



# WEST OK WEEKLY

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March 25-31, 2020 • 10040 Hwy 54 • Weatherford • (580) 772-5939 • email: sales@westokweekly.com • www.westokweekly.com • Vol. 6 No. 13

## Michael Vargas Recognized as Veteran of the Week

Senior Master Sgt. Michael Vargas (retired), from the Weatherford area, was recognized by House Speaker Pro Tempore Harold Wright (R-Weatherford) in the Oklahoma House of Representatives at the State Capitol.

“Senior Master Sergeant Michael Vargas served our country well through a near lifetime of dedication to preserving our freedoms and providing protection for our citizens,” Wright said. “He also has served our community, including many young people that he’s coached and mentored. It was an honor to be able to recognize him before the members of the House last week and to thank him for his service.”

Vargas was presented with a citation and a United States flag that had been flown over the state Capitol in his honor.

Vargas attended the Vehicle Operator and Dispatcher School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and was assigned to the 77th Air Base Wing at McClellan Air Force Base, California. In 1998, he was reassigned to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. During his tenure there, he voluntarily deployed on 24-hours notice to Diego Garcia in support of Operation Desert Thunder II. He later was selected as Anderson Air Force Base’s Transportation Airman of the Year for 1999.

Vargas then was reassigned to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, where he continued his career as the Vehicle Operations Flight non-commissioned officer in charge. In August 2002, he became an Air Force Recruiter and was assigned to the 362nd Recruiting Squadron, Upland California, as an Enlisted Accessions Recruiter where he earned numerous recruiting production and quality awards from civilian organizations, his squadron, group and Headquarters, Air Force Recruiting Service. After 14 years of active duty service, Sgt. Vargas applied and was selected for the recruiting office supervisor for the 129th Rescue Wing, enlisting in the California Air National Guard in January 2009. He was recognized by the California Air National Guard and by the Recruiting and Retention Superintendents of Region 1 as their Recruiting Office Supervisor of the Year during his second year assigned.

Sgt. Vargas graduated from the Air Force Leadership School and the Air Force Non-Commissioned Officer Academy and the Senior NCOA. He earned a degree from the Community College of the Air Force in Human Resource Management and a bachelor’s degree in business administration while on active duty. He spent time and resources helping a variety of youth sports programs where he coached and mentored kids in his community.

Sgt. Vargas is married to Master Sgt. Alicia Vargas, Retired from the U.S. Air Force. They have three children Briana, Marissa and Aiden



## “Vote Yes” voting date moved to June 30

Chase Wright  
Staff Writer

**YOUR**

**VOTE**

**MATTERS**

The Sales Tax Election, originally scheduled for April 7th, has been postponed until June 30th. The sales tax “Vote YES” Campaign is a request to file an extension of the Weatherford Sales Tax. The request maintains the current sales tax rate and seeks to allocate additional funds to key areas of the Weatherford community to stimulate growth.

The propositions, outlined in the new ballot, consist of four propositions: City Services, SWOSU, Weatherford Regional Hospital, and Weatherford Public Schools, respectively.

Proposition 1: City Services - deals with a variety of issues. These include a new 9-1-1 Center and police station, a Vietnam Memorial Wall, a new terminal at the Stafford Airport, updates to the city pool/ ag and rodeo arena, and a new indoor soccer complex (with updated field work/ stadium seating for existing fields).

Proposition 2: SWOSU - will provide funding for rural healthcare facilities while also increasing the Nursing/ Pharmacy/Health programs ability to accept additional students at the campus.

Proposition 3: Weatherford Regional Hospital - cover the purchasing of replacements and updates to diagnostic and treatment medical equipment, as well as the maintenance of said equipment.

Proposition 4: WPS - Focus on updating the football field to artificial turf and replacing the track surrounding the field. Remaining funds will go towards the installation of a new HVAC system.

The Vote YES initiative has a website dedicated to up-to-date information and testimonials from leaders of the effected sites. For additional information please visit them at [yesweatherford.com](http://yesweatherford.com)

**SPRING**  
*Fling*

**Vendor AND Craft Fair**

**Saturday, April 25, 2020**  
**10:00am-4:00pm**

*A Fundraiser for the Arapaho Reading Room*

Registration fee is \$50 for a 10x10 booth which includes electricity, tables, & chairs.

Past Vendors include:  
Avon, Homemade Jewelry, Stained Glass, Clothing, Jams & Jellies, Food Trucks, & Arapaho Med Shed

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**Sharon Kay Barnes**

Services have changed – Graveside services for Sharon Kay Barnes, 77 year-old Colony resident, were held Thursday, March 19, 2020, 10:00 A.M. at High Point Cemetery, northwest of Colony, with Tim Tate officiating, under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



Sharon was born October 7, 1942, in Hydro to Burton and Pauline (Johnson) Kidd, and with her family by her side, went home to be with her Lord, Saturday, March 14, 2020, at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City. Sharon was only two years old when her daddy was killed in WWII. She was raised by her mother and stepfather Mon Harris above the Colony Drug Store, located in Colony with two younger sisters: Shirley Kidd and Mickey Bottom.

Sharon loved working at the Colony telephone switchboard and her parent's drugstore. She graduated from Colony High School in 1960 where she fell in love with the love of her life of 60 years. Mack and Sharon married in Wheeler Texas, and 60 years later, renewed their marriage vows December 14, 2019.

Before leaving Colony, Mack and Sharon had their first son Curtis. They soon packed their belongings and moved to Lancaster, Texas. There they added two more sons: Jeffery and Aaron. With their family of five, Mack and Sharon decided to surrender to the Lord and in the very early morning hours, phoned a neighbor Malcom Sanderson to come pray with them. There in their home they gave their hearts to the Lord.

