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Krystal Blackwell/WW

Weatherford's new fenced-in dog park is also equipped with swings and an open picnic area. It is located on West Main Street near Weatherford City Hall.

Jerry's in Weatherford

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Jerry's Restaurant in Weatherford has been hard at work during the economic shutdown to ensure their employees and customers can remain safe while maintaining operation as an essential business. Jerry's offered their menu with carry out and delivery services. This allowed them to keep their employees on payroll by giving them the option to either work or stay home with 60% pay. Those that worked retained their full paycheck and received a bonus for their service.

Jerry's felt the reduction in demand and operated at a loss for the duration of the shutdown. However, the new owner felt it was a necessary cost of business and wanted to ensure his employees were taken care of.

To give back to the other businesses around town, Jerry's went out and purchased \$25 gift cards to various locations which they gave out as a part of a special deal for a few weeks.

With the partial reopening during Phase 1, Jerry's is hard at work practicing social distancing protocols while maintaining a safe and sanitized diner. They still offer curbside service, and their delivery service is available Monday - Friday. These limited time services will be reduced as businesses make the move back to full capacity.

Jerry's Restaurant would like to issue a big thank-you to their wonderful customers. They'll continue to do their best to provide the best one-of-a-kind service they're known for through this pandemic.

Athletic Director Todd Thurman Announces Departure from SWOSU

Doug Self
SWOSU Sports Information Director

Todd Thurman, SWOSU Athletic Director since 2008, announced Friday that he will be leaving Weatherford and Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Thurman has accepted a similar position leading the Athletic Department at Metropolitan State University of Denver, an NCAA Division II institution in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

"Deciding to leave SWOSU and Weatherford is one of the most difficult decisions I have ever had to make," Thurman said. "My family and I came here in 2006 and never expected that we would find a home that my entire family cherished. I will always have love for this community and



Todd Thurman

SWOSU will remain in my heart forever."

The eighth Athletic Director in SWOSU history, Thurman took the reins of the athletic department in 2008 following two seasons as the Bulldog Men's Basketball coach. Under his tutelage, SWOSU Athletic programs have claimed 16 regular season or tournament championships since the formation of the Great American Conference with six different teams reaching NCAA Division II postseason play. Thurman guided SWOSU as they became a founding member of the Great American Conference in 2011 and spearheaded fundraising efforts leading to several facility renovations, including the Pioneer Cellular Event Center, which opened in January 2014.

"I would like to thank Dr. John Hays for giving me the opportunity to come to SWOSU and I also want to thank President Randy Beutler and the SWOSU Administration for being so supportive of me and the SWOSU Athletic Department," Thurman continued. "My goal has always been to establish a family atmosphere with those who I work with and I believe that has come true. Thank you

to the coaches and student-athletes who have come into my life during the past 14 years and our athletic staff of Todd Helton, Doug Self, Edwin Detweiler, Josh Collins and Pam Nichols. They are the ones that deserve all of the credit for the success of our department."

Prior to coming to SWOSU, Thurman was the head coach at Wayland Baptist, where he had a record of 131-82 and led the Pioneers to four NAIA National Tournament appearances in seven seasons. He also coached as an assistant at Southern Nazarene, Central Oklahoma and Oklahoma Christian following his playing career, which included an NAIA National Championship at Bethany Nazarene in 1981 and stints with professional teams in England, Argentina and the Philippines.

"Todd Thurman has been a tremendous asset for SWOSU for the past 12 years," SWOSU President Randy Beutler said. "I greatly appreciate all that he has done to improve our athletic programs during his tenure as Athletic Director. We will miss Todd on our campus, but we want to wish him the very best for this new opportunity at Metro."

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Gwendola Faye (Scales) Taylor

Graveside services for Gwendola Faye (Scales) Taylor, 84 year-old Georgetown, TX resident, were held Friday, May 22, 2020, 10:00 A.M. at Bethany Cemetery, south of Weatherford, with Bruce Mayfield officiating. Services are under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home



Gwen passed away peacefully May 15, 2020, due to complications of a hemorrhagic stroke. She was born June 28, 1935 near Colony, Oklahoma to Mary Edith and Charlie Otis Scales. She was as cute as a bug and referred to as “doodlebug” for almost 6 months, before given the name Gwen, named after one of her Mother’s close friends. She was raised on the family farm, north of Colony in a three-bedroom Indian rock home. She was one of 11 brothers and sisters. Despite the lack of electricity and indoor plumbing, their home was full of laughter and love. It was post-depression and dust bowl days and you did what you could to survive. Gwen and her family chopped peanuts, picked cotton, herded turkeys, milked cows – you name it, they did it. They were a proud, honest and hard-working family. Gwen started in Colony Public schools in 1941, where she would let her brother Darwin complete most of her hard coursework but excelled on the basketball court. She was strong and athletic, and eventually named as an All-American high school player. Her Dad was strict and didn’t allow his girls to wear shorts, much less play basketball. This required her to enlist the help of her Mom to distract her Dad, while she ran the ½ mile to the section line to catch a ride to and from her basketball games. She was willful and determined to do what she believed and live the life that she wanted. While in 5th grade at Colony school, she met her future husband, “Freddie”, who she would later date in high school.

