

WEST OK WEEKLY



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Sobriety Sprint planned August 28th

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Hope is Alive (HIA) is holding its Sobriety Sprint on Saturday, August 28th at Weatherford FBC. The TZ Memorial Sobriety Sprint was first held four years ago in honor of Zach Arismendez who passed away on June 4th, 2017. The first memorial sprint brought in hundreds of runners in support of Zach and the team at Hope is Alive. So, they decided to make it an annual celebration; not of just their friend, but of all who have been touched by the journey to sobriety. Today, the Sobriety Sprint is open to anyone in all stages of sobriety and is full of fun, family-friendly support where people can celebrate becoming clean & sober, get motivated to continue their journeys, or honor someone they knew who they have lost to addiction.

This is the 5th annual Sobriety Sprint and is being held in new locations with prizes and surprises. Runs will be held in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and in Weatherford. Registration can be done at hopeisalive.net/sobrietyprint. Each registered person will receive a t-shirt, HIA string bag, a Sobriety Sprint Medal, and pair of HIA sunglasses. All proceeds will go to the Hope is Alive Scholarship Fund.

Hope is Alive was founded with a mission to “radically change the lives of drug addicts, alcoholics, and those that love them.” The program was started by Lance & Ally Lang with the goal to lead program graduates to long term sobriety through personal guidance and support in homes where they will experience new ways to work towards sobriety. Through grace, kindness, and accountability, the Hope is Alive homes have helped thousands create strong foundations on which they can build their futures. Today, Hope is Alive has eighteen homes, serving over 175 residents!



Provided

The Zoo recently celebrated their 10th birthday. To help them celebrate are contestants competing to win the Zoo Dodge Nitro filled with groceries and beer. Pictured left to right is Sam Carnes, Jimmy Fuchs, Gary Groves, Randall Yarbery, Twila Buie, Gary Yeager, and Michelle Anderson. Randall Yarbery won the Zoo Nitro with his guess being the closest without going over. Congratulations to all our contestants.

Hydro Free Fair Oklahomas oldest running fair scheduled to make comeback

The Hydro Free Fair will be in full swing from August 19th - 21st at the fair grounds between City Park, 3rd St. and Cowles Ave. in Hydro. The Hydro Free Fair has many events, rides, and games for people of all ages. Beginning in September 1904, the Hydro Free Fair is Oklahoma’s oldest community fair. Back

then it was known as the “Hydro Harvest Festival” and featured exhibits and shows from local farmers and ranchers. A few years later, the official start of the Free Fair began in 1907. The most popular attractions, according to the Hydro Historical Society, were “giant smoke balloons, a greased pole, and shooting matches

with neighboring gun clubs participating.” At the time, Hydro’s agricultural exhibits commonly went on to win first prizes at the state fair.

People came from all over the state by trains to compete in roping contests, livestock shows, and to (See Hydro Fair, page 3)

FULL STEAM AHEAD AT THE

HYDRO

Oklahoma's Oldest

FREE FAIR

20 21



114th Annual

YEAR OF THE CENTURY FLYER

COME JOIN THE RIDE!

Thursday, Aug. 19th
 7:30am - Livestock Judging Books Open
 8am - Livestock Judging Contest Begins
 8am - Entries open for exhibits in Community Building
 12pm - All baked goods entries close
 4:15pm - Horse Show Books Open
 4:30pm - Flower entries close
 5pm - Exhibit building books close
 5:30pm - Horse Show Starts
 6pm - All livestock entries due
 6:30pm - Opening Ceremony
 7pm - All rides and concessions open
 7:30pm - Free entertainment program

Friday, Aug. 20th
 7:30am - Swine Show, Goat Show, Sheep Show, Cattle Show
 9am - Kids races and stunts
 7pm - All midway rides and concessions open
 7:30pm - Free entertainment program
 8pm - 3-in-1 Ranch Rodeo

Saturday, Aug. 21st
 8am - Premium money to be paid on exhibits
 10am - Main Street Parade
 11am - Kid Tractor Pull
 1pm - North Side Mud Volleyball
 4pm - Washers & Watermelons
 5pm - Entry Deadline for Cake Auction
 7pm - All midway rides and concessions open.
 7pm - 3-in-1 Ranch Rodeo
 7:30pm - Cake Auction
 9pm - Free Entertainment

Visit hydrofair.org for more information

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Leroy Gene Foust

Leroy Gene Foust entered this world early one morning on December 12, 1954, to Maxine Fern (Green) and Leland Gene “Bud” Foust at Vinita, OK. He was one of the few babies of the time to have five living grandmothers and great-grandmothers to help raise him from infancy. He accepted Christ and was baptized at an early age and rededicated his life to Christ as an adult.



Gene attended Welch Public Schools until he was a junior. During his teenage years, he was lead singer and played the drums as part of a four member band that played at local teen hops, roadhouses, and bars under a special permit with adult supervision in northeastern Oklahoma. He was an Eagle Scout by the time his parents moved the family to Thomas. He was the first teen from Thomas to sing with both the state and national FFA chorus. He was an FFA Star Farmer.

He and Cindy met in high school and married when she graduated from college. They have two delightful children: Christy Lynn and Roy Gene and the best grandkiddos in the world: Austin Gene Foust, Caleb Patrick Foust-Treece, Alyssa Carmel Foust, and Aiden Dean Foust.

