

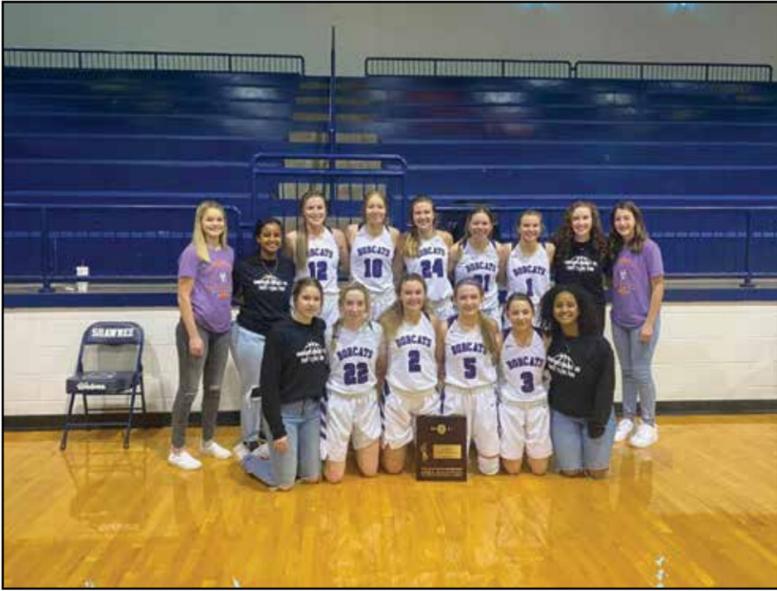
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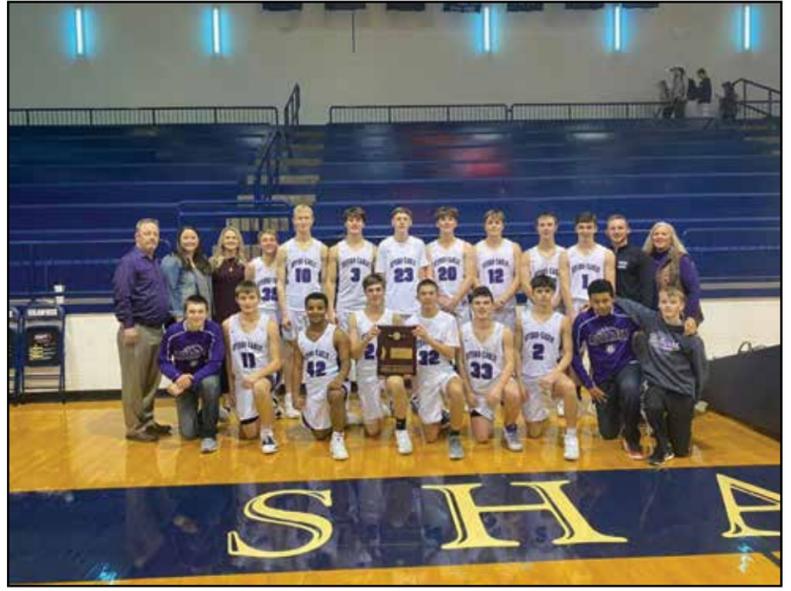
**BOXHOLDER**

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Provided

Hydro-Eakly girls bring home the area championship trophy beating Crowder 68-28 to advance to the class A State tournament held at the OKC Fairgrounds this week. The Lady Bobcats will face Garber on Wednesday at 4pm at the Jim Norwick Arena at the State Fairgrounds. Catch all the action at wright.media or 99.3FM Newstalk KCLI.



Provided

Hydro-Eakly boys bring home the area championship trophy beating Wright City 68-44 to advance to the class A State tournament held at the OKC Fairgrounds this week. The Bobcats will face Texhoma on Thursday at 4pm at the Jim Norwick Arena at the State Fairgrounds. Catch all the action at wright.media or 99.3FM Newstalk KCLI.



Provided

Thomas-Fay-Custer Lady Terriers girls bring home the area championship consolation trophy beating Okarche 36-32 to advance to the class A State tournament held at the OKC Fairgrounds this week. The Lady Terriers will face Vanoss on Wednesday at 6:30pm at the Jim Norwick Arena at the State Fairgrounds. Catch all the action at wright.media or on 99.3FM Newstalk KCLI.



Provided

Weatherford Lady Eagles take home the regional championship trophy beating Kingfisher 45-30. The Lady Eagles advance to the area tournament facing Holland Hall at Enid High School at 6pm Friday March 5th. Catch all the action at wright.media on CoyoteTV and 100.3FM Coyote Classic.

## Historic Clinton Nursing Program Alumni Make Gift to SWOSU School of Nursing

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with locations in Weatherford and Sayre has announced receipt of a donation from alumni of the former Oklahoma General Hospital School of Nursing.



In 1913, the Clinton Hospital Training School in Clinton (OK), an institution established in 1909 by the City of Clinton, graduated its very first cohort of three nurses to provide healthcare services to hospital patients. The program trained more nurses with each year that passed after 1913. In 1937, the Oklahoma Legislature acquired the Clinton Hospital Training School and renamed it the Western Oklahoma Charity Hospital School of Nursing.

The institution would later be called the Western Oklahoma State Hospital School of Nursing and then the Oklahoma General Hospital School of Nursing.

In 1973, not long after the nurse training program was discontinued, the City of Clinton took ownership of the institution, which today is managed by Community Health Systems and known as AllianceHealth Clinton.

Between 1913 and 1963, a total of 382 nurses were trained by the Clinton nursing program. The students lived on-site in dormitories adjacent to the hospital and were bused to the institution known today as SWOSU for college courses. The Clinton program had affiliations with Oklahoma City healthcare institutions and sent its nursing students on three-month experiential learning assignments to those institutions where the students

were instructed in nursing practices related to obstetrics, pediatrics and psychiatry. The Clinton nursing students were “on the job” caring for patients within three weeks of beginning their schooling, working eight hour shifts in addition to their four hours of daily instruction.

Since the Clinton nurse training program ended in 1963, alumni of the program have been gathering regularly. In 2020, with participation in the alumni effort dwindling, the three remaining active alumni decided to donate their remaining funds to the SWOSU School of Nursing.

Jane Ernst of Clinton, Norma Nickel of Clinton and Nell Helfenbein of Mansfield (TX) are the remaining active alumni of the Clinton nursing program.