After graduating from Colony High school in 1953, Gwen moved to Weatherford, Oklahoma to attend Southwestern State College, working on her bachelor’s degree and waitressing full time at the H&M diner. Freddie had graduated a year earlier and was in the army, stationed at Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX. With only two years of college and not yet a teaching certificate, she accepted a teaching position in Fowler, Colorado. Freddie seized the opportunity to snatch this brown-eyed beauty and on August 6, 1955, they were married at the courthouse in Sayre, OK. Gwen spent the next two years in Colorado while Freddie completed his military obligation in Texas and Germany. In 1957, they reunited in Colorado until they moved to California. In 1958, Freddie had an opportunity to train as an aircraft

mechanic at Northrup Institute, so the two left Colorado with a 4’ X 4’ trailer filled with all their possessions, and arrived in Englewood, CA with twenty-three cents, a room rented for 2 months and a full refrigerator. Gwen found a teaching position at an all-black Compton Elementary in pre-integration Los Angeles. She loved kids no matter their background, race or capabilities. Gwen would later name two of their children after Compton students, one an amazing double-dutch jump-roper and one, who had a heart of gold. You can probably guess who was named after whom. Her youngest was also named after a cherished student, probably one who was quite stubborn. Gwen was the original “straight out of Compton” supporter. After a year in southern California, the couple took advantage of the GI bill, and headed to San Jose California, so Freddie could attend SJSU. It was in San Jose, they bought their first home and started their own family of three daughters. Gwen was a working mother, raising her own kids as well as the students in her classroom. In 1970, Gwen and Freddie purchased 6.5 acres in the Santa Cruz mountains. The property was a chalk rock hill, bordered on two sides by creeks and lined with redwood trees. This hillside would eventually become “Camp Cruz” to many and the place that Gwen called home. Gwen and Freddie built a home surrounded by beautiful fruit trees and rose gardens. Gwen loved her flowers and that love was evident throughout the landscape. 300 Granite Creek Road was their home for 46 years, where they raised their girls and created memories for their grandkids and many friends and family who often visited. In 2018, Gwen and Freddie moved to Georgetown, TX. Although, she loved being near family, Santa Cruz was still her forever home. Gwen spent her life doing what she loved. She taught for 55 years with kind eyes and a kind voice. She always found a way to help each student reach their full potential. She believed fresh air, sunshine and a shot of grape juice was the cure-all. Gwen was the matriarch of her family. Seeming to always operate in the background holding a hot cup of black coffee, Gwen was selflessly devoted to ensuring that everyone was clean, fed, happy and most of all, loved.

Gwen is survived by her husband of almost 65 years Freddie Taylor; three daughters: Pamela Hamons, Vicki Richmond and Lisa Burgess and their spouses; and one brother Don Scales. She left a legacy of children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, in-laws, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends, that will be forever cherished.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the educational institute of your choice.

George was raised and attended school in Owen, Wisconsin. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1949 as an artilleryman at Fort Sill. George’s first deployment sent him to Okinawa, post WWII occupational force. In his second deployment, he was a combat veteran of the Korean War and later returned to Fort Sill. On January 2, 1951, George married Glenda Merle Penner in Clinton where they made their home. They lived in Owen, Wisconsin, then to Owasso where he worked for the Douglas Aircraft Plant before moving to San Diego in 1960. They later resided in Weatherford for 46 years. They moved to Edmond in 2006 to be close to their son and daughter-in-law. In 2019, George became ill and was moved into the Clinton VA Center. He enjoyed fishing, camping and woodworking.

George is survived by two sons, Arthur Briesch and wife, Sheila of Edmond and David Briesch; one brother, Edgar Lee Briesch and wife, Donna of San Leandro, California; four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; and five siblings, Doris, Maybell, Harriet, Nadine and Walter.

Dianna Zerbe

Dianna Zerbe was born to Junior and Tommie (Miller) Skidmore on May 9, 1955 in Weatherford, OK and passed away on Sunday, May 17, 2020 in Elk City, OK having reached the age of 65 years and 8 days.



Dianna was raised and attended high school in Ft. Cobb, graduating with the class of 1975. She married Robert (Bob) Zerbe on October 12, 1976 in Wichita Falls, Tx. Dianna was a military wife making their home in Ft. Sill, OK, Fort Hood, TX and in Germany, 3 different times. In 1996, they moving to Eakly where she taught Sunday School at the First Assembly of God Church in Eakly and at the Rock of Restoration Church. In 2000, they moved to Arapaho and settled in Elk City in 2008. Dianna worked at SWOSU in Sayre as a grill manager. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, going to church and church activities.

She is survived by her husband of 43 years Bob of the home in Elk City, OK; three sons: Christopher Zerbe of Elk City, OK, Jonathan Zerbe and his wife Melissa of Oklahoma City, OK and Andrew Zerbe of Eakly, OK; four grandchildren: Dylan, Shelbee, and Carter Glenn and Christopher Zerbe; and three brothers: J.D. Hill of Eakly, OK, Bruce Hill of Moore, OK and Steve Skidmore of California. She was preceded in death by her mother, Tommie; and a sister Dora Ricketts.

Otto “George” Henry Briesch

Otto “George” Henry Briesch was born May 28, 1929, in Owen, Wisconsin to Otto Henry and Martha (Unruh) Briesch and passed away Wednesday, May 13, 2020, at Oklahoma Veterans Center in Clinton, at the age of 90 years, 11 months and 15 days.



State Representative
District 57
Harold Wright

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Wayne Ellis Goucher

Wayne Ellis Goucher was the eighth child of Ben and Hortense (Hackler) Goucher born on April 3, 1933. He passed from this life at Baptist Hospital, Oklahoma City on May 15, 2020 at the age of 87 years, 43 days. At the time of his birth, his parents were living on North 2nd Street in Clinton, OK and this was where Wayne was born. Wayne attended Washington Elementary School and graduated from Clinton High School in 1953. An excellent athlete, he lettered in Track, Basketball, Football and Baseball. He played American Legion Basketball and the summer

(See Obits, Page 3)

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Obits

Continued from Page 2

before he graduated, he played with the Oklahoma Natural Gasers and traveled as far as Grand Rapids, Michigan to play in a baseball tournament. During his senior year of high school, Wayne signed with the Cincinnati Red Legs professional baseball organization and went to spring training in Douglas, Georgia in the spring of 1954. Wayne returned home and joined his father and brothers in their business, Goucher masonry.