They moved to Duncanville, Texas, and put down deep roots of 35 plus years. Mack and Sharon attended Memorial Assembly of God where Sharon cleaned the church, worked in Missionettes and served as secretary for the North Texas District Assemblies of God Women's Ministries. She loved the Lord and had a burden for missions and serving. She was faithful in serving her church and family.

Sharon retired from Liquid Carbonic and she and Mack moved back home to Colony. She loved arts and crafts, playing cards, sewing and quilting. She loved sewing with her quilting friends. She loved to make things to give to her grandchildren and others. Mom was a giver and prayer warrior.

Sharon is survived by her husband of 60 years Mack Barnes of their home in Colony; three sons: Curtis Barnes and wife Naomi of Stacy, Minnesota, Jeffery Barnes and wife Chaun of Leland, North Carolina, and Aaron Barnes and wife DeeDee of Colony; one brother Larry Pitt and wife Marilyn of Amarillo, Texas; one sister Mickey Bottom and husband Rex of Anadarko, Oklahoma; six grandchildren: Kristen Branscum and husband Blake, Emily Barnes, Austin Otts, Ashley Conway and husband Bill, Stephanie Maldonado and husband Jose, Lacey Young and husband

Jay; and nine great-grandchildren: William, Emma, Patrick, Ines, Corbin, Johnny, Eliana, Jeremy, and Mateo; God granddaughter Brooklyn; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; step-father; and one sister Shirley. Thank you for not sending flowers. Donations can be made to Grace Assembly of God of Weatherford c/o Sharon Barnes, Israel.

**Fanny Jane Logsdon**

Funeral services for Fanny Jane Logsdon, 93 year-old Tulsa resident, formerly of Weatherford, were held Saturday, March 21, 2020, 10:00 A.M. at First Baptist Church in Weatherford with Daniel Chamberlin officiating. Burial followed in Greenwood Cemetery under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



Fanny was born September 27, 1926, in Weatherford to George F. and Ora (Quattlebaum) Payne and passed away Monday, March 16, 2020, at Brookdale Assisted Living in Tulsa. Fanny was raised south of Weatherford on the family farm. She attended Hardin Rural School and graduated from Colony High School in 1943. She earned her teaching degree from the Southwestern State College in Weatherford. Fanny married Harold Dodgen and they made their home in Perth, Kansas. She and her family moved to Weatherford in 1965, and she taught special ed in Eakly, Gould, Canute, Sallisaw, Clinton, and Weatherford. Fanny enjoyed photography, playing the piano, doing things for her family, and her volunteer work. Memorials may be made to Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation – Alzheimer Research.

Fanny is survived by one son John Dodgen and wife Mary of Sand Springs; one daughter Nancie Dodgen of McAlester; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three husbands; two brothers Wendell and Sheldon; and one sister Sharron.

**Carolyn Sue Lowery (Gore)**

Carolyn Sue Lowery (Gore), 74, of Burns Flat, Oklahoma, was born on April 28, 1945, in Thomas, Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Frank Eugene and Myrtle Mary (Hunt) Gore. She passed away on Friday, March 13, 2020, at Oklahoma Heart Hospital, surrounded by her loving family.



Carolyn married her best friend Robbie Ray

Lowery Sr. in Conroe, Texas in 1977, he preceded her in death November 14, 2005. She enjoyed the weather, ceramics, remodeling and decorating, working on crafts and woodworking; but most of all, she loved spending time with her family. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at the Martin-Dugger Funeral Home Chapel in Elk City, Oklahoma. Skylar Rigsby officiated. Interment was at Fairlawn Cemetery, Elk City, Oklahoma. Services were entrusted to the care of Richard and Tammy Dugger and the staff of Martin-Dugger Funeral Home in Elk City, Oklahoma. Cherishing her memory are her two sons: Tim Davis of Granite, Oklahoma, Robbie Ray Lowery Jr. of Burns Flat, Oklahoma; three daughters: Taffy Rigsby of Thomas, Oklahoma, Twilla Gillham of Burns Flat, Oklahoma, Tasha Farrell of Sweetwater, Oklahoma; one sister Linda Ray of Custer, Oklahoma; ten grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband Robbie Ray Lowery Sr; parents Frank Eugene and Myrtle Gore; one son Tommy Webb; two grandchildren: Chance Rigsby and Destiny Davis; two brothers: Kenneth and Wesley Gore; two sisters: Mary Casdorff and Phyllis Marie Gore. Carolyn would like for you to pay it forward. Memorials can be made to a food pantry or an animal shelter of your choice in care of Martin-Dugger Funeral Home, P.O. Box 707, Elk City, Oklahoma 73648. Online condolences can be sent to the family by using the online guest book at www.martin-duggerfuneralhome.com.

**Kenneth "Ken" Earl Runion**

Kenneth "Ken" Earl Runion was born March 7, 1949, in Big Lake, Texas, to George and Velma Dale (Ivy) Williams. He passed away Wednesday, March 11, 2020, at the age of 71 years, and 4 days.

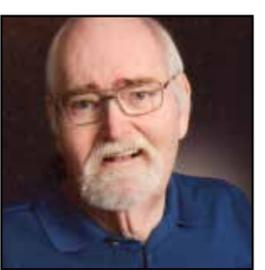


Ken loved to ride his Harley when he wasn't gone over the road, driving a truck. He loved to fish but loved the time he got to spend with his family more than anything. Ken was a Vietnam Veteran and was very proud to have served his country.