“The history of the nurse training program based in Clinton is truly remarkable and should be remembered and celebrated,” said SWOSU President Dr. Randy L. Beutler. “We are so very grateful that the program’s alumni have generously chosen to invest in the instruction of our SWOSU Nursing Department. It is a privilege for SWOSU to partner with those who blazed the trail for our nursing students and who provided care, facilitated healing, and demonstrated the highest ideals of the nursing profession for many decades in western Oklahoma.”

The donation from the remaining alumni of the Clinton nursing program will be used to provide a much-needed Rhythm Simulator Module for the SWOSU nursing students to use in conjunction with the defibrillator.

The gift to SWOSU from the alumni of the Clinton nursing program is stewarded by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. An institutionally-related charitable entity, the Foundation was established in 1977 to promote

philanthropy, award scholarships and distribute funds to support the activities and programs of SWOSU. Located on the Weatherford campus in the historic Burton House, the Foundation currently stewards over \$28 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU.

For more information on the Foundation or to donate to the SWOSU School of Nursing, please visit [www.SWOSUFoundation.com](http://www.SWOSUFoundation.com) or call 580-774-3267.

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**Woodie Kimble**

Woodie was born on October 30, 1943, to Woodrow and Thelma (McNary) Kimble and died on February 19, 2021, at Weatherford Regional Hospital in Weatherford, OK, having reached the age of 77 years, 3 months, 9 days.



Woodie was raised and attended school in Hydro, graduating from Hydro High School in 1961. He married Mary (Buchanan) on May 12, 1963, in Hydro, OK, and they made their home south of Hydro. Out of high school Woodie farmed and ranched and was still active at the time of his death. He had worked at 3-M as a supervisor in coding from 1970 to 1979. Woodie enjoyed family time, fishing, working cattle, and the outdoors. Memorials may be made to Hydro First Responders and First United Methodist Church in Hydro.

Woodie was survived by his wife Mary Kimble of the home; one son Chad Kimble and wife Amy of Hydro, OK; two daughters: Sheila Huiatt and husband Rusty of Weatherford, OK, and Tina Kimble and Robert Zamora of Milburn, OK; two sisters: Melva O'Hara and husband Richard of Paden, OK, and Margie Kirby and husband Roger of Lamont, OK; one sister-in-law Rita Kimble of Hydro, OK; nine grandchildren: Adrian Creider and husband Corey of Hydro, OK, Spencer Huiatt of Hydro, OK, Jaci Blue and husband Phillip of Tishomingo, OK, Rio Zamora of Tishomingo, OK, Britney Koepf and husband Conner of Forney, TX, Charis Kimble of Oklahoma City, OK, Braeton Kimble of Hydro, OK, Kade Kimble of Hydro, OK, Kason Kimble of Hydro, OK; and twelve great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers: Jerald and Johnnie Mac Kimble.

**Margaret Weathers**

Margaret was born May 15, 1932, to C.F. and Gertrude Winn in Watonga, OK, and she stepped into heaven on February 20, 2021, at the age of 88. She was the middle child of 9 and one of only 3 girls. She married Mac Kilburn and had three daughters: Pam Kilburn Olstad, Patricia Kilburn Murphy and Beverly Kilburn. They lived in Enid, Ok at this time.



She worked many years as the bookkeeper at United Grocery Store in Weatherford. She then worked for the Oklahoma Tax Commission until she retired. She married K.L. Weathers in 1990. They lived on the farm in Hinton in the house where JR grew up. She loved the farm and everything about farm life. She loved JR's family. In 2015, they moved to Weatherford when the farm got too much to care for. She was a life-long member of the Baptist Church. She loved going to church and reading her Bible. She loved people, and people loved her. She always made everything fun. She always had music playing and loved the gospel shows on TV. She was the one in the family who kept everyone together. She would call her brothers and sister every week to see how they were. She made sure that we all got together as much as possible. She was the one who knew all the family history and family stories. And quilts...she loved her mother's quilts and learned to quilt as beautifully as her mother. She loved to make quilts. She loved to work in the yard. Those were her stress relievers.

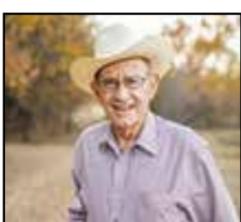
She was preceded in death by her parents CF and Gertrude Winn, her daughter Beverly Kilburn at age 12, and her daughter Pam Olstad. Also one brother Clemon Winn of Hinton, OK, and one sister Naomi Winn Bright. Surviving her are JR Weathers of the home. Patricia Murphy and husband Mike of Oklahoma City, Grandson

Ceth Loomis, granddaughters Maddie Murphy, Anna Murphy, Susan Olstad, Stephanie Olstad Ranco and great granddaughters Sadie Strong and Judy Strong and great grandson Holden Strong. Her surviving siblings are Lucille Lenaburg of Abingdon, Virginia; Ray Winn of Olive Branch, Mississippi; Bill Winn and his wife Wynona of Claremore, OK; Floyd Winn and his wife Jean of Oklahoma City; Wayne Winn and his wife Alice of Stratford, OK; and John Winn and his wife Sheryl of Weatherford, OK and numerous nieces and nephews who love her dearly, and whom she loved dearly. She is also survived by JR's children: Marilyn Potts of Hinton, Ok; Randy Weathers and his wife Julie of Elk City, OK; and Angelia VonAllman of Lookaba, OK. and all of their children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

Services for Margaret will be at First Baptist Church in Weatherford, on Thursday February 25, 2021. Burial will be at 3:00 PM at Memorial Park Cemetery in Enid, Oklahoma, next to her daughter.

**Thurman Pete Stubbs**

Thurman was born March 3, 1932, to Thurman Pete Sr. and Violet Stubbs and passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2021, at home in Hydro Oklahoma having reached the age of age 88 years, 11 months, and 17 days.



Thurman was raised in Seiling, Oklahoma and graduated high school at Thomas Public School. Thurman was married to Liane Christensen on October 7, 1950, in Thomas at Liane's parents' home. They spent the next 3 years in Taloga then moved to Hydro in 1953. He farmed and raised cattle. Thurman was also a partner in Stockman Supply with his brother-in-law Jim Christensen. Thurman also served on the Hydro Public School Board. Thurman enjoyed spending his time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren, as well as playing cards, traveling and drinking coffee with his friends. He was active in the Hydro Masonic Lodge and was a member of the First Christian church for 67 years where he served as a Deacon and Elder and served as chairman of the Board. Memorials may be made to the Hydro First Responders.

