

WEST OK WEEKLY



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New Commander for American Legion in Corn

Michelle Taylor
Staff Writer

On May 21st, at the American Legion Oklahoma District 7 meeting, Scott Taylor was sworn in as Commander of the American Legion post 300 Corn, Oklahoma. He takes over for previous Commander Calvin Fadenrecht, whom was standing Commander for over 25 years.

Every year the American Legion puts out an 8ft tall flag on each veteran's grave. Fadenrecht said, at the beginning of his tenure, there was only 10 flags in the cemetery, that the American Legion would put out on Memorial Day, now there are 74 flags and he had a personal relationship with each and everyone of them. It is an honor to do so and he is glad to have someone to help carry on the tradition in the small town of Corn.

After graduating from Clinton High School, Taylor served in the Army from 1989 to 1997. He was stationed at Kirchgoens, Germany, aka "The Rock," the same place that Elvis Presley served. Taylor deployed to Iraq in 1990-1991 with the 3rd Armored Division 3/5 Calvary Unit as a Calvary Scout and fought during the Desert Storm and Desert Shield campaigns.

Upon coming home from duty Taylor went on to earn dual degrees from Southwestern Oklahoma State University, a B.S. in both Engineering, Physics, and Finance. Taylor and his wife Michelle along with their children moved to Corn a year ago and have fallen in



Chad Gray/WW

The outgoing Commander of American Legion Post 300 Calvin Fadenrecht (pictured left) shakes hands with Incoming Post Commander Scott Taylor (pictured right). Fadenrecht served as Post 300 Commander for over 25 years and Taylor will take leadership of the Post which has served Veterans from Corn since 1946.

love with the town and its people.

"I really am looking forward to helping out by

keeping the American Legion going in this small community and showing my boys the importance of community, family and military. It's a great feeling to be an active member of this great organization and I just want them to be able to embrace the experience along with me," said Taylor, "and I am honored taking over as Commander of the American Legion here in Corn and I hope I can keep it going and make Calvin proud as well as the other American Legion members."

The Post 300 was established in 1946 and has a long tradition of being there for the community and its members. Taylor's first duties as Commander with the help of former commander Fadenrecht will be to set out the flags at the cemetery and then contribute to the Memorial Day Service that will be held on Monday May 30, at 10 am, at the Memorial Plaza on Main St in Corn. The public is invited to be apart of the service as we honor the men and women that have served our country.

The American Legion of Oklahoma will also be having a "Defender 10 Gun Drawing," during the American Legion of Oklahoma Summer Convention on July 22nd. Tickets are \$10. If anyone would like information about joining the American Legion post 300 or to purchase a ticket for a chance to win the drawing you can text:

Scott Taylor, Commander of American Legion post 300 Corn, OK (580) 309-1357

Gill and Youngblood Headed to Miss Oklahoma

Miss SWOSU Emily Gill of Lawton (Eisenhower) and Miss SWOSU's Outstanding Teen Emma Youngblood of Walters will represent Southwestern Oklahoma State

University at the Miss Oklahoma Competition set for June 6-11 in the RiverSpirit Resort & Casino in Tulsa.

A send off celebration is planned Friday, May 27, from 1-3 p.m. in the Memorial Center East Ballroom on the Weatherford campus. The public is invited. Refreshments will be served. Both Gill and Youngblood will model their competition wardrobes, and both will perform their talents. In addition, Little Star Brinkley Caudill of Lawton will model her evening wear.

Miss and teen pageant preliminary competitions will be held at Miss Oklahoma with the Miss Teen Oklahoma Competition finals on Saturday, June 11, at 2 p.m. and the Miss Oklahoma Competition finals on Saturday, June 11, at 7:30 p.m.

Gill, who is majoring in psychology at SWOSU, is in the Mu Group at Miss Oklahoma. She will have

her interview session on Tuesday, and her on stage question/social impact and evening wear competitions on Wednesday. Her vocal talent—The Girl in 14G—is on Thursday.

Youngblood, a junior at Walters High School and resident of Comanche, is part of the Omega group. Her interview is on Wednesday, her active wear and even wear competitions are on Thursday, and her vocal talent—Love Will Come and Fine Me Again—will be on Friday.

The winners of the competitions advance to the Miss America and Miss America's Outstanding Teen competitions later in the year.

Both ladies are available for special performances, modeling, hostessing events, performing the national anthem and other events by contacting Debbie Brown at missswosu@swosu.edu.





