinning, as well as a limited amount of mutton busting for the kiddos.

Rides and concessions will again open on Friday at 7pm with free musical performances beginning at 7:30pm by local musicians. Dean Jackson is also scheduled to perform from 9pm to close.

Saturday, August 16th begins with payouts for exhibition winners being doled out at 8am. As with every year, the main event of the day will be a parade beginning at 10am. It will start on Main Street and finish at the fairgrounds.

WEST OK / FENTANYL - Fentanyl has been making its way into western Oklahoma. "Fentanyl... comes into our district a lot of times on I-40," District 2 District Attorney Angela Marsee recently told the public. "The dealers don't want to kill someone, but they do want to get people hooked on it. They want people who are going to take it [because] it's very highly addictive. If you get on it and you like it, you're going to buy [more]." Marsee says Custer County law enforcement officers and emergency responders are equipped with Narcan, a lifesaving medication used to reverse opioid overdoses.

STAFFORD / APOLLO SOYUZ - Colton Parkinson, Executive Director of the Stafford Air and Space Museum, reported that special glass needed to protect the museum's newest artifact, the Apollo Soyuz Spacecraft, has arrived. "We went back and forth with the Smithsonian quite a bit to get specific glass tailored to the Smithsonian standard that we have to protect these artifacts under," explained Parkinson. "The company we used had to redesign and develop this based on those [Smithsonian] standards, and so that's what took so long to get it [on display]." Parkinson says the glass will protect the artifact from General Stafford's final mission. The Apollo Soyuz test project marked the end of General Stafford's space career.

Registration and line-up begins at 9am in front of the Masonic Lodge Building. Early registration is also available at Deer Creek Market, located at 109 W Main Street in Hydro.

A kid tractor pull begins at 11am with mud volleyball happening at the fairgrounds at 1pm followed by washers and watermelons at 4pm. The deadline for Cake auctions is also set for 5pm that evening with the auction beginning at 7:30pm.

Just like Friday nights, rides and concessions will open at 7pm and the 3-in-1 Ranch Rodeo will begin at 8pm.

The Hydro Free Fair is also selling T-shirts for this year's Free Fair at Main Street Clothing Company (133 W Main Street) and Hydro's Bank of Hydro (146 W Main Street).

For more information about the 116th annual Hydro Free Fair, visit <u>HydroFair.org</u>. There, you'll find a detailed schedule, FAQs, a breakdown of the fair's history, and more. You can also scan the QR code on page 1 for updates on their Facebook page.

CUSTER CO / TENDER ROADS - Damage from heavy equipment is a top concern for Custer County's fresh chip sealed roads. "Those roads [will be] very tender for the next two years. In 100°F heat, you can easily tear one of those up," said District 2 Commissioner Bruce Walker. "Anybody moving heavy equipment—farm equipment, oil field equipment, whatever—think about turning a little more gradually." Each district is working to complete their road projects. Walker has urged the public to stay cautious, especially on roads that have been recently sealed.

LOVELL / SWOSU ENROLLMENT - SWOSU enrollment is on the rise, currently sitting at an estimated 4,756 students. "If the stars align before our census day...our enrollment will be the highest since 1977," expressed SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell. The first day of classes for the fall semester is set for August 18th.

WEATHERFORD CC / CLASSIC CABLE - The Weatherford city commission recently approved an ordinance granting a franchise to Classic Cable of Oklahoma (SuddenLink Communications). Mayor Mike Brown outlined some of the concerns that had to be ironed out prior to approval. These included the contract's timespan and having reliable contacts for network maintenance.