He is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his daughter Rhiannon Dawn Runion of Gainesville, TX; stepdaughter Stephanie Rowden Elmore of Chandler, TX; 1 brother Freddie Runion of Malakoff, TX; 3 sisters: Janet McClung and Chuck Coleman of Elk City, OK, Linda Auerbach and Jerry Speake of Malakoff, TX, and Judy Welch and husband Cody of Corsicana, TX; special friends Troy Spencer and family; and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends who loved him dearly. A memorial will be held at a later date.

**David Daniel Icke**

David Daniel Icke, 70, of Crawford, Oklahoma, was born on October 13, 1949 in Alva, Oklahoma. He is the son of George Cheatham and Onie (Stone) Icke. He passed away on Saturday, March 14, 2020, at his home in Crawford, Oklahoma with his loving family by his side.



David married his best friend and sweetheart Judy (Barber) Icke on June 20, 1998, in Enid, Oklahoma. David served his church as an elder and was named Elder Emeritus of Arnett First Christian Church. He also served on the board of directors of the Metcalfe Museum. David spent

(See Obits, Page 3)

**State Representative**  
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# Obits

Continued from Page 2

many hours doing his favorite activity, plowing, and spent much time on the highest peak in the pasture, observing his domain. He enjoyed gardening, working on the farm and plowing, woodworking, videography, chimney sweeping, but most of all spending time with his loving family. Cherishing his memory is his wife Judy Icke, of the home; two sons: Billy Icke and wife Traci of Edmond, Oklahoma, Jarrod Comer and wife Melissa of Edmond, Oklahoma; one brother Charles Icke and wife Fonda of Enid, Oklahoma; three grandchildren: Skyler Icke of Edmond, Oklahoma, Camden Comer of Edmond, Oklahoma, Cooper Comer of Edmond, Oklahoma. He is preceded in death by his parents George and Onie Icke; one brother Donald George Icke; one son Joshua Comer. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 21, 2020 at the Arnett First Christian Church in Arnett, Oklahoma. Rev. John Wheeler will officiate. Interment will be at Pie Flat Cemetery, Crawford, Oklahoma. The family will receive friends, Friday, March 20, 2020 from 6 to 8:00 p.m. Services have been entrusted to the care of Richard and Tammy Dugger and the staff of Martin-Dugger Funeral Home in Elk City, Oklahoma.

## Mike Hyman

Private Funeral Services for Mike Hyman, 56, Hammon resident but formerly of Clinton were held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 23, 2020, in the Clinton Church of Christ, officiated by Patrick Peters. Burial concluded in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



John Michael Hyman was born December 31, 1963 to Weldon Harold Hyman and Dorris Fern (Vignal) Hyman in Clinton, Oklahoma and passed away on March 18, 2020 very unexpectedly at his rural Hammon resident.

Mike was raised in Clinton where he attended and graduated from Clinton High School in 1982. On January 28, 1983 he married his high school sweetheart, Kimberly Karol Jack and they made their home.

He started his working career driving a gas truck for his dad at Hyman Oil Company and then owned and operated his own petroleum transport for 5 years. He then became a Snap-On Tool Dealer before hiring on with The Western Co. of North America/B J Services for 7 years. He then started with Lorenz, Inc. on March 18, 1996 as a service technician and moving up to assistant service manager. He has worked there, now known as Western Equipment, for 24 years to the date of his death most recently being the Transportation Supervisor.

He was a member of the Church of Christ; he enjoyed hunting, fishing, working on and restoring vehicles for his boss, but mostly watching after his cows.

He is preceded in death his mother.

He is survived by his wife, Kim, of the home, daughter, Kenli Miller and husband, Chris, Clinton and son, Jacota Hyman, Hammon; his father, Harold Hyman, Clinton, two sisters, Sharon Buchanan and husband, Buck, OKC, OK and Anita Hyman, Edmond, brother, Buzzy Hyman and wife, Gail, Weatherford.

He is also survived by a grandson, Langston and a granddaughter, Kaizlee, on the way, his father and mother-

in-law Charles and Gay Jack and brother-in-law Jeff Jack and wife Rebecca, all of Clinton.

The family will greet guests from 3:00 P.M., till 5: 00 P.M. Sunday, March 22, 2020, at the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

The funeral will be aired via live stream by going to Youtube.com - go to the search button - type in Clinton, OK Church of Christ - Click the Subscribe button - Click the bell

## Billie Wayne Yell

Mr. Billie Wayne Yell passed from this life on March 15, 2020, at the age of 58 years, 5 months, and 28 days. Bill was born September 16, 1961, to his parents Doyle and Ella Faye (Lambert) Yell in Sayre, OK.



Bill worked in the oil field as a truck driver for many years and he worked for Plains Marketing. He has resided in Sayre, OK since 1994. He and Darla Harrison married June 18, 1989, in Muskogee, OK. Bill attended school in Yukon, OK and graduated from Eastern Oklahoma State University in 1993.

Bill loved spending time with his family. His grandchildren were the light of his life. He also enjoyed fishing, riding his Harley and restoring old vehicles. Bill was known to his family as the BEST FATHER and BEST HUSBAND ever.

Although Bill is no longer with us, his memory and legacy will be kept alive through the family and friends he leaves behind which include his wife Darla Yell of the home; mother Ella Yell; 3 daughters: Billye Yell of Anthony, KS, Terri Dixon of Canute, OK; Renea Yell of Bend, OR, 2 sons-in-law: Chase Dixon of Canute, OK, Keenan Hoffman of Anthony, KS; 1 son Austin Yell of Titusville, FL, 2 grandsons: Levii King of Anthony, KS, Waylon Dixon of Canute, OK; 2 granddaughters: Dilynn Roman of Anthony, KS, Kaylynn Hoffman of Anthony, KS, 1 brother James Yell of Sayre, OK, 1 sister Sherry Thompson of Elk City, OK as well as a host of longtime friends and neighbors.

