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14th Annual Celebration of Freedom scheduled

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

The General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum is holding a Virtual & Silent Auction as part of their 14th annual Celebration of Freedom event in Hobart, OK. The 2022 Celebration of Freedom will be held on May 20th and 21st in Hobart's downtown. The auction features many special items, including exclusive event tickets, vacation getaways, gift baskets, jewelry, art, memorabilia, and more. All proceeds from the virtual auction will benefit the museum and its educational programs: Inspired Leadership Challenge, Four Star Leadership with General Tommy Franks, Inspired Leadership Experience, the Mobile Classroom & Roadshow, the Lattimore Collection, and the newest program - Understanding Community Understanding.

The Celebration of Freedom is a fun mashup of events put on by the Hobart community. Events scheduled for this year include: a Lil Mr. & Miss Pageant, Golf Scramble, Blood Drive, Veteran Spotlight, Show-n-Shine & Car Show, Poker Run, and parade. Throughout the celebration, there will be all kinds of vendors available, family-fun games & activities, and live entertainment by the Hi-Fi Hillbillies at 6:30pm on Saturday.

Come join the festivities as they honor our armed forces and remember those who gave it all for the freedom we enjoy today. And make sure to swing by the world-class museum, open both days, to see items from around the world that focus on telling the story of the United States military. The museum has one of the only two Medal of Honor awards given in the state of Oklahoma and a huge collection of challenge coins. They also have one-of-a-kind historical photographs, videos, and military equipment.

Their notable exhibits include the special "9/11: Never Forget" exhibit. Opened on September 11, 2016, the exhibit features a chronological timeline that guests can walk through that detail the impact of the attack, bravery of the first responders, and reaction to the dedications and presidential address after. The exhibit also houses a 14-foot long, 3000-lb steel I-beam from the World Trade Center. The beam, part of the flooring system and crushed in the debris, is one of a select few pieces that were released by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Their newest special exhibit is called "Letters From Home" and "features private correspondence from



Provided

Register a veteran you know and bring them to Celebration of Freedom May 21 so we may honor them on stage! Take a moment and help us honor our veterans tommyfranksmuseum.org/veteransspotlight

almost every major conflict in US history". Guests will be able to get a glimpse into the emotion and inner thoughts of veterans as they spent time away in conflict and when they faced the challenge of adapting after coming home.

If you're interested in learning about the leadership and outreach programs the museum offers, they have detailed information on their website and on location. The programs and museum were started by General Tommy Franks and his wife Cathryn as a way to never forget the sacrifices made by the families and members of the United States military and to offer future generations support as they pursue leadership roles.

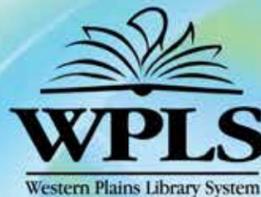
They provide several educational and outreach programs like: The Mobile Classroom + Road Show, a mobile museum that travels directly to schools; The Inspired Leadership Challenge, a workshop that teach the Four Stars of Leadership shown in the life of

General Tommy Franks – Character, Communication, Common Vision, and Caring; and The Four Star Leadership summer program, a program that takes 70 of the top high school students in the nation and gives them the opportunity to be face-to-face with national and international leaders; the Lattimore Collection, an extension of the museum that showcases 40 different taxidermed animals from around the world; and the Understanding Community Understanding, the newest program, that focuses on awareness for community issues and possible solutions for future leaders.

All sign-ups and forms for Celebration events and museum programs can be done through their website.

"Leaders are not born; they are developed, and it is my passion to [create] a world-class facility to inspire the next generation of leaders." - General Tommy Franks.

All information courtesy of the General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum.



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EVENTS

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- VETERAN SPOTLIGHT
- SHOPPING & FOOD VENDORS
- MOTORCYCLE SHOW-N-SHINE COMPETITION
- CLASSIC CAR SHOW
- SIDEWALK CHALK CONTEST
- POKER RUN
- PARADE
- LIL' MR. & MISS PAGEANT
- ★ CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
- GOLF SCRAMBLE
- PONY RIDES & PETTING ZOO
- BLOOD DRIVE
- MECHANICAL BULL & DUNK TANK
- MILITARY VEHICLE EXHIBITION
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Mary Mildred (Morrow) Chisum

Funeral service for Mary Mildred (Morrow) Chisum, 93 year-old Hydro resident, were held Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 2:00 P.M. at the Christian Church in Hydro with Rick Dyson officiating. Burial followed at Hydro Masonic Cemetery under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



