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Route 66 to celebrate 95 years Saturday Sept 25th

Chase Wright
Staff Writer



Route 66 Nights celebrates a special Rockin' Route 66 celebration for 95 years on Saturday, September 25th. From 12pm - 4pm Downtown Weatherford will be buzzing with a

craft fair, car cruise-in, cornhole tournament, tie dye station, food trucks, and raffles. Bring the family down to the Towne Centre to enjoy some live, local entertainment. Following the celebration, all are invited to attend the SWOSU football game against Oklahoma Baptist University at 6 pm.



Krystal Blackwell/WW

Chavan Samply and Jesus Hernandez enjoy some biscuits and gravy at the annual Breakfast in the Country held at Wright Wradio.

American Rescue Plan Act to help counties recover from COVID related losses

Senate Notes by
Senator Brent Howard

Many of you may have heard of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) passed by Congress earlier this year. It's the bill that provided another round of stimulus checks, increased the child tax credit, earned income tax credit and dependent care tax credit, and extended unemployment benefits, among other things. It also provided additional funding to state and local governments across the nation, including right here in Senate District 38.

Harmon, Jackson and Tillman Counties qualify for a combined \$6.6 million in federal funds to address costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Monies can be used by local governments to respond to the public health and economic emergency, provide premium pay to essential workers, replace revenue lost to the pandemic, and make any necessary investments in critical infrastructure, including water, sewage, and broadband access. Harmon County will receive \$515,314; Jackson County will receive \$4,764,665;

and Tillman County will receive \$1,408,228.

Individual municipalities will also receive additional funding. The latest numbers we've obtained on exactly how much each individual town in these counties will receive is as follows: Altus, \$3,202,829; Blair, \$129,594; Duke, \$67,591; Frederick, \$619,153; Hobart, \$598,543; Hollis, \$327,129; Mangum, \$471,220; Snyder, \$223,034; and Tipton, \$132,563.

Half of these allocations have already been paid to the counties and cities listed above, with the remaining half to be paid sometime next year. I look forward to seeing how our counties and municipalities use their funds to address the needs of those who live there.

The state will also receive about \$1.87 billion in ARPA funds to invest in projects that will impact all Oklahomans. I was honored to be appointed to the Joint Committee on Pandemic Relief Funding, which will be the vetting arm of proposals on how to use these federal dollars.

Projects will be assigned to a legislative working

group to be vetted and evaluated. Focus areas within the committee include Economic Development and Workforce; Health and Human Services; Government Transformation and Collaboration; and Transportation, Infrastructure and Rural Development. Once proposals are vetted and validated that they'll meet federal qualifications, they'll be sent to an evaluation and recommendation committee, comprised of six members of the Legislature and five members of the executive branch. Final proposals will then go to Governor Stitt for his review and approval. Funds must be allocated by December 2024 and spent by December 2026, so this will be a long and thorough process to ensure monies are spent in the best way possible. More information about ARPA funds, proposals and reports can be found at www.oklahoma.gov/arpa.

I'll continue to keep you updated as we work through the ARPA funding process and proposals that come across our desks.

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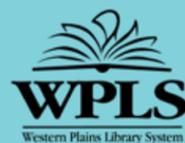
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Alta Fern Reyes

Alta Fern Reyes was born January 7, 1936, in El Reno to Alton and Minerva (Throwing Water) Black Owl and passed away Thursday, September 2, 2021, at Clinton Living Center, at the age of 85 years, 7 months and 25 days.



Alta was raised in El Reno and graduated from Concho High School. She worked for Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. Alta married Alfred Reyes and made their home in Wichita, Kansas, for 12 years. They later moved to Thomas. Alta enjoyed going to Pow-Wows, Indian dancing, traveling, RVing and spending time with family and friends.

Alta is survived by her husband Alfred of their home in Thomas; six sons: Marty Reyes of Oklahoma City, David Reyes of Thomas, Nick Reyes of Weatherford, Matthew Reyes of Thomas, Mark Reyes of Ft. Hall, Idaho, and Danny Reyes of Clinton; one daughter Valerie Reyes of Watonga; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents.

our hearts forever and always remember “We Love you More.”

Masks are required if you have not had a Covid vaccination.

Donnie Lee Klaassen

Donnie Lee Klaassen was born June 10, 1937, in Corn, OK to Jacob Dewey “Jake” and Sara (Thiessen) Klaassen and passed away September 3, 2021, at Clinton Therapy and Living Center in Clinton, OK at the age of 84 years. He attended school in Corn, OK until he and his family moved to Clinton where he graduated from Clinton High School in 1956.



