

WEST OK WEEKLY



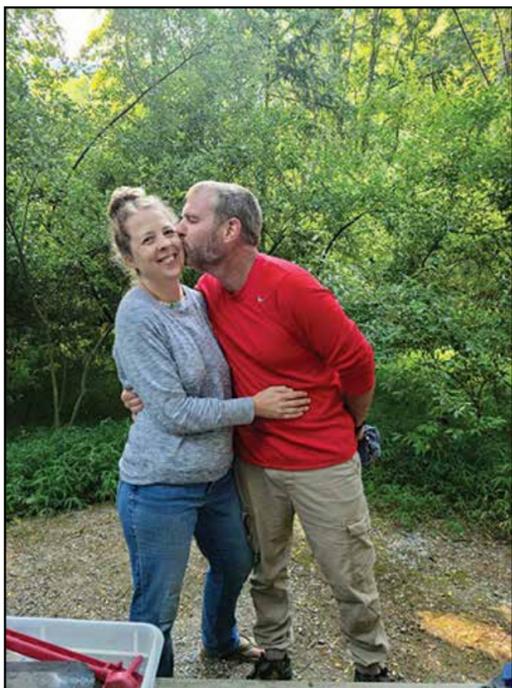
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CrossPointe Church hires new pastor

Chase Wright
Staff Writer



CrossPointe Church in Weatherford has a new pastor Sean Odom. Sean and his wife have six children and are excited to begin their new journey in western Oklahoma. "My wife is originally from Texas. So, we'll be closer to her family down there, and we'll be closer to her children in Colorado." Sean has been living in Vermont over the past 10 years as a bi-vocational minister and church planner. At CrossPointe, Sean will be able to solely focus on ministry itself. "It's truly a blessing; being able to do ministry. It's what I'm called to do." Prior to full-time ministry and church planning, Sean has had experience as an assistant minister and youth pastor. Sean believes the different church experience and life experience in general, will help him connect and lead as the new pastor. You can join Sean and his family for worship at CrossPointe Church, beginning on September 1st. "We're excited. The community and church family have been friendly and supportive."



Krystal Blackwell/WW

SWOSU recently held an organizational fair. Local businesses like Sav-a-lot and Hutch's welcomed students to the Weatherford campus.

Rodeo of Champions to be held Labor Day Weekend

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The Elk City Rodeo swings in on September 3rd, 4th, and 5th. The Rodeo of Champions always features the best entertainment, competitors, and showmanship. Tickets can be picked up at Circle A Western and Outdoor or through the rodeo arena ticket office. Swing by Ackley Park to watch hundreds of the best cowboys and cowgirls compete in events like steer wrestling, tie-down roping, barrel racing, bull riding, and team roping. Each year the rodeo brings in some of the biggest and most talented entertainers in the rodeo world, and this year is no exception. Featured acts include: Barrel-man Cody Sosebee, bullfighters Weston Rutkowski and Chuck Swisher, and specialty act Bobby Kerr and his

mustangs. Wayne Brooks will be back announcing for his 13th year, and the Sander Ranch will be showcasing their longhorn steers at the rodeo. Beutler & Son Rodeo Co. will be the stock contractor. Also, keep an eye out for a very special rodeo guest, Oklahoma State's very own Pistol Pete!

Each performance kicks off at 8 pm. Opening night, September 3rd, will begin with skydiver Bobby Reid who will fly in the American Flag. The next day at 10 AM, the annual rodeo parade will strut through Elk City. That evening September 4th children under 12 years old will be able to get into the rodeo for free with a Dr. Pepper can. The final day September 5th the rodeo staff invites everyone to come wearing pink for the Tough Enough to Wear Pink night for cancer awareness.

Weatherford Food and Resource Center to celebrate 5th birthday with drive-thru parade



The Weatherford Food & Resource Center's 5th Birthday Drive-Thru Celebration is on September 7th. From 6 pm - 7:30 pm, swing by to grab a cupcake, enjoy some music, meet the cheerleaders and mascots, and help the Weatherford

Food and Resource Center meet its donation goal to raise \$5,000 and 5,000 pounds of food! The first 150 people through the line will receive a cupcake courtesy of Kendra's Kreation Cupcakes. Each person who receives a cupcake will also be able to get their photo taken and featured in the *Weatherford Daily News* Cupcake Collage for the WFR. Donations, like the ones from the Drive-Thru donation fundraiser, are a big way the WFR can provide so much support to members of the

surrounding communities. Each \$1 donated is able to provide 4 meals, and community involvement is a big reason programs and centers like the WFR are successful! At 6 o'clock there will be a BIG announcement. Look for the Weatherford Fire Department fire truck at the corner of Main and State Street to mark the beginning of the drive-thru route. Join 95.5 FM for a livebroadcast of everything birthday related!