Gene graduated from Southwestern Oklahoma State University at the same time his daughter Christy and his daughter-in-law Adina did. He liked self-employment and learned to weld under the tutelage of Ken Hunter. He had his own welding business along with his dad for several years and then on his own after that. He worked at a crisis center for years, but he considered his best work was as a CLEET certified police officer, working to protect and serve students and faculty at SWOSU. Over the years he also became a proficient gunsmith and holds CLEET certifications as a sniper, range master, and assisted other policemen with their shooting proficiency. During his retirement he owned and operated a sporting goods business and was a reserve officer for Custer County Sheriff’s Department and SWOSU.

Next to his love for God and his family, he was an avid hunter as long as he was physically able. He always said his time spent outdoors, watching wildlife and close to nature God created, brought him closer to the Lord. As recently as two weeks ago, he had a successful safari hunt in southwest Texas. He learned to trap wild game at an early age of 10. His dad taught him to shoot at the age of 12 and hunted with him. Hunting was a shared love for both of them. He was a member of the Bethany Brethren in Christ Church and the First Christian Church. He was a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Thomas Masonic Lodge.

He was preceded in death by his great grandparents and babysitters Radford and Meda Stanley, Charles and Mamie Culver, Pauline Foust, and his grandmother Nova Green, and grandparents Leroy and Nadine Foust; and his father.

He is survived by his wife Cindy; children and their spouses Christy and Lance, Roy and Adina, his mother Maxine; his sister Cheryl; his brother Brad, many nieces and nephews, and many dear friends including Smith and Wesson.

In his memory please make your donations to the First Christian Church, the Weatherford or Regional Food Bank, or a charity of your choice.

Mildred Iris Oyler

Mildred Iris Oyler was born December 20, 1929, to George Clinton Spain and Frances Della (McGrary) Spain, on her parents’ farm near Fay, Oklahoma, and passed away Friday, August 6, 2021, at Mercy Hospital in Watonga, Oklahoma, having reached the age of 91 years, 7 months and 16 days.



Iris was raised and attended school in Fay, Oklahoma, graduating in 1948. She married Maurice Oyler in Watonga, Oklahoma. Iris was a resident of Watonga, Oklahoma, and a member of the Watonga Church of the Nazarene.

Iris is survived by her nephews: Granger Spain and Nathan Spain and her sister-in-law Una Spain. She was preceded in death by her parents George and Frances Spain; her husband Maurice Oyler; daughter Rose Frances Spain; her stepson Teddy Oyler; and two brothers: Gayle Spain and Duane Charles Spain. Seating is limited to family and close friends.

Anna Belle Lowry

Anna Belle Lowry was born to Harry and Sarah (Hornbeck) Killer on November 28th, 1928, in Colony, Oklahoma, and passed away at home with family, having reached the age of 92 years, 8 months, and 13 days.



Anna Belle was raised by her mother and grandparents in the Colony area. She attended Pioneer Rural Schools and graduated Colony High School in 1946. She married Billy Russell Lowry on August 16th, 1947, and they moved southwest of Colony. They were blessed with two children Billy Lynn and Frances Elaine. While living in Colony, she supported her husband as they managed a farming and ranching operation with Bill’s brother and wife. She also served on the Election Board, was an active member of the Eastside Neighbors’ Club, she helped Belle Smith at the Colony Cafe, decorating cakes and serving at various events. She was the Chairperson for the 100th year Columbia Presbyterian Church Celebration and was an ordained Elder. She moved to Sapulpa in 2009 to be near her family. She immediately immersed herself in the community, becoming active in a new church, making new friends within the church and around her neighborhood. When she wasn’t soaking up time with her family, she stayed busy with lunch outings, reading, and spending time outside. She loved watching her flowers grow and the different birds that came to her yard. She transitioned to Assisted Living after she began showing signs of Dementia. Once the pandemic changed life as we knew it, she broke out of that joint to enjoy daily life, living with her granddaughter, her husband, and three great grandchildren. She was spoiled and well taken care of. She lit up watching the boys play any sports or even when they spoke to her. She enjoyed watching FoxNews, sitting outside soaking in the days, and eating ice cream. She had a full-time caregiver Kenzie Trotter that loved her just as family would. She was able to attend baseball and basketball games, walk up and down the street, and days prior to her passing, kicking her feet for exercise in the pool. She knew her time was nearing and she greatly anticipated her eternal home with her Savior, Bill, and Billy Lynn.

Anna Belle is survived by her daughter Elaine Lowry, of Sapulpa, Oklahoma; three grandchildren: Paige Romine and husband J.R. of Jenks, Oklahoma,

Toby Lowry and wife Christy of Adair, Oklahoma, and Tonya Thompson and husband Todd of Adair, Oklahoma; seven great grandchildren: Reid and Ridge Rose, and Ryker Romine of Jenks, Oklahoma; Mallory and Wyatt Lowry of Adair, Oklahoma; Raylyn and Cooper Thompson of Adair, Oklahoma; nephew Ron Lowry and wife Beverly, of Colony, Oklahoma; and their children Brody and wife Jayme, and children Blake Lowry, Bree Patterson and families; niece, Lynda Kliever and husband Keith of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; children Austin Kliever and Ashley Miller and families; nephew Danny and wife Barbara, and many others.

She was preceded in death by her husband Billy Russell; son Billy Lynn; sisters: Irene Cosper and Louise Killer; brother Louis, grandparents, and parents.

Memorials may be made to Columbian Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Vernell Claudean (Wilson) Snider

Vernell Claudean (Wilson) Snider was born August 1, 1936, on a farm north of Weatherford, the youngest of eight children born to Robert and Myrtle (Branson) Wilson. She passed on to her eternal reward on August 12, 2021, in the Integris Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City. Vernell married Donald Lee Fowler in Enid, and to this union five children were born, two of whom Susie and Mark died in infancy. Three daughters: Cynthia, Donna Nae and Laura survived to adulthood. She later married D.J. Snider on September 27, 1981, and gained two more daughters: Anita and Donna Sue. Anita passed away in 2018.