After graduation, Donnie served in the United States Army from 1960 to 1962 and was honorably discharged.

On June 9, 1968, he married the love of his life Janice Bergner. They were married 48 years and made their home in Clinton, Ok.

Donnie was a former employee at Kellwood Company, Clinton Veterans Center and Clinton Public Schools.

Donnie moved to Angelwood Assisted Living in 2017. While there, he enjoyed playing bingo, attending church devotionals, listening to music, family night, field trips, and mostly spending time with his family. He moved to Clinton Therapy and Living Center in 2018 where he was a resident at the time of his death. Donnie enjoyed interacting with the residents and staff members. He had a humorous personality and loved socializing. It didn't matter where he was, he never met a stranger.

Donnie is survived by his sister Nora Klaassen Mansfield of Amarillo, TX; two sisters-in-law Dorothy Bergner of Weatherford, OK, and Barbara Klaassen of Lawton, OK; one brother-in-law Carol Gaunt of Weatherford, OK; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife Janice; parents Jacob and Sara Klaassen; two brothers Elmer and Archie Klaassen; and one sister Doris (Klaassen) Patterson.

Joyce Maxine (Jones) Dobbins

Joyce Maxine (Jones) Dobbins was born on July 29, 1922, in Custer County to Edward Powell Jones and Edna Mae (McCall) Jones and passed away Friday September 3, 2021, at OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City, at the age of 99 years, 1 month and 4 days.



Joyce was raised North of Hydro. She attended school at Cedar School and graduated high school at Weatherford Public Schools. She married J.C. Dobbins on March 2, 1977, in Gainesville, TX, and they made their home in Kingston, OK. Joyce was the owner and operator of two retail clothing stores in Moore, OK and Kingston, OK until her retirement in 1991. After retiring she enjoyed many years of extensive travel with her husband and their Boston Terrier “Angel.” She made many “Sisters Trips,” visiting relatives and just having fun. To most, she was known as “Johnnie” but when travelling with her sisters, it was shortened to “John.” She enjoyed going to the casino and mastering the slot machines. She enjoyed playing cards with family and friends. Joyce was an avid Thunder fan and spent many hours in front of her TV, enjoying the games.

Joyce is survived by four sisters: Juaneva Megli, Rose Marie Brehm, Jo Ann Jones and Sharon Cook; one brother Townsel Blair Jones; one son-in-law Doug Paschal; three grandchildren: Kim Bardill, Brad Paschal and David Paschal; seven great-grandchildren: Joey Bardill, Lauren Bardill, Caleb Paschal, Sophie Paschal, Brooke Paschal, Noah Paschal and Luke Paschal; one aunt Sybil Goodson of Canal Fulton, OH; 10 nephews, 14 nieces and many other family and friends.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, husband, daughter Linda Paschal; step-son Craig Dobbins; five brothers: Marvin, Dwayne Doyle, Delvin and Jesse Jones; and one sister Opal Sylvester.

We will miss her humor and wit and she will be in

Jack James Taylor

Jack James Taylor was born on January 22, 1946, in Weatherford, OK to Theodore and Verda (Hammons) Taylor and passed away September 3, 2021, in Oklahoma City, surrounded by loved ones, at the age of 75 years, 7 months and 12 days.



Jack was raised in Weatherford, OK and attended Weatherford Public Schools but never graduated so he could care for his father. After high school Jack went to work. He operated heavy machinery for the majority of his career. On March 14, 1978, Jack married the love of his life Gail Morgan. They lived in Weatherford, OK where they raised their children. Jack enjoyed working, having never retired. He loved spending time with his family and fishing. He will be missed by lots of family and friends.

Jack is survived by nine children: sons Bobby Johnson of Weatherford, OK, Robert Taylor of Weatherford, OK, and Jack Taylor and wife Sherrea of Dallas, Texas; daughters: Kristy Heger and husband Randy of El Reno, Kathy Epp and husband Brian of Weatherford, OK, Toni Treat of Clinton, OK, Mandi Trissell and husband Dawain of Canute, OK, Shawna Epperly and husband Kevin of Weatherford, OK, and Sherie Taylor of Clinton, OK, twenty-five grandchildren; and twenty-seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Gail Taylor; parents Theodore and Verda Taylor; and brother Art Taylor.

Loren Dean Penner

Loren Dean Penner was born on September 28, 1946, in Clinton, OK, to John and Louise (Klaase) Penner and passed away on Monday, September 6, 2021, at Weatherford Regional Hospital, at the age of 74 years, 11 months and 8 days.