Thurman was survived by his wife Liane Stubbs, of the home; one son Brent and wife Anita Stubbs of Hydro, Ok; one daughter Debby and husband Jerry Pyle of Weatherford, Ok; one brother Bob and wife Beth Stubbs of Weatherford, Ok; as well as 5 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Thurman Pete Stubbs Sr. and Violet Stubbs.

**Colleen Ridenour**

Funeral services for Colleen Muriel Ridenour, 65 year-old Thomas resident, were held Saturday, February 27, 2021, 10:00 A.M. at Freedom Worship Center with Jerry Yoder and Reg Martin officiating. Burial will follow in Mound Valley Cemetery under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home of Thomas. Colleen Ridenour was born to Ding (Wilbur) and Dee Dee (Corinne) Krull on March 8, 1955, in Austin, Minnesota. Colleen passed to the peace of the Lord on February 22, 2021, in her home at Thomas, Oklahoma, after a short but difficult battle with cancer.



Colleen grew up in Southeast Minnesota where she met the love of her life at 16 years of age and thereafter married Denny (Dennis) Ridenour in a small ceremony in Springfield, Missouri, on June 17, 1972. Denny and Colleen initially made their home in Missouri and then returned to Minnesota before moving to Oklahoma in 1984.

In Oklahoma, Colleen attended realty school with her mom and became a realtor in Weatherford until she retired about 10 years ago. Colleen attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University in the 90's and earned her

masters degree in Psychology, graduating in 1996.

Colleen is survived by her husband Denny; her daughter Roshelle Wherritt and her husband Rodney; her son Wayne and his wife Rita; and 6 granddaughters: Regan Lemieux and her husband Hayden, Rosalind Wherritt, Rayne Wherritt, Ali Ridenour, Taylor Ridenour, and Shelby Ridenour, all of Thomas. She is survived by her brother Wayne Krull and his wife Marsha of Thomas; Karen Clapham and her husband Bill of Dubuque, Iowa; her sister Lisa Goucher and her husband Steve of Rockwall, Texas; her step-father Richard Gieser of Thomas. Colleen was preceded in death by her parents and her brother John Krull.

Memorials may be made to Corn Bible Academy.

**Natalie Taylor Rose Price**

Funeral services for Natalie Taylor Rose Price, 1 year-old Weatherford resident, will be held Sunday, February 28, 2021, 2:00 P.M. at First Baptist Church with Earl Stephenson officiating. Services are under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



Natalie Taylor Rose Price was born September 13, 2019, at Weatherford Regional Hospital Josh and Jaylee Price and passed away Sunday February 21, 2021, at their home in Weatherford, OK at the age of 1 year, 5 months and 8 days.

Natalie was born with Mosaic Trisomy 9. Most babies do not make it to full term. Then the odds of them making it to their first birthday was so slim. Natalie made it to her first birthday. She was a fighter. A warrior. A beautiful spirit. She was peaceful and quiet. She was the perfect baby. In her 17 months Natalie has touched so many people's lives. She left a lasting impression on so many of our hearts. She has always had a sassy attitude, a gorgeous face, a smirky smile, and beautiful hair that held some of the cutest bows. Those bows always seemed to match her amazing and adorable outfits and dresses. Playing dress up with mom was the best part of her day. Her beauty would light up any room. A smile that could melt your heart. When she held your finger with her tiny hands, you could feel the love in her grip. From birth Natalie experienced so many obstacles. Fighting every step of the way. From the emergency c-section and helicopter ride to Integris from Weatherford. Being born at 3lbs 15oz., she was such a tiny little baby. Natalie spent 3 months in the NICU while trying to get her weight up to be able to go home. Her mom and dad were by her side every step of the way.

Natalie is survived by her mother Jaylee Price of Weatherford; maternal grandmother Miranda Fain of Utah; Maternal Great-Grandmother Billie Jo Ramirez of Clinton; Paternal Grandparents Amber and Dustin Price of Weatherford, Ok; Paternal Great-Grandparents Stan and Paula Willingham of Clinton, Ok; Great Grandmother Nita Price of Oklahoma City, Ok; Brothers Weston Price of Weatherford, Ok and Preston Price of Tuttle, Ok. Three Aunts, Andrea Price of Weatherford, Ok, Jocelyn Fain of Weatherford, Ok, and Jami and James Reynolds of Rocky, Ok.

Preceded in death by her father Josh Price Maternal Great-Grandparent Blas Ramirez; and Aunt Gabrielle (Gabbie) Hawthorn.

**Kenneth "Ken" Earl Johnson**

Kenneth "Ken" Earl Johnson, 76, was born on February 6, 1945, to Earl Hyer Johnson and Vera Mae (Ames) Johnson in Fairview, Oklahoma. He passed away peacefully on February 24, 2021, at Mercy Health Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



Ken grew up on the family farm east of Seiling, Oklahoma. Ken graduated from Seiling High School with the Class of 1963. Ken was supported and encouraged to become a pharmacist by his uncle Jay Johnson, who is one of six pharmacists in Ken's family. Ken attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma, graduating in 1968 as a Registered Pharmacist.

While at SWOSU, Ken met the love of his life Sylvia Lou Saylor. They were married in September of 1967 in Lawton, Oklahoma. After graduation, Ken and Sylvia moved to Buffalo, Oklahoma, where Ken took his first job as a pharmacist at City Drug in June of 1968.

In October of 1968, Ken and his cousin Johnny Johnson, along with his partner "Dub" Rickard purchased Biven's Drug in Seiling, Oklahoma. Ken and his wife moved to Seiling where they began their family in 1971. A few years later in 1975, Ken bought out his two partners to become the sole owner of Biven's Drug, which he owned and operated for almost forty-three years.

Ken is survived by two sons: Kevin Johnson and his wife Connie of Dacula, Georgia, Kenlyn Johnson and his wife Krista of Hydro, Oklahoma; one daughter Delpha Goodman and her husband Randal of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; two grandsons: Kylyn Johnson of Weatherford, Oklahoma, Matthew Goodman of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; three granddaughters: Kirsten Johnson of Carnegie, Oklahoma, Caroline Johnson of Dacula, Georgia, Emily Goodman of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; numerous other family members. Ken is preceded in death by his wife Sylvia Lou Johnson; father Earl Hyers Johnson; mother Vera Mae Johnson.