Vernell was a long-time member of the First United Methodist Church and the Neonate Sunday School Class. She had also been a member of the Order of Eastern Star and served as Worthy Matron for two years. Vernell was also a member of the local Garden Club. She was also instrumental in forming the local Chapter of Habitat for Humanity and helped to organize several fund raisers to build homes in the local area.

Vernell was a kind, loving person who made friends easily and cherished all. She felt all had a place in God’s world and enjoyed sharing her blessings with others.

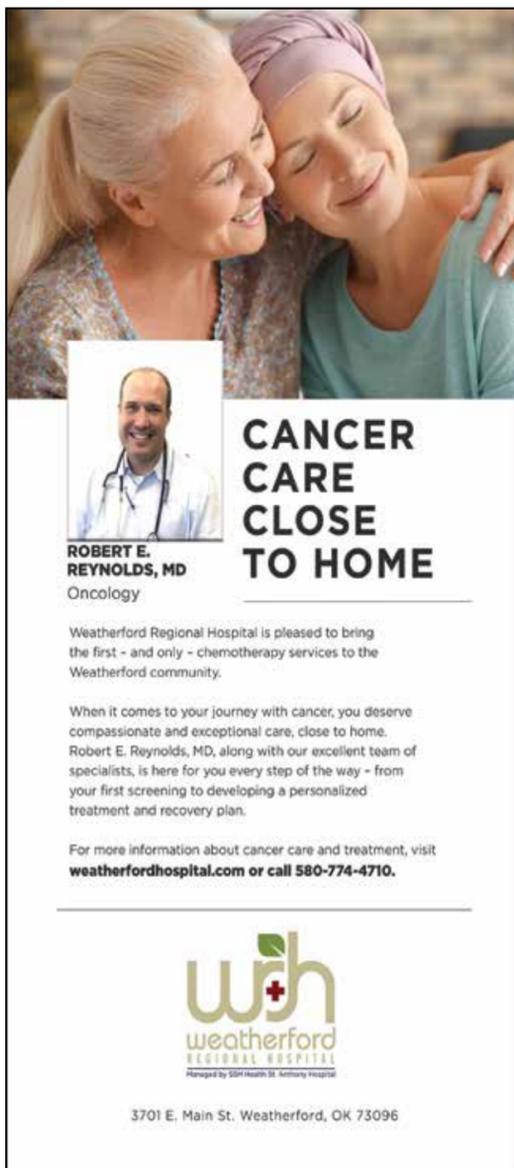
Vernell loved to garden, spend time with family and friends, play cards and travel. She and DJ traveled to all but two of the states and some foreign countries. Vernell was active in the Methodist Church, and they made several Mission trips. Several of these trips were to Mexico to build homes, one was to Bolivia to work on a church, one to Mexico to work on a School and one was to Eastern Kentucky with a group of Methodist Youth to work on homes there. They also made two trips to Alaska on Mission Projects – once to Kenai to work on a home for men who had recently been released from prison while they were waiting to find jobs in the area and the other to work on a church in Seward that had been built to replace a Church which had burned.

Vernell worked for many years at the local 3M plant, first as a secretary and later as Materials Control Supervisor for Printing Products. Through her work at 3M, Church and Garden Club, she made many friends and will be missed by all who knew her.

Vernell was preceded in death by her parents and sisters: Bessie, Genevieve, and Dorothy; and brothers: Ivan, Claude, and Zachary, two sisters-in-law and three brothers-in-law.

Vernell leaves her loving husband DJ of the home; daughters: Cynthia Hayes of Colony; Donna. her husband Blane Taylor; children Adam and wife Jessica, of California; daughter Amanda and husband Mark Whitaker and daughter Audrey all of Colorado; Laura Johnston and daughters Savannah and husband Ross Howerton of New York City; Cheyenne and husband Mike Ledford, of Mustang, Donnie Beck and companion Emily Eggers of Edmond and Darci Johnston and companion Jake Guiot of Independence, Kansas; step-daughter Donna and her husband Ron Herman, and daughters Grace and Danielle of Canyon, Texas; and grandson Will Stevens of Great Cacapon, West Virginia. Also surviving is one great-grandson and one great-granddaughter and one sister Jane McCrite of Weatherford.

Memorials may be made in Vernell’s memory to the Mission Committee at the First Methodist Church, 817 North Seventh, Weatherford, OK; or Heifer International, Little Rock, AR; or to the local Habitat for Humanity Chapter, 204 N. Caddo, Weatherford, OK; or to the charity of your choice.



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Hydro Fair

Continued from Page 1

grab a slice of watermelon, usually provided by local farmers. Community ball games were held in the evenings and an outdoor auditorium was erected for music and entertainment. The Blue Ribbon Bakery dazzled audiences with its tantalizing 270-pound cake, and as time went on and the fair grew, more shows, games, and contests were added. When WWI broke out and the country had other things on its mind, the fair was canceled. When the war ended, Hydro's Free Fair bounced back in full swing and quickly resumed its exponential growth. By WWII, the fair was bigger than ever and never took a break or looked back.