On February 10, 1954, Wayne married his high school sweetheart Glendene Smith. They made their home in Clinton and Wayne continued with his lifetime career as a bricklayer. Goucher Masonry was known state wide for the quality of their masonry work including such structures as the Church in Norman, public schools in Clinton, Duke & Amber Pocasset, the First Baptist Church, the First United Methodist Church, and the Broadway Heights Baptist Church, all in Clinton, Oklahoma. They also bricked the Clinton Tornado Dome and many other edifices and homes throughout western Oklahoma.

In November 1954, Wayne and Glendene welcomed their first child Mark Wayne and in 1956, their daughter Taunia was born.

Wayne and Glendene made their home in Clinton their entire married life except for a short period of time when they moved to Chickasha, Oklahoma where Wayne worked of the masonry of the Home Economics Building of the Oklahoma College for Women. Returning to Clinton in 1957 Wayne and Glendene purchased their home at 605 S. 5th, where they have resided to this date.

Wayne left the family business for a period of about a year to work for the City of Clinton, overseeing the landscaping of the new Clinton Regional Hospital, the construction of new Tennis Courts in conjunction with Clinton High School and Engleman Park. Wayne returned to masonry contracting on his own with son Mark joining him, the business then known as Goucher and Son. Taunia also worked for her Dad in his masonry business during college breaks.

Wayne was an active leader and supporter by of Clinton Boy Scout Troop 361.

Wayne played golf and enjoyed many years playing with good friends and got Glendene involved in golf and they enjoyed playing in the Couples Scrambles at Clinton's Riverside Golf Course.

In 1993, Wayne and Glendene bought their first Fifth Wheel and started their adventures in RV-ing. Before retirement, they always spent the month of August in Ruidoso, New Mexico. Retiring in 1998, Wayne and Glendene purchased a new fifth wheel and spent the next fifteen summers in Ruidoso, N.M. and winters in Kerrville, TX, making many lifelong friends. In 2013 their tow pickup was totaled while setting in their own driveway, so instead of replacing it they made the decision it was probably time to quit RV-ing and sold their fifth wheel.

Wayne love to watch things grow and when his Dad was alive helped him in his huge garden. Wayne was most proud of his pecan tree in his own yard and enjoyed gathering

pecans each year, shelling many sacks of tasty pecans, and sharing them with family and friends.

Wayne loved watching his Grandkids grow up and become parents of their own children. He was blessed with ten loving Grandchildren and thirty Great Grandchildren.

Wayne is survived by his wife Glendene of the home. Son Mark and wife Virginia of Clinton. Daughter Taunia Bozarth and husband Rick of Seiling, Oklahoma. Grandchildren Amber Goucher Fletcher, Todd Goucher, Ernesto Nabor, Dora Goucher Miller, Eric Goucher, Esther Goucher Switzer, Louie Goucher, Christine Goucher, Josh Bozarth, Taft Bozarth and Claus William Pries-Reinhold and 30 Great Grandchildren. Wayne is survived by his sister in law Marcia Burrows and her husband Phil, his brother in law Jake Beauchamp (Gayle), his sister in law Margaret Goucher (Bill) and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents and was the last surviving member of his immediate family. His brothers Lawrence, Bill, Kenneth, and Forrest as well as sisters Elsie Valentine, Fern Brewer and Viola Stout predeceasing him.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Clinton Public Schools Foundation or your favorite charity.

Elsie Cole

Chapel Services for Elsie Cole, 86, Weatherford resident were held 1:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 19, 2020 in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel, officiated by Leo Bray. Burial concluded in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Elsie Bobby Jean (Bray) Cole was born December 3, 1933 to Verse Benjamin Bray and Margret El Reno (Brinkley) Bray in Paris, Texas and passed away Tuesday, May 12, 2020 in her Weatherford home.

Elsie was raised and attended school in Clinton. She attended the Licensed Practical Nursing School at the Oklahoma General Hospital School for Nurses and received her LPN License. She worked professionally in the Clinton area. She was married to Mr. David F. Cole in Clinton. They made their homes in Clinton and later Weatherford.

She was a member of the Church of Christ; she enjoyed sewing, doing interior decorating and raising a garden and canning her harvest.

She is preceded in death by her husband, her parents, a son, Dennis Wayne Smith and two sisters, Versie Lee Stevenson and Dorothy Bray.

She is survived by a daughter, Margaret Turner and son, Aaron Charles Turner, both of OKC, OK.

She is also survived by four grandchildren, Aidan Klepczyk, Aubrey Klepczyk, both of Weatherford and Kanndra LaToya Taylor and husband Edward, OKC, OK and Kenneth James Turner and wife, Cassandra, Dallas,

TX; five great-grandchildren, Jaelah Taylor, Jaelen Taylor, both of OKC, OK, Kenneth James Taylor, III, Kendra Turner and Kelise Turner, all of Dallas, TX.

Christiane Erika Lawton

A Memorial service for Christiane Erika Lawton, 61, of Clinton was held Tuesday at the Edge Church, with Randy Jones officiating, and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Christy was born July 29, 1958 in Giessen, Germany to Kenneth D. and Waltraud (Noll) Watt and passed away Thursday night at her home.

Christy was raised in Colorado and graduated Harrison High School class of 1976. Also, in Colorado she received her medical assistant license, and earned her degree in child care at Redlands here in Oklahoma.

She loved painting by number, playing cards, doing word searches, and most especially playing with her grandkids.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her daughter Michelle Howard and her boyfriend Chad, her grandkids Jarissa, Jaiden, and Chance, her sisters Ingrid and her husband Tom Williams of Arapaho, Moneka and her husband Tony Smith of Clinton, her brothers Herbert Watt and his wife Annette of Arizona Detlef Eschler and his wife Marita of Germany, her life long friend Teresa Davis of Clinton, and numerous nephews and nieces and great nephews and nieces.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Here's another fun snippet of history for the month of May. Almost every Oklahoman is familiar with the song "Oklahoma" written in 1943 by Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein II, and featured in the Broadway musical Oklahoma!