Alcohol causing problems? Alcoholics Anonymous meets daily at 928 W. Main, Weatherford. Call (580) 819-0727 for more information. Christian Free Store – Donations of school supplies, clothes, shoes, etc. are needed or if you are in need. Please call (580) 637-2345 or (580) 291-3875. Alfalfa, OK, Community Center "Bible Study," Every Monday Night from 7:00 to 8:00 Hwy 58. Five miles South of Hwy 152. For more information contact (405) 643-9211. Free and Open to the Public. OK Parkinson's Alliance, monthly support group meeting the second Thursday of each month, excluding December, at 5:30 p.m. at Weatherford's Pioneer Center, 1000 Gartrell Place. Patients, caregivers, family or friends are welcome. Questions? Contact OK Parkinson's Alliance (405) 810-0695 or info@OKpa.org. Iron Sharpens Iron is a Christ-centered adult support group every Tuesday night at 7pm. 233 E Main in Hydro, First Christian Church.

Happy Birthday Wishes for August 6 - Billy Byrum, Ray Harris, Rick Koch, Lyndall Switzer; August 7 - Virginia Davila, Concepcion Gomez, Ruben Hammil, Alan Hull, Randy Jenkins, Cheryl Mauldin, Frank Parks, Janelle Wheeler Collins; August 8 - Taylor Arriaga, Katie Franklin, Maria Gonzeles, Madison Gooch, Mike Hall, Tricia Jordan, Scott Kelly, Alfonso Martinez, Brianna Mussellman, Glen Sinclair, Evan Walton; August 9 - Chris Buckner, Warren Goldman, Eddie Pigg, Natalie Simpson, Larry Thiessen; August 10 - Savanna Jo Collins, Whitney Carder, Kim Cooper, Debi Duff, Justin Elder, Michelle Furhmann, Mary Graham, Wade Haugen, Jack Walton; August 11 - Shawn Barrera, Robert Cagg, Casi Cornell, Lucille Janer, Austin Jrogdon, Shane King, Austin Kissler, G.W. Lowry, Jerri Sheperd, Hunter Staggs, Anthony Walter; August 12 - Tana Kerr, Ethan O'Neale, Marsha Pigg, Kent Walters;

Advertising Deadline: Every Friday at 3pm

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04' Chevy Trailblazer - Needs new transmission. \$3,000 or trade for a pick-up. 405-639-9667

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2000 Infinity QX56 2012 - 165K miles. \$16,000 OBO. 405-638-

Delta Truck Box - Brand new, full size, white, one top opener. \$800 OBO. 580-330-1437

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2014 Ford Focus - \$6,500. 580-

4-Michelin used passenger tires - 20 inch. 580-393-1444.

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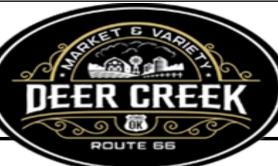
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Produce \$1.00 Bananas, 2lbs U.S. #1 Russet Potatoes, 5 lb. Bag 2 for \$3.00 Red or Black Plums, 2lbs \$5.00 \$2.99 Strawberries, 16oz. Blueberries, pint \$2.99 Red - Yellow - Orange Bell Peppers 2 for \$3.00 Yellow or Zucchini Squash, 2lbs \$3.00

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Meat **Boneless Ribeye Steak** \$17.99 lb. **Baby Back Ribs** \$4.59 lb. **Boneless Pork Shoulder Roast** \$3.29 lb. **Cooks Thick Cut Ham Steaks** \$3.99 lb. **Pilgrims Pride Fryer Thighs or Drumsticks** \$1.99 lb. Opas Jalapeno & Cheddar Summer Sausage, 16oz. \$6.29 Deer Creek Market Seasonings, 10-13oz. \$4.99

Grocery

\$5.99 Charmin Essentials, 6 mega rolls Simply Done Paper Plates, 8.5 inch, 85 count \$3.99 Puffs Facial Tissue, 48 count cube \$1.89

Oklahoma History: The Rise and Fall of Dugout Shelters in Oklahoma



The dugout home of Francis Noe near Elk City, 1892.

Provided by the Oklahoma Historical Society



Provided by the Library of Congress

The Parnell homestead, a dugout in Dewey County, 1908. These photos were taken by John Virgil "J.V." Dedrick (1873-1960) of Taloga, OK.