During the early fair days, live entertainment featured many surprise weddings at the fair. The couples would be kept secret from the crowd and part of the local fun was trying to guess who it could be. Local businesses would present the couple with gifts and good wishes. The first couple to marry at the fair was Claude Bixler and Adella Fields on September 6th, 1935. Adella taught in schools around Hinton, Hydro, Corn, Yukon, Bethany, and Putnam City, and greatly enjoyed helping Claude with his bee and honey exhibits at the fairs.

By 1925, the fair raised enough money to build an exhibit hall and the fair was moved to the city park. The new change of scenery was a major success boasting

more room and more fun. Following its success, the town constructed pens and sheds for the livestock and a community building for additional programs and exhibits; completed in 1935, the new sanctioned location and amenities bolstered the fair's numbers to become the largest in Caddo county and its neighbors.

In 1955, the Hydro Amusement Company was formed to handle all entertainment aspects of the fair. With this step, the fair was now completely and officially run by Hydro residents – citizens and local businesses built and worked stands, ran food vendors, constructed rides, and hosted games.

With each passing year, the fair brought in more and more visitors, and during the 1980's added the famous Green Machine, Octopus, and various kiddie rides. Concessions and token games were added, and the fair quickly required year-round attention. Weeks of planning and hard work go into making sure the 3-day fair is the best it can be. In 1997, with the addition of the Hustler, the fair became the must-stop spot for many Oklahomans as they get ready for the Fall season.

Today, the Hydro Free Fair features prominently on travel guides and destination polls and is one of the biggest and best fairs to attend in Oklahoma. Attendance remains free for all and tickets for the rides/games are available at the fairgrounds.

Hamburger Fry scheduled in Thomas

Thomas's All Sports Association is hosting a Hamburger Fry on Monday 23rd at the school circle. Beginning at 6 PM, swing by and grab a hamburger and hotdog for just \$5. If you sign up for a sports membership, or already have one, you can eat for free; athletes and band members in 9th to 12th grade eat free. The Thomas and Custer City

Masonic Lodges will provide the cooking. At 7 PM, following the Hamburger Fry, a pep rally will be held to psych up the town in preparation for the first football game of the season against Watonga that Friday, August 27th. All proceeds from the Hamburger Fry will help raise money for all sports at Thomas-Fay-Custer.

SWOSU Awards 2021-22 Authentic Journalism Scholarship to Kenedie Walker



Kenedie Walker

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) student Kenedie Walker of Hammon has been named SWOSU's Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch Scholar for the 2021-22 academic year.

Walker was selected to receive the Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch Memorial Scholarship for the Pursuit of Authentic Journalism by the SWOSU Department of Art, Communication & Theater Scholarships Selection Committee after submitting a competitive essay entitled Journalism vs Editorial Opinion.

Walker is a junior currently studying mass communication. She is a Madge Lenz Jordan Scholar and works for the SWOSU Athletic Department in sports information. Walker is active in Sigma Sigma Chi sorority.

"Congratulations to Kenedie Walker on being named SWOSU's 2021-22 Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch Scholar! We appreciate very much the generous donors who have made this recognition possible," said SWOSU President Dr. Diane R. Lovell. "The names of these two men continue to live on our campus as exemplars of integrity and creativity, and I know they would be so proud to see our students excelling."

The Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2017 to honor the life and accomplishments of the late Jack B. Shelton and the late Walter Crouch. The fund has been generously endowed by Shelton's widow, Margaret Shelton of Oakland (MD), and their children: daughter Becky West (SWOSU Class of 1976) and husband Bill of Lake Eufaula; daughter Susan Smith of Oakland (MD); and son Jack "Barney" Shelton (SWOSU Class of 1988) and his wife Wanda of Ham Lake (MN).

Taken together, Shelton and Crouch invested over four decades in service to SWOSU. Assistant Vice President for Institutional Advancement Garrett King at SWOSU said the two men worked passionately and diligently to cultivate the university's distinctive and enduring brand and style. Shelton and Crouch mentored and inspired many students during their years at SWOSU and left a lasting, positive impact on public perception of "the Hilltop."

The Jack B. Shelton & Walter Crouch Memorial Scholarship Fund is stewarded by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. The Foundation was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy 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 nearly \$30 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For information on how to make a charitable gift to SWOSU, please contact the SWOSU Foundation at 580-774-3267 or visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com.

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EWE	HAIRS	WT	110	\$100.00-\$110.00	\$105.00
EWE	HAIRS	WT	177	\$90.00-\$102.50	\$99.75
EWE	HAIRS	HD	44	\$145.00-\$265.00	\$190.00
EWE	HAIRS	HD	220	\$100.00-\$100.00	\$100.00
RAM	SHEEP	WT	57	\$245.00-\$250.00	\$246.67
RAM	SHEEP	WT	198	\$80.00-\$117.50	\$105.00
RAM	HAIRS	WT	66	\$240.00-\$277.50	\$261.88
RAM	HAIRS	WT	93	\$97.50-\$250.00	\$223.19
RAM	HAIRS	WT	180	\$105.00-\$115.00	\$111.67
RAM	HAIRS	HD	0	\$275.00-\$350.00	\$302.50
LAMB	SHEEP	WT	63	\$150.00-\$257.50	\$244.09
LAMB	SHEEP	WT	94	\$165.00-\$255.00	\$237.00
LAMB	SHEEP	HD	25	\$45.00-\$45.00	\$45.00
LAMB	HAIRS	WT	49	\$240.00-\$290.00	\$250.87
LAMB	HAIRS	WT	81	\$255.00-\$257.50	\$256.25
NANNY	GOAT	WT	49	\$180.00-\$315.00	\$264.64
NANNY	GOAT	WT	91	\$130.00-\$202.50	\$163.75
NANNY	GOAT	WT	106	\$195.00-\$235.00	\$226.00
NANNY	GOAT	WT	135	\$200.00-\$200.00	\$200.00
NANNY	GOAT	WT	165	\$180.00-\$180.00	\$180.00
NANNY	GOAT	HD	81	\$60.00-\$240.00	\$191.55
BILLY	GOAT	WT	45	\$150.00-\$310.00	\$259.20
BILLY	GOAT	WT	103	\$225.00-\$250.00	\$237.84
BILLY	GOAT	WT	168	\$210.00-\$220.00	\$215.00
BILLY	GOAT	GW	168	\$225.00-\$225.00	\$225.00
BILLY	GOAT	HD	35	\$25.00-\$170.00	\$96.25
KID	GOAT	WT	47	\$240.00-\$345.00	\$296.44
KID	GOAT	WT	105	\$315.00-\$315.00	\$315.00
KID	GOAT	GW	58	\$290.00-\$320.00	\$304.29
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'60 CT Chevy Pick-up- 350 engine with 350 automatic transmission. Very little rust, needs body work and paint. Used daily. \$5,500. (405) 545-0579