Well, on May 11th, 1953, the Oklahoma legislature officially dubbed it as the state song, replacing "Oklahoma - A Toast" which was chosen in 1935. The latter song was written by Harriet Parker Camden in Kingfisher, OK.

"Oklahoma" is the only state song from a musical and it's catchy nature earned the song a spot as one of the Top 100 western songs of all time by the Western Writers of America.

The play itself was the first of its kind and dubbed a "musical play", where the songs served the plot. By showcasing elements that make Oklahoma great, the song and musical have impacted the image of Oklahoma for many.

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Students and employees in the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Dean of Students office recently sponsored its annual staff appreciation week on the Weatherford campus. SWOSU students voted online for the annual Brandy Awards for outstanding staff, administrator and faculty of the year. Winning Brandy Awards for 2019-20 were: Alyssa Bane, housing coordinator in Residence Life & Housing, staff award; Office of Retention Management Coordinator Wendy Yoder, administrator award; and College of Pharmacy Associate Professor Dr. Krista Brooks, faculty award. Each received a traveling Brandy Award.

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LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



Mike Smith News Director

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WEATHERFORD HIGH SPEED CHASE- A high speed chase resulted in the arrest of two people. A Weatherford Police Officer attempted to stop a vehicle with an improper tag. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Cache. The driver refused to stop and proceeded eastbound on I-40 at a high rate of speed. The chase was joined by the OHP and Custer County Sheriff's Office. During the chase, the suspect started firing at the pursuing officers. A Custer County Deputy's vehicle was one of several vehicles struck. Custer County Sheriff Kenneth Tidwell said his officer only received minor injuries. The chase ended in Seminole when the suspects ran out of gas. A female passenger, Jennifer Wilson was taken into custody for an outstanding warrant and the driver, Austin Burk was taken into custody after a short manhunt.

CLINTON HIGH SPEED CHASE- Victor Rios Jr. was the alleged driver who lead Clinton Police on a high speed chase. Officers were notified he had several warrants out when he sped off. He started on Modelle then entered Highway 183 heading southbound. Speeds reached over 100 mph. The officers gave up the chase for safety reasons, but Rios later gave up on county line road.

CORDELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING- The Cordell City Council met and decided to keep the municipal pool closed for the remainder of the summer. Mayor Jerry Beech said there were several maintenance issues that would prove too costly at this late date. They plan to complete the work this summer and re-open the pool next year. The vote to close the pool was 6-2. The council also approved an updated personnel handbook and decided to appoint a strategic committee to spearhead economic development in the city. Councilman Steve McLaughlin was asked to pick members of the public willing to serve.

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE- Friday June 5th is the last day to apply for voter registration in order to be eligible to vote in the June 30th primary election. This is a big election for Western Oklahoma. The Medicaid expansion state question is on the ballot along with the sales tax question for Weatherford and a special election in Thomas. Also on the ballot in Custer County is the District 3 Commissioner's race between Republicans Carl Bailey, Bruce Lane Walker, and Chuck Frantz. The Sheriff's race is also a Republican only primary between incumbent Kenneth Tidwell and Dan Day. Beckham County voters will decide between incumbent Derek Manning and challenger Wes Henry for sheriff. Rodney Russell and Tate Finnel are running for District 2 County Commissioner in Beckham. There are several school board races on

the ballot as well. Applications are available at your local election board or online at elections.ok.gov.

OSSAA BOARD MEETING- The OSSAA executive board had a virtual meeting. A motion was made to implement new guidelines for summer work outs and practice for high school athletes. It would have prohibited summer camps and clinics and only allow limited activity through June 30th using a phased in approach. Kingfisher superintendant Jason Sternberger asked if regular summer procedures would be in place if the vote failed. After clarifying the issue, board members voted down the proposal 7-6. So as of now, all regular summer activities like baseball, soccer and basketball camps, 7 on 7 football drills and other OSSAA sanctioned policies can proceed. However, the board meets again on June 9th and could decide again on some restrictions.

ELK CITY COUNCIL- The Elk City Commission had a budget workshop for council members to get a head start on plans for the 20-21 fiscal year. They held their regular meeting via zoom. City Manager Lee Litterell said the city pool would open up on June 3rd along with activities at Ackley Park. City hall is now open and the museum will open up on June 1st. The chapel cemetery opened up just in time for Memorial Day. The commission also received the May sales tax numbers which reflect sales from March and early April. Sales tax was down 15% from last year but use tax was up 21%

EGGS AND ISSUES- The Weatherford Chamber of Commerce hosted an eggs and issues meeting without the eggs via zoom last week. State Senator Brent Howard discussed the end of the legislative session. Last year about 350 bills were signed into law. This year less than 100 were sent to the executive. He says they will carry over a lot of the unheard bills next year. Several bills were vetoed by governor Kevin Stitt this year including the budget. Of course that veto was overridden. Howard says that was one of the toughest issues to face, but said they hope to repair the relationship with the governor by next session.

CUSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS- At a recent Custer County Commissioners meeting, members were updated on the courthouse window project. They are looking at a bid date of June 10th for the replacement of those windows. The plans are being finalized this week by the architect. After the bid is awarded, they will start in the County Clerks office. They'll have to work around the rescheduled court session. The commissioners also discussed several road projects in the county.

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PUBLIC RECORDS

Arrested

Tearance Simmons, 31, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Driving Under Suspension, No Insurance, Possession of Marijuana, and Possession of Paraphernalia.

Zakkary Romannose, 27, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Public Intoxication.