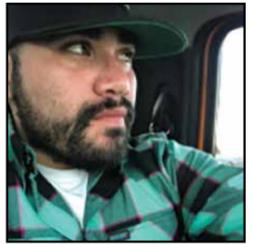
Loren was raised east of Bessie, Oklahoma, and attended Bessie Schools and Corn Bible Academy where he graduated with the Class of 1964. On January 22, 1966, Loren married Janie Schmidt, and they made their home in Oklahoma City, and he worked at St. Anthony Hospital. He attended Tabor College and

University of Central Oklahoma where he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration in 1971. In 1973 Loren and Janie moved to Corn, Oklahoma. He was Administrator of the Mennonite Brethren Home for the Aged (now known as Corn Heritage Village) from 1975 to 1989. From 1990 to 1992, he was the administrator of Cordell Care Center in Cordell, OK. Since then, he has been involved in carpentry, painting, and yard maintenance until his passing. Loren enjoyed spending time visiting with friends and family sitting on the porch, being outdoors and hiking, and often traveled to Colorado.

Loren is survived by his wife Janie Penner of the home; one son Jason Penner and wife Amy and granddaughter Lexi of Sand Springs, OK; three brothers: Delbert Penner and wife Pat of Weatherford, OK; Ed Penner and wife, Catherine of Colorado Springs, CO; Norm Penner and wife Lucy of Clinton, OK; niece and nephews: Si Penner, Jennifer Penner and Jeremy Penner; and cousin Judy Goertz. Loren is preceded in death by his parents and one infant brother Glenn Penner.

Devin Flores-Greene

Funeral Services for Devin Flores-Greene, 29, Arapaho man, were held Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 10:00 A.M., in the First Christian Church, officiated by Mike Holman and Lawrence Sawatzky. Burial followed in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Devin James Flores-Greene was born January 10, 1992, to Jimmy Badillo and Dana (Flores) in Clinton, OK and passed away early Wednesday, September 1, 2021, in Clinton, OK.

Devin was raised in Clinton and graduated from Clinton High School in 2010. While in high school, he was a member of ROTC and the high school band. He had been employed by the City of Clinton as a dispatcher for the Police Department; he did some oilfield work, and most recently he was employed with Bar-S Foods, operating a fork-lift.

He was preceded in death by his mother. He enjoyed playing the drums, playing video games, cooking out, riding motorcycles, building guns, he was an avid Oklahoma University Sooners Fan and the Kansas City Chiefs, and his passion was his children.

He is survived by daughter Sailour Greene, of Clinton, son Landry Grizzle, of Duncan, OK; his father Jimmy Badillo, of MO; sister Kaylee Badillo, of MO; brother, Erik Martinez, of Tulsa, a significant other Danyell Brewer, of the Arapaho.

He is also survived by aunts and uncles, Derric and Tina Penner, of Clinton; Isreal Flores, of Clinton; cousins: Bailey and Jordan, Penner, Justin, and Morgan Flores, Derrin and William Penner and Daniel Flores and a host of other relatives.

Marvin Ernst

Funeral Services for Marvin Ernst, 83, Clinton resident were held 10:00 A.M., Friday, September 10, 2021, in the First Christian Church, officiated by Doyle Kinney. Burial will follow in the Clinton Cemetery with military honors under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Marvin Lee Ernst was born December 22, 1937, to Joseph Lee Ernst and Hulda (Knauf) Ernst on the family farm near Custer City, OK and passed away Sunday, September 5, 2021, in his Clinton home.

Marvin was raised in Custer City, OK and graduated from Custer City High School in 1955. In 1957 he enlisted in the United States Navy and served in the 47th Patrol Squadron. He was honorably discharged January 20, 1961.

He married Rose Marie Rehder on April 30, 1971, in Clinton. He started his mechanic career early in life and has worked for several of Clinton's auto mechanic shops and car dealerships, including Bill Gover Ford, Cubby Williamson, McKinsey Ballard, Charlie Pool, Todd Goossen, Zane's Auto Repair, and he retired from Rother Brothers Case Dealership in 2015.

He loved the outdoors, camping, hunting, and fishing, gardening and spending time with his grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, brother Lloyd Ernst and sister Dorothy Engers.

He is survived by his wife Rose, of the home; daughters: Tina Ernst and spouse Shaun Reinschmidt, Angie Christian Ernst, Kristi Ernst and Fiancé Johnny Chavez and son Jordan Ernst and spouse Shayna.