Memorial services will be held 2:00 PM, Friday March 20, 2020, at Rose Chapel, Sayre, with Chaplain David Worsham officiating. The family has chosen Rose Chapel Funeral Service with their services. Online guestbook and condolences are available at [www.whineryfs.com](http://www.whineryfs.com)

## Pamela Ruth (Thurman) LaFever

Pamela Ruth (Thurman) LaFever, 66 years old of Gotebo, Ok., passed away Friday, March 13, 2020, after a long battle with cancer. It would be wrong to say she lost her battle to cancer, because she never really stopped fighting. No matter how sick she got, she was determined.



Pam was born on January 20, 1954, in Poteau, Oklahoma, to late Raymond and Irene (Poor) Thurman.

Pam moved to Gotebo in 1980 with her husband and daughter. At that time, she worked at the Gotebo Get-N-Go. Eventually, they purchased and ran the store for almost 30 years.

Pam was a huge supporter on making Gotebo a better

place. She was the Mayor and had been involved in the Gotebo Get Down since it first began.

Pam lived her life to the fullest, even up until her last days, Pam was a huge supporter of her grandkids. She loved watching them play football, baseball and softball. If they were playing a game, she was there. She was known as "Nee-Nee". Everyone called her that.

Pam is survived by her husband Ronnie of the home, daughter Traci and husband Bryan, their children Jaidyn, Jessica and Brody, all of Gotebo; sons: Richard and wife Raquel; their children Lane and Saylor of Stigler, Donnie of Watongan his children Cody, and Koda, Terence and wife Nichole their children Robbie and Jeremy, Tyler and Melonie; and Sander all for El Reno; three brothers: Marshal and wife Pat of Elgin, Marvin and wife Molly of Yukon and Rick and wife Robin, of Gotebo. She has several nieces and nephews.

Funeral: 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2020 First Baptist Church Gotebo, Oklahoma. Interment: Gotebo Cemetery Gotebo, Oklahoma.

## Allan Livingston

Private funeral services for Allan Livingston, 84, Clinton, officiated by Patrick Peters. Burial will follow in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Allan Udean Livingston was born December 18, 1935, to Donnie L. and Alverta (Schaffer) Livingston seven miles west of Canton, Oklahoma (in his grandparent's home) and passed away early Thursday, March 19, 2020, in the Clinton Therapy and Living Center in Clinton, OK.

Allan started school in the Independence Country School, going his first and second grade year. His family moved 3 miles west of Canton, OK where he attended school in Canton his third and fourth grade years. The family moved again 10 miles southeast of Seiling, OK and finished his fifth through the 12th grade years. He played all sports and received a football scholarship to Oklahoma A&M College. After the first year of college, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and spent a two year stint, serving in El Paso, Texas and Japan. After receiving his discharge from the Army, he came home and moved to Clinton, OK where he worked for the Department of Transportation Survey Party, inspector, area Maintenance Engineer, and retired after serving 36 years.

He married Ivanna Manderscheid January 26, 1957, in Seiling, OK. They have lived their entire married life in Clinton OK.

He was a longtime active and faithful member of the Church of Christ; he enjoyed farming and sharing his garden crops.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brother Ronald Livingston.

He is survived by his wife Ivanna, of the home; daughters Donita Folsom, Weatherford, and Debbie Radke and husband John, Arapaho and son Mike Livingston, Arapaho. He is also survived by four grandchildren: Allison Rickey and husband Tyler, Ben Radke and wife Stephanie, Josh Pinion and wife Glenda, Jeremy Pinion; three great-grandchildren: Jalynn Pinion, Jake Rickey and Kennedy Rickey.

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**For Sale**- Men's clothing, coats, pants, shirts, shoes, some new. (580) 772-2300

**For Sale**- Pick-up 57" toolbox, midsize, fair condition. \$50. (580) 302-2496 or (580) 772-7530

**For Sale**- 30,000 BTU heater. \$125. (580) 661-3079

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# LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



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**WEATHERFORD NEW ELECTION DATE-** Weatherford Mayor Mike Brown said the April 7th election date for the sales tax continuation in the city of Weatherford has been moved to June 30th. The continuation of the one penny sales tax will help benefit capital improvement projects in the city. Fifty-two percent of the one penny will go toward the city of Weatherford, 28% to SWOSU, 15% to Weatherford Regional Hospital, and 5% to Weatherford public Schools.

**WASHITA COUNTY ACCIDENT BURNS FLAT-** An Elk City man was last listed in stable condition at OU Medical Center after suffering injuries in a vehicle/semi accident in Washita County. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said 26-year-old Dustin Moss was transported to Alliance Health Clinton and then transported to OU Medical Center. Moss was driving south on State Highway 44, 2 miles north of Burns Flat when he struck a semi from behind that had slowed to make a left turn.

**CUSTER COUNTY JURY TERM MOVED-** During a meeting with Custer County Commissioners and the Oklahoma State Health Department, Custer County District Court Judge Jill Weedon said the jury term that was scheduled to begin in March has been moved to June. She said prospective jurors will receive additional information by mail soon.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL CLOSURES-** The State Board of Education held an emergency meeting and decided to close all Oklahoma Public Schools until April 6th as a result of the coronavirus. Clinton Superintendent Kevin Hime said the action wasn't unexpected and the District will work to make sure everyone gets paid on time. He said districts will not have to make up the missed days.