For Sale- Hi-Lift jack mount, fits jeep wrangler, for mounting jack on hood hinges. \$50. (580) 302-2496

'98 Buick Regal- red, all leather, sunroof, turbo charged motor, great paint, chrome wheels, \$3,800. 580-330-3489

'60 Chevrolet pickup- long bed, good straight 6 engine clear title, \$1850 (405) 952-7129

'79 Oldsmobile Delta- 88 350 motor, automatic transmission less than 100,000 miles garage kept; \$4500 405-952-7129

'01 Chevy Venture- \$3,000. (580) 613-0108

'09 Buick Lacrosse- 115k miles, white, new tires, leather, fully loaded, runs good \$6,600. 580-330-3489

'01 Ford F-150- 5.4 triton engine, 4-door silver, cold a/c, keyless entry, comes with Key fobs, new tires, second owner 146k miles \$8,000. OBO. call or text 580-330-1437

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For Sale- 19ft recreational trailer, 2004, Travel Cruiser, very good condition, \$5,000 firm, call or text 580-772-8513.

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For Sale- hauling trailer 5x12ft with ramp, new tires, black, all electrical works, \$1,400. 405-892-8301

For Sale- 18ft ski/fishing boat, ready to get out on the water. Make offer. (405) 639-9667

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For Sale- beautiful traditional Bernhardt sofa with matching chair (love seat) excellent condition. \$400 (2) occasional chairs, coffee table. (580) 772-6344 or (580) 819-1464.

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For Sale- Queen size bed with headboard and frame. \$150. Loveseat and couch. \$175 for both (580) 330-3489

For Sale- Honda lawnmower, used one season. \$400 bought brand new for \$765 (580-445-6765

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For Sale- Bedroom suite with triple dresser and 5-drawer chest. \$750. Recliner like new. \$150. Occasional chair great condition. \$125. Antique kitchen cabinet \$300. and much more. (580) 772-3662

For Sale- Adirondack chairs, handmade with screws instead of nails \$65. 580-613-0108

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Stafford Museum takes flight with an education grant from the Aeronautics Commission



Provided

Max Ary with the Stafford Air and Space Museum accepts the \$20,000 grant for flight simulators.

Fifty organizations were awarded Aerospace and Aviation Education Program grants totaling over \$365,000 at the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission's (OAC) August meeting. Grants are for targeted learning programs that have a direct application to aerospace and aviation for primary through post-secondary education. The grant funds are part of the agency's initiative to give more Oklahoma young people access to STEM careers in the aerospace and aviation industry.

The commission approved a \$20,000 education grant for the Stafford Air & Space Museum "Stafford Flight Simulation Lab." The commission initially funded the flight simulation lab in 2008 and the requested funds will allow for new computer units and a software update. The lab gives members of the public the ability to fly the simulator and is used as a training tool for student pilots working on their licenses through the Stafford Airport or at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

"For years, the Stafford Air and Space Museum has been a crown jewel in our state for educating the public about air and space exploration," said Sen. Brent Howard, R-Altus. "I'm thrilled the museum will receive a \$20,000 grant from the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission to continue their mission to train student pilots working on their licenses and serve our area as a premier museum and tourist stop for citizens to learn more about aeronautics and aerospace."

The Aerospace and Aviation Education Grant Program has been awarding aviation education grants for over 30 years. Charged with the mission by state statute, the Commission fosters and encourages students to consider aerospace or aviation as a career. The Commission's grant program has years of positive results. The initiative supports the Oklahoma Works project that aims to address the skills gap and connect students to programs that will help build the workforce of Oklahoma's second-largest industry.

The OAC's nationally recognized program enjoys a positive reputation as one of the most robust aviation education programs among state aviation agencies. For the 2021-22 school year, Oklahoma will rank #3 in the country in the number of schools teaching the AOPA curriculum. Since FY2001, the Commission has awarded \$4.15 million in aerospace and aviation education grants.

"Stafford Air and Space Museum is making a real difference in the lives of Oklahoma students. We know that their programs are providing students with valuable insight into the potential for a future aviation and aerospace career, and we wish them great success with their program," said Paula Kedy, MA, Ed., Aerospace and Aviation Education Coordinator for the Commission.

Watch the full meeting at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfvqUmcWmrY&t=15s>.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS- The custer county commissioners passed a resolution to renew the half cent sales tax. Commission chairman Lyle Miller says that the splits from the sales tax would remain the same. 50% to the general fund, 30% to the sheriff's department, 8% each to rural fire and OSU extension and 4% to the county free fair. Miller says the sales tax will be on the ballot early next year.