He is also survived by five grandchildren, Derick Witherspoon Jacob Hamlett, Jessica Hamlett, Joseph Ernst and Calyn Christian and four great grandchildren, Amari, Ayva, Adaline and Achilles Ernst.



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Kandi & Rick Nagel Serving as Presenting Sponsors of 2nd Annual SWOSU Charitable Hunt

The Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) Foundation, Inc., is hosting its 2nd annual charitable hunt on September 17 in Devol (OK), and the SWOSU Foundation is delighted to announce that longtime SWOSU benefactors Kandi and Rick Nagel of Norman are serving as the event's Presenting Sponsor and major underwriters.

This is the second consecutive year in which the Nagels have provided key financial backing for the event.

Kandi (Sullivan) Nagel is a 1998 SWOSU alumnae and past president of the SWOSU Alumni Association. Kandi is founder and president of Cherokee Cap Creations, Inc., a nimble and adaptive design and distribution firm with a focus on the promotional product business.

Rick Nagel is currently managing partner of Acorn Growth Companies, a middle market private equity firm focused exclusively on aerospace, defense and intelligence. Rick serves or has served on the boards of the Aerospace Industries Association, U. S. Air Force Association, State Chamber of Oklahoma and

the Oklahoma Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs. Rick is a Regent of the University of Oklahoma.

"Longtime, generous SWOSU benefactors Kandi and Rick Nagel continue to provide invaluable support to our students," said SWOSU President Dr. Diane R. Lovell. "The Nagels' Presenting Sponsorship of our Charitable Hunt for the second consecutive year will enable us to meaningfully leverage SWOSU's endowment to enhance student learning and faculty development."

The proceeds from the hunt will be allocated to the Dr. Ken Rose Memorial Fund, which exists to help SWOSU produce the next generation of conservationists, sportsmen and sportswomen, wildlife law enforcement officials, park rangers and many others.

This unique fundraising activity will be facilitated by BlackOak Farms, a full-service hunting operation that is integrated with traditional agriculture practices of farming and ranching.

The event will involve a sporting clay competition followed by a late afternoon/early evening dove hunt. Participants will be treated to a cocktail reception,

dinner, and live auction and entertainment following the hunt.

Host and co-host opportunities offering substantial sponsor benefits remain but will close soon, and only a few individual hunter slots remain. Cocktail hour and dinner-only registration is also available for non-hunters who want to fellowship with SWOSU alumni and friends. For information on sponsorships, to register to hunt, and to see the entire event schedule, please visit www.HuntWithSWOSU.com and contact SWOSU Associate Director for Institutional Advancement Clarke Hale at Clarke.hale@swosu.edu or 817-707-6795.

The SWOSU Charitable Hunt is being organized 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 \$31 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For more information on the Foundation, please call 580-774-3267 or visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com.



Krystal Blackwell/WW

Kyle Slagell and his crew from Davis Properties celebrate the Connections Food and Resource Center 5th birthday formerly known as Weatherford Food and Resource Center.

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

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'01 Chevy Venture Van- \$2,000. (580) 613-0108