Cody McDaniel, 32, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Cory Wells, 28, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Bogus Check/False Pretenses.

Victor Rios, 36, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Felony Eluding an Officer, Possession of Marijuana, Driving Under Suspension, Disobeying a Stop Sign, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Michael O'Toole, 30, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Possession

of Drug Paraphernalia and Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substance.

Juanita Chapman, 37, arrested by Clinton Police Department and charged with Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substance and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Out on Bond

Aaron Dwight Payne, Sr., charged with threatening to perform act of violence.

April Phare, charged with embezzlement.

David Brandon Griffin, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with eluding, DUI-D, DUS, illegal backing, failure to stop at stopping block.

Hayden William Barry, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with DUI-D, possession of paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, operating M/V in an unsafe condition.

Jordon Ray Gauntt, arrested by Weatherford Police

Department, charged with DUI, possession of CDS, possession of paraphernalia.

Jemerson Jay Gould, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with DUS.

Kamber Day Graham, charged with conspiracy.

Jessica Monique Hernandez-Nguyen, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with possession of paraphernalia, possession of marijuana.

Jerry Don Horton, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with bogus check.

Victor Thomas Roden, arrested by Custer County Sheriff's Office, charged with Rule 8.

Salome Reynaga, arrested by Oklahoma Highway Patrol, charged with DUI.

Chelsa Rose Salinas, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with possession of CDS, Larceny of merchandise from a

retailer, bogus checks.

Brenda Renee Stitt, arrested by Custer County Sheriff's Office, charged with DUI.

Lakota Ann Wise, arrested by Weatherford Police Department, charged with DUI, possession of paraphernalia, possession of medical marijuana without a license.

Kimberly Johnson-Harper, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with DUI-D.

Angie T. Lewis, arrested by Clinton Police Department, charged with neglect or refusal to compel child to attend school.

Stacey Croslin, arrested by Washita County, charged with no seat belt.

Locadio Hadley, arrested by Oklahoma County, charged with malicious injury to property.

Higher Ground Think Deeply...Act Differently



Eleven years ago, when I began writing these articles for the daily newspaper, I chose to entitle them "Higher Ground." The hope was that the thoughts shared would encourage people to become dissatisfied with the commonplace in their spiritual pilgrimage and seek a deeper, or higher relationship with God. I have seen so many people make a profession of faith, begin to grow for a while, then settle in as if it were a spectator sport—something you come to enjoy, as it makes you feel good and gives you strength for the day's problems. Then you come back the next week for another time of fellowship with friends, have your senses touched by good music, hear a sermon, and go out into the real world to fight the battle encouraged, but not really changed or challenged to confront the "thief (Satan) who is out to steal, kill, and destroy." (John 10:10) He is described in Scripture as "a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." (2 Peter 5:8) Back in Genesis 4:6 God warns Cain that "if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door, it desires to have you but you must master it." Every person is responsible for his growth. He needs to become a "self feeder" that is, one who assumes the responsibility for his own spiritual growth. What are we doing daily to make us more like Jesus--growing in our understanding and obedience?

The picture drawn here is that of a battle. Satan is satisfied when we are "easily satisfied." It is when we take seriously the claims of Christ that we begin to have trouble. The Israelites were afraid to cross the Jordan to engage the Canaanites because they refused to believe that God would keep his promises. Often we settle for a life of wandering in the wilderness instead of trusting God to keep his promises.

This is a challenge to get into the battle, to set your course for victory. Romans 12:2, 3 challenges us to "not be conformed to the pattern of the world, but to be transformed (changed) by the renewing of your mind." The slogan of a popular Christian network is "Think deeply, act differently." Outside forces challenge our way of thinking. Certainly, for the Christ follower, the Scriptures should prioritize our thoughts, but even the transfer of information does not signal instant growth. It is the response to that information to our daily lives that brings maturity. How is it affecting the way we love people or the way we spend our money?

God has spoken to many Godly men through the years, and continues today. Spurgeon said; "It is strange that we think so highly of what God says to us but so little of what he says to other men." Many say that do not like to read. Yet they often have a college degree and are involved in a vocation because they chose to read required material in college to reach that goal. It is safe to say that they often did not enjoy reading the required material in college either. But they had a goal and they disciplined themselves to reach that goal. Oh, if God's people would so live to reach a goal of maximum effectiveness in their Christian life that it would drive them to "Do your best to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed." "May the God of Peace... equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen Heb. 13:20-22 To comment jhm82@outlook.com or call 580-772-2311.

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Happy Birthday Wishes for May 27th- Greg Bickle, Nancy Crissman, Virginia George, Jim Hardin, Roy Hoch, Angie Odom, Logan Roles, Marla Russ; **May 28th-** Leo Boling, Jack Duncan, Mary Duncan, Randy Hacker, William Jeffers, April Marley, Bobby McGregor, Ashley Schones, Donna Taylor, Kasha Thomason, Sarah Ynguanzo; **May 29th-** Brenda Anderson, Betty Deela, Bobby Kyucates, Chandler Miller, Wayne Schoonmaker, Sondra Smith, Kason Thomason, Heath Wright; **May 30th-** Keith Brodrick, Brian Brunner, Jonathan Coronado, Kayla DeWitt, Katherine Kreizenbeck, Gabriel Neely, Dale Edens Rodolph, Gary Roller, L.T. Scott, Lloyd Shaffer, Cordelia Stephens, Krystin Turney, Ann Vogt; **May 31st-** Con Heinrichs, Brady Hickman, Robin Karlin, Vivian Kliewer, Kevin Propps, Rena Sambrano, Annie Upchurch, Gary Wade; **June 1st-** David Blake, Joshua Brittenham, Traci Brownen, Erika Cordes, Betty Dobbins, Clay Gilliland, Candace Kelley, Laura McKinsey, Arnold Miller, Lois Neeley, Linda Retzloff, Alison Slagell, Candi Williams; **June 2nd-** McKenna Albert, Sherreea Baden, Fran Brooks, George Browning, Julianna Leppke, Hillary Wise

SPORTS *Presented by:*



DII Presidents Council Lowers Maximum, Minimum Number of Contests

Doug Self
SWOSU Sports Information Director

For the 2020-21 academic year only, the minimum number of contests required in Division II for sport sponsorship and championships selection, as well as the maximum number of contests and dates of competition allowed, will be smaller than in years past as a result of financial impacts from COVID-19.