(See OBIT, page 3)

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# OBIT

Continued from Page 2

The family will be having private funeral services under the direction of Redinger Funeral Home in Seiling, Oklahoma.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Munice Cemetery Fund.

## Vera Ruth Butler

Vera Ruth Butler was born July 27, 1933, in Watonga, Oklahoma, to James Coody and Jewel Ethel (Nelson) Coody and passed away at home in Weatherford on Saturday, February 20, 2021, at the age of 87 years, 6 months and 23 days.



Vera was raised and attended school in Watonga, graduating with the Class of 1951. She was married and made home in Watonga to Bill Butler in July of 1950. She received both her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Southwestern State College in Weatherford. Vera started teaching in Burns Flat then continued her career in Arapaho until she retired after teaching a total of 25 years. On the eve of retirement, she co-founded and ran Butler Security Service with her husband Bill for many years.

Vera was active in the church, served as a youth leader, and never missed a Sunday. She was an avid reader and amassed a sizeable library, but especially enjoyed reading her Bible. She loved sitting in the backyard in her rocker, doting over her pets and going to the cabin at Foss, as well as playing dominoes and cards with family and friends. She was known as the voice of reason within the family.

Vera is survived by her two sons: Gerald Dean Butler of Weatherford, and James Dylan and his wife Mihaela Butler; as well as her five grandchildren: Dan Butler, Gabriella Butler, Austin Butler, Troy Butler and Joanna Schreiner, ten great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Naomi Mae Sinclair; husband, Bill Butler; son Mitch; daughter Charlotte Diane and her infant daughter.

# SWOSU School of Business & Technology 8-Week Courses Begin March 8

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Everett Dobson School of Business and Technology offers short-term courses that begin March 8 and ends April 30 in Weatherford. The last day to enroll in the courses is March 8.

"These courses are a good option for students who need a class to maintain full-time enrollment," said Dr. Patsy Parker, professor and associate dean of the Everett Dobson School of Business and Technology.

The courses are: COMSC-1023 Computers & Information Access (Section 1442)- Introduction to computers, computer software and the use of computers to access information for general education students. Includes an introduction to computer concepts and security, operating systems, and computer applications, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access. NOTE: The course curriculum is based on the Windows operating system. Students who do not have access to a Windows computer should plan to use computers in the SWOSU computer labs whether taking this course online or face-to-face.

ORGL-4113 Ethics and Organizations (Section 5583)- This course is designed to examine the dynamics of workplace and personal ethics through the study of basic philosophical theories. Essential components and course content will include: leadership in the context of self-governance, responsibility, adherence to principles,

integrity and constancy of purpose. Current case studies will be used to apply ethical theories. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

ORGL-4333 Leading and Managing (Section 5584)- A study of theories that influence leadership with application to a variety of work situations. Essential components and course content will include: basic leadership and behavior styles, negotiation, critical thinking, change, conflict resolution, ethics and social responsibility, and diversity in the workplace. Assessment of personal leadership abilities and personality traits will be included. Prerequisites: ENGL-1113 & ENGL-1213 & Junior standing.

FINAN-2113 Personal Financial Planning (Sections 5401 and 5412)- An introductory course exploring personal financial management. Course topics may include personal budgeting, consumer loans, credit card usage, insurance, savings accounts, investments, social security, home ownership, financial institution services, personal taxes, wills, estate planning, retirement planning, career planning, financial planning, and leasing arrangements.

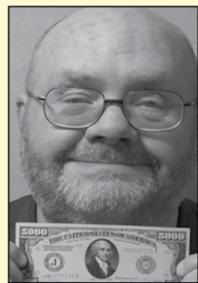
SWOSU also offers several 1-hour, online classes that provide training for Microsoft and Adobe products. The last day to enroll in the 1-hour courses is March 19. If more information is needed, please email [business@swosu.edu](mailto:business@swosu.edu).



Provided

Weatherford Eagles fall short with a 76-21 loss to Kingfisher. The Eagles advance to the area tournament to play John Marshall held at Enid High School at 3pm Friday March 5th. Catch all the action at [wright.media](http://wright.media) on CoyoteTV or Coyote Classic 100.3FM.

## "The Coin Guy" Art of the ancient world



Collectors who wish to have some variety enjoy turning to ancient coins. During the month of January 2021, the "Classical Numismatic Group's Triton" show cased some of the finer ancient world art.

In Sicily between 455 to 445 B.C. a silver coin, known as a 'didrachm' was minted in the town of Segesta located in northwest part of Sicily. Segesta was an important trading arena in ancient Greece.

This coin depicts a "hound-dog" standing and looking to the left. The reverse shows the head of a woman with her hair in a tight band.

Classical Numismatic Group (CNG) certified the coin as Very Fine. Its' pre-auction estimate was \$1,000. It sold at auction for \$4,750.

If you have questions about coin collecting but do not know who to ask then call "The Coin Guy" at 580-890-8076. We can meet at Jerry's and talk about them over a cup of coffee. Thanks for reading.

2021 STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT (March 4-6)	
FAIRGROUNDS : INTERSECTION OF I-40 AND I-44, OKLAHOMA CITY-MANAGER-OSAA	
<b>CLASS A GIRLS</b>	
Vanessa Wednesday - 4:30 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Thomas-Fay-Culter AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 2:00 p.m.
Cherish Wednesday - 8:30 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Vici AT: FAIRGROUNDS Saturday - 1:00 p.m.
Sealing Wednesday - 2:00 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Cherylene AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 4:00 p.m.
Garber Wednesday - 4:00 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Hydro-Early AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 4:00 p.m.
Hydro-Early Thursday - 4:00 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Texhoma AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 6:30 p.m.
Vanessa Thursday - 2:00 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Snyder AT: FAIRGROUNDS Saturday - 8:00 p.m.
Garber Thursday - 11:30 a.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	R. Cobb-Sheehan AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 6:30 p.m.
Velma-Alma Thursday - 9:30 a.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Arapaho-Butler AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 6:30 p.m.