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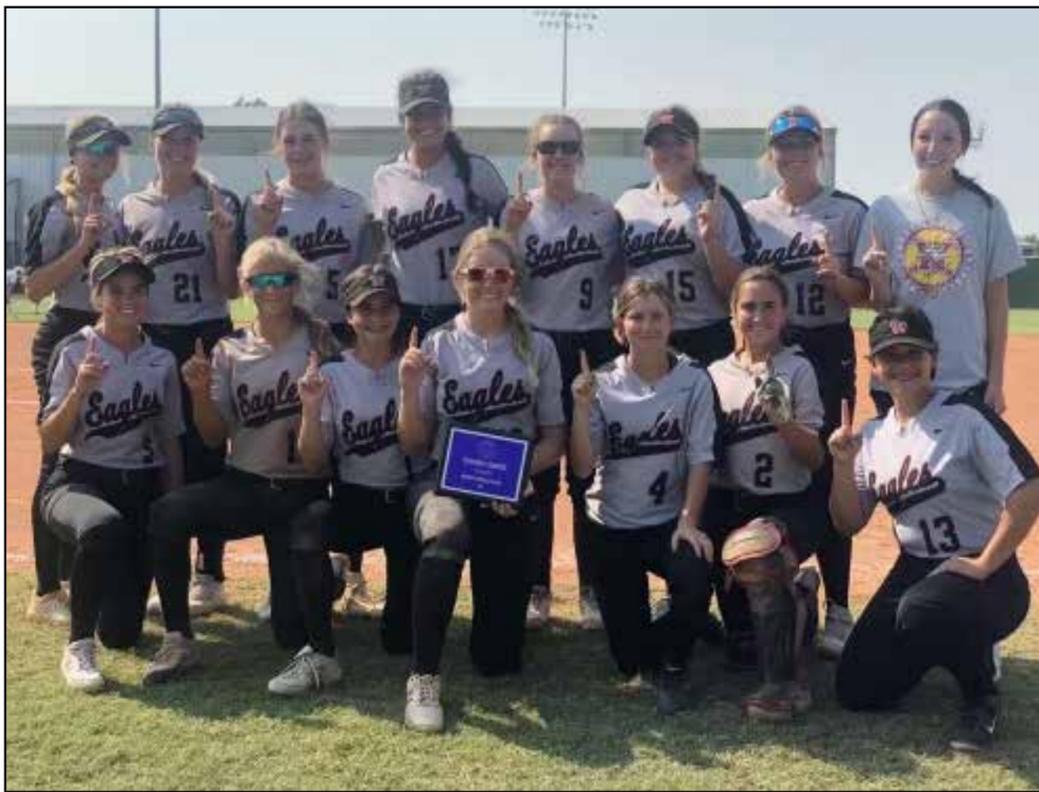
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Mike Smith
News Director



Krystal Blackwell/WW

WHS Softball recently took home first place at the Bethany Tournament of Champions softball tournament

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SWOSU Continues Tailgate Cook-Off Competition Open to Anyone

Football season is underway and SWOSU Residence Life and Housing are planning fun times with tailgate cook-offs on September 25 and October 30 on the Weatherford campus.

Prizes are first place, \$500; second place, \$300; and \$100, third place. The contest is open to student organizations as well as the public. There is no entry fee.

Themes are:
September 25—Mexican Fiesta
October 30—Burgers

For more information and to enter the Cook-off Challenge, contact the Residence Life & Housing office at 580.774.3024 or email Jason Barr at jason.barr@swosu.edu.

CLINTON CC/ZONING CHANGE- Clinton City Council decided to table a zoning change request on property at 900 South 10th Street from C-4 general commercial to C-5 heavy commercial. The request would allow for an existing mechanic shop to add a used car dealership. The council decided to table the request until its October 5th meeting.

CLINTON/LEGISLATIVE FORUM- The Clinton Chamber of Commerce is planning a legislative forum October 29. Chamber President Julie Caldwell said Ward 3 Clinton City Councilman Patch McComas is challenged by Samantha Jo Aispuro.

COLONY/RIBBON CUTTING- Southwestern Oklahoma State University sponsored and participated in the dedication of the Kauger Museum in Colony. SWOSU President Dr. Diane Lovell attended the event and was joined by a number of SWOSU graduates including Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Yvonne Kauger. Additionally, among others, 2020 distinguished alumnus & former Oklahoma State Representative Harold Wright and former Oklahoma Historical Society executive director Bob Blackburn attended the event.

CUSTER COUNTY THEFT- Custer County Sheriff Dan Day said that theft is on the rise in Custer County. Day said he wants people to be vigilant for potential thieves and report any suspicious activity. You can contact the sheriff's office at (580) 323-1616 or in an emergency dial 911.

MARSEE/ROJEM UPDATE- District 2 District Attorney Angela Marsee said there is one death penalty case in Western Oklahoma that is making its way through the court system. Marsee said it is the Washita County case of Richard Rojem who is somewhere between 9th and 11th on the execution list. Rojem was convicted and sentenced to death for the murder of his 7 year old step-daughter Layla Cummings.

WEATHERFORD/DEMOLITION DELAY- Work continues at the site of the former Weatherford Regional Hospital property on Kansas where a new police station and 911 center will locate. Economic development director Yolanda Creswell said demolition of the former hospital building has not started yet, but could begin this week.

Bulldogs Dominant in First Win

SWOSU Volleyball secured their first win of the season last Thursday night with an impressive 3-1 victory over Florida Tech in their first game in the Texas Woman's Pioneer Classic.

The Bulldogs came out firing in the first set, going on an early 9-0 run to go up 11-2 and they never looked back taking the set 25-11. A back and forth second set was eventually won by the Panthers 18-25, but there was no doubt in the next two sets as SWOSU won comfortably 25-16 and 25-11 to take the game.