The Division II Presidents Council in a recent teleconference voted for reductions in all three areas strictly for the 2020-21 academic year.

The division's highest governing body voted to reduce the minimum number of contests needed for sport sponsorship and championships selection by 33%, with rowing being the lone exception to the change for championships selection. The council voted for a one-year reduction to the maximum number of contests and dates of competition, as well. These reductions varied by sport, based on results from a survey administered to presidents and chancellors, directors of athletics and conference commissioners. A sport-by-sport look at the updated minimum and maximum contests for the 2020-21 academic year only can be viewed here.

All three reductions stemmed from financial struggles Division II institutions are facing due to the pandemic. Many institutions, per feedback from leadership throughout Division II, will not be able to afford the same level of travel or meet current standards for championships selections or sports sponsorship, even if sports begin as scheduled in the fall term.

In addition, concerns of competitive inequity also have been expressed from across the division if maximum numbers for playing and practice seasons were not adjusted along with reductions to the minimums.

"The financial challenges faced by institutions because of COVID-19 are considerable and, as we prepare for summer and fall, continue to increase," said Sandra Jordan, chancellor of South Carolina Aiken and chair of the Division II Presidents Council. "The approved reductions strike an important balance of providing schools with scheduling flexibility, maintaining competitive equity within the one-year reductions to minimums and maximums, and continuing to prioritize opportunities for student-athletes to compete in NCAA championships. Periods of national crisis require carefully considered compromise."

The Presidents Council made the final decision on all three issues after receiving recommendations from the Division II Management Council, which considered feedback from several leadership groups, Division II governance committees and two surveys of the division's leadership.

In April, the Division II Conference Commissioners Association conducted a survey in which nearly 95% of the division's athletics directors participated. From the survey, the Division II CCA put forward the initial proposal to reduce minimums and maximums. The proposal was brought to the Division II Championships Committee, Membership Committee, Legislation Committee and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee for their discussion and recommendations.

The Presidents Council also considered the results of

a Division II membership survey, specific to reducing maximums, that 435 division leaders responded to earlier this week. The survey was taken by 258 athletics directors, 154 presidents and chancellors, and 23 conference commissioners. Roughly 85% of the survey respondents said they supported some form of reduction to the maximum permissible contests for the 2020-21 academic year. The full survey results can be viewed here.

Maximums

The Presidents Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to implement the various levels of reductions to the maximum number of permissible contests and dates of competition for the 2020-21 academic year only. For noncontroversial legislation to be adopted, a motion must receive at least three-fourths of the vote.

As part of this decision, men's and women's basketball teams will not be able to exempt contests as part of a conference challenge event or in the Tip-Off Classic for the 2020-21 academic year. Typically, teams can exempt these contests from their maximum contest total.

The Presidents Council voted not to change how discretionary exemptions, such as scrimmages and exhibitions against non-Division II four-year schools, are counted. They will remain exempt against maximum contest totals. The council also decided that no reductions be implemented for maximums for National Collegiate Championship sports, emerging sports and Division II men's ice hockey for the 2020-21 academic year.

As part of the decision to reduce the maximum number of contests for the 2020-21 academic year, the Presidents Council issued this statement:

"NCAA Division II conferences and institutions have acknowledged through survey feedback on contests reductions that COVID-19 has presented us with financial challenges that we are proactively addressing together. In that spirit, and as a result of the governance structure's decision to reduce contest maximums, thus affecting

current schedules, we strongly encourage all member institutions and conferences to work cooperatively and collegiately when adjusting schedules. Please keep in mind the purpose behind these actions is to assist all institutions with short-term financial concerns so that we may emerge stronger as a membership and division."

Sport-by-sport recommended maximums for the 2020-21 academic year only:

Baseball: 40.

Men's basketball: 22. (Note: Men's basketball teams may not exempt two contests played as part of a conference challenge event or games played in the Tip-Off Classic for the 2020-21 academic year. Typically, schools can exempt these contests.)

Women's basketball: 22. (Note: Women's basketball teams may not exempt two contests played as part of a conference challenge event or games played in the Tip-Off Classic for the 2020-21 academic year. Typically, schools can exempt these contests.)

Cross country: 6.

Field hockey: 14.

Football: 10.

Men's golf: 16.

Women's golf: 16.

Men's lacrosse: 13.

Women's lacrosse: 13.

Women's rowing: 14.

Men's soccer: 14.

Women's soccer: 14.

Softball: 44.

Swimming and diving: 12.

Men's tennis: 17.

Women's tennis: 17.

Indoor track and field: 14.

Outdoor track and field: 14.

Women's volleyball: 20.

Men's wrestling: 12.

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Underneath This Hat

A Peek Into Oklahoma History

While Europe had kings and queens, none were as regal and a better symbol of their people than our Native American Indians. One at the top of my list is Quanah Parker of the Quahadi (“Kwahadi”) band of Comanche.



Kelly R. Kilhoffer
Oklahoma History Enthusiast

Born between 1845 and 1852, and along Elk Creek near the Wichita Mountains, Quanah was the eldest son of Peta Nacona and Cynthia Ann Parker. Nacona was native to the tribe, but Parker was a white captive who was captured as a child, assimilated well into the tribe, and eventually married Peta Nacona. It was common to be given one name as a child and renamed upon reaching adulthood. Because Quanah’s name pleased his mother, he kept it his entire life. By 1871, many Comanche, Kiowa and Southern Cheyenne chiefs had been captured and killed. Quanah’s father being one that was killed, Quanah ascended quickly in Warrior Society.