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Beulah Marie (Slagell) Switzer

Beulah Marie (Slagell) Switzer was born to Dan and Jane (Waters) Slagell on September 20, 1923, and completed her earthly journey on August 21, 2021, at the age of 97 years, 11 months, and 1 day. Born north of Hydro, Oklahoma, she lived her entire life in the Thomas and Hydro area. Beulah attended Hopewell Country School until 8th grade and then entered 9th grade at Jabbok Bible School where she completed her studies and graduated in 1941. In 1943, she became a teacher for Hopewell Country School and taught 3 years, beginning with 20 students ranging from 1st to 8th grade.



On December 31, 1942, Beulah was united in marriage to Ira William Switzer at Pleasant View Mennonite Church, north of Hydro, Oklahoma. They established their home southeast of Thomas, Oklahoma, where they lived until retirement. In 1981, they moved north of Hydro, Oklahoma.

At the age of 12, Beulah came to know Christ as her Lord and Savior and was baptized in 1935. She was active in many aspects of church life where she was a member for 86 years. Music, particularly, gave her much joy and she served the Lord through her involvement singing in many trios and quartets as well as playing the piano.

At home, Beulah was active alongside Ira in their farming and cattle operation. They raised their children on the farm and through the years were also given the opportunity to care for 60 plus foster children. After moving north of Hydro, Beulah and Ira were frequent volunteers at the Etc. Shop in Weatherford, Oklahoma. When Ira developed Alzheimer's, Beulah became a volunteer at Maple Lawn Manor and cared for him almost daily until his death in 2000. She continued as a volunteer at Maple Lawn Manor where she fed residents, led devotions and played piano.

She was active in the Hydro community, loved to mow her own lawn even into her later years and had a great passion for flowers. Her grandchildren were another of her passions and one of their favorite memories is staying overnight at Grandma's house on Christmas Eve.

She is remembered by her family for living out her love for Christ by willingly and unselfishly serving her family and others. She was a loving and caring wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

Beulah is survived by daughter Bernell and husband John Trissel of Waynesboro, VA.; sons: Randall and wife Joyce Switzer of Big Sandy, TX; Lyndall and wife Kathie Switzer of Hydro, OK; Kent and wife Beth Switzer of Thomas, OK; daughter Linda Langlinais of Lafayette, LA, and Jeanne Morris of Oklahoma City, OK.; 12 grandchildren: Christy Newton, Chase Trissel, Andra Dankers, Adam Switzer, Mark Switzer, Casey Manning, Brooke Makeever, Blair Cilliers, Brittney Miller, Jesse Langlinais, Cheyenne Langlinais and Cassey Mireles; 25 great-grandchildren; one brother Layman and wife Dorothy Slagell; sisters-in-law: Josie Slagell, Roberta Slagell, and Verdella Slagell, all of Hydro, OK, and many nieces and nephews.

Beulah was preceded in death by her husband Ira, her parents Dan and Jane Slagell, and three brothers: Daniel Slagell, Carl Dean Slagell, and Maxton Slagell.

Juan Martinez

A Mass of Christian Burial for Juan Martinez, 57, Clinton business man was held Saturday, August 28, 2021, at 11:00 A.M. in the St. Mary's Catholic Church, officiated by father Mandagiri Balaswamy and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

He will be laid to rest in his home country, San Miguel de Allende GTO, Mexico.

Juan Espinoza Martinez was born March 14, 1964, to Leocadio and Maria Concepcion-Martinez in San Miguel de Allende GTO, Mexico, and passed away Tuesday, August 17, 2021, in the Alliance Clinton Health in Clinton, OK.

Juan was raised and attended school in Mexico. He came to the U.S of America in 1982. He first made his home in Texas where he worked on a dairy farm. He later moved to Clinton, OK in 1983. He married Carmen Vasquez in 1983 in Clinton, OK, and he worked for the Collins and Aikman Factory. In 2008 he started his own business and became owner and operator of 3-JM Roofing.

His first wife preceded him in death, and he later married Esmeralda Letisia Rubio Murillo in Mexico on December 21, 2012.

He is a member of the St. Mary's Catholic Church, he enjoyed playing soccer, and messing with guns.

He is preceded in death by his mother, first wife, and daughter Monica.

He is survived by his wife Esmeralda of the home, his dad Leocadio Martinez of Mexico; daughter, Valerie Martinez, of TX; sons: Mario Martinez, Miguel A. Martinez Juan A. Martinez, Emmanuel Martinez all of Clinton and Eduardo Martinez, of TX; sisters, Maria Niocolasa Martinez E., Maria del Socorro Martinez E., Margarita Martinez E., Maria Concepcion Martinez E, all of Mexico; brothers: Jose Ventua Martinez E, Jose Martine Martinez E., Sidronio Martinez E., and Jose Mario Martinez.

He is also survived by seven grandchildren.

James Beaver Jr.

Graveside Services for James Beaver, Jr., 49, former Clinton resident were held 2:00 P.M., Monday, August 30, 2021, in the Clinton Indian Cemetery, officiated by Pastor Gerald Panana and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



James Melvin Beaver, Jr., was born September 20, 1971, to James Melvin River, Sr. and Earlene (Littleman) River in Clinton, OK and passed away Tuesday, August 24, 2021, in the St. Anthony's Hospital in Oklahoma City, OK.