2021 STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT (March 4-6)	
FAIRGROUNDS : INTERSECTION OF I-40 AND I-44, OKLAHOMA CITY-MANAGER-OSAA	
<b>CLASS B GIRLS</b>	
Lomega Tuesday - 2:00 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Hammann AT: FAIRGROUNDS Thursday - 6:30 p.m.
Vannum Tuesday - 4:00 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Forgan AT: FAIRGROUNDS Saturday - 6:00 p.m.
Kliew Tuesday - 11:30 a.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Leedey AT: FAIRGROUNDS Thursday - 8:30 p.m.
Webbers Falls Tuesday - 9:30 a.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Lookaba-Sickles AT: FAIRGROUNDS Saturday - 3:00 p.m.
Vannum Tuesday - 8:30 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	M. View-Gatelo AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 9:30 a.m.
Red Oak Tuesday - 4:30 p.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Forgan AT: FAIRGROUNDS Saturday - 3:00 p.m.
Lomega Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Cull AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 11:00 a.m.
Tyrone Wednesday - 11:30 a.m. AT: FAIRGROUNDS	Roll AT: FAIRGROUNDS Friday - 11:00 a.m.

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**For Sale-** (4) rear tractor tires 480/80R42 or 18.4R42. \$1000 OBO. (580) 774-7242

**For Sale-** (2) Sportsman generator. \$100 for both. (2) riding mowers. \$300 for both. (405) 639-9667

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store hangers. \$10/box. (405) 848-5096 or (405) 885-2750 cash/mask only.

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**For Sale-** 50 inch flat screen TV, \$75. (2) stylish black chairs, \$75/each. Buffett table with cover, cherry wood, \$350. Burgundy office chairs, \$30/each. (580) 890-1200

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Colby Jack, Pepper Jack, or Colby Deli Cheese....	\$4.99 lb.

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# LOCAL & AREA NEWS



**Mike Smith**  
News Director

**BECKHAM COUNTY DISTRICT COURT-** A jury trial date of May 10th has been set for a Beckham County murder suspect. A four day trial is planned for 52-year old Kevin Scott Harris of Elk City who faces a first degree murder allegation in connection with the August 2019 shooting death of Robert Turnbow in the 1000 block of North Adams in Elk City. Pre-trial motions will be heard April 14th. Attorney's have been ordered to submit proposed jury instructions at least 10 days before trial.

at Burcham Elementary, the Performing Arts Center and at the middle school gymnasium.

**SWOSU CROWDER LAKE OPENING DAY-** A full day of free activities, including a playground groundbreaking and Volkswagen Club of Oklahoma cruise are planned March 27th, as part of Crowder Lake opening day for the 2021 summer season. Meals and snacks will be available for purchase from a variety of different food trucks. At 11am, a groundbreaking ceremony will be held for the Dr. Ken Rose memorial playground. Crowder Lake University Park is located seven miles south of Weatherford and is operated by Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

**WRH DR. HENSLEY-** The start date for OBGYN Dr. Michael Hensley has been delayed after the recent winter storm and cold temperatures. Weatherford Regional Hospital Chief Executive Officer Brian Denton said a busted water pipe caused damage that will need repair before Dr. Hensley can begin practice in the clinic.

**WEATHERFORD SCHOOLS DAMAGED-** A few of incidents occurred across Weatherford School district campuses recently concerning busted water pipes. Interim Superintendent Steve Callen said it was the cold weather that caused busted pipes

**WRH FINANCIALS-** Weatherford Regional Hospital had a good financial month in January. Hospital Chief Executive Officer Brian Denton said net income was just over \$51,000. Additionally, Denton said the hospital board has approved the purchase of new beds and bassinets that will be dedicated to the OB unit.

## PUBLIC RECORDS

**Arrested**  
Richard Taylor Minton, 25, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a Municipal Warrant.

Lexi Jo Hamilton, 21, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a Custer County Warrant, possession of controlled dangerous substance and possession of paraphernalia.

a Custer County bench warrant.

arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with possession of controlled dangerous substance and a rule 8 bench warrant.

Kyra Zane Marie Rutledge, 31, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a Custer County Warrant.

Benjamin Willis Robinson, 53, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for Custer County Warrants and possession of controlled dangerous substance.

Carolina Medina, 24, arrested by the Clinton Police Department for city warrants for no insurance, disobeying stop sign, driving under suspension, and transporting an open container of beer.

**Out on bond**  
Bradley Joseph Hanback, arrested by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol for possession of controlled dangerous substance and possession of paraphernalia.

Tracy Lorraine Reed, 38, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a Blaine County Warrant.

Sarah Lynn Vanleeuwen, 29, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a municipal warrant.

David Prairie Chief, 38, arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with public intoxication.

Melissa Carol Qualls, arrested by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol for possession of controlled dangerous substance, possession of paraphernalia, driving under the influence, driving under suspension, and leaving the scene of an accident.

Dustin Dean Brown, 39, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department and charged with domestic assault and battery.

Alberto Herrera, 39, arrested by the Clinton Police Department on

Malaine Arriaga, 41, arrested by the Clinton Police Department and charged with possession of controlled dangerous substance

Jonathan Michael Seih, 25, arrested by the Weatherford Police Department for a Municipal Warrant.

Eleuterio Mendiola, 31,

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**Alcohol causing problems?** Alcoholics Anonymous meets daily at 928 W. Main, Weatherford. Call (580) 819-0727 for more information... **Christian Free Store** - Donations of school supplies, clothes, shoes, etc. are needed or if you are in need. Please call (580) 637-2345 or (580) 291-3875. **Alfalfa, OK Community Center "Bible Study,"** Every Monday Night from 7:00-8:00 Hwy 58. (5 miles) South of Hwy 152. For Information contact 405-643-9211 **Free and Open to the Public.**

**WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!**  
OH HAPPY Day TO YOU!  
Have a birthday, anniversary, or other special event? Email us at sales@westokweekly.com to announce it here for FREE!