Near present-day Texola, Oklahoma, and along the Red River, Isa-tai, a Comanche medicine man, called for the Southern tribes to gather and pray for a solution. Isa-tai said that the white buffalo hunters, gathered at Adobe Walls in the Northern Texas Panhandle, should be wiped out. He said that his medicine would protect the warriors from the hunter’s bullets.

Adobe Walls was a trading post set up by, and for, buffalo hunters. As the warriors circled the trading post, the hunters took aim. Their 50 caliber rifles were made to kill big game, so their shots decimated the warriors. Quanah was injured when his horse was shot out from under him. He sought shelter behind a carcass but was struck by a ricochet round.

After the battle at Adobe Walls, U.S. policy changed. All Southern tribes were to report to the reservation, but the tribes resisted and so began the Red River War.

Colonel Ranald Slidell MacKenzie, with the U.S. 19th Cavalry, was sent to capture the bands and have them placed on the reservation. MacKenzie was known as ‘Bad-Hand’ or ‘No-Finger Chief’, due to injuries suffered during the American Civil War. The tribes and the cavalry harassed each other in a game of High Plains Chess for the next 3 years.

In September of 1874, MacKenzie’s cavalry, aided by Tonkawa scouts who were tribal enemies of the Comanche, raided a Comanche village wintering at Palo Duro Canyon, south of Amarillo. After the battle, some 1,500 horses, the wealth of the tribe, were slaughtered. The ‘Lords of the Plains’ would never roam free again. Quanah settled into reservation life at Ft. Sill,



Quanah Parker

Oklahoma rather well. He took his Mother’s surname and was appointed Chief of the Comanche by the U.S. government, though never elected by his people. He eventually built a home near Cache, Oklahoma, known as the Star House. He had as many as 8 wives, a Comanche custom. He wore suits like the white man but never cut his long braids. Well-photographed and known for good investing, Quanah raised cattle and became one of the wealthiest Native Americans of his time. Unlike European monarchs, whose wealth came from the people, Native American wealth was gained by how well a chief gave back to his people. Quanah shared most everything he had. He never turned away those in need. He enjoyed hunting trips with Theodore Roosevelt and founded the Native American Church Movement.

Quanah Parker passed away on February 23, 1911 at his Star House. He was 66 years of age. Today his body lies at Chiefs Hill in Ft. Sill. He is buried alongside his mother Cynthia and sister Topsannah.

An inscription on his headstone reads: “Resting here, until day breaks and shadows fall and darkness disappears, is Quanah Parker, last Chief of the Comanches. Born 1852 – Died Feb. 23, 1911.” May he ride free forever.

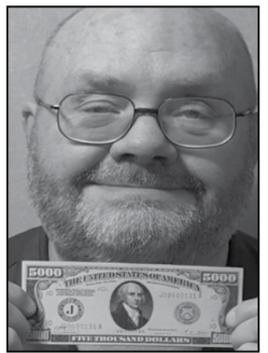
KRK 2020
To learn more of Quanah Parker and the Comanche Nation, I highly recommend reading ‘Empire of the Summer Moon’ by S.C. Gwynne.

"The Coin Guy"



The Cent Project

Charles Daughtrey is a dealer in Lincoln cents and a specialist. He is looking for people, men and women, to help sort through boxes of Lincoln cents. His goal is for 44,000 Americans across the United States to sort 220 million cents.



Trent Boesen

Participants will need to search two boxes of Lincoln cents from local banks. The “searchers” record the year and mint-mark in those boxes of cents. Each box of Lincoln cents has 5,000 coins.

The participants will share “finds” with regional coordinators who in turn will publish the results on a special website. Those who wish to look for varieties will have their results published in order to determine the quantity of varieties. Also, any Wheat cents found will be considered as an “elite” group in order to help their populations.

Updates, as they are reported, will be on a Facebook group called The Cent Project. If you are interested in helping just check on Facebook.

Do you have questions about coins but didn’t know who to ask? Call The Coin Guy at 580-890-8076 to make an appointment so we can discuss your interests. Thanks for reading.



Governor Signs Bill to Add AP Courses to All High Schools



Legislation requiring all Oklahoma public high schools to offer at least four Advanced Placement (AP) courses to students beginning in the 2024-25 school year was signed into law by the governor recently.

House Bill 3400, authored by State Rep. Rhonda Baker, R-Yukon, and State Sen. Gary Stanislawski, R-Tulsa, allows schools to choose the type of AP courses offered.

“Data-driven research shows that high school students are better prepared for higher education coursework and the workforce when they take a blend of both AP and concurrent enrollment classes,” said Baker, the chair of the House Common Education Committee. “Performing well in these classes and on subsequent exams also help reduce the cost of college tuition. In addition, having a skilled and trained workforce puts Oklahoma in a better position to attract job creators and build a stronger state economy.”

Stanislawski, chair of the Senate Education Committee, is serving his final regular legislative session due to term limits. He said he was gratified that this was his last measure to present to the full Senate.

“Throughout my time in the Senate, I’ve fought to expand educational opportunities throughout Oklahoma,” Stanislawski said. “I appreciate the opportunity for this to be my final bill, promoting advanced placement courses, regardless of what zip code a child lives in. That’s a legacy we can all be proud of.”

Baker said schools will be able to select the platform on which to offer these courses, whether in a traditional classroom setting, a virtual option or through an area CareerTech. The bill directs the State Department of Education to provide information to all local boards of education, to be distributed to students and parents, on available opportunities and the AP enrollment process. Virtual schools also would need to make these course options available.