Julie Lenius

When picturing the first SASM Media Release homes and settlers in the west, one might conjure images of farm homes, barns, and cabins - sturdy staples of life on the plains and in the wild.

However, if you were to travel through Oklahoma and the like back then, you would not see ranchstyle buildings scattered throughout. You may not see much at all that would have you believe people were living out there. But direct your eye down to the soil and you may begin to notice seemingly out of place materials: wooden poles and logs poking out of the ground and small roofs jutting out of hills - Dugouts.

These homes, cleverly named, were truly dug out of the ground with rooftops supported by a series of logs or poles.

Rectangular in shape with a "front" comprised of sod and wood, these homes were affordable and easy to construct in the Great Plains where the availability of forests and trees was scarce. They could also be dug out quickly which led them to be the first choice of many settlers as they struck their

Dugouts are the unsung homes of the past. They could be found on the eastern part of the U.S., in the Salt Plains of Utah, and, for Oklahoma, in the central and western sections of the state. Not only were they affordable, they were practical and safe. They protected their occupants from the blistering wind in the winter, from tornadoes in the spring, and with walls of cool soil, from the heat during the summer. They were surprisingly effective as an early home.

According to the Oklahoma Historical Society, "in numerous instances, dugout schools and dugout churches were also built." What made Dugout homes so useful to combat the elements also contributed to their status as 'temporary' homes. The lack of ventilation kept them warm in the winter but oppressive for long periods.

There was also a problem with flooding, insects, lighting, and the feeling of living like an animal in a hole in the ground. There was a sort of expectation to live in a crafted frame home, and with access to better materials with trade routes, their popularity began to decline.

For Oklahoma, few were made going into the start of the 1900s, and those that were had their status as a primary home replaced by the title of cellar or storm shelter.

Stafford Air & Space Museum: Parkinson Announces Leadership Transition

The Stafford Air & Space



Museum announced the resignation of Executive Director Colton Parkinson, effective July 30, 2025. Colton joined the museum in July 2024 and made several significant contributions during his tenure. He played a key role in acquiring the Skylab 4 Command Module, supporting the F-117A "Raven Beauty" Stealth Fighter project, and helping shape the vision for the upcoming Rocket Garden at Shooting Star Park. He also worked to expand corporate partnerships and strengthen the museum's long-term goals.

Colton has made the decision to step down due to personal family matters and the opportunity to explore new horizons. He shared that he feels this is the right time to take this step.

The museum thanks him for his leadership and service and wishes him all the best in his next chapter. Leadership transition planning is currently underway, and the City of Weatherford remains committed to supporting the museum's mission and daily operations. All exhibits, events, and educational programming will continue as scheduled.



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Isabelle Scott / WM

Construction nears completion on the towering Route 66 astronaut in Weatherford. This statue is part of an ongoing revitalization grant honoring the Mother Road's legacy.



WBS, Inc. Founder Harold Wright Retires



Isabelle Scott / WM

Harold Wright (pictured), founder of Wright Broadcasting Systems, Inc., has retired. Friday, August 1, was his final day hosting "The Wright Time" on Newstalk KCLI. In his timeslot, KCLI debuted "The Western Oklahoma Wake-Up Show" with Todd Brunner on Monday, August 4. Wright will still be around to help in the sales department, and plans to do some traveling.

Since the conclusion of his last term of office in the Oklahoma Legislature Harold Wright has dominated the political airwaves with his morning radio show "The Wright Time for Western Oklahoma", but this past Friday marked the last production of the show by the veteran radio personality.

"I have a lot of contacts in the state legislatures because of my time there and I was still able to capitalize on that and bring those people to microphones," said Wright and he was accompanied by some of those contacts who had turned into recurring guests through the run on the show for his last production of The Wright Time.

Wright, who is a champion for local live radio built his ideals into his show. "We still believe that we should provide local information, local news, weather sports, be involved in the community, and have topical information on the radio and people will listen." And that's exactly what he did throughout the course of the show, making sure to highlight issues around the area and the state that would impact communities in Western Oklahoma.