ARCHER/DIST 55 CANDIDATE- Elk City mayor Nick Archer says he is planning a run for state representative in District 55. Current District 55 state representative Todd Russ, who is finishing his sixth term and is term limited, says he plans to run for state treasurer in 2022.

AREA SALES TAX- Many western Oklahoma municipalities had another up month in sales tax collections for June sales. The City of Weatherford was up by more than 12% with collections totalling one million, fifty four thousand dollars. Clinton was up by 20%, totalling more than \$520,000. Elk City was up by just over 1% with collections of more than \$1.1 million. The City of Thomas had a 57% gain, collecting over \$63,000. Cordell was down 11.5%, collecting more than \$83,000 and Hydro fell by 25%, collecting just over \$17,000.

CUSTER CO DIST COURT/HUCKABAY- A Weatherford man, charged with 3rd degree arson and two counts of conspiracy in Custer County District Court has waived a preliminary hearing. Thir-

ty-four year old Aubrey Don Huckabay allegedly paid \$500 by Daniel Cole Murphy to take Murphy's truck, drive it east of Hydro and use gasoline provided by Murphy to set the truck on fire. Formal arraignment for Huckabay is planned for August 16th.

WEATHERFORD SB/PROJECTS- During a recent Weatherford School Board of Education meeting, district superintendent Jill Henderson provided an update on various construction projects in the district. Henderson says both elementary school building projects continue to make progress. She says the turf install project at the high school football field is beginning and should be completed quickly.

WEATHERFORD/ASBESTOS REMOVAL- The process of removing asbestos from the former Weatherford Regional Hospital site on Kansas continues. Weatherford Economic Development Director Yolanda Creswell says demolition of the building is planned for early September. The site will eventually become the home of the new Weatherford police station/9-1-1 center.

WEATHERFORD/STAFFORD PARK- The marketing director of the Stafford Air & Space museum in Weatherford said museum officials have met with four park designers. Shauna Jarvis said it's one step toward the eventual construction of a park. No definite timeline has been provided, regarding the construction of the park.

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WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

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Happy Birthday Wishes for August 18th- Lyman Bear, Katie Cornell, Darci Gonzalez, Logan Lasley, Curtis McCoy, Lilly Ann McCoy, Coletta McKay, Dale Nickels, Anthony Perez, Jacy Steele, Richard Sweeney, Marsha Taylor, Ray Weichel, Keith Woods; **August 19th-** Richard Callaway, Kyle DeFord, Elva Dick, Debbie Flaming, Irene Fry, Phyllis Hobbs, Susan Kimble, Betty Leach, Suzi Minnix, Pandi Seibold, Rusty Shepherd; **August 20th-** Aiden Barnhill. Karen Elkins, Kodi Kingler, James Kirby, Billy Smith, Kyle Sutton; **August 21st-** Dwayne Britton, Korbyn Grace Smith, Kaitlin Keuhne, Mark McAtee, Carol Whiteskunk, Carri Womack, Patrick Wright; **August 22nd-** Greg Butler, Chad Nye, Kenda Varnell; **August 23rd-** Allen Boyd, Jean Cain, Anne Flood, Donna Jones, Pat Vawter, Jeremy Washa; **August 24th-** Kailin Brodrick, Mackina Dobrinski, Hershel Howes, Bill Leppke, Paige Lindley, Korrina Olguin, Sandi Rhoades, Debbie Shaw, Corbin Sims, Tyler Steinly, Shelly Anne Walters.

SPORTS *Presented by:*



Bulldog Soccer Slated to Finish Third in GAC Preseason Coaches' Poll

Doug Self
SWOSU Sports Information Director

The Great American Conference released the 2021 edition of their preseason women's soccer coaches' poll on Tuesday, which has SWOSU Soccer ranked third for the start of their first full season back since they won the conference in 2019.

The Bulldogs received two first-place votes and 27 total points, which has them slotted behind the reigning conference champions Ouachita Baptist, who received three first-place votes and 32 total points, and Oklahoma Baptist, who earned two first-place votes and 32 total points. East Central (20 points), Harding (19 points), Southern Nazarene (9 points), and Northwestern Oklahoma State (8 points) finish out the rest of the poll.

"Nobody gets a trophy for a preseason poll," SWOSU Head Coach Mark Persson said. "It's a good reflection of how things finished last year, but there's a long season between now and tournament time. We take the preseason polls with a grain of salt. Our success will be determined by what we do in the next few months not by any poll. Being picked third is a challenge for us, so hopefully it will be motivating for the girls because obviously we want to finish first."

Bulldog Soccer is in a great position to do just that as this team brings back almost all of their scoring production from last year, with all but two players from last year's squad set to report this week. SWOSU returning players accounted for 87% of the team's goals scored last season and 92% of the assists.



The reigning GAC Defensive Player of the Year Elizabeth Moreno returns for the Bulldogs for her sophomore season after maintaining a clean sheet in half of the games she played in last season. She's joined by fellow All-GAC First Teamers Micaela Swain, who led the team in goals scored, and Brianna Benitez, who led the team in assists and points.

Bulldog Soccer begins fall camp on Wednesday and will start their season at home in Weatherford against Northeastern State on Thursday, September 2, at 1:00 pm at the SWOSU Soccer Field. Conference play starts on Tuesday, September 28, with a primetime matchup against Northwestern Oklahoma State in Alva.