Mildred was born July 31, 1928, to John and Rebecca "Becky" (Russ) Morrow in Antlers, Oklahoma, and went to her heavenly home Friday, May 6, 2022, in her home in Hydro, Oklahoma. Mildred spent most of her life in the Hydro/Eakly area. She married her high school sweetheart, Milton Lee Chisum, on November 10, 1944. They made their home in Hydro, Oklahoma. Mildred worked in many different jobs over the years. In her early years, she milked cows and sold milk and cream, then she worked as a labor and delivery assistant. She went on to owning three restaurants in Hydro and worked hard in the kitchen making sure every order was just right. Lastly, she worked in the cafeteria at Hydro Public Schools and loved seeing the "little ones" every day. She was a member of the First Christian Church in Hydro. Mildred enjoyed spending time with her family, painting, playing cards with friends, working in her yard and the occasional Jamboree. Mildred was a giving mother, grandmother, and a devoted wife. She was a resilient matriarch who worked hard for her family and was always there for them when they needed her. Memorials may be made to the Hydro Fire Department.

Mildred is survived by her three sons: Bob Chisum and his wife Cathy, Dale Chisum and his wife Lisa and Jody Chisum and his wife Pam; nine grandchildren; seventeen great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband Milton; her first born son Larry Wayne; four brothers JT, Toy, Raymond, and Kenneth Morrow; two half-brothers, Gene and Dean Wright; and half-sister Johnnie Helen Morrow.

DeAnna is survived by one son Chris Horn and wife Tasha of Weatherford; one daughter Kelly Irvin and husband Jonathan of San Antonio, TX; one brother Terry Reneau of Weatherford; and four grandchildren: Camden, Kaden, Blaizyn and Haili. She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister Sherry Reneau.

Linville Lee Murdock

Linville Lee Murdock was known as "Sissy" to her family and childhood friends. She was born August 13, 1942, in Hondo, Texas. She moved to Hammon, Oklahoma, with her family in 1943 and graduated from there in 1960. While a student at Hammon, she was involved in most all of the extracurricular activities that were available. She was an outstanding basketball player and a good piano player among other notable achievements. She graduated from Southwestern State in 1964 and later obtained her Master's degree. She taught 2 years in the Clovis, New Mexico, school system and 1 year at Panhandle Oklahoma State University before returning to Weatherford to teach the next 31 years in the Physical Education Department at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.



She taught many classes and touched the lives of a great number of students. She coached volleyball and tennis, served as sponsor of the Physical Education Major and Minors Club, served with the Brownie Playdays and served on the Faculty Senate. She was a member of a number of professional associations and Alliances and was president of the Lambda Chapter of the international women teacher's organization (Delta Kappa Gamma).

Among other things, she was a prolific poem writer that always contained a humorous side, as was her way of life. She was a great sister, devoted and loving daughter and a great friend to so many. She never married but had a close relationship with her fiancé Bill Akers prior to his death.

She is preceded in death by her parents Lloyd and Nora Murdock. She is survived by 2 brothers: John aka Johnny and Lloyd Jr. aka Bubby (Barbara) as well as a great niece Tonya (Greg), 2 Nephews, Shawn (Shawn Rae) and Shea (Jennifer). She is also survived by 4 great nieces and 4 great nephews.

She was a Christian and strived to live by the principles of Jesus Christ and maintained a relationship with him as was evident by peaceful and comforting acceptance of death.

Maria Greening

Maria Greening was born to Janet Kathryn Ostrander in Gravette, Arkansas on April 22, 1973, and passed away Sunday, May 8, 2022, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at the age of 49 years and 16 days.



Maria was raised in Gravette where she attended school. She attended Carl Albert State College in Sallisaw OK for one year.

Maria was known as Mom, Grandma, wife, and friend. She always saw the best in people and never judged them no matter what they may have been going through, or their situation. She loved her children and grandchildren so much and would go to the end of the earth for them. She was a big Razorback and Cowboy fan and loved to go to the casino for ladies night. If you were around her on a Tuesday, she was inviting you to go with her. Those that got to know her were pretty lucky. Her love was unconditional.

Maria is survived by her husband Steve of the home in Fay, Oklahoma; three sons: David Pike and his wife Reyna of Weatherford, Oklahoma, Pete Pike and his wife Chloe of Simpsonville, South Carolina and Robert Pruitt Jr. of Ft. Polk, Louisiana; two daughters: Sarah Frazier and her husband Billy of Hulbert, Oklahoma and Bonnie Pruitt of Weatherford, Oklahoma; and nine grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her mother, one brother, and her grandson Bradley.