**CLINTON EMERGENCY RESOLUTION-** Custer County now has its first confirmed case of the coronavirus. The State Health Department confirmed the result. Clinton City Council met in special session and approved a resolution, calling for a state of emergency, pending review of legal counsel. In addition to encouraging the private sector to be CDC compliant, the council approved the closure of indoor facilities at ACME Brick Park said City Manager Mark Skiles.

The Council also chose, for the time being, to take no additional reservations at the Frisco Center, Senior citizens Center and Southwest Playhouse. A review of the State of Emergency is planned for April 7th.

**BECKHAM COUNTY JAIL VIRUS PROTOCOL-** Beckham County Sheriff Derek Manning said his office has taken steps for all aspects of their operation to help mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 Virus in their jail and field operations. Manning said the Oklahoma Department of Health has sent out a set of guidelines for jail administrators. On the field side, Manning said the public won't notice much difference when interacting with a deputy. The main thing is that the Deputy will try to keep a little more distance.

**CUSTER COUNTY DISTRICT COURT-** A trial that had been planned in Custer County District Court April 1st for a California man, accused in the death of another, has been rescheduled as a bench trial for May 4th. Theodore Anthony Siniscalchi is charged with 2nd degree manslaughter in the death of 64-year-old Brian Charles Fredson in the Weatherford Walmart parking lot. Authorities say Fredson died after falling from the back of a U-Haul truck after Siniscalchi got into the truck and drove through the Walmart parking lot.

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# PUBLIC RECORDS

**Arrested**  
Raymond Martinez, 46, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Assault and Battery.  
Jacob Jantz, 28, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Custer County Warrant.  
Robert Johnson, 34, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Kingfisher Warrant.  
Daniel Gentry, 27, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Custer County Felony Warrant, Kidnapping of a Child, Beckham County Warrant.  
George Williams, 22, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Washita County Warrant.  
Tyree Medicinchips, 37, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Public Intoxication.  
Cedric Prairiechief, 43, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Public Intoxication.  
Justin Clements, 27, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Public

Intoxication-Drugs.  
Alex Salazar Castro, 20, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Kidnapping, Assault and Battery.  
Adam Carl Hamilton, 35, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Holding for Security Transport.  
Danielle Dawn Jaquez, 28, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Disturbing the Peace by Drunk and Disorderly.  
Tyler Blake Reaves, 23, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Holding for Security Transport.  
Donna Fay Smith, 44, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Local Warrant.  
Colby Ray Speed, 19, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Local Warrant.  
Gerson Naphatli Villa Lenus, 18, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Driving under Influence.

Melissa Marie Ramon, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Disturbing the Peace, Disorderly conduct.  
Larry Keith Bentley, arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Harmon county Warrant.  
Alicia Anna Chapa, , arrested by Elk City Police Department and charged with Domestic Abuse.  
Jeremy Alan Mathews, 48, arrested by Weatherford Police Department and charged with Custer County Warrant.  
Scott Matthew Skinner, 45, arrested by Weatherford Police Department and charged with Driving under Influence.  
Nathan Ryan Allen, arrested by Weatherford Police Department and charged with Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substance, Possession of Paraphernalia.  
Deatany Nicole Hicks, Turned Self In and charged with Controlled Dangerous Substance, Petit Larceny.  
Scott Matthew Skinner, 45, arrested by Weatherford Police Department and charged with Driving under Influence.

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**Happy Birthday Wishes for March 25th-** Alec Goerend, Betty Richardson, Carolyn Koop, Jennifer Prophet, Kaprice Skinner, Marty Lockstone, Mary Thomas, Nick Bryson, Sarah Ruiz, Sheila Davis; **March 26th-** Andrea Unruh, Bryan Speck, Johnny Rosales, Katie Lacy, Kay West, Mike Patrick, Richard Rivera, Sally Sappington, Sarah Rinehart, Scotty Adams, Terry Hook; **March 27th-** Carol Stevenson, Delois Newton, Garrett Smith, Jana Savage, John Kokalis, Lillian Byers, Quentin Pye, Rhonda Ray, Russell Ladd, Scott Stinson, William Pigg, **March 28th-** Bryan Robertson, Carlos Gomez, Jeff Vaughn, Kendrick Johnson, Linda Bennett, Taylor Willis, Teresa Rodgers, Toni Gentry; **March 29th-** Art Parker, Brian Garrison, Hunter Williams, Jaelyn Coxwell, Jason McGinnis, Johnny Leonard, Kendell Stephens, Marion Prichard, Preslee Stephens, Shannon Hamburger, Summer Skinner; **March 30th-** Barbara Sewell, Bertha Renfrow, Betty White, Darren Johnson, Denise Davis, Derwin Mahan, Harold Slagell, Jessi Eidem, Justen Hunnicutt, Kathy Dobrinski, Milan Davis, Sarah Willins, Thomas Rains, Zayne Grogan; **March 31st-** Almata Schneider, Bruce Burdick, Clayton Rodgers, Jean Weightman, John Marley, Johnnie Thomas, Kalie Bryant, Maynard Hodges, Robert Seward, Rocky Aok, Sylvia Weightman, Trevor Keeton. **Happy Anniversary Wishes for March 27th** , Doyle and Peggy McMurry.

# SPORTS *Presented by:*

## NCAA Membership-led #UnitedAsOne Campaign Launches

The #UnitedAsOne campaign, created and led by NCAA member schools, started to form less than 24 hours after the remaining NCAA winter and spring championships were canceled due to the evolving global health threat surrounding COVID-19.