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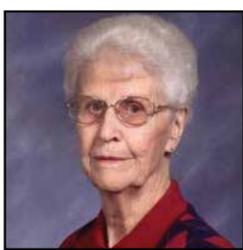


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Francis Arletta (Kidd) Crissman

Francis Arletta (Kidd) Crissman was born June 13, 1923, on a farm south of Hydro to Less and Bess (Hume) Kidd and passed away May 12, 2022, at Corn Heritage Village of Weatherford, at the age of 98 years, 10 months and 29 days.



Arletta was raised in Hydro and attended school at Foss and Lone Star, graduating from Hydro High School in 1941. She met Frank Crissman in 1941 and were married October 15, 1941. They were married for 70 years, and to this union they had three sons: Darrell, Gerald and Gary.

They settled on a farm northeast of Colony where they farmed for 20 years. In 1963 they moved to Weatherford when Gary was in 3rd grade and Gerald still in high school at Eakly. Frank worked for Sawatzky Construction Company and Arletta worked at TG & Y, Owl's Photo, also had a beauty shop, and worked at 3M with Frank. She retired in 1973.

Arletta was saved and baptized as a young girl at Pleasant Valley Baptist Church where she and Frank were married. Later on, she moved her membership to First Baptist Church in Weatherford. Memorials may be made to Cancer Research, Oklahoma Heart Association or a charity of your choice.

Arletta is survived by three sons: Darrell of Ft. Cobb, Gerald of Riverton, Wyoming; and Gary and wife Laura of Mustang; grandchildren: Anne of Cypress, Texas; Yancey and wife Brandi of Greybull, Wyoming, and Katrina and husband Alan of Gillette, Wyoming; great-grandchildren, Sean Gaines and Madison Gaines of Cypress, Texas; TJ and Shelby of Greybull, Wyoming; Grant and wife Toni and Brandon and wife Stephanie all of Gillette, Wyoming; Bailee Larson, Braxton Larson and Maggie Larson of Gillette, Wyoming; her special adopted daughter Joan Crissman and husband Wayne of Hydro; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Frank in 2012; five brothers: Roy, Guy, Virgil, Arthur and Glenn; three sisters: Ovella, Fern and Melva and two daughters-in-law Sharon and Pam.

Henrietta Rock

Funeral Services for Henrietta Rock, 93, Clinton resident were held at 1:00 P.M., Monday, May 23, 2022, in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel, officiated by Billy Smithey. Burial will follow in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



A visitation was held from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM on Monday, May 23, 2022, in the Funeral Home.

Henrietta was raised in the Seiling and Leedy, Oklahoma, areas. She graduated from Longdale High School in 1946.

She married J.C. "Coy" Rock on November 24, 1972, in Clinton, OK, and with this marriage she became an instant mother to four children: Deanna, Rhonda, Allen and Eddie Rock.

She continued her education at Southwestern State University and Western Oklahoma Vo-Tech School and

achieved her Licensed Practical Nurse certificate in 1954. She loved her nursing career and was loved by those she served and helped. She worked at the Oklahoma General Hospital, Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Dr. Bill Tisdal's office, and before retiring in January 1991, she was employed at the Oklahoma Veterans Center in Clinton.

Henrietta loved the Clinton community where she made her home until she moved to Elk City in 2015 due to her health. Henrietta lived at Elkwood Assisted Living and most recently Baptist Village Retirement Community.

She was a longtime and faithful member of the First Baptist Church where she loved her church family. She loved to sing in the choir and travel with the senior adults. Henrietta worked with the pre-school children, third grade Sunday school class, jr. high training union, and in 1999 she became the director of the Adult 7 Sunday School Class.

She volunteered locally and statewide including Grace Living Center, Clinton Regional Hospital and served as volunteer president in 1996 and 1997. She was a member of AARP since 1983 and served in several offices and committees while becoming his president in 1998-1999. She was appointed by Governor Henry Bellmon to serve on the Oklahoma Nursing Education and Registration Board from 1988 until 1992 and was the recipient of the Oklahoma Volunteer of the Year.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband John Coy Rock, son Lloyd Rex, sister Loretta Githens and two brothers Herbert Weil & Everett Weil.

She is survived by two daughters: Deanna Clapsaddle and husband Brett of Katy, TX; and Rhonda Rock of Lawton, OK; two sons: Allen Rock and wife Dana and Eddie Rock, all of Tulsa, OK. Sister-in-law Donna Weil of Elk City, OK and nieces Kellye Fuchs and husband Keith of Elk City, OK, Jolea Brown of Minco, OK and nephew Jack Githens, Hinton, OK.