James was raised in the Clinton area and attended Riverside Indian School. He became a Wildland Fire Fighter for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma; he was a grass dancer; he was an Indian artist and tattoo artist, he also enjoyed doing bead work.

He is preceded in death by his father.

He is survived by daughter KC Beaver, Weatherford, son Rain Wasana, mother Earlene Littleman, El Reno, OK; sister Bobbi Kaulay and husband Jonathan, El Reno; brother, Floyd Beaver and wife Sony, Elk City, OK and one granddaughter Ayvah Ranae Beaver.

Goldie Evalina Koch

Funeral service for Goldie Evalina Koch will be held on Saturday, September 4, 2021 at 10:00 AM in The Chapel of Lockstone Funeral Home with David Lawrence officiating. Burial will follow at Greenwood Cemetery under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



When Goldie was born, December 26, 1940, in Weatherford, her parents Custer Kissinger of Stafford, Oklahoma and Clara (Lay) Kissinger of Hope Arkansas. Her father owned East Side Salvage yard on Main Street Route 66 where Jerry's Restaurant is today. When asked who picked out her middle name Evalina, she talked about her Grandfather Mathias Kissinger picking the name. She never got to meet her Grandfather. He passed away one week after Goldie was born.

She attended Weatherford Public School until 11th grade when she met the love of her life Kenneth Koch. They married May 29, 1958, at her parent's house and were married 52 years until his death in 2010.

Out of that union two sons were born; Kenneth Dean in 1959 and Ricky Loyd in 1960. The boys were the center of her life with school parties, bible school, playing with the neighborhood boys, snow ice cream at their house is where all the neighborhood kids met and played. She always told her boys to "be sweet." Goldie did not have a daughter, but she had a niece she considered to be one of her kids. That is Melinda Sauer. Melinda has always been someone very special to Goldie.

She started working at Owl Photo and later went to work at 3M where she spent over 20 years before retiring to take care of her mom Clara. Along with her sister and sister-in-law, they helped her to live to be 95. She loved to travel with her Mom, and they took several trips to Arkansas, Alaska, Hawaii, and several neighboring states. When Kenneth retired, they also traveled.

After Kenneth passed in 2010, she started working at Walmart. She enjoyed getting to hug her son's friends and giving hugs while working. She never met a stranger. Her personality was sweet and kind.

She was baptized at an early age and lived a great example for her two sons. Goldie loved the Lord.

She enjoyed the group of ladies at Emmanuel Baptist Church, playing cards and socializing.

She loved to decorate, changing the whole house. She loved to shop, going up every isle just to look. She had a lot of energy and loved to stay busy.

Seven years ago, Goldie survived cancer and could not wait to go back to work at Walmart. Younger people would ask why she wanted to work, and she would let them know because she can. She was an inspiration to all. In 2020, her cancer came back and she went through chemo again. This time the chemo combined with congestive heart failure and other health issues where much harder on her. She always had a smile and told her boys that she loved them every time they visited. She asked Dr. David Lawrence to conduct her funeral service and the Slagell Quartet to sing. She wanted to take care of everything and everybody. So please do not forget to be sweet.

To her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, she was grandmom. Her latest great smile came when she got to hold the youngest of her 15 great-grandchildren Emily. Traylee wrote her a note that said you are the best ever. Every time I am with you, it fills me with joy.

She loved Braum's chocolate ice cream, Lucille's salads and Mexican food. She always loved to go somewhere to eat.

She told her boys not to be sad when she died because she was going to see Jesus and to be with Kenny. She appreciated all of the care she received from Weatherwood, the Weatherford Regional Hospital and her friend Dr. Blake Badgett.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, brothers Clyde, Bud and sister Wilma. She is survived by one sister Shirley Cox, and sister-in-law Sue Hicks. Her sons Dean and his wife Saska Koch, Rick and his wife Sheila Koch, grandsons: Travis and his wife Priscila Koch, Trent and his wife Janice Koch, Troy and his wife Megan Koch, Brian Lohman and his wife Diane, RJ Ellis and his wife Lauren and Carl Winfree and his wife Kensie.

Joanne Margaret (Pebbles) Cantwell

Graveside services for "Pebbles" Whitetail, 57, Clinton resident were held 10:00 A.M., Tuesday, August 31, 2021, in the Clinton Indian Cemetery, officiated by Pastor Gerald Panana under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

A wake Service was held 6:00 P.M., till 8:00 P.M., Monday, August 30, 2021 in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel.

Jo Ella Margaret Whitetail "Pebbles" aka Joanne Margaret Cantwell was born October 7, 1963 to Fred Lerayne Whitetail and Margaret Whitecrow in Clinton, OK and passed away Thursday, August 26, 2021 in the Alliance Clinton Health Emergency Room.

"Pebbles" was adopted by Eric and Ruby Cantwell and was raised in Florida and New York as well as Clinton, OK. She attended high school in Pensacola, FL before returning to Clinton where she graduated from high school in 1983.

She has worked at the Lucky Star Casino in the Maintenance Department.