Unity, at an unprecedented time, became a rallying cry among the membership of more than 1,100 schools and nearly 500,000 student-athletes across three divisions. It started small. A group of about 50 digital and social media creatives within different athletics departments began direct messaging each other on Twitter on Friday.

"What's next?"  
 "What can we do?"  
 "What should we do?"

Quickly, the consensus became to find a way to come together, to show unity and support within college athletics during a trying time for everyone in the country. That evolved into the #UnitedAsOne campaign, which officially launched at 4:16 p.m. Eastern time Thursday, exactly a week after the announcement of the NCAA canceling the remaining 2019-20 winter and spring championships.

"Moments like this, I feel like we should be bringing our teams together," said Brian Wagner, Michigan's digital strategy and creative lead, who was part of the initial group that came up with the campaign. "All of our programs, all of our student-athletes, our coaching staffs, we're all in the same boat here. This is certainly something to show that we're all in this together."

To show this, the social media accounts of schools across the country started posting a unified graphic Thursday. The graphic reads "United As One" on one side — the "O" being the NCAA's logo — and is personalized with the school's logo on the other side.

Sam LaBelle, creative content producer at Texas, designed the graphic. Marc Jordan, assistant director of social and digital strategy at Texas, was part of the original group on Twitter. Jordan helped finalize the messaging and then circulate the graphic template to conferences and athletics departments across the country.

"We just stuck with #UnitedAsOne to sort of showcase that each school has a different fan base, each school has a



different background and different traditions, but, ultimately, we're all going to miss sports, and we all need to kind of band together to get through this," Jordan said, "and know that there are brighter days ahead."

"I think that showcasing the NCAA and all of its member institutions in a unified front will really help with that and show we're together in this."

In a social media role often driven by quantitative numbers, like engagements and impressions, Wagner said he hopes this #UnitedAsOne campaign's impact is more qualitative.

"I really just hope it provides positive engagement and lifts some spirits and lets people know and be in comfort that we're working together, all of us schools, conferences, to get through this in a safe, responsible manner," he said, "and we'll be back stronger than ever."

This past week, Wagner added, has been a sobering reminder of what's truly important. And it's not always

sports. Lately, his mind has frequently returned to Michigan men's basketball head coach Juwan Howard's statement on Twitter after the Big Ten Tournament, set to be held in Indianapolis, was canceled last week. Howard's Tweet led with, "Some things are bigger than basketball."

The next day, Wagner launched a #BiggerThan campaign for Michigan's social media accounts. Soon after, the #UnitedAsOne campaign began forming. A similar underlying theme carried over between the two: that unity, in the face of adversity, is what's important right now.

"I'm just happy that everyone is united around this cause and around this opportunity to show that we are arm in arm, ready to see what happens next," Jordan said. "Everyone's united and supporting each other and putting rivalries aside, putting their feelings for lost seasons aside and really thinking about the big picture and how we can all support each other."

## 48th Annual SWOSU Rodeo Cancelled

**Doug Self**  
 SWOSU Sports Information Director



Due to COVID-19 and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendation on large gatherings, the 48th Annual SWOSU Rodeo, slated for April 9-11, has now been officially cancelled.

With this tragic pandemic, the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) has finalized the spring rodeo

season.

"Our overriding concern is the health and safety of our student-athletes, campus and community in taking this action," SWOSU President Randy Beutler said previously. "We appreciate the support we annually receive from the area for this important event. However, we must seriously consider the recommendation of the CDC. Many rodeos and large events across the nation are being cancelled or postponed due to these challenging times."

With the NIRA's ruling, five SWOSU Rodeo Team members finished in the Top 3 of their events and will qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR),

which is planned for June 14-20 in Casper, Wyoming. Winter Williams (Breakaway) and Sadie Wolaver (Barrel Racing) finish as Regional Champions while Timothy Troyer (Bronc Riding) and Cody Keathley (Bull Riding) are Regional Runner-ups. Taylor Bothwell also earns a trip to Casper after finishing third in Barrel Racing.

NIRA Officials will be working with the State of Wyoming, the Casper Events Center, and the recommendations from the CDC to continue with this plan. Should any changes to that schedule occur, an announcement will be made immediately.

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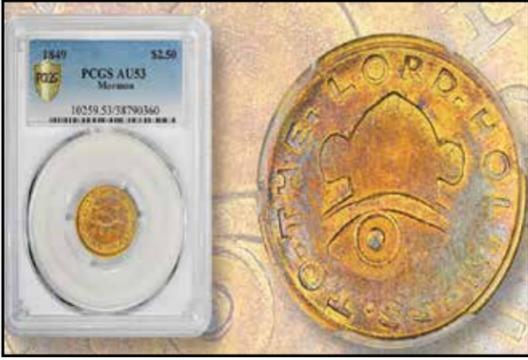
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# "The Coin Guy"

# President Randy Beutler gives Update on COVID-19



## Coin Sells 28,800 Times Its Original Value of \$2.50

Since Utah had no deposits of gold, Mormon prospectors in California sent gold to Utah for minting coins. Utah was known as the State of Deseret while it was a territory.

This week's coin is an 1849 \$2.50 gold quarter eagle. One side shows clasped hands and demonstrating "strength in unity" with the inscription "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" on the other side.



Trent Boesen

The Mormons claimed their gold coins were "pure gold" but, they were not as each contained 80% gold. Most of the gold coins were melted. Any survivors are desirable in any grade.

This \$2.50 gold quarter eagle was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Company (PCGS) as About Uncirculated 53+. It sold at auction in February 2020 for \$72,000.

Do you have questions about coins but didn't know who to ask? Call the Coin Guy at 580-890-8076 for an appointment. We can meet at Jerry's and talk about them. Thanks for reading.