Rebecca Jane McKevitt

Rebecca Jane McKevitt was born August 4, 1949, in Chicago, Illinois to James A. and Marjorie (Saywright) Bridges and passed away Monday, May 9, 2022, at Brookdale Assisted Living in Weatherford, at the age of 72 years, 9 months and 5 days.



Rebecca was raised and attended school in Chicago, Atlanta and later Dallas where she graduated in 1967. She went to Stephen F. Austin in Huntsville, Texas for a year. On February 21, 1970, Rebecca married Gerald McKevitt in Dallas where they made their home. They moved to Weatherford in 2017. Rebecca enjoyed gardening, being outdoors, walking, Tom Clark Gnomes, Kokopelli flute players, and volunteering at church and other places. Memorials may be made to a charity of your choice.

Rebecca is survived by her husband of 52 years Gerald McKevitt of their home in Weatherford; one son Brian McKevitt and wife Courtney of Weatherford; three grandchildren: Mackenzie, Kynlee and Rhett; sister-in-law Suzanne; four nieces; two nephews; and multiple great-nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister Barbara; brother-in-law Jan; nephew Jim and sister-in-law Donna.

DeAnna Kay Horn

Memorial services for DeAnna Kay Horn, 62 year-old Weatherford resident, were held Saturday, May 14, 2022, 2:00 P.M. in The Chapel of Lockstone Funeral Home with Sean Odom officiating.



DeAnna was born January 12, 1960, in Amarillo, TX to Norman Terry and LaVonda Jo (Harp) Reneau and passed away Saturday, May 7, 2022, at River Valley Skilled Nursing in Clinton. DeAnna was raised and attended school in Amarillo. She moved to Weatherford in 2000. DeAnna worked for the *Weatherford Daily News* since 2018 as a distribution supervisor. She also volunteered at the Connections Food and Resource Center. DeAnna enjoyed music, Dallas Cowboys, fantasy football, her cats and spending time with family, especially her grandchildren, and friends. Memorials may be made to the Connections Food and Resource Center.

Ray Lessley Price

Funeral services for Ray Lessley Price, 75 year-old Weatherford resident, were held Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 2:00 P.M. at the First United Methodist Church with Chuck Horton officiating. Burial followed in Greenwood Cemetery under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



Lessley was a retired SWOSU professor and pioneer in the field of distance education in Oklahoma. He was born January 7, 1947, in Tulsa to Ray Alfred and Billie Louise (Lessley) Price and passed away Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at Corn Heritage Village of Weatherford.

Lessley spent most of his early years in Bartlesville, graduating with the Class of 1964. He graduated from Oklahoma City University in 1968, and then worked as a civilian employee for the Department of Defense. He next served in the U.S. Army from 1969-1971.

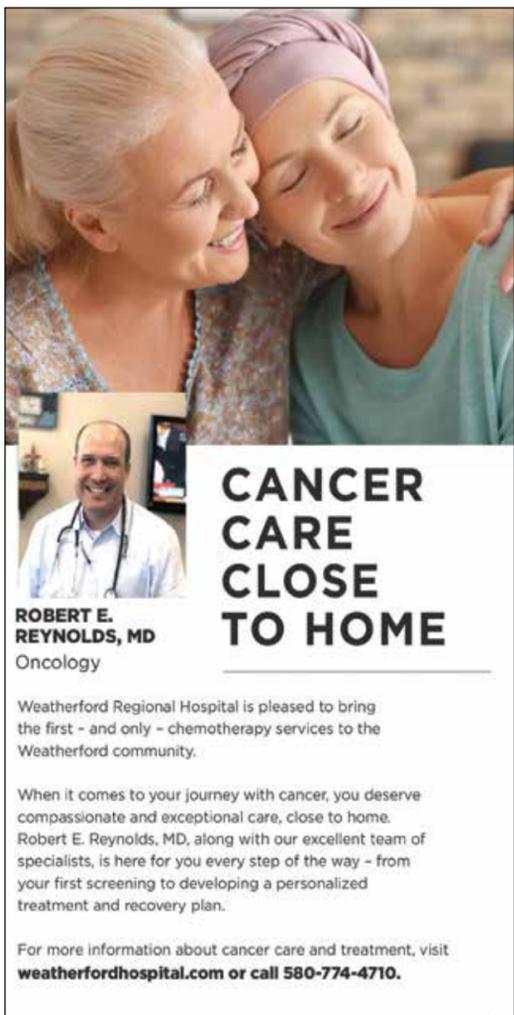
Lessley started graduate school at SWOSU where he earned a master's degree in education. On August 5, 1972, he married Marianne Boerstler in Bartlesville. The couple moved to Nowata where he taught Art and then to Norman where Lessley earned his Ph.D. in Educational Technology from the University of Oklahoma. While in Norman, he became director of the Teacher Center. Lessley served on the faculty of NWOSU in Alva before moving to Weatherford in 1985 to work for SWOSU. He taught undergraduate and graduate courses in Education and supervised student teachers and entry year teachers throughout the state. He became the first director of Distance Learning for the Weatherford and Sayre campuses. In 2010, he was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Oklahoma Distance Learning Association.