Nearly six in 10 Oklahoma schools do not currently offer a single AP course, many of those in rural areas. Baker said this legislation is a way to ensure all students throughout the state have access to at least some AP courses so they are equally prepared for higher learning and the job market.

She said this measure builds on several investments the state has made to expand AP, including allocating funding for teacher training, test fee assistance for low-income students, and grants for districts to start new AP programs.

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Carl Bailey seeks Custer County Commissioner seat

Carl Bailey was born one of nine children to hard working farmers, right here in Custer County. He learned a strong work ethic from a very young age that has stayed with him his entire life.

His education is broad. From Electro Mechanical Technology, EMS and first responder training to hands-on learning of farming, technology, manufacturing and oilfield, he's experienced more than most.

In the 80's Carl spent 2 1/2 years working for Custer County where he learned the importance of road maintenance and progressed to bridge foreman.

The next 20+ years were spent raising a family and covering Water Remediation and Site Maintenance at 3M Company/Eastman Kodak in Weatherford.

The last 12 years brought about grandchildren and a variety of farm and oilfield work. He has served as a truck driver, salesman and operations manager. His talent



Carl Bailey

for operating machinery makes him able to lead with experience.

Whether he has been self-employed, part of a large corporation or helping out on the side, Carl doesn't stop. He sees a need and fills it. He provides for his family, fosters relationships with people in his community and always looks for the good.

He's been married to the love of his life for 42 years. They have built a life that centers on Faith, Family and Hard Work.

Their support and example have motivated their 2 children to lead faith-filled lives, form long lasting marriages and own and operate their own successful businesses. Carl is a proud Papa of 5 grandchildren. His influences are a guiding light to each of them.

Carl has spent the majority of his life as a resident of Custer County. This is where he attends church at First Baptist of Weatherford, where he makes a living, where he raised a family and where he's made a life. He is slow to anger, quick to see the good and has unwavering integrity. He is a man that listens, keeps his word, unselfishly does what's right and would love to be your next County Commissioner.

SWOSU Students Win Awards at PBL State Conference

Southwestern Oklahoma State University students in Weatherford recently represented the Everett Dobson School of Business & Technology and won awards in the Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Oklahoma State Leadership Conference competition.

The competition was a virtual experience that ended May 11. SWOSU crowned nine state champions, one runner-up, and over a dozen top-ten finishes.

Students from 10 regional universities competed in business related testing and performance events with the top two placers in each division advancing to the PBL National Leadership Conference to be held virtually June 25-27.

"SWOSU students exemplify the intelligence and determination to continuously perform at the highest levels, not only in the School of Business, but across all of our disciplines," said SWOSU PBL Sponsor Nate Hicks. "I am extremely proud of our students."

SWOSU students who placed at state were:

Ashtin Baird, Mustang – 3rdComputer Applications; 8th Marketing Concepts

Brock Smith, Cordell– 1stFinancial Services; 1st Project Management; 1st Retail Management; 6thPersonal Finance

Carlie McKinney, Minco– 3rdSports Management & Marketing; 4th Contemporary Sports Issues

Claire Kerr, Cheyenne– 5thOrganizational Behavior & Leadership; 8th Retail Management

Grace Seelke, Okeene– 1stMicroeconomics; 1st Accounting for Professionals; 3rd Financial Concepts; 3rd Cost Accounting

Haley Mandakunis, Elgin – 1stEntrepreneurship Concepts; 1st Financial Concepts; 1stManagement Concepts; 2nd Personal Finance

Jace Zacharias, Altus – 1stImpromptu Speaking

Joshelene Salais, Weatherford5thCost Accounting; 8th Personal Finance

Rylie Fischer, Mustang – 2ndMicroeconomics; 6th Marketing Concepts

PBL is the largest national student business organization dedicated to inspiring and developing the next generation of leaders by preparing members for careers in business and business-related fields.

Governor Signs Juvenile Justice Protection Bill

The governor signed a bill to protect children 12 years of age or younger from being placed in a state juvenile detention facility unless all alternatives have been exhausted and the child is charged with an offense that would be classified as a felony if committed by an adult.

House Bill 1282, authored by State Rep. Mark Lawson, R-Sapulpa, was a request by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA). It also sets limits for 13- and 14-year-olds admitted to detention. The bill is part of an overall reform of the state's juvenile justice system. It passed both chambers of the Legislature with unanimous consent.

"This bill requires the state to seek other alternatives for these children who commit adult crimes but who are much too young to be placed in detention facilities," Lawson said. "They would only be placed in a juvenile center if no other alternative can be found for them and if their crime warrants such detention."

Sen. David Rader, R-Tulsa, is the Senate author of the bill.

"We know Oklahoma leads the nation in Adverse Childhood Experiences, and detaining our children can contribute to these negative experiences that can have lifelong effects on our youth," Rader said. "Now is the time to reform our state's justice system, and ensuring our children are not placed in a detention facility when there

are better alternative options available is an important first step."

Lawson and OJA agreed that detention contributes to a child's Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which can have a lasting and negative effect on a person throughout their lifetime. Oklahoma children have the highest rates of ACEs in the nation.

HB 1282 also requires OJA to pay 100% of the cost for any child in OJA custody awaiting an OJA placement bed. OJA currently pays 85% of the operating cost for every contracted bed, which historically has led to high wait times. The additional cost can be paid through unencumbered funds reserved for such expenses, according to OJA.

Lawson said he's worked with OJA to ensure young children have different treatment options than just detention with the goal of restoring these children to normal life as quickly as possible and reducing the chance they end up in the justice system for life. He applauded the agency for its work to adjudicate juveniles more quickly, to allow them to receive services closer to home and to decrease the length of stay in the state's care.

He said these changes have resulted in fewer detention beds being needed in the state.

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