**Happy Birthday Wishes for March 3rd** - Keeli Cartwright, Douglas Cavanaugh, Roger Clonce, Kelly Earles, Logan Gemaehlich, Nova Long, James McKey, Michele McMullin, Lorri Menke, Shannon Monson, Phil Parker, Laura Rhodes, Sharon Stehr, Thurman Stubbs, Russell Tsoodle, Miranda Unruh; **March 4th** - Bob Allen, Wayne Bentley, Pam Calliccoat, Quade Cummins, William Defehr, Ron Gates, Judy Hoffman, Jamie LoVecchio, Rick Skinner, Brenda Sweeney, Mandi Vontungeln, Marilyn Williams; **March 5th** - Kolton Kardokus, Calvin Lowrance, Betty Lyle, Zachary Maddox, Justin McCoy, Justin McLoy, Ryan Parman, Whitney Smith; **March 6th** - Kyle Albert, Brenda Bass, Maranda Bray, Ron Ferguson, Kelly Hoffman, Michelle Landry, Sarah Lilly, Margaret Nelson, Darrien Reinschmidt, Billy Shirey, Cassie Trevino; **March 7th** - Maxine Adams, Chandler Basler, Georganna Edwards, Caden Gates, Colton Gates, Kimberly Hinds, Judy Payne, Kale Sawatsky, Judy Sisson, Brian Tompkins, Jeanne Vontungeln; **March 8th** - JSheila Altland, Donna Birkenfeld, Tanner Boyd, Tamra Harper, Zel Harrell, Chip Helm, Phillip Hubert, Kelly Maddox, Braxton McConnell, Craig Meacham, Scott Mitchell, Sheila Mouse, Mike Pickett, John Levi Smith, Jocelyn Thomas, Patrick Coda Williams; **March 9th** - Benjamin Badgett, Michael Berrong, Sharon Butcher, Amy Chrismon, Misty Courtney, Janet Gomez, Chris Jensen, Haley Kliever, Sam Lackey, Rhonda Lovell, Bruce McLemore, Teresa Payne, McCary Rodolph, Leya Smith, Lynn Stephenson, Jim Tull, Talon Watkins, Gary Wilson

# SPORTS *Presented by:*

## Bulldog Basketball Heads to Durant to Open GAC Tournament

**Doug Self**  
SWOSU Sports Information Director

The SWOSU Men's Basketball team will play their first postseason game since 2016 on Monday night when they travel to Durant, Okla., to face Southeastern Oklahoma State in the opening round of the 2021 Great American Conference Tournament.

The Bulldogs will now meet Southeastern for the fifth time this season after the two teams split the season series with two wins apiece. SWOSU and SE also finished the year tied for fourth place in the GAC's Western Division, but hosting privileges went to the Savage Storm due to a tiebreaker.

SWOSU enters the postseason having lost six of their final seven games since defeating Southeastern 65-47 on February 4th in Weatherford. Of those six losses, however, the Bulldogs dropped three in overtime and only one by more than six points. In their last trip to Durant on February 20th, SWOSU was beaten 84-82 after the Savage Storm hit a three-pointer in the final second.

This season, SWOSU is averaging 81.8 points per game which is the highest-scoring offense in the GAC by nearly seven points per game. Conversely, the Dawgs are allowing 79.1 points per game, which is the 11th-best scoring defense in the league and their scoring margin of +2.7 ranked fifth among GAC teams. The Bulldogs also feature the second-best turnover margin (+3.29) and fourth-best assist:turnover ratio (1.0:1) in the league.

Leading the way for SWOSU this season is junior forward Damion Thornton, who ranks third in the GAC in scoring (16.6 ppg) and second in rebounding (8.9 rpg). Thornton has scored 10 or more points 14 times in 17 games this season, with six 20-point games to his credit. He has also been the Bulldogs top scoring threat



against Southeastern, averaging 15.3 points per game in the four meetings with the Savage Storm this season.

Thornton is one of five Bulldog players averaging better than 10 points per game this season, joined by Tauriawn Knight (14.9), Kamden Gipson (11.6), Bralyn James (11.4) and Chris Braggs, Jr. (10.1). Knight is the GAC's leader in free throw percentage, knocking down 85.4% (35-41) of his attempts from the stripe while Gipson is ranked seventh in the league with 25 steals in 17 games.

Southeastern is led by senior point guard Adam Dworsky, the GAC's All-Time Leader in assists. Dworsky is averaging 15.2 points, 5.4 rebounds, 6.9

assists and 1.2 steals per game but he's been held under his scoring average in the last two games against the Dawgs. Kellen Manek has scored 18.0 points per game in two meetings against SWOSU and he hit the game-winner in the last meeting and Bobby Johnson has totaled 14.0 points per game this year against the Bulldogs.

The winner of Monday night's opening round game will head to Monticello, Ark., on Wednesday evening to face GAC Eastern Division Co-Champion and top seed Arkansas-Monticello in the GAC Quarterfinals. That game will tip off at 7:30 pm from Steelman Fieldhouse in Monticello.

## Women's Basketball Wins at OBU to Close Out Regular Season

**Doug Self**  
SWOSU Sports Information Director

The Great American Conference Western Division Champion SWOSU Lady Bulldogs finished out the regular season on Saturday with an 85-71 victory at Oklahoma Baptist in Shawnee. The win is the fifth consecutive for the 19th-ranked Lady Dawgs, who close out the regular season with a record of 16-2.

SWOSU got a combined 60 points from Makyla Tramble, Bethany Franks, Taber Beer and Lauren Ramey, with each player hitting three three-pointers and scoring in double figures. Tramble recorded a double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds, while Franks and Beer added 15 points apiece and Ramey chipped in 13. Beer led the Lady Dawgs with five assists and Franks added to her school-record total with a team-best three steals.

With their 16-2 record, the Lady Bulldogs won the GAC's Western Division by five games over Southeastern Oklahoma State. As the top seed in the West, SWOSU earns a bye in the opening round of the GAC Tournament and they will wait until Wednesday to host the winner between Ouachita and Southern Arkansas in a quarterfinal matchup. That game will tip off at 5:30 pm on Wednesday evening at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.



The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced recently their latest NCAA Division II national rankings, with the SWOSU Lady Bulldogs up three spots this week and entering the postseason ranked #16 in the country.

The Lady Bulldogs have been nationally ranked in each WBCA Top 25 Poll this season and they're entering the Great American Conference Tournament on a five-game winning streak. SWOSU won the GAC's Western Division with a regular season record of 16-2.

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# SWOSU Selects Brianna Benitez & Zach Baxley as Bulldogs of the Week



**Doug Self**  
SWOSU Sports Information Director

Claiming the newest Bulldog of the Week awards on Monday morning were Brianna Benitez of the SWOSU Soccer team and Bulldog Baseball's Zach Baxley.