She was a member of the Life Abundant Church (formerly Clinton Indian Pentecostal Church); she enjoyed visiting the elderly at the nursing homes and spending time with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and sister Sue Morris.

She is survived by four daughters: Nova Washa, Clinton, KC Warledo, Alexis Warledo, and Ashley Warledo, all of Weatherford; three sisters: Anosta Horn, Jurdine Cantu and Maynoma Curtis; three brothers: Marcus Horn, Homer Whitetail and Charles Whitetail "Big Chuck".

She is also survived by seven grandchildren: Eternity Washa, Genesis Washa, Ryder Bearshield, Raelynn Bearshield, Valkyria Bear Runner and LaRayne Warledo, and numerous nieces and nephews and other family.



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OSDE and TFA Partner to Combat Education Issues in Oklahoma



OKLAHOMA
STATE DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION
— JOY HOFMEISTER —
STATE SUPERINTENDENT of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Joy Hofmeister announced a \$4.2 million grant awarded to the Oklahoma Chapter of Teach For America (TFA). The grant will help the organization launch a statewide strategy to increase school effectiveness, build a strong pipeline of educators and address pandemic-related learning loss.

The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) is using a portion of federal relief dollars to fund the three-year grant.

“We are thrilled to work with TFA to expand the footprint of their innovative and effective talent development model in our schools,” said Hofmeister. “Educators who work within the TFA model are results-driven individuals who connect deeply with students and families. These skills will be in high demand as we continue to leverage strategies to combat the teacher shortage, work to ensure students recapture unfinished learning and foster a sense of reconnection within school communities.”

With the funding, TFA will tap into its extensive nationwide alumni network for the recruitment and development of 50 teachers who will commit to working for two years in Oklahoma schools. Additionally, TFA will equip 75 aspiring school leaders with the tools and experience to one day lead schools of their own. The organization also plans to recruit up to 20 tutors per semester from colleges and universities to support schools in a variety of ways, including academic coaching and small-group instruction. This on-the-ground training will serve as a launchpad for local graduates to become part of the next generation of Oklahoma educators.

The grant will fund training for tutors and teachers. The latter will also receive signing bonuses, an annual

stipend and possible incentive pay for placement in high-need districts and meeting student growth goals. School leaders will receive professional development, year-long internships in school leadership, tuition reimbursements or stipends and the potential for additional stipends for placement in high-need districts. Salaries and benefits for teachers and emerging leaders will be paid by the hiring district.

Officials say the new programs for Oklahoma teachers and leaders are in strong alignment with TFA’s mission to develop and sustain the next generation of education leaders in the state who will have the experience and potential to make a long-term commitment to public education.

“We are grateful to receive this generous grant to help us bring and develop more high-impact leaders to Oklahoma,” said Sarah Park, executive director of Teach For America Oklahoma City. “These next three years are crucial for teachers and school leaders to address learning loss and provide social-emotional support especially to students who have been most directly impacted by the pandemic. Additionally, we’re committed long-term to ensuring that more Oklahoma students are on track to reach key educational milestones.”

Double the Impact of Your Donations Against Childhood Hunger



The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma's Food for Kids Programs are an important lifeline to the one in four Oklahoma children who are food insecure. Through Sept. 30, every donation to the Regional Food Bank's Food for Kids Programs is matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$224,000 thanks to the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, Doles Bros. Co., New York Life, Marathon Oil, Mark and Beth Brewer, David Gorham and David and Lezlie Hudiburg.

"Now more than ever, it is important that we support work like the Regional Food Bank's Food for Kids Programs to help provide meals to the next generation of Oklahomans," said Kermit Frank, director of

communications and community relations at Doles Bros. "We are proud to partner with the Regional Food Bank to support the communities where our employees live and work."

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Regional Food Bank's Food for Kids Programs have worked to find innovative and safe ways to meet a rising demand for food assistance. In the last school year, the Food for Kids Programs provided meals and snacks to 36,995 chronically hungry children. The Food for Kids Programs are the Backpack Program, the School Pantry Program, the Summer Feeding Program and Kids Cafés.

“We are very proud of the reach of our Food for Kids Programs. With the help of our donors we are able to expand that reach and provide assistance to more and more Oklahoma children,” said Stacy Dykstra, chief executive officer of the Regional Food Bank. "I urge all Oklahomans to take advantage of the Food for Kids Match and double your impact in the fight against childhood hunger."

The Backpack Program provides kid-friendly, nutritious food to elementary school children who have been identified by school staff as being food insecure. The School Pantry Program provides chronically hungry middle and high school students with food to sustain them after school and over weekends.

The Summer Feeding Program provides free meals and snacks to children up to the age of 18 throughout the summer months when school is not in session. Kids Cafés are afterschool and school breaks programs that provide meals and snacks as well as tutoring and mentor services to children. Children like Hannah, who visits the Kids Café at the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Shawnee after school each day. Hannah receives both a snack and dinner while at the Kids Café.

"Some of the meals here are my favorite meals I eat," Hannah said.