She is also survived by six grandchildren: Amber, Adam, Jordan, Lea, Danielle and Addison; and five great-grandchildren: Kylee, Reece, Ostyn, Violet and Rachael.

Marion Howell

Graveside Services for Marion Howell, 91, former Clinton businessman, were held 11:00 A.M., Wednesday, May 18, 2022, in the Clinton Cemetery, officiated by Erik Granberg and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Marion Edward Howell was born June 5, 1930, to Leslie Edward Howell and Stella Naomi Terrell in Lawton, OK and passed away Saturday, May 14, 2022, in Enid, OK.

Marion was raised in Greenwood, AR and graduated from Hackett, Arkansas High School in 1949. He soon enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp in 1951 and received his honorable discharge in 1953. He married Mary Alice Shirley on January 1, 1954, in Ft. Smith, AR. They made their home in Clinton, OK in 1963. They owned and operated Clinton Electric Service from 1963 until 1989.

They moved to California where he preached for various congregations, and he retired in the early 2000's and moved to Enid, OK. He volunteered as a driver at St. Mary Hospital in Enid for several years.

He was a longtime and faithful member of the Church of Christ and was presently a member at North Garland Church of Christ in Enid, OK. He was a Charter member of the Evening Clinton Lions Club, he enjoyed fishing,

gardening and Remote-Control Airplanes.

He is preceded in death by his parents, wife, and great-granddaughter Victoria Rose.

He is survived by two daughters: Cheryl Kent and husband Dan, of Enid; and Shirley Anders and husband Wade, Clinton; son Phil Howell and wife Danee, Tulsa; and Paul Howell, New York City, NY.

He is also survived by six grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

Evelyn Loraine Brown

Memorial Services for Evelyn Brown, 84, Clinton resident were held 11:00 A.M., Monday May 23, 2022, in the Cornerstone Church, officiated by Pastor Roy Dobbs and Jerod Nunn and under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Evelyn Loraine (Aitken) Brown was born July 29, 1937, to Gilbert M. and Laura Edna (Messner) Aitken in Buffalo, OK where she entered her heavenly home on May 15, 2022, in her Clinton home, and she will praise her Lord and Savior for eternity.

She attended Buffalo Schools where she graduated. She was a member of the First Church of God (Cornerstone) in Clinton.

She married Marshal Lee Brown on June 3, 1955, in the Buffalo Baptist Church in Buffalo, OK. Soon after their marriage, they made Elk City, OK their home for about a year then moved to California for a few months. Later moving to Wichita, Kansas, for six years before settling in Clinton, OK to live and raise their family.

She enjoyed reading mystery books and family gatherings as well as sewing. She was a wonderful wife and mother that loved eating out and traveling to Colorado in the summer and south Texas in the winter. She also worked for the Clinton Election Board.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her son Rodney Lee Brown, father and mother-in-law Carl and Susie Brown, brother and his wife Ralph and Joan Aitken; sister and her husband Betty and Jerry Willis, Sister JoAnn Lucas, brother and sister-in-law Ralph and Marie Aitken, brother and sister-in-law June and Ellis Holder, brother-in-law Clarence Munro.

She is survived by her husband Marshall Brown, sons Glen Brown and wife Laurie and John Brown and daughter-in-law Linda Brown.

She is also survived by grandchildren Christy Brown, Britney Cash and husband Michael, Brent Brown and wife Kate, Hannah Scott and husband Brett, Jacob Brown, and wife Aszura, and Nikki Shaw, great grandchildren: Aksel Scott, Carter Cash and Noelle Belle Scott, brothers Raymond Aitken and wife Marcella, sister, Brothers and sisters-in-law Ralph Roll and wife Lettie and Gail Munro, Ken and Sharon Delfeld and Edwin Lucas.

Thanks to all for your prayers and support this past year.

Brenda (Belknap) Butler

Funeral Services for Brenda (Belknap) Butler, 68, Clinton resident were held 1:00 P.M., Friday, May 20, 2022, in the Kiesau Memorial Chapel, officiated by Tammy Evans. Burial followed in the Clinton Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.



Brenda Cheryl (Belknap) Butler was born October 18, 1953, in Clinton, OK to J.W. and Volina (Mueller) Belknap and passed away Tuesday, May 17, 2022, in the Select Hospital in Oklahoma City, OK.

Brenda was raised in Clinton, OK and graduated from Clinton High School in 1972. She continued her education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, OK and achieved her Bachelor of Science degree in education. She taught school in several Oklahoma locations for several years and specialized in special education. Before retiring, she taught and substituted in Clinton her last six years.