Lessley was a dedicated volunteer. He was a docent for the Heartland Museum where he enjoyed showing visitors his antique camera and media equipment display, poll worker for the Election Board, Kiwanis Club member, Special Olympics volunteer, and usher and trustee of his church. He also served on the Board of Regents of the Native American Tribal College.

The Prices enjoyed camping and traveling in their R.V. They worked on several NOMADS projects in which they joined other R.V.'ers in doing repairs to churches and homes. Lessley enjoyed hiking, gardening, doing home remodeling and repairs, and walking his two dogs.

Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church or to the Heartland of America Museum.

Lessley is survived by his wife of 49 years Marianne Price of their home in Weatherford; two daughters: Amanda Amonson and husband Lee of Yukon and Meryl Pye and husband Jason of Moore; one brother Carl Price and wife Susie of Pine, CO; one sister Carolyn Mahan and husband John of Skiatook; one grandson Sebastian Amonson. He was preceded in death by his parents.



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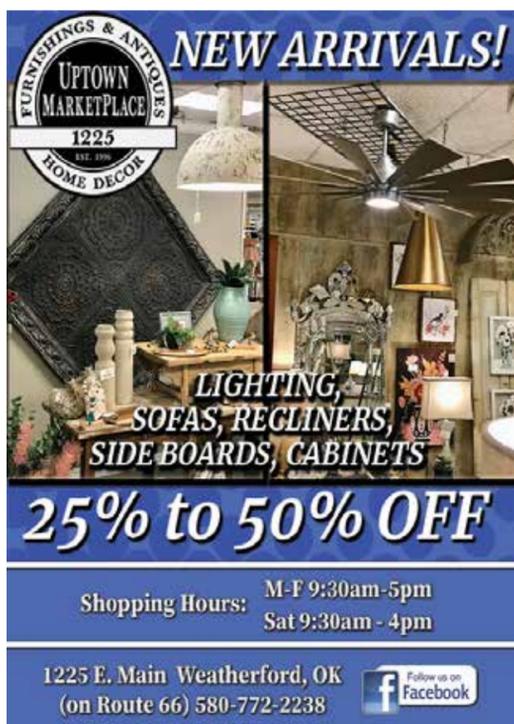


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PBS Documentary to feature work by SWOSU Assistant Professor and associates

A two-part Nova TV special on Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)—Dinosaur Apocalypse—will have work featured by Dr. Jeremy Klingler, assistant professor of biological sciences at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, and other team members.

The program was aired Wednesday, May 11 on PBS channels.

Klingler and his associates will discuss paleontological discoveries he and his colleagues have made at the Tanis site in North Dakota. The program aired earlier in England. Both programs are hosted by Sir David Attenborough.

Klingler said the extinction of the dinosaurs has always been a subject of tremendous interest both to the professional paleontological community and the lay public. Since the 1980s, the “Alvarez-Smit Hypothesis” has postulated that a massive meteorite slammed into the Earth about 66 million years ago, throwing an enormous amount of ash, dust and soot into the atmosphere that blocked out sunlight for over a year which led to a total ecological collapse. Overall, approximately 75% of all life went extinct including, most famously, of course, the dinosaurs and pterosaurs.

Many devastating events occurred in the first moments of the meteorite impact including a mega-tsunami, magnitude Mw 10-12 earthquake, a rainfall of molten glass ejecta, and a super-heated atmosphere.

For the first time, the new fossil site in North Dakota called Tanis captures the events of the early hours of the extinction event in extraordinary and vivid detail. Klingler



Provided

A two-part Nova TV special on Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)—Dinosaur Apocalypse—will have work featured by Dr. Jeremy Klingler (left), assistant professor of biological sciences at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, and other team members (from left) Robert DePalma and Loren Gurche. The program aired May 11 on PBS channels.

and his associates have been excavating the site for nearly a decade. Numerous exciting fossils have been found at Tanis which tell an incredible story of what happened on that fateful day of the impact.