The award is brought to you by Wright Wradio, the home of the Bulldogs over the airwaves on both 95.5 'The Coyote' and 100.3 'Coyote Classic.'

Benitez (Irving, Texas) had a hand in scoring in each of Bulldog Soccer's first two games, helping SWOSU open up the season with a 2-0 record after shutout wins over East Central and Northwestern. Benitez assisted

on the lone goal of the season opener against ECU, then added her first goal of the season on Sunday as the Dawgs took down NWOSU by a score of 2-0.

Baxley (Wichita, Kan.) put his utility title on full display, spending time at three positions – catcher, first base and shortstop – during the Bulldogs three-game series against #10 Southern Arkansas. All he did at the plate was pound out eight hits in 11 at-bats, including two doubles and a triple, and scored three runs with one RBI. For the weekend, Baxley had a batting average of .727 and a slugging percentage of 1.091.

## Rep. Martinez Legislation Would Grant Education Refunds to Parents



State Rep. Ryan Martinez, R-Edmond, won committee passage in the House Appropriations & Budget Committee of a bill that would grant \$1,000 refunds to any parent or guardian of a child enrolled in prekindergarten through 12th grade at any Oklahoma public school.

House Bill 1927 would allow the payments from the state's General Revenue Fund upon the bill's effective date, Nov. 1, 2021.

"Many of our public schools were closed to in-person learning for much of last spring, and some have not yet re-opened this school year," Martinez said. "This left parents scrambling for other options such as paid childcare or forced them to either quit their jobs or alter

their work schedules, all at a loss of personal income. These people pay tax dollars to fund public education, but when such education is not available, they should be recompensed."

Sen. Adam Pugh, R-Edmond, is the Senate author of the bill and the chair of the Senate Education Committee.

"This minimal refund is an attempt to help parents and guardians who experienced unexpected education and childcare expenses over the past year due to the shutdown of COVID-19," Pugh said. "Parents and families have navigated challenging economic uncertainty, with many losing their jobs or having reduced hours and pay. At the same time, they have been asked to juggle these stresses with the additional responsibility of having their school-age children at home or making arrangements for childcare that comes with more costs. This refund is warranted."

The bill passed out of committee with a vote of 29-1. It is now eligible to be considered by the entire House.

## House Committee Approves Bill to Revoke Licenses of Doctors Who Perform Abortions

The Oklahoma House of Representatives Public Health Committee passed legislation directing the Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision and the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners to revoke the licenses of physicians who perform abortions.

House Bill 1102, authored by Rep. Jim Olsen, R-Roland, would revoke the license for at least one year. The bill provides an exception for abortions performed to save the life of the mother.

"Every single human life has value and should be protected under the law," Olsen said. "As state representatives, we have a duty to fight for those who cannot fight for themselves and uphold the right to life. The life of an unborn baby should never be reduced to an inconvenience in our state or nation."

HB1102 also directs the Attorney General's office to calculate costs paid for by the state or local entities in court challenges to the bill and report the amounts for each calendar quarter to the Legislature.

The bill was modeled after similar legislation, House Bill 1182, which overwhelmingly passed the House floor in 2020 but was not heard in the Senate due to the pandemic. House Bill 1102 passed committee 9-1 and is now eligible to be heard on the House floor.

## Domestic Violence Victim Protection Legislation Passes Committee

Legislation that increases protections for domestic violence victims passed the House Judiciary-Criminal Committee with a vote of 9 to 0.

House Bill 1658, authored by Rep. Denise Brewer, D-Tulsa, gives responding officers more time to work with victims of domestic violence. Officers would provide a hard copy of local resource information. They will also call the local domestic violence service and put the victim on the phone with them.

"We have to do a better job of connecting resources to victims of domestic violence," Brewer said. "By creating a more proactive role for those responding to domestic violence, we can do that."

A 2020 report from the Violence Policy Center showed that Oklahoma ranked third in women killed and 97 percent of those women knew their murderer.

"We don't like to talk about it, but domestic violence is a major problem in Oklahoma," Brewer said. "This is one step toward treating domestic violence more seriously and lowering the homicides that happen due to domestic violence."

Brewer herself is a survivor of domestic violence. "This legislation isn't about me, but it is personal," Brewer said. "We have to do more to protect our citizens."

Constituents of House District 71 can reach Rep. Denise Brewer regarding this legislation or other issues by calling (405)557-7361 or emailing denise.brewer@okhouse.gov.



Provided

Clinton Red Tornadoes advance to the area tournament beating Woodward 72-56. The Red Tornadoes will face Newcastle Thursday at 8pm. You can catch all the action at [wright.media](http://wright.media) on TornadoTV or on Sports Talk 97.3FM KCLI.



Provided

Clinton Lady Red Tornadoes advance to the area tournament beating Dickson 43-34. The Lady Reds will face Harding Charter Thursday at 6pm. You can catch all the action at [wright.media](http://wright.media) on TornadoTV or on Sports Talk 97.3FM KCLI.



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# Oklahoma History: Honey Springs Depot

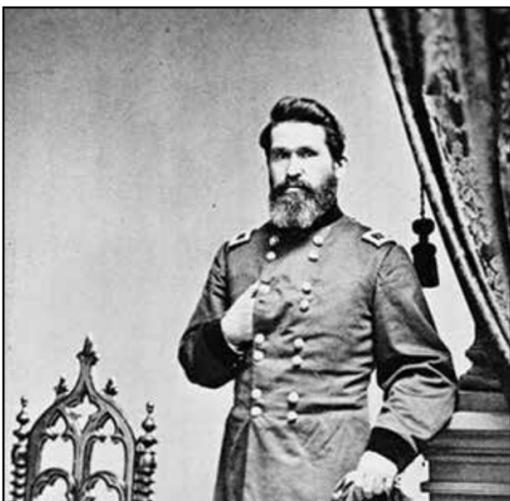
**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

Oklahoma did not enter statehood until well after the Civil War. However, that does not mean the territory that would become Oklahoma remained untouched. On July 17th, 1863, the largest confrontation between the Union and the Confederacy in that area would take place at Honey Springs Depot.

The climactic ending of this historic battle was memorable for a few reasons, the least of which was its stature as the largest conflict in Indian Territory. The battle was unique because the minority group fighting on both sides were white soldiers – an unusual regiment, especially given the context of the war. Because of the location of the battle, near Muskogee and just southwest of Fort Gibson, Native Americans were the predominant portion of each opposing side. Additionally, the Union force had a few “contained” African American units in their ranks.