**Randy Beutler**  
SWOSU President

Students, Faculty & Staff,

Thank you for your patience as we work through these very difficult and changing times. At SWOSU, we will continue to strive to ensure your safety and educational attainment.

As you know, we will be initiating a two-week period of online learning from SWOSU. As mentioned in my previous email, this experience will vary from class to class and from instructor to instructor.

To our great students: These will be educationally challenging times, especially if you have not experienced an online course before. Please do not get behind or procrastinate just because you are not in a face-to-face class. I cannot emphasize enough the importance that you adhere to deadlines and stay in constant contact! It is vitally important that you stay in email and Canvas contact with your instructors and advisors. Although, we are still an "open" campus, please practice the guidelines set by the CDC with interactions and gatherings. We will have limited services available for student support. We also have links for student guidance and frequently asked questions.

To our excellent faculty: These are new experiences that have changed without much time allowed for preparation. I know your character and professionalism. We can succeed in making this a positive occurrence for our students. Please stay in contact with your chairs and deans as to any questions, issues or needs that you may have. Faculty may work from home or from campus. We need faculty to hold office hours (which can be virtual) and teach their classes. CETL has put together several resources to help you in this time of transition.

To our dedicated staff: If you have medical issues or other matters that might have an effect on your physical return to work, please let your direct supervisor know

and we will review these on a case-by-case basis. We will follow best practices and CDC recommendations in accommodating staff who need to work remotely. We are dedicated to ensuring employee safety while also providing important and vital services to the university community.

To all students, faculty, and staff: Please make sure that when you are on campus, be it in the residence halls, food service areas, library, offices or computer lab areas, take note to practice "social distancing." As a reminder, see the CDC guidelines regarding these recommendations.

In addition, all university events are cancelled through at least April 12. Regular season athletic events, all on-and-off-campus recruiting activities, and practices for all out-of-season sports are suspended indefinitely. The Wellness Center is closed indefinitely. If you have questions, please call 580-772-6611 (starting on Monday, March 23).

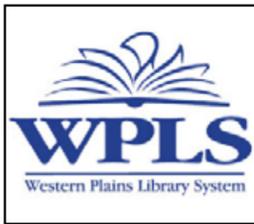
In regard to the health of our campus community, if you feel ill, believe that you have come into contact with someone with COVID-19, or have traveled to an area outside of Oklahoma with a high infection rate, please contact your health provider via phone or call Health Services at 580-774-3776 (starting on Monday, March 23).

We do not know at this time what the remainder of the semester may look like. But, we will announce a decision regarding the remainder of the academic year on or before Friday, March 27.

Always keep in mind that we are constantly updating the information on our website. Please continue to check or coronavirus update page at: <https://www.swosu.edu/resources/coronavirus.aspx>

I greatly appreciate your dedication and commitment to the health and welfare of everyone on our campus and in the community. Please take care of yourself.

## Western Plains Library System closes until April 6th



All branches of Western Plains Library System closed Tuesday March 17th at 5 pm. The system plans to reopen April 6th if conditions warrant. If you need a digital library card or wish to renew your card call your local

WPLS branch.

Western Plains has expanded its digital library offerings. We have increased the checkout limit in overdrive (eBooks and eAudiobooks) to 20 checkouts at a time. The Hoopla (tv, movies and music) checkout limit has increased to 30 checkouts a month.

For additional questions call the Western Plains Library System main office at 580-323-0974

# Updates regarding policy plans for Coronavirus

SARS-CoV-2 the virus that causes the disease COVID-19. Regardless of what you call it, we are all aware of the seemingly non-stop coverage, regarding the Coronavirus. But with the constant flow of information, many are lost as to what it means for them, or even what the Coronavirus is. The virus' history and global impact/response, at this time, is too complex for a short draft. So instead, we'll try to explain the newest set of information, released on March 20th, 2020.

The first and foremost bit of information that needs to be addressed is: the virus a concern for me? Short answer - yes. While an overwhelming majority of people who contract the virus will get through it with mild symptoms, the virus has had an alarming impact on older persons and especially those with certain medical conditions.

Data is pouring out of China, the WHO, Worldometers, the CDC, private institutions, and more at an astounding rate. Most of what we originally heard (the virus mortality rate goes down significantly by age bracket, the transmission rate is high, etc.) is continually being confirmed.

That's the good news. The bad news is that because of the virus's high infectious nature and it's proclivity for mild (no hospitalization) symptoms for the majority of people, containing it, or convincing people to stay home when they need to work, becomes difficult.

In recent weeks, many of the world's leaders have shut down big events of 500 people to minimize spread, closed schools, and reduced public contact. Within the last week, more events of even 25 people or more have been postponed or cancelled, businesses have shifted to online work; and restaurants have closed lobbies. While understandably frustrating, these efforts might just be the tip of the iceberg in terms of preventative measures.

The following information is not a way to scare anyone but rather to prepare us all for what could unfold over the coming months.

The Imperial College COVID-19 Response Team ran simulations, using the numbers from China/Italy/Korea, to predict what could happen, based on the level of response that has been done and over the levels that could be done in the future. With these numbers they simulated what would happen in the UK and in the US, following strategies taken to reduce the virus with non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs).

With this data, they've come to two solutions - mitigation and suppression.

Mitigation focuses on slowing the epidemic spread - thereby reducing medical demand and protecting those with severe risk of the disease.

Suppression aims at reversing epidemic spread, lowering case numbers, and maintaining this level indefinitely until

a vaccine is made.