Head Coach Josh Collin's team needed to exorcise some demons after a tough opening weekend and they certainly did that on Thursday against the Pan-

thers. The Bulldogs won all of their sets by at least nine points and looked a lot more like the team they expected to be coming in to the season. They hit their season bests in nearly every statistical category including hitting percentage (.315) and kills (59).

The team was led by a strong performance from former Great American Conference Freshman of the Year Maicee Morgan, who racked up 14 kills and seven digs on a .400 hitting percentage. Right behind her on the stat sheet were Markenzie Benoit with 13 kills on an incredible .619 kill percentage and four blocks, and Lacy Mott with 12 kills and an ace. Allie Hoang provided 42 assists and Sophia Desantiago lead the team with 21 digs to help the Dawgs to victory.

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.**

Happy Birthday Wishes for September 15th- Jennifer Billy, Blair Cook, Sherri Goeringer, Chris Kreizenbeck, John Seifried, Turner Sharry, Jennifer Thiessen, Larry Wright; **September 16th-** Jadan Euing, Dan Jacobsma, Benjamin; **September 17th-** Louise Aaron, Jessica Benevento, Crystal Biswell, Edith Entz, Lance Fuhrmann, Monica Garcia, Nannie Hines, William Howell, Alene Kurtz, Emma Ratterree, Connie Ringle, Scott Robinson, General Thomas Stafford, Todd Wilson; **September 18th-** Mike Dodd, Connie Flammang, Ashley Gaines, Amy Ingram, Josh Lane, Leslie Meshaney, Sheri Parsons, Jerod Shaw; **September 19th-** Curtis Austin, Curtis Burton, Randi Lutburth, Meredith Davis, Donna Jiles, Britney Kimble, Janet Neville, Lindsey Sheperd, Kaysee Sheperd, Nicole Walker; **September 20th-** Jodi Biddy, Myrna Cobb, L.D. Crowell, Bobby Davis, Julie Glasscock, Coach Chad Hutchison, Melvin James, Kurt Knop, BreeAnna Lierle, Tonnie Reed, Tinnley Sumner; **September 21st-** Jada Akin, Dan Davis, Jackie Entz, Aaden Hampton.

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SPORTS *Presented by:*

Bulldogs Fall to Southern Arkansas

William Soule
SWOSU Sports Information Graduate Assistant

MAGNOLIA, Ark. - The Bulldogs went blow for blow in a slugfest with Southern Arkansas on Saturday night, but couldn't keep up late in the game and they eventually fall 42-27.

The Dawgs found themselves down a touchdown in the first quarter, but an impressive drive that included a 37-yard pass to Adrian Williams and was eventually finished off by a 32-yard strike to Torin Justice got the Bulldogs on the board. That was only the start for SWOSU's offense.

A little help defensive never hurts, as Xavier Mathis came up with a huge interception deep in Southern Arkansas territory on the next possession to prevent a quick answer from the Muleriders and SWOSU got the ball moving again. This time it was a Tanner Griffin pass to Deshon Moreaux from 23 yards out that gave the Bulldogs their first lead of the season.

A great first half for the Dawgs was capped off by a Nate Davis screen pass on 2nd and 14 that went for 55 yards to the house to give SWOSU at 20-14 lead going in to the break.

The momentum continued to side with the Bulldogs to start the second half, as RJ Powell and Nate Burnard stood up Southern Arkansas running back Jariq Scales on 4th and 2 in the red zone on the Muleriders opening drive.

After Southern Arkansas scored late into the third quarter to take the lead once again, the Bulldogs fought back as Tanner Griffin found a wide-open Justin Bailey on a 52-yard bomb. It was Griffin's fourth touchdown pass of the day and gave SWOSU a one-point lead.

However, the fourth quarter would be all Muleriders as the home team scored on three of their final four possessions while holding the Bulldogs scoreless in the final quarter of the game.

It was a matchup that was exciting from start to finish. SWOSU's offense came to play against a Southern Arkansas defense that only gave up 13 points last week.

Griffin especially looked dangerous all night, as it was clear the SWOSU game plan revolved around him. He finished 29-48 with 437 yards and four touchdowns through the air. It was a career high in both passing yards and passing touchdowns for the Sophomore signal caller.

Reigning Bulldog of the Week Justin Bailey continued his hot start to the season with five catches for 104 yards and a touchdown. Bailey continues to show up in clutch moments for the Bulldogs.

SWOSU (0-2) will look to get in the win column when they travel to Durant next Saturday, September 18th to take on Southeastern Oklahoma State at 6:00 pm.