SWOSU Football Alumni & Friends Host Reunion & Tournament

Alumni, emeriti and friends of Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) recently gathered for a weekend in Weatherford celebrating SWOSU football.

Over 75 participants fellowshiped at "DawgFest" on the evening of Friday, July 30, in the Skyview Suite of the Pioneer Cellular Events Center. The gathering was generously sponsored by the SWOSU Athletic Association. Remarks were made by SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton and SWOSU President Dr. Diane Lovell.

On the next morning, 160 participants enjoyed a day of fun and competition in honor of SWOSU's football heritage at the 2021 Football Legacy Golf Tournament held at Prairie West Golf Course in Weatherford.

Participants in both events learned how they can invest in the SWOSU Football Legacy Fund through charitable giving to help strengthen SWOSU's football programs in the future.

The SWOSU Football Legacy Fund was established in 2015 by 2005 SWOSU alumnus Dustin Wall and 2006 SWOSU alumnus Michael Hart.

SWOSU is deeply grateful to the sponsors who made the event possible including:

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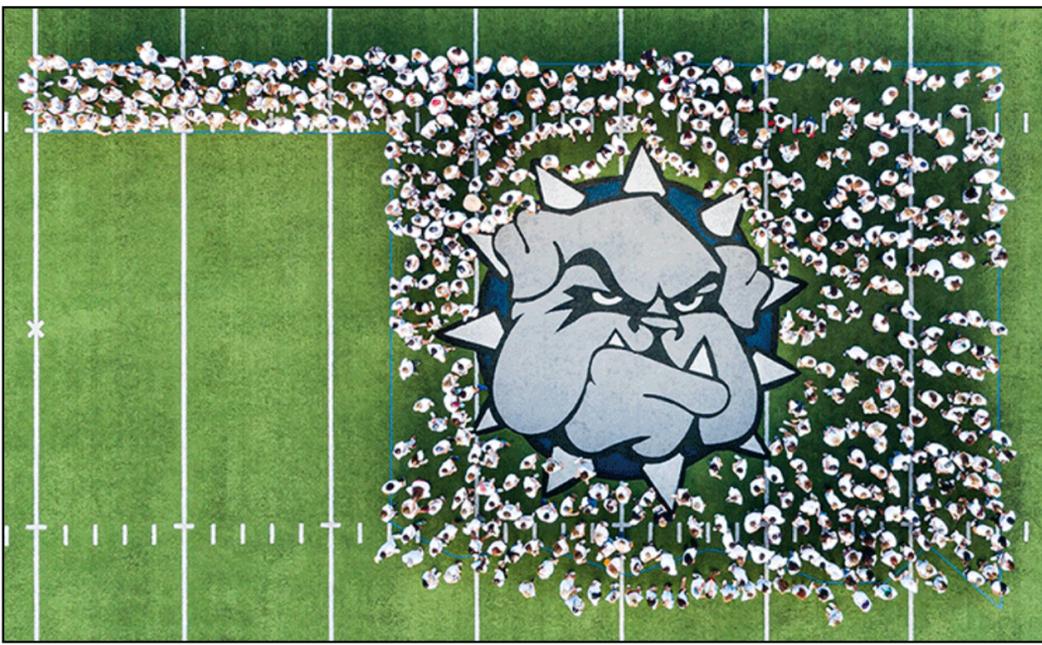
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The 2021 Southwestern Oklahoma State University freshman class in Weatherford gathered August 12 for meetings and a class picture as the freshmen prepare for their first day of university classes on Monday, August 16. *Provided*

Pioneer to Serve as Underwriting Sponsor of 2021 SWOSU Athletic Auction & Hall of Fame Ceremony

The Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) Athletic Association is pleased to announce that longtime SWOSU benefactor Pioneer will be serving as Underwriting Sponsor of the 15th Annual Athletic Auction & Hall of Fame Ceremony.

In this capacity Pioneer will provide key financial support for this major SWOSU fundraising event. In a new format, the Auction will now also include the SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony and recognize the 2021 SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame honorees.

"Pioneer's tremendously generous sponsorship allows SWOSU to bring together two much-loved events: the SWOSU Athletic Auction and the SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame induction," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. "Thanks to SWOSU's partnership with Pioneer, we are able to welcome back our alumni and friends to the Pioneer Cellular Events Center for a fun time that provides important assistance to our student-athletes and athletic programs."

All proceeds from the auction benefit SWOSU's athletic scholarships and recruitment efforts.

"Pioneer Cellular, Broadband and Special Access is proud to continue investing in SWOSU. Pioneer is an amazing place to work and takes great pride in our communities throughout our service area. We ask all of our friends and neighbors to join us in celebrating SWOSU and supporting student-athletes," said Ms. Kim Grellner, Vice President of Marketing, Sales & Service at Pioneer.

Silent auction bidding will take place online at www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com beginning on October 2 and running through October 22. The main event on October 23 will kick off with a cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner served at 6:30 p.m. The 2021 Hall of Fame honorees will be recognized at 7:00 p.m. with the Live Auction beginning at 8:00 p.m. featuring a wide

variety of premium items and experiences available to participants.

Tickets and tables for the Auction & Hall of Fame Banquet are on sale now. Single tickets are \$150 and tables for 8 are \$1,500. To make your ticket/table purchases or for more information, please contact the SWOSU Office of Institutional Advancement at 580-774-3267 or e-mail Ms. Kayla McQuillan, SWOSU Advancement Coordinator for Athletics, at kayla.mcquillan@swosu.edu

Event food and beverage are all-inclusive with ticket purchase.