"The Coin Guy"



Trent Boesen

During the Gold Rush of 1849 people used gold dust to purchase items. As such there was a scarcity of small coins for merchants to use when making change.

Small-denomination gold coins were minted at the newly built the San Francisco Mint. These gold ‘fractional’ coins were in amounts of 25 cents, 50 cents, and one dollar.

The same small gold coins were in different shapes from round to octagonal and each coin had its own design. It could be argued the Mint was not only making gold coins but, the making coins with beautiful appearances.

It was a huge hit with the miners as they voted which design was the best. Many of these small gold coins were used in jewelry as well.

The above picture shows a round half-dollar fractional gold coin. It was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service as a Mint State 63. It sold at auction for \$9,000.

Interested in collecting fractional gold coins but don't know where to turn? Call The Coin Guy at 580-890-8076. Thanks for reading.

Weatherford Hall of Fame set to induct 2022 honorees

The Weatherford Athletic Hall of Fame will welcome its newest class of inductees on May 20 at the Stafford Air and Space Museum. A meet and greet will begin at 4 p.m. with the induction ceremony following at 5 p.m.

The 2022 class includes long-time cheer coach and supporter Donna Miller, multi-sport standouts Brett Hauser, Justin Bruner, Sarah Mcspadden and Andy Wassana, and the 1995 state champion baseball team. To be honored posthumously are Steve Graham and

Bill Massey.

Every year, the Hall of Fame ceremony is held following the Weatherford Public Schools' golf tournament, which raises funds to benefit the athletic programs.

Hall of Fame board members include Larry Adler, Allen Boyd, Mike Brown, Todd Gaunt, Kristi Hill, Renee Lee, Mark Lumpkin, Charles Teasley and Rob Zorian.

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cooks and heaters, several gallon kerosene tanks, 245/60R18 tire, well used, but good spare, 2 folding canvas chairs, new wrenches, hand tools, works bench with 4-inch vise, strong and handmade. Call for Prices. (405)246-8952 10am-8pm

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director

Chamberlin Selected as 2022-23 SWOSU-Weatherford Rotary World Languages Scholar



Rylee Chamberlin has been named recipient of the Weatherford Rotary & SWOSU World Languages Scholarship for 2022-23.

Chamberlin is from Cashion and is a second-year student at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She is majoring in literature and pursuing minors in both mathematics and world languages.

The SWOSU-Weatherford Rotary Club World Languages Scholarship was proposed by Dr. Tugba Sevin, world languages coordinator in the SWOSU Department of Language & Literature and established in 2021 through joint funding provided by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. and the Weatherford Rotary Club.

“Being able to not only communicate in a different language but also having an understanding and appreciation for another culture is one of the most exciting things that I’ve experienced in my college career with the world languages minor at SWOSU.” Chamberlin said.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University has locations in Weatherford, Yukon and Sayre. The SWOSU-Weatherford Rotary Club World Languages Scholarship 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 \$37 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For more information, contact the SWOSU Foundation at 580-774-3267 or visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com.



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WEATHERFORD SB/DRUG TESTING- The Weatherford School Board of Education has approved a proposal from Schoonmaker Drug and Alcohol testing to again provide student drug testing for the fiscal year 2022-23 school year. Superintendent Jill Henderson said one extra test will be added, beginning with the upcoming school year. Henderson said the extra test for fentanyl will add a \$5 expense per test.

WESTERN OK SALES TAX- Sales tax was up again for the city of Weatherford in the recently released figures from the Oklahoma Tax Commission for March sales. The city of Weatherford brought in just over \$1 million, thirty-seven thousand dollars for March sales. Meanwhile, the City of Clinton finished up 14.3% at just over \$545,000, Elk City was up nearly 1.3% at \$1.19 million and the City of Cordell dropped 2.7% at just over \$95,500.

CUSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/ZONE- Custer County Commissioners approved a resolution, regulating the use of county property for an expressive activity zone. Commissioner Bruce Walker said the resolution specifically outlines areas for expressive activity for celebrations or demonstrations. Walker says some of the criteria includes no amplified sound, participants cannot be disruptive nor walk the sidewalks for demonstration purposes.

WEATHERFORD SB/VIRTUAL- Despite COVID numbers on the decline over the past several months, the offering of virtual learning still is being utilized at Weatherford Public Schools. Jeanne Minton heads up Eagle virtual academy for the district. Minton told the school board of education that 10 students are planning to return for virtual learning next school year and at least four others have inquired about the program.