Lady Bulldogs Finish Sixth in First Action of the Year



Doug Self
SWOSU Sports Information Director

The SWOSU Women's Golf team placed sixth in their first tournament of the 2021-22 season at the Central Region Fall Preview in Blue Springs, Mo.

The sixth place finish for the Lady Bulldogs had them just two strokes back of Central Missouri and two strokes ahead of fellow Great American Conference competitor Harding University. The field was led by GAC teams, with Henderson State finishing in first and Arkansas Tech right behind them.

Megan Brown and Mikaela Rindermann led the team shooting an eight over 152 for the tournament and finishing up in a tie for 11th place. Next came Zoe Morton and Rebecca Lau who also ended up tied at 15 over for the week and in 36th place. Anna Marksa rounded out the five scoring golfers just one stroke behind Morton and Lau with at 16 over 160. Georgia Miller played as an independent and shot a 22 over 166.

The Lady Bulldogs will next compete at the NSU Women's Classic in Broken Arrow, Okla. on September 13-14 at Indian Springs Country Club.

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BULLDOGS OF THE WEEK



Markenzie Benoit of the SWOSU's Lady Bulldog Volleyball team and Tanner Griffin of the SWOSU Bulldog Football team were named Bulldogs of the Week for September 6-13

"The Coin Guy" Morgan's Gold \$10 Pattern



Trent Boesen

George Morgan, the designer of the Morgan silver dollar, was a prolific U.S. Mint engraver. Although he is known for the silver dollar, he also created an 1878 gold \$10 pattern.

When the mint was responsible with creating a new coin design their engraver would create it. These creations are known as patterns. The system used to categorize them is the Judd scale. The above gold coin is a Judd 1581 and is just one of two to exist.

The above coin is reminiscent of Morgan's famed silver dollar but with slight variations in the design. The above gold coin was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service as a Proof 66 Deep Cameo (Deep Cameo is like looking in a highly reflective mirror).

It sold at auction in Texas on August 18, 2021, for \$810,000.

Do you have an interest in collecting pattern coins but did not know who to ask? Call The Coin Guy at 580-890-8076 so we can meet at Jerry's and talk about it. Thanks for reading.

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HIGHER GROUND
A Cause to Rejoice

Jim Morrison

The ten inmates burst into applause as the video came to a close. Each pod houses 15-16 men, so having ten come to the worship service was great. But it was not just the number that was important-- the spirit with which they came was what impressed me. They came with high energy, smiles, friendly banter and an excitement about being there. Several in the group have come to know Christ and I have baptized a number of them.

The video portrayed Lee Strobel's story of his coming to Christ from an atheistic lifestyle. I was a little unsure about their response because the video was somewhat academic with little humor or action. Strobel's wife had become a Christian but he was still skeptical. Being an investigative reporter for the Chicago Tribune, he set out on a two-year journey,

checking out the evidence for the reliability of the Scripture, the nature of Jesus' claims about himself, and the biggest hurdle, "Did Jesus really rise from the dead?"

These are the foundation truths upon which Christianity is based and I felt they needed to come to grips with these truths. They were very attentive during the showing and the good response at the end was most gratifying.

They vocalized their appreciation and I felt good about the choice of the evening. My next thought was, if only the believers in most churches had that degree of desire to be grounded in the truths of the faith so that they could "give an answer for the hope they have within them." I Peter 3:15

My prayer for these guys is that their faith will stand the test of the real world. There they will face the old temptations of the flesh and the problems of getting a job, finding a place to live; all with a heavy fine over their head. It will seem that the world is against them, and many fold under the pressure.

Those who make it usually have a support group of some kind, a church, family, or a small group to hold them accountable. If their faith is grounded in truth rather than emotion, they will recognize that although the going is tough, God is in love with them and will lead them if they obey step by step and don't give up.

One pod is made of Native Americans from Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming. My prayer and desire is that they take the love of God back to their reservations and put it on display in their lives. Most have limited biblical background but have been respectful and consistent in attendance, for the most part.

Pray that God will reveal Himself to them and break down the barriers of tradition and culture. "God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2nd Peter 3:9b

I thank God each time I go that I have been given the privilege of bringing the good news of God's grace and forgiveness. To comment: jhm82@outlook.com or phone, 580-772-2311

Oklahoma History: Tar Creek Superfund Site

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Tar Creek Superfund site is just one of many United States superfund site. It was officially declared in 1983. A superfund site is a hazardous waste site where toxic substances have rendered the location inhabitable for daily life. Located in northeastern Oklahoma in Ottawa county, the Oklahoma site is just one of near 40,000 sites listed since the 1980s. As of 2020, approximately 1,335 sites remain under the Superfund program.