Make a donation today by visiting foodforkids.us or by calling 405-600-3136.

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'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

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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- 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

For Sale- Window size A/C; used 2 months. \$130 Text: 580-214-0955

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

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SWOSU Accepting Homecoming Parade Entries



Weatherford's Towne Centre. The theme for this year is "Celebrating 120 Years of SWOSU!"

Forms are available at <https://share.swosu.edu/Homecoming2021> or in the calendar section of www.swosu.edu by going to October 30 and clicking on the parade event. Forms can also be picked up and returned to the SWOSU Public Relations and Marketing Office in Room 205 of the Hays Administration Building; SWOSU Institutional Advancement and Alumni Office in the Burton House; or American Insurance Group located at 301 N. Washington. Deadline for entries is Monday, October 25, at 12 noon.

The float competition is open to anyone. Floats will be judged based on originality, design and quality of construction, mechanics, application of theme, and in comparison to other float entries. Cash awards will be given to the first, second and third place winners. Prizes are \$1,300, \$800 and \$500 respectively.

For more information regarding the SWOSU Homecoming Parade, please contact the Public Relations and Marketing Office at 580.774.3063.

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University is accepting homecoming entry forms for the 2021 homecoming parade on Saturday, October 30, at 1:30 p.m. in

SWOSU Continues Vaccination Schedule



Southwestern Oklahoma State University is continuing its Friday COVID vaccination clinics on the Weatherford campus.

Dr. Randy Curry, coordinator of the SWOSU College of

Pharmacy Rural Health Center, said the public is invited to get their vaccinations on Fridays and continuing each Friday through October. The Friday clinics will run from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.

Appointments are preferred and can be made by calling 580.774.3025. The clinic is open to everyone, and walk-ins are accepted. Shots being given are Moderna, Johnson/Johnson and Pfizer.

Vaccination shots are also being offered at various times for SWOSU students and employees on the first floor of the SWOSU Memorial Student Center in the area between the University Grill and Duke's Diner. The

clinics are free. Those clinics are from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on August 30, September 1 and September 8.

SWOSU continues its incentive plan for students and employees and details can be found at: <https://share.swosu.edu/VaccinationMoneyIncentives>

Other options in the Weatherford area to get vaccines are:

Both Walgreens and Walmart in Weatherford offer walk-in service for everyone but prefer appointments. Online appointments can be made at any Walgreens and Walmart in the state.

The Custer County Health Department does vaccinations for anyone, but appointments are needed and greatly encouraged. Please call 580.772.6417 in Weatherford and 580.323.2100 in Clinton to set up appointments. Both sites—220 N. Bradley Street in Weatherford and 3030 Custer Avenue in Clinton—can do appointments 8-12 and 1-5. Both sites can take vaccination appointments through vaccinate@oklahoma.gov for their weekly pods—Mondays in Clinton and Fridays in Weatherford.

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CUSTER COUNTY DIST COURT/RIGSBY- A Custer County murder defendant is still on track for a speedy trial in a ruling by a Custer County District Court Judge. Thirty-eight year old Dennis Ray Rigsby Jr., is charged with the murder of his mother, 66-year old Judy Mullin, who was found deceased on the floor of a camper the pair had been traveling in together. Among other things, Rigsby had filed speedy trial issues with the court, but the court determined that the case is on track for a November 15th jury trial, and the length of delay is reasonable considering competency determination, COVID delays and the delay necessary to obtain expert testimony regarding a possible not guilty by reason of insanity defense.

CORDELL NURSING HOME NEW OWNER-SHIP- Cordell Christian Home will be under new ownership, effective September 1st. Kent Abbott of Hydro, who operates other nursing facilities in Hydro and Binger, has purchased the nursing facility in Cordell. Abbott says the facility will change its name and will become a for-profit facility rather than a nonprofit facility.

CUSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE/FLOOD DAMAGE- The Custer County Courthouse is still dealing with a flood that took place last week. District three commissioner Lyle Miller said they still don't know the extent of the damage but says it will be a high number. Miller said that some departments in the courthouse will require new flooring -- including OSU extension and the court reporter's offices. The flood was caused by a busted water pipe and forced the courthouse to close for a day last week.

HINTON/AMBULANCE SERVICE- Officials in the Town of Hinton say there is a good deal of concern regarding the need for ambulance service based in Hinton. Town administrator Shannon Pack said the town is working to secure an ambulance provider that will be stationed in Hinton after Sugar Creek Ambulance ser-

vice district and its provider Medic West, recently vacated stationing its ambulance at the fire station. Pack says Medic West still provides service to the town of Hinton, however, at a longer response time. After Sugar Creek Ambulance district filed an injunction against the town of Hinton in an effort to stop the town from finding a new provider, Pack said a judge ruled that the town has the right to seek a provider that will station its ambulances in Hinton. Pack said the city has received responses in its request for proposals for an ambulance provider, and he hopes to have a provider in the town by September 1st.

HYDRO FREE FAIR/TICKETS- Officials with the Hydro free fair say anyone who still has tickets from Saturday night when the fair was rained out can hold on to those tickets and use them next year. Spokesperson Kendra Cook said thunderstorms cut short the last night of the Hydro free fair.