BECKHAM CO DIST COURT/HOLLAND- A Sweetwater man has been given a 25-year suspended prison term in Beckham County District court after pleading no contest to two counts of lewd or indecent acts to a child under 16 and a single count of pattern of criminal offenses. Sixty-seven year old Lanny Dean Holland inappropriately touched a juvenile child on multiple occasions.

BECKHAM CO DIST COURT/ERNST- A Clinton man has been sentenced in Beckham County District Court to serve 10 years of a 20-year prison term after pleading guilty to a charge of robbery with a weapon. Twenty-one-year-old William Carl Ernst pleaded guilty to using a .38 caliber handgun to threaten employees during the hold-up of the McDonalds restaurant in Sayre in January 2020. Ernst told the court during his plea that he got about \$1200 during the robbery.

CUSTER CO/PRECINCT CHANGES- Custer County Commissioners heard from county election officials, regarding precinct impacts as it relates to redistricting changes. Chief Clerk Aleta Bowman said one precinct was eliminated as a result of redistricting, which was St. Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford. Election officials said the St. Eugene site had previously asked to no longer be utilized as a polling location. Meanwhile, new voting cards have been mailed to those voters who are affected by a change in their voting precinct.

WEATHERFORD/LYLE ROAD-HL- The beginning of road work to Lyle Road in Weatherford is coming closer. Economic development director Yolanda Creswell said bids will go out May 19th, awarded in June with actual work beginning in July.

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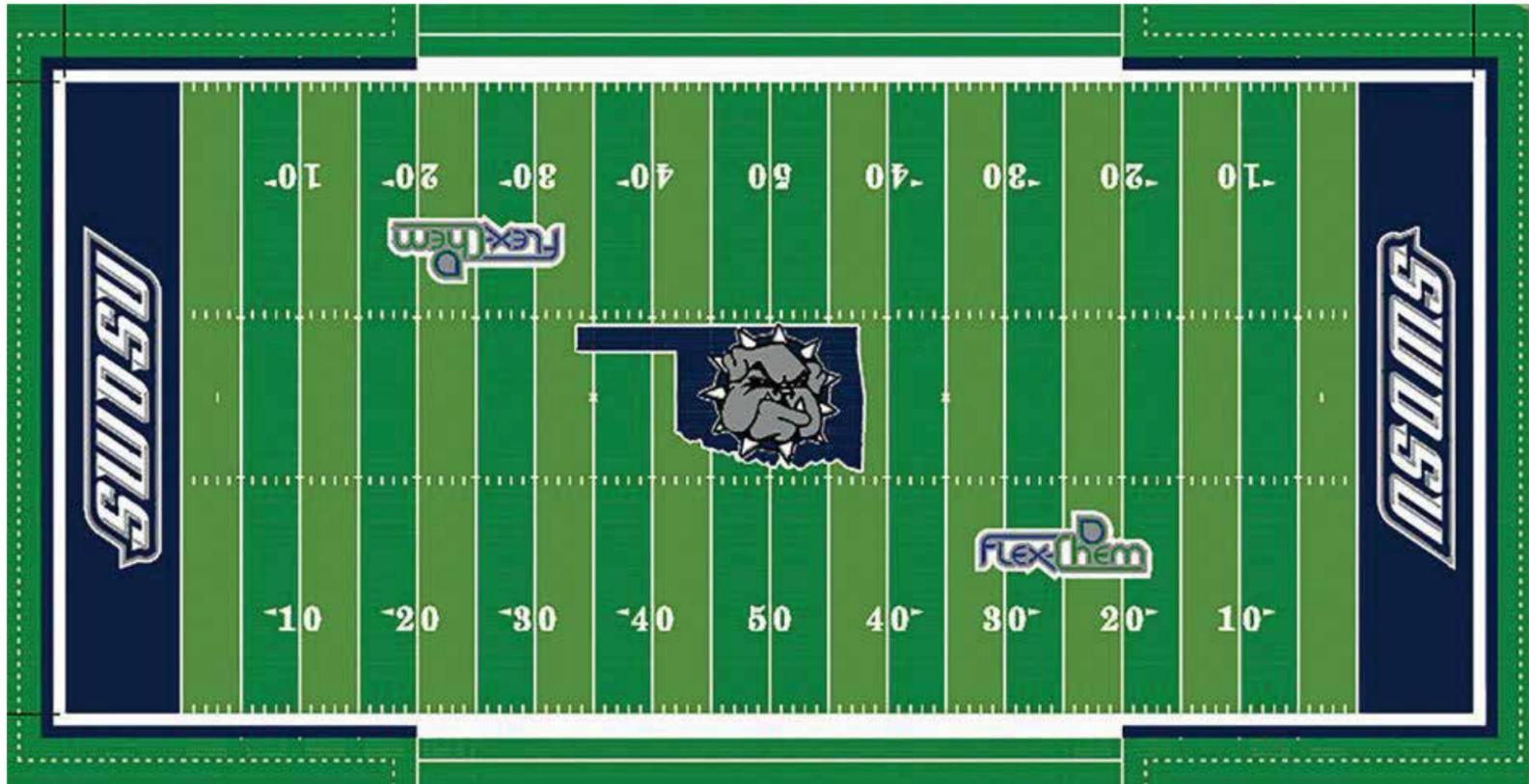
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Happy Birthday Wishes for May 18th- Jenisa Atha, Tina Magpie, Florence Miller, Isaac Rhoads, Sharon Streck, Robert Toahy; **May 19th-** Michael Bowman, Carol Ann Christensen. Miranda Sebastian, Cheryl Wedel, Hath Whitefield, Noel Williams; **May 20th-** Jeremy Biswell, Marlen Lehman, Addison Miller, Garrett Payne, LuCretia Schapaner, Jerry Tackitt, Alexis Talamante, Elsie Thomason; **May 21st-**Bradley Burger, Jamie Carrizales, Kattia Chapners, Jeremy Hammonds, Allison Hayes, Alissa Lynch, Myles Madden, Kaylee Maddox, Kaylie Maddox, Jessica Phillips, Audrina Thompson; **May 22nd-** Zander Austin, Sarah Friesen, Alli Goldsten, Shaun Guthrie, Ladonna Haynes, Conner Jewell, Darci Kreizenbeck, Lana McKinsey, Andy Newman, Kyle Nonast, Roger Van Houten. Stephanie Wade, Laura Watson, Burl Wise; **May 23rd-** Jacob Hart, tammy Hughes, Kenzi Kimble, Cody Moore, CJ Moore, Letha Rowland, Eric Short, Andrea Threadgill, Kelly Wilson; **May 24th-** Teresa Barnhill, Kendra Brown, Megan Coit, Shaquanda Conway, Aubrey Denton, Andrew Denton, Kiana Friesen, Vivian McDough, Kelsie Stephens, Hadden Thompson.