Tar Creek originated as a lead-zinc mining operation in the tri-state mining ring of Oklahoma, Missouri, and Kansas. Mining first broke ground in 1850 on the Southwestern edge of Missouri. By 1908, mining sites in Oklahoma were popping up in full swing. At the time, mining was the biggest economic boom the U.S. had seen and most of the youth in the district were employed by the industry.

The 300 miles of tunnels in Tar Creek were owned by the Quapaw tribe. However, following the Oklahoma Organic Act, the special organic act prior to Oklahoma's statehood that divided the territory, a court ruled that portions of the land could be leased for mining. Many of Quapaw landowners never received lease payments or mineral royalties and a string of lawsuits against the court's ruling were filed. During this low production point, many mining companies began buying the land and consolidating with other companies.

By World War I, the Tar Creek mining region supplied around 45% of the lead and 50% of the zinc, used by the United States for bullets; this continued into WWII. As technological advances pushed mining production to new heights, the Ottawa County had become the world's largest source of lead and zinc. By 1950, the entire Tri-State Mining Region had generated over one billion dollars.

Companies, freelancers, and contracts were made in abundance to try and grab a piece of the wealth. The exponential boom of the mining industry began to leave a noticeable real-world impact on the region. Several environmental impacts were discovered as soil, groundwater, and air pollutions were recorded. By the 1960's, the national and state health and environmental teams began labeling hazards around the U.S. Mining productions were shut down, companies went under, and towns began to dry up. Hazardous waste accumulated on sites known as "chat." Chat fragments were portions of rejected sedimentary waste, discarded during lead-zinc mining operations. Metals from the discarded waste seeped into the soil and water sources: wells, ponds, rivers, and lakes.

These chat piles grew so large that Oklahoma, alone, recorded around 75 million tons of chat piles, and because many Americans were employed in the mining field, families grew up around these piles. Children would climb atop the piles, ride bikes, and go swimming in waters contaminated by the toxic dust; even schools



Chat pile near Picher, OK, an abandoned town at the heart of the site. (Chat pile is the background mound - almost 3 stories tall).

held sport practices using the chat piles as natural hills. Many began showing symptoms of lead poisoning, especially in young children. The high levels of lead in the blood resulted in increased rates of impaired neurological development that lasted throughout life.

In 1996, a study pushed by **Tulsa World** reported 43% of children between 1 years of age and 5 years of age had blood lead concentrations above the threshold considered dangerous. According to research published by the Center for Hazardous Substance Research at Kansas State University, "by 2003, residents of the Tar Creek Superfund Site were found to be more likely to have Parkinson's disease, heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer, diabetes, and kidney disease than elsewhere else in the U.S." The Center also released another study that showed the miscarriage rate for women in the area was at 24%, over the national average of 10%.

Not only was the leftover waste of mining leading to clinical health issues, but physical damage happened as well. Abandoned mines began to collapse as their support structures deteriorated. In 1967, a mine went down and took 9 homes with it. This hazardous waste wasn't just affecting human lives either. Various water sources became toxic and led to aquatic and land life that relied on those sources to die out or be full of contaminants. The animals that could survive or seemed relatively unaffected were more poisonous to humans because of a process called biomagnification. This process describes the absorption of metals and shows

that animals who drink contaminated water are full of a high concentration of these metals, but animals up the food chain, secondary consumers who absorb the metals through the first animals, actually received a higher concentration of the contaminants and were at a high risk of lead poisoning.

On September 8th, 1983, Tar Creek was designated as a Superfund site and departments began overseeing cleanup plans for the region. Twenty years passed but the cleanup process seemed to have barely made a dent. By 2006, money allocated for a special plan for Tar Creek was instead used to buy out and relocate residents of the area because the immediate health hazards shown by these research studies were too great.

Today, after several reiterations of cleanup plans, the "Final Tar Creek Strategic Plan" was released on September 17th, 2019, by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The plan outlined a more aggressive push to accelerate cleanup attempts. Cleanup records by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality have reported that about 30 million tons of chat remain in the Tar Creek area, but with help from the University of Oklahoma's Civil Engineering and Environmental Science Department, "a project to bioremediate ground water from abandoned mines" is underway. Several departments and Quapaw tribe members are working continuously with local and private orgs to monitor and clean the mine waste. Each day is another step towards better land, water, and air quality.



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