SWOSU/BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS- Oklahoma Blood Institute officials said the August blood drive held at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford had the largest number of donors ever at an August blood drive held at SWOSU. Account consultant Melissa Santoro said 11 people, including 14 first-time donors registered to give blood, that resulted in 99 total donations. Santoro said each donation has the potential to save the lives of three patients, meaning 297 lives could be saved.

WASHITA COUNTY/DELAYED FATALITY- A Guthrie woman has died from injuries, sustained in a Washita County accident at State Highways 44 and 152, approximately 2 miles west of Dill City. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said 21 year old Callie Lynn Cortez died at OU medical center. Troopers said Cortez failed to stop at a stop sign and was struck by another vehicle at the intersection of State Highways 44 and 152.



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WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

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Happy Birthday Wishes for September 1st- Diana Campbell, Gregory Castorena, Chuck Edwards, Trent Ellis, Jimmie Johnson, Amy Outhier, Hunter Short, Cindy Smith; **September 2nd-** Fred Boepple, Divonne Collins, Malichi Conway, Meredith Counts, Charlotte Englebrecht, Sara Juarez, tom Litsch, Carol Mapel, Doyle McMurry, James Newman, Melissa Pendleton, Brittney Reed, D. L. Willis; **September 3rd-** Jonie Ebisch, Darren Johns, Keaton Kardokus, Ashley Kimble, Guadalupe Martinez, Jason Palmer, Dayna reed, Jessica Rhoads, Jim Silver, Lavonda Wilson, Jeremy Wray; **September 4th-** Denton Belter, Macy Bid-dy, Donita Brown, Russell Jackson, Connie Miller, Kendra Postelwait; **September 5th-** Clifford Baileys, Jordan Hoffman, Clea Ivy, Ryan Mikel, Aaron Oliver, Owen Poe, Jeff Rothmeyer; **September 6th-** Mary Badillo, Dana Hickman, Richard Jenkins, Meribeth Kasper, Joyce Kellor, Marie Moore, Larry Sharry, Mansour Valli, Virginia Waddle, McKayla Whiteshield ; **September 7th-** TRon Baker, Mindy Bay, Samantha Blagg, Tiffany Brinkley, Debbie Bryson, Elaine Garner, Norma Jump, Hannah Nance, Brady Ricks, Mystry Seward, Sabrina Shell, Paula Thiessen, Jennifer Wedel.

SPORTS *Presented by:*



SWOSU Men's Golf Tabbed for Third in Preseason Poll

Doug Self
SWOSU Sports Information Director

Russellville, Ark. – The SWOSU Men's Golf team has been selected to finish third in the 2021-22 Great American Conference Preseason Coaches' Poll.

The Bulldogs earned 49 points to slot into third behind Arkansas Tech in first with 64 points and eight first-place votes and Henderson State in second with 57 points and one first-place vote.

This squad finished the season with a strong performance at the Midwest/Central Super Regional that saw them come up just one spot short of a trip to the NCAA Division II National Championship. Their finish tied for the program's second-best finish at a Super Regional and it was their eighth straight trip to the tournament.

Head Coach Brad Fleetwood brings back every golfer that appeared in competition last season except for one. The team is led by Senior and two-time All-GAC golfer Gregor Weck, who was the lowest scorer on the team at every tournament last year except for one. They also bring back All-GAC Honorable Mention Anders Strand and Seniors Heston Brown and Gustavo Tineo who all competed in the Super Regional. This experienced group hopes to return to National Championship competition for the first time since 2015.

The Dawgs start their fall season at the Washburn Invitational on September 13 in Topeka, Kansas. They will have four more tournaments in the fall before they take a break to begin preparing for their spring season.



SWOSU Women's Golf Picked to Finish Third in Preseason Poll

Doug Self
SWOSU Sports Information Director

The 2021 Great American Conference Preseason Coaches' Poll for Women's Golf has been released and the Lady Bulldogs have been selected to finish third.

SWOSU earned 49 points to come in third behind Henderson State with 60 points and five first-place votes and Arkansas Tech with 60 points and four first-place votes.

Head Coach Brad Fleetwood brings back his entire team that placed sixth at the Central Regional and fourth at the GAC Championships. Among those returning are Megan Brown and Rebecca Lau, both of whom were named to the All-GAC First Team at the end of last season. Brown also became the second player in program history to earn GAC Freshmen of the Year honors. She won her first tournament at SWOSU at the Newman Spring Invitational and paired that with two more top five finishes to earn a spot on the WGA All-Region Team.

Senior Mikaela Rindermann finished last season strong with a top ten finish at the Central Regional that saw her finish one spot shy of qualifying for the NCAA Division II National Championship as an individual. She and the rest of the team will have their sights set on recapturing the magic from the 2018-19 season that saw the Lady Bulldogs make their deepest postseason run in school history.