SPORTS *Presented by:* DAVIS PROPERTIES LLC

SWOSU Football Announces New Turf Project for Flex-Chem Field



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

A new turf project has begun inside the confines of Milam Stadium that will give Flex-Chem Field a new look. The current playing surface of Flex-Chem Field is being removed and replaced by sports construction company Mammoth over the next six weeks in preparation for the 2022 season. "We cannot thank our supporters enough," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. "We're so excited to be getting the new turf that will give student-athletes an improved surface for both safety and performance, and hope everyone is as proud of the final product as we are."

The new field will feature updated logos at midfield and in both endzones and will alternate every five yards with lighter and darker green turf. In the center of the field, SWOSU's bulldog head spans over 10 yards and sits inside the state of Oklahoma colored blue and outlined in white. The endzone logos have also been updated and now spell out 'SWOSU' in the school's script writing. Flex-Chem sponsor logos also appear centered on both 25-yard lines. Installation of the new turf is estimated to be complete by mid-June. The Bulldogs will get to play on their new turf in the second game of the season on September 10 at the Flex-Chem Football Classic when they host Southern Arkansas.

Pinpoint Security Provides

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations



Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon has announced a generous charitable sponsorship from Pinpoint Security, LLC.

Pinpoint Security, based in Yukon, provides cyber security consulting for clients of all sizes and industries. The company works with businesses, organizations, and stakeholders throughout the state to stabilize and secure its operations. Founded in 2018 by SWOSU alumni including current SWOSU Alumni Association President Stephen Nelson (Class of 2000), Pinpoint Security is delighted to support SWOSU Athletics. "We are so appreciative to Pinpoint Security and Stephen Nelson for providing a Stadium Sponsorship that will greatly benefit our student-athletes and athletic programs," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. SWOSU Stadium Sponsors provide valuable charitable funds in support of SWOSU student-athletes and athletic activities. In recognition of its generous contribution, Pinpoint Security will be featured in Milam Stadium for the life of the Stadium Sponsorship. A limited number of SWOSU Stadium Sponsorships remain available. For more information, please contact SWOSU Athletic Advancement Coordinator Allie Hoang at Allison.hoang@swosu.edu, 580-774-3267.