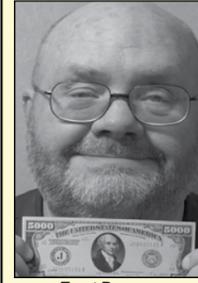
Please visit the website for the event – www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com – as it will be updated with a full list of items regularly.

Anyone interested in donating items to the auction or needing further information about the event is encouraged to contact Clarke Hale by email at clarke.hale@swosu.edu or by phone at 817-707-6795.

The 2021 SWOSU Athletic Auction & Hall of Fame Banquet is hosted by the SWOSU Athletic Association. The Association is a subsidiary of the SWOSU Foundation, Inc., which was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy 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 nearly \$31 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU.

"The Coin Guy"

Eisenhower Dollars Come of Age



Trent Boesen

Eisenhower dollars were minted from 1971 to 1978. It is one of the shortest sets of coins which allows people to assemble the entire series.

Circulation quality Eisenhower dollars were made of a copper-nickel composition. Collectors were sold silver-copper clad Eisenhower dollars. Each one contained 40% silver.

The silver-copper clad dollars did not enter circulation and today are in top graded conditions.

The above pictured coin is a 1973-S (San Francisco mint) is a very special coin. It was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Company as a Mint State 69 (one point away from being a perfectly minted coin).

The mintage total of the 1973-S is 869,400 pieces. PCGS has certified only four as Mint State 69 with none finer. The above dollar sold at auction in July 2021 for \$9,843.75.

Questions regarding Eisenhower dollars can be answered by calling The Coin Guy at 580-890-8076. Thanks for reading.

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Jim Morrison

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"May the God of peace, who through the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, 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. 13:20-21)."

Much could be said about God being a God of peace,

a great shepherd, and the power behind the resurrection. But in the limited space we have, we will concentrate on being equipped to do His will and living a life that is pleasing to him.

In a farming community we know about equipment needed to prepare the soil, plant the seed and bring in the harvest. We can't do the job without having the proper equipment. Bringing in the harvest would be likened to doing his will. We need information to know the will of God. It is all about obedience. Faith is not real without obedience. We need the power of the Holy Spirit to do the will of God. It is He who is working in us to accomplish his will and purpose for our lives. In the West we are blessed with an abundance of resources. The early disciples did not have the entire New Testament. They did not have the work of scholars to give them the shades of meaning of various words and phrases to help them interpret various texts. What they had was a burning passion to obey. And with that they turned the world upside down. They obeyed because they had seen the Lord; they had seen the depth of his love demonstrated on the cross.

What is the equipment we need for the same task that confronted the disciples? They had died to themselves. They had recognized, long before Bonhoeffer wrote it that "when Christ calls a man he bids him come and die." He calls us to die to our pompous plans for our self-advancement, to our ease and pleasure, and to our comfort. He calls us to self-sacrifice and to accept the scorn of the world; to endure suffering of those who do not understand, yea even to give our lives should that be necessary.

Being equipped may mean the sometimes boring time spent in "studying to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman that is not ashamed." It is rejoicing with the saints of the past who tasted the fruit of obedience and suffering for the cause of Christ. But most of all it is in the act of obedience to what we know that prepares our hearts and character for further service. By the power of the Holy Spirit he works in us—shapes our character, develops perseverance, and provides the vision of a life lived to advance the kingdom and bring glory to the Father. Pray for me at that point. To comment jhm82@outlook.com or 580-772-2311

SWOSU Student Tasha Akers Named 2021-22 Bud & Wanda Smalley Scholar



Tasha Akers

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) student Tasha Akers of Hinton has been named the 2021-22 Bud & Wanda Smalley Scholar at SWOSU with locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon.

Akers is studying accounting in the Everett Dobson School of Business & Technology at SWOSU. She is consistently listed on the SWOSU President's Honor Roll each semester.

The Bud & Wanda Smalley Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by Judy (Smalley) Wilkes (SWOSU Class of 1976 and current SWOSU Foundation, Inc. trustee) and her husband, Mike Wilkes (SWOSU Class of 1975 and past president of the SWOSU Alumni Association) of Oklahoma City in memory of the late Bud and Wanda Smalley of Eakly.

Earl Weaver "Bud" Smalley, Jr. was born November 19, 1932, north of Eakly. His parents—Earl and Mary (Woodward) Smalley—were life-long residents and farmers in Caddo County. Wanda Lou Seymour was born on October 5, 1932, in Alamosa (CO). Wanda grew up in Oklahoma City with parents William Randolph "Colonel" and Cora Adina Seymour. Cora was a resident of Eakly throughout the latter years of her life. Bud & Wanda were married on January 17, 1953, and their union of 63 years was a joyful one. The Smalleys raised a family of four daughters in Eakly where the family farmed wheat, peanuts and cotton and raised cattle. The Smalleys were also commercially involved in the Eakly Farmers Cooperative Gin, Eakly Propane Company, Southwestern State Bank, Bank of Hydro and Stanley-Lee Funeral Home. The Smalleys were devoted members of the Eakly United Methodist Church.

The fund provides scholarships to SWOSU students with a preference given to those students who graduated from schools in Caddo County, Oklahoma. The Smalleys



The late Bud and Wanda Smalley

were champions of higher education; all four of their daughters, all four of the Smalley sons-in-law, and seven of their ten grandchildren are SWOSU alumni.

The Bud & Wanda Smalley Memorial Scholarship Fund is stewarded by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc., which was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy 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 nearly \$30 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For more information, please contact the SWOSU Foundation at 580-774-3267 or visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com.

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