The numbers show that a full mitigation style of response (home isolation and social distancing of those at risk) might reduce healthcare demand by 2/3 and deaths by half. However, the result would still be hundreds of thousands of deaths and healthcare (especially intensive care units) being overwhelmed multiple times its capacity.

This result leaves Suppression as the optimal solution, but one that may be unachievable. For a suppression response (like those seen in China and Korea), it will require a social distancing of the entire population, home isolation of cases, and quarantines of affected families. This will need to be supplemented with school and university closures, even though these closures, will result in parents who work in the medical field to be absent from work or from home.

This level of suppression has already been seen in policies, enacted by the US and in the UK, but it would need to be increased, and it could not be alleviated. Prediction data of cases in China and in Italy have shown that the virus has a high rebound rate; so responses of this magnitude would need to be kept until a vaccine is out - 18 months or more (14 to confirm the vaccine is not deadly to the recent human testing injections, and additional months for large-scale output).

Suppression, while successful in both China and Korea and showing reversal data of the spread, may be potential in the short-term, but we have no predictions

of the economic hit a year-long suppression may instill.

World Leaders are weighing the complications that arise from both styles of prevention and are coming up with policies that will be of the greatest benefit to their respective locales.

Our responsibility, during this time, is to ourselves and our loved ones. Be safe, be informed, and wash your hands thoroughly with soap. Soap is so effective because its ingredients allow it to pry open the virus' exterior and cause it to degrade.

## Higher Ground

### Our Present Crisis



Jim Morrison

Much has been written and said about what we should do to safeguard ourselves from the virus and I don't pretend to have any word of wisdom that you don't already know. It has been made a little more personal since I am now self-quarantined for seven more days. I attended a funeral last week. Later it was found that someone there has tested positive; so all of us (250-300) are dealing with it. I don't have any symptoms and I feel fine.

But for many it continues to be a time of frustration and hardship. We all know this did not catch God by surprise so we might ask ourselves a question; what does God want to teach me from this situation? As someone said about incarceration; "You can do your time or you can let your time do you;" meaning that it all depends on your attitude. Definitely I will have more time to focus on things that will enlarge my knowledge of God. It has deepened my prayer life. It has reminded me that I am not in control. When I get up in the morning I won't be interested in the baseball scores. I will be free from hours setting in front of a TV or computer screen, watching or listening to a game.

The Apostle Paul in writing to the church in Colosse said, "Set your hearts on things above where Christ is setting at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above not on earthly things, for you have died and your life is now hidden with Christ in God" Too often other things have occupied my mind rather than things of an eternal nature. Paul was not saying that we should never have any thoughts of a secular or physical nature. But when we crowd God out of the picture, He finds it hard to get our attention. Here are some suggestions:

Why not decide to do a personal study of one of Paul's letters or one of the gospels. I don't mean just reading it through one time; I mean really studying it as if you were going to be tested on it. For one of the gospels or the book of Acts, you might choose to use the READ method. This is an acronym as follows: read it slowly one chapter at a time. Read it several times, not reading for quantity, but for quality. Next, explore the text, asking questions like, "who are the people involved? What is their mission or objective. Then, ask if there is an application that you need to apply to your life. Finally, determine that you are going to obey the commands or teachings involved.

If you are studying one of the letters of Paul, Peter, or James, that contain more teachings, or instruction, you might use the acronym TAPES. Look for teachings, application, a prayer to pray or promise to claim, an example to follow or error to avoid, and finally see if there is a sin to deal with. Write these down. There is nothing magical about this; it simply makes you think more deeply and prayerfully about the passage, instead of just skimming.

For those who claim they don't have time to read, now, God has provided that time. Find a good book at the Et Cetera shop for a dollar or less. If the store is closed, come by my house, (after I am out of quarantine) and I will loan you one of mine. Above all, don't waste this time. Ask God to show you how you can train your mind and set your heart on things that matter for eternity.

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# SWOSU Names Wendy Borlabi to Presidential Order of Merit



Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with locations in Weatherford and Sayre is pleased to announce that Dr. Wendy Borlabi of Chicago (IL) has been named the 37th inductee into the SWOSU Presidential Order of Merit.

Borlabi studied psychology at SWOSU. Borlabi currently serves as High Performance Coach for the Chicago Bulls and is an independent consultant with the National Basketball Association (NBA). Previously, Borlabi served with the United States Olympic Committee at the Olympic Training Center in San Diego during two Winter Olympic Games and one Summer Olympic Games.

Borlabi, a 1994 SWOSU graduate, was inducted into the SWOSU Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame in 2018. Borlabi holds a Master's degree in Kinesiology from Georgia Southern University and a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Argosy University. Born in Ghana and raised in Midwest City, Borlabi is mother to twin children. "Dr. Borlabi is an outstanding SWOSU graduate, and we are grateful that she continues to generously support her alma mater, especially our student-athletes and athletic programs," SWOSU President Randy Beutler said. "She is most deserving of the SWOSU Presidential Order of Merit."

The SWOSU Presidential Order of Merit is an honor bestowed upon an individual who has shown outstanding achievement on the state, national or international level, in the arts, sciences, business, industry, the professions, sports, social service or public service. The prestigious award represents recognition of significant distinction that a member of the SWOSU family has attained.

SWOSU President Dr. John Hays introduced the award in 2004. The SWOSU Presidential Order of Merit is the highest honor in the personal gift of SWOSU's chief executive.

For more information about the SWOSU Presidential Order of Merit, please contact the SWOSU Office of Institutional Advancement at 580-774-3267.

Dr. Wendy Borlabi is congratulated on her induction into the SWOSU Presidential Order of Merit by SWOSU President Dr. Randy L. Beutler (left) and SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Thurman.

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