Hudson Graybill, 7, slides home to score a run for Weatherford 8U coach pitch. *Provided*

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Nabors Shoe Center Provides SWOSU Milam Stadium Sponsorship



Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

Nabors Shoe Center has provided a generous sponsorship to Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU).

Chad and Julie Nabors, both SWOSU alumni, own Nabors Shoe Center and Next Door Nabors. Both businesses are located on Main Street in Weatherford. Nabors Shoe Center is a well-known Weatherford institution. It is a multi-generational shoe and accessory store carrying most popular name brands. Next Door Nabors is a destination for athletic footwear and performance apparel designed for an active and balanced lifestyle.

"Support from alumni like Chad and Julie is vital to the success of our athletic programs," said SWOSU Athletic Director Todd Helton. "We appreciate their continued generosity to our student-athletes."

SWOSU Stadium Sponsors provide valuable charitable funds in support of SWOSU student-athletes and athletic activities. In recognition, Nabors Shoe Center and Next Door Nabors will be featured in Milam Stadium for the life of the Stadium Sponsorship.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) provides workforce-aligned, affordable higher education programs to the public through locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon. A limited number of SWOSU Stadium Sponsorships remain. For more information, please contact SWOSU Athletic Advancement Coordinator Allie Hoang at Allison.hoang@swosu.edu, 580-774-3267.

SWOSU head football Coach Josh Kirkland accepts generous donation from Julie and Chad Nabors. *Provided*

HIGHER GROUND

Pray for College Graduates



Jim Morrison

I have had a lifetime love affair with college students. It was always an exciting time when the fall semester came around. We always looked for FAT students... that is in Faithful, Available, and Teachable. It was somewhat like Forest Grumps statement about a box of chocolates, "You never know what you are going to get." Some of those who were leaders in their high school youth group get caught up in the college whirl and never had time to plug into Christian activities while a shy boy or girl from a small church group suddenly finds himself/herself with opportunities to grow and blossoms into a leader.

This week we had the privilege of hosting a student from the 80's. Kelly Nelson was from the metropolis

of Taloga. After graduation she accepted an assignment as a semester missionary to the Portland, Oregon area to work with college students. When that semester was over, she stayed on to get a degree from Golden Gate Seminary. Now thirty years later, she is still there, raising her salary and funds for herself and her ministry among the many apartment units in the area.

About that same time a quiet but sharp student, Carin Cochran from Vinson, a small community in Southwestern Oklahoma, came to Southwestern. She went on to get her Master's degree from OSU then returned to spend a semester on the faculty at SWOSU. Then she came on the staff to be my assistant for a year. But she had a bigger vision. She and a friend, Christi Holcomb launched out on faith to restart a campus ministry on the campus at Ft Hays, Kansas. Again raising her own salary all the while. Next fall she will begin her 30th year as director of Christian Challenge. Starting from scratch that ministry has grown to be one of the most aggressive evangelism and missions ministries in the state of Kansas.

After a couple years, I encouraged a young graduate from El Dorado, Oklahoma, again a small church setting, to go as a male assistant to Carin. He served there for a number of years. Now he is on staff at a church in Hutchinson, Kansas and spends a portion of his summers in Kenya, Africa working with a ministry to children.

Another product of the 80's was Mark Dittmer. Mark was from a medium size, but mission minded church in Oklahoma City. He has been working as a missionary to Mexico for 30 years.

The decade of the 90's brought Jeremy Whitt and Terra Langdon to the campus. Terra was from our next door neighbor, Hydro. She served as a journeyman missionary to Thailand for two years then married Jeremy, a preacher's kid from the panhandle. Jeremy has served on the staff at Marlow, Oklahoma for over 20 years. Terra teaches elementary school.

Greg Gober, I believe also from OKC, has recently moved from a secure position in a church in Louisiana to plant a church in Brooklyn, New York, not the easiest place to raise a family. A student from SWOSU, BCM will be working in that ministry this summer. These are all on my Thursday prayer list.

In the 1957 Billy Graham crusade in Madison Square Garden, a 21 year old medical student, Raymond Ramadian, gave his life to Jesus Christ. In 1980 he invented and sold the first MRI machine which is now used all over the world to detect cancer and other internal diseases. He said, "I try never to forget that it was God who gave me the ability to invent in the first place. The greatest purpose a man can find for his life is to serve God." Let us pray for the graduating class of 2022. To comment: jhm82@outlook.com

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Jacob Staggs/Staff photo

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