The start of the 2021-22 season is only two weeks away with the team competing in the Central Region Fall Preview in Blue Springs, Missouri at Adams Pointe Golf Club. The Lady Dawgs will compete in five tournaments in the fall before making a run at the postseason in the spring.



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Nine SWOSU Biology & Chemistry Students Participate in Summer Undergraduate Research Program



Provided

SWOSU biomedical research interns this summer were (from left) Bryler Atchley, Preston Garner, Hannah Budde, Emma Detrick, Audra Crisp, Emily Burgess and Elah Alcuitas. Not pictured are Camille Goerend and Ashtyn McAdoo.

Nine SWOSU biology and chemistry students in Weatherford participated in an 8-week summer research experience on the SWOSU campus as part of the Oklahoma Idea Network for Biomedical Research Excellence (OK-INBRE) Summer Undergraduate Research Program.

Participating were: Elah Alcuitas, Enid; Bryler Atchley, Clinton; Hannah Budde, Edmond; Emily Burgess, Weatherford; Audra Crisp, Hydro; Emma Detrick, Ringwood; Preston Garner, Lookeba; Camille Goerend, Weatherford; and Ashtyn McAdoo, Oklahoma City.

During their internships, students gained valuable experience performing independent research projects in the biomedical sciences. Participants earned a \$5,000 stipend, and the research laboratories that supported their work received \$2,200 to purchase necessary supplies.

Student researchers were mentored by SWOSU

faculty in the Biological Sciences and Chemistry & Physics Departments. Mentors included Drs. Trevor Ellis and Tim Hubin (professors of chemistry), Drs. Jon Henrikson and David Martyn (associate professors of chemistry), Dr. Regina McGrane (associate professor of biological sciences), Dr. Vijay Somalinga (assistant professor of biological sciences), and Dr. Andrew Bigley (assistant professor of chemistry).

Students presented their research findings at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center alongside OK-INBRE interns and researchers from three additional undergraduate research programs. In total, 60 undergraduates from across the United States participated in this prestigious event. The keynote speaker was Dr. Cammi Valdez, an alumna of the SWOSU Department of Chemistry & Physics and current assistant professor of chemistry at Northeastern State University.

SWOSU VP for Student Affairs Dr. Ruth Boyd Announces Retirement

Dr. Ruth Boyd, who has served as vice president for student affairs at Southwestern Oklahoma State University since 2015, has announced her retirement after 17 years on the Weatherford campus.

Boyd said she has taken an online teaching position with a doctoral program at Marymount University in Virginia. This will allow her to remain in Weatherford.

Before becoming VP of student affairs, Boyd served as chair of the SWOSU Education Department and a faculty member in the Department of Education since 2004.

SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell expressed great appreciation for Boyd's distinguished service to SWOSU as a faculty member and administrator. Lovell said she will soon name an acting vice president for student affairs.

A reception in Boyd's honor will be held Thursday, September 23, from 1:30-3 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom.



Krystal Blackwell/WW

Charles Regier won a customized WOCS cornhole board set at the WOCS Back to School Bash.

"The Coin Guy" Mint Works Overtime to Combat Shortages



Trent Boesen

The U.S. Mint has produced more than 22 billion coins from January 2020 to August 18, 2021. On average the Mint produces about 20 percent of circulating coins annually.

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Certain parts of the country experienced coin shortages since the pandemic began in 2020. This has affected commerce and shopping. To overcome the shortage the Mint was forced to increase coin production.

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Krystal Blackwell/WW

Marcie, Charlee Mae, and Chizum Nall were the winners of a custom fire pit at the WOCS raffle at their Back to School Bash.

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Romans 12:1

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask? Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is.

As God's messengers, I give each of you this warning: Be honest in your estimate of yourselves, measuring your

value by how much faith God has given you. Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.

God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out when you have faith that God is speaking through you. If your gift is to encourage others, do it! If you have money, share it generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Don't just pretend that you love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Stand on the side of the good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy in your work, but serve the Lord enthusiastically.

Be glad for all God is planning for you. Be patient in trouble, and always be prayerful

When God's children are in need, be the one to help them out. And get into the habit of inviting guests home

for dinner or, if they need lodging, for the night.

If people persecute you because you are a Christian, don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. When others are happy, be happy with them. If they are sad, share their sorrow. Live in harmony with each other. Don't try to act important, but enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all.

Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do your part to live in peace with everyone, as much as possible.

Dear friends, never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God. For it is written, "I will take vengeance; I will repay those who deserve it." Says the Lord. Instead, do what the Scriptures say: If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink, and they will be ashamed of what they have done to you.