The Battle of Honey Springs began two years after the start of the Civil War when the Five Civilized Tribes in the Indian Territory sided with the Confederate States of America. Their troops joined under the leadership of General Douglas H. Cooper. Under his leadership, they had driven out pro-Union Indian forces but had a shift in power when a Union campaign launched from Kansas in 1863. This campaign, led by Major General James G. Blunt, began driving back Confederate forces from the northern region.

As the Union forces moved throughout the territory, many of the Cherokee switched sides and joined ranks of the Union. In April, another Union group reoccupied Fort Gibson and began to immediately threaten the Confederacy’s hold on Fort Smith. While in Fort Gibson, the Union forces led by Colonel William A. Phillips began to suffer a reduction in their supply line (which stretched over 175 miles) from Fort Scott, Kansas. Confederate cavalry, based in the nearby encampment at the Honey Springs Depot, would regularly harass Fort Gibson and hit their supply trains.



Provided

**James Gilpatrick Blunt**

Honey Springs was a prime location for the Confederacy to hold - it had several springs of water for the men and horses, a log hospital, numerous tents, and a commissary. Recognizing the spot as a strategic strongpoint, the Confederate Army sent 6,000 soldiers to defend it, and they were successful in interrupting supply lines for a while. Until they failed to stop a 200-wagon supply train that reached Fort Gibson around the same time as General Blunt with his troops and artillery.

Confederate reports led them to believe their numbers would be vastly superior regardless of Blunt’s arrival if Cooper’s troops met up with another 3,000 soldiers from a brigade camped in Fort Smith, Arkansas. The reinforcements were expected to arrive in Honey Springs on July 17th.

General Blunt heard of the Confederate plan and decided to strike first. In a report, written by Blunt after the battle, he arrived at Fort Gibson on July 11th and saw that the Arkansas River’s water level was high. So, his troops

began building ferries to cross. On July 16th, the Union troops had crossed the river and were marching toward Honey Springs throughout the night. They reached the Confederate encampment early that morning, and Blunt began his attack.

The battle began with early skirmishes that rang out throughout the morning. These sporadic battles revealed that many of the Confederate soldiers were experiencing misfires and accidents as a result of wet gunpowder (many of the Confederacy’s munitions consisted of older muskets and flintlock shotguns). The ammunition for their weapons were quick and cheap to produce but were unreliable after rainy weather. Whereas the Union troops were equipped with Napoleon Howitzers, two 6-pound howitzers, and Springfield Rifles.

Realizing the advantage, Blunt ordered the 1st Kansas Colored Infantry to attack. The infantry, comprised of volunteers, fought with discipline, pressured the Confederacy, and drew back when the Confederate army began to show disarray. At one point, a group of Union Indian Home Guards advanced too far into no man’s land and were caught in the open. During their retreat, the Confederates charged but were thwarted by a defense line set by the 1st Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry. In his report, Blunt wrote “I never saw such fighting as was done by the Negro regiment...the question that [they] will fight is settled.”

Due to weapon malfunctions, many of the Confederate forces were unarmed and demoralized. They either surrendered or fled. A short time later, the Union forces had captured the Honey Springs Depot. The decisive battle’s importance was compared to the Battle of Gettysburg by the Oklahoma Historical Society. Victory meant the Union could control traffic along the Texas Road and could ship supplies on the upper Arkansas River. After the battle, no Confederate group could regain control of the region.

The Oklahoma Historical Society has a Visitor Center north of Checotah, Oklahoma, with monuments, waysides, and hiking trails that wind through the battlefield.

## HIGHER GROUND

**Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad**



Jim Morrison

The heavy weight clunked against young Harriet’s head. She had gotten in the way of a weight thrown by a slave master trying to capture a teen-age run-a-way slave. She lay in a coma for two days, finally coming to her senses, only to suffer frequent headaches and sudden cases of falling asleep the rest of her life.

Harriet Tubman was born as Araminta Ross, somewhere around 1820, on a Maryland plantation owned by Edward Brodas. Her parents were deeply religious, teaching her Bible stories and spiritual songs. She was known as Little Minty until she was twelve when she took on her mother’s name, Harriet. Owners would often “hire out” slaves to make ends meet. Harriet was one of those, even as a young girl. Once she remembered being lashed five times before breakfast

In 1844, at the age of twenty-four, Harriet married a free Negro named John Tubman. She brought up

the idea of running away, but John said he would tell her master if she tried. Harriet had heard about an “underground railroad” which helped slaves flee north to their freedom in Pennsylvania, a free state. In 1849, upon hearing a rumor that she was about to be sold, she knew she had to do what she could to get her freedom. She learned that the “underground railroad” was a code word by which runaways could go from station to station, finding help and resources to send them on their way to the next station. It was ninety miles to freedom in Pennsylvania and she prayed that God would protect her on her way. There were several Quakers and other abolitionists who risked their lives to assist runaways escape.

She never learned to read or write so one helper printed the word Pennsylvania in large letters so she would know when she had arrived in the Free State. There was a constant threat because slave holders used dogs to capture their prey. Upon capture they would be returned to their master to receive horrible punishment, sometimes death. With the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law in 1850, law officers were compelled to aid in the capture of slaves and return them to their masters.

But Harriet persevered, with God’s help and

numerous stations on the Underground Railroad, she crossed into the Free State with a sense of awe and glory. She later stated, “When I crossed that line I looked at my hands to see if I was the same person. There was such a glory over everything, the sun came like gold through the trees, and over the fields and I felt like I was in heaven.”

But she was not satisfied just to be free herself. In the next ten years she made 13 more trips back to the south to guide other slaves to freedom through the Underground Railroad. It is felt that as many as 300 people made their way to freedom through her efforts. At one time she was such a threat to Southern slave owners, that a price of \$40,000 was placed on her capture. She was wanted dead or alive.

When the Civil War broke out, she served as a cook, nurse, and scout for the Union army, all without pay. She died in 1913 at the approximate age of ninety-three; a woman of great courage, faith, and perseverance.

The fight for freedom was to continue through the reconstruction period when white people would attend a lynching with their children on Saturday and go to church on Sunday. To comment [jhm82@outlook.com](mailto:jhm82@outlook.com) or call 580-772-2311

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