Accompanied by his longtime guests, his family, and other stalwart members of the Western Oklahoma community Wright was awarded a special commendation by the Oklahoma legislatures presented by State Senator Darcy Jech and State Representative Anthony Moore upon the conclusion of his final production of The Wright Time.

And while The Wright Time may be leaving the airwaves, frequent listeners of the show shouldn't be too concerned as the torch will passed back to longtime Wright Wradio Programming Director and DJ Todd Brunner. Brunner will produce the Western Oklahoma Wake-up show which aired on Wright Wradio before Harold began producing The Wright Time.

"I'm super excited that Harold gave me a chance to get back on the radio 29 years ago so he's always been a great friend and really another member of the family," Said Brunner "And I'm excited to get back on the air and talk about things that are important to folks in Western Oklahoma."

"Todd's very talented. He did the show before I did and he's going to continue that process," said Wright when asked about Todd starting back up his old show "but we're going to continue with crossfire on Fridays with legislators for sure, and some other things that we've been doing." Added Wright.

You can listen to The Western Oklahoma Wake-up show on weekday mornings from 6am to 8am on 99.3FM Newstalk KCLI.





Saturday, August 9, 2025



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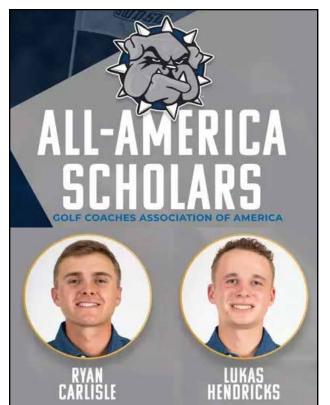
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Carlisle & Hendricks Named 2024-25 GCAA All-America Scholars



Jon Chidester Ryan Carlisle and Lukas Hendricks, of SWOSU Men's Golf, have been named 2024-25 Division II Cobalt All-America Scholars by the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA).

This marks Hendricks' third consecutive year receiving the honor, following previous recognitions this season as a Great American Conference (GAC) Elite Scholar Athlete and College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District selection. For Carlisle, it's a first-time honor in his inaugural season as a Bulldog, where he also earned a CSC Academic All-District selection.

To be eligible for Cobalt Golf All-America Scholar nomination, an individual must be a sophomore, junior or senior both academically and athletically in NCAA Division I, II, III, and NAIA, or receiving their associate's degree and in their last year of athletic eligibility in the NJCAA.

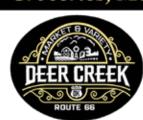
In addition, they must participate in 50% of their team's competitive rounds, have a stroke average under 78.0 in NCAA Division II, and maintain a minimum cumulative career grade-point average of 3.2.

A recipient must also be of high moral character and be in good standing at their college or university. 207 NCAA Division II athletes from 78 schools earned 2024-25 Cobalt All-America Scholar honors. Georgia Southwestern, Lander, and Saint Leo led the division with five recipients. 17 other NCAA Division II schools had four recipients, including Anderson (SC), Barton, Colorado Christian, Findlay, Fort Hays State, Harding, Henderson State, Lincoln Memorial, Newberry, Ohio Dominican, Oklahoma Christian, Parkside, Rockhurst, Tiffin, USC Aiken, Valdosta State, and Wayne State (MI).

Established in 1958, the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) is the professional organization of men's collegiate golf coaches. The GCAA's mission is to support its member coaches from six divisions, including the NCAA, NAIA and NJCAA, by creating educational opportunities, providing resources, and promoting its members with the purpose of enhancing their overall performance as coaches, mentors, and teachers. The GCAA also recognizes the excellence and achievements of its members and their student-athletes in academic, athletic, and civic endeavors.



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Check out our Special Deals! Updated Bi-Weekly on Page 5



SWOSU Athletic Association announced that longtime benefactor ASAP Energy, Inc. is serving as Underwriting Sponsor of the 19th Annual SWOSU Athletic Auction. Tickets and tables for the Live Auction & Dinner are available at www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com.



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