Don't let evil get the best of you, but conquer evil by doing good. (end of chapter) To comment jhm82@outlook.com. Or 580-772-2311

Oklahoma History: Honey Springs and Perryville

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

During the Civil War, two climactic battles took place in Oklahoma. The first became known as the Battle of Honey Springs Depot – July 1863. Named after the skirmish between Union forces under the command of General James G. Blunt and Confederate contingents under the main commander General Douglas H. Cooper; Union informants caught wind that Cooper planned to attack the union base at Fort Gibson, and when word reached Gen. Blunt, he gathered a force to head off Cooper at the nearby depot Honey Springs. Blunt's goal was to shut down the Confederate advance before they could get reinforcements from the nearby General William Cabell's brigade, who were on their way from Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Blunt's 3,000 men crossed the Arkansas River on July 15th, 1863, and in the middle of the night gathered outside of Honey Springs. Dawn came and the first shots rang out. Soon, the entire southern camp was stirred and a full-blown fight had begun. It did not last long. The region had recently had frequent rain showers which caused the Confederate troops' firearms to fail. As more rain began that afternoon, their wet and cheap gunpowder caused a series of misfires, and Cooper sounded the retreat. Many of the Confederate forces were already fleeing after realizing that their only means of defense was essentially useless. Most of Cooper's men had fled and any hopes of a counterattack were quickly squashed. They relinquished control of Honey Springs and fled south down the Texas Road to meet up with nearby Confederate forces. Blunt had seized control of the depot, and with it, taken control of the northern Arkansas River Indian Territory. However, Blunt knew the Confederates would regroup and once again set their eyes on Fort Gibson. So, he decided to pursue Cooper.

Over the next month, Blunt led his division out from Fort Gibson to find and defeat the Confederate army in Indian Territory, permanently. Blunt knew Cooper's forces were fleeing towards Boggy Depot and would make their way through Perryville Depot. He also received word that General William Cabell's forces,

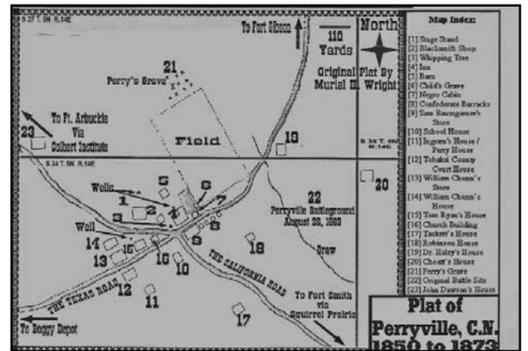
who were supposed to rendezvous with Cooper, were deserting after the news of Cooper's defeat and that Cabell was heading to nearby Fort Smith to gather strength. Gen. William Steele, who was stationed at Perryville as a rearguard unit, received word of Blunt's pursuit and expected Blunt to abandon his chase of Cooper and focus on Cabell. Knowing if he did so, Cabell could pressure Blunt against the Arkansas River, and Blunt's flank would be open for his troops to exploit.

However, Blunt must have decided that Cabell's deserting army wasn't an immediate priority and decided to pursue Cooper with haste and came across Steele at Perryville. Steele had set up a hastily crafted picket line with two howitzers blocking the northern road into town. On August 26, 1863, Blunt's forces quickly widened their board and began firing artillery into the defense line. The battle, a rare night fight, was over quickly as the exchange speedily fell into Blunt's favor.

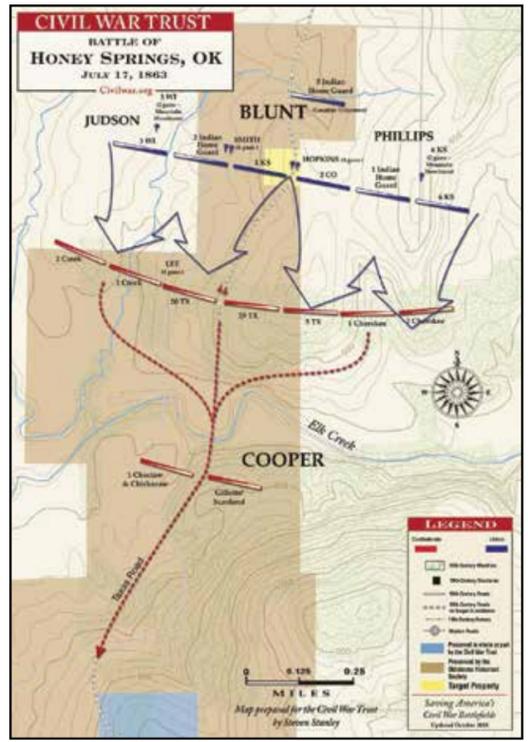
The Confederate forces, reeling from news of their comrades' recent defeat at Honey Springs, retreated without their stockpiles and wares. Blunt seized the supplies and ordered the town burned. Perryville, due to its close proximity to the Texas Road (a major trade route across Indian Territory between Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri), was a crucial strategic depot for the Confederacy, and they suffered a tremendous blow by forfeiting it to the Union. Oklahoma Historical Society logs compare the loss of the depot to be as if Cooper's entire army had been destroyed. Blunt's victory landed a mighty win against the South.

After his victory at Perryville, Blunt moved on towards Cabell at Fort Smith and captured it on September 1st, 1863.

Perryville, postbellum, was partially rebuilt but had lost its importance and members due to a new rail-line and station named McAlester which bypassed Perryville. Businesses and residents moved to the new railway town to retain their livelihood. Now, the community Chambers, Oklahoma occupies the original townsite.



Perryville map



Honey Springs map

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