She was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church for several years. She enjoyed reading, cooking, being with family and collecting salt and pepper shakers.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and infant sister Deborah.

She is survived by two sons: Matthew Butler, Clinton; and Stuart Butler and (Jonathan Meyer), Dallas, TX, sister Karen Bowman, of AR, and brother Bret Belknap, Clinton



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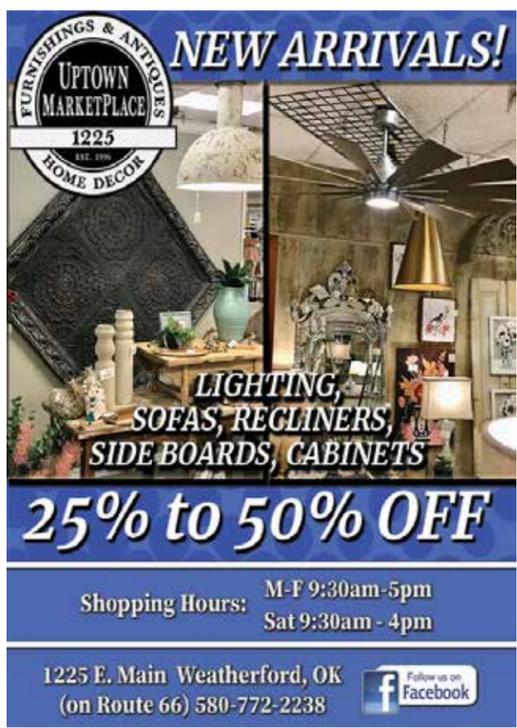
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SCAN ME

Jech Comments on Passage of Vehicle Sales Tax Exemption

A bill that would remove the 1.25% sales tax on motor vehicles and tractor trailers was approved by the Senate. A measure Sen. Darcy Jech said would provide immediate tax relief for Oklahomans needing to make vehicle purchases.

Senate Bill 1075 restores the tax exemption on motor vehicle and tractor trailer purchases that was removed in 2017 when the state was in a budget crisis and revenue was needed. Now that the economy is strong, Jech said it's the right time to remove the tax.

"I've been an advocate for removing this tax as soon as possible, even filing my own legislation to modify the tax on vehicle purchases," said Jech, R-Kingfisher. "I'm thrilled this tax relief was included in the Fiscal Year 2023 budget, which will provide immediate inflation relief for Oklahomans that need real solutions to the rising cost of goods."

SB 1075 must now be approved by the House before heading to the governor's desk for his signature. If signed into law, the tax would be removed July 1.

Lankford, Lee Question World Health Organization Abortion Guidelines

Senators James Lankford and Mike Lee (R-UT) and Representative Doug Lamborn (R-CO) led 52 other House and Senate colleagues in sending a letter to Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), urging a reversal on the Organization's recent guidelines on abortion. These guidelines advocate for abortion on demand and critique conscious objections of healthcare providers. The updated guidelines follow years of controversy regarding the role, allegiance, and effectiveness of the WHO.

The letter reads in part, "We, members of the US Congress, write to you today with concerns about the World Health Organization's (WHO) dangerous new abortion guidelines. These extreme new guidelines aim to remove all legal and policy safeguards on abortion, impose restrictions on the conscience rights of health workers, and ignore the right to life and the safety of the mother and child."

"Moreover, we are astonished that the WHO is attempting to de-humanize preborn children and assert that the rights of the preborn do not exist by categorizing self-induced—and, in some cases, illegal—abortions as 'self-care' and demanding 'the full decriminalization of abortion' without any gestational age limits. To categorize abortions as 'self-care' not only strips away the humanity and dignity of a preborn child but also contradicts

international standards recognizing the preborn child as a rights-holding person," the Members continued.

You can find the full text of the letter below:

Dear Dr. Tedros,
We, members of the United States Congress, write to you today with concerns about the World Health Organization's (WHO) dangerous new abortion guidelines. These extreme new guidelines aim to remove all legal and policy safeguards on abortion, impose restrictions on the conscience rights of health workers, and ignore the right to life and the safety of the mother and child.

While the WHO guidelines are not legally binding on any country, we are concerned that the organization is attempting to delegitimize the will of all sovereign nations by falsely asserting that abortion is a human right. This is far from an isolated instance of United Nations affiliates attempting to encroach on matters far out of their jurisdiction. Last November, for example, a United Nations special rapporteur attempted to interfere with domestic United States judicial proceedings by calling on our Supreme Court to adopt a specified outcome in the ongoing Dobbs v. Jackson's Women's Health Organization

(See WHO, page 8)

"The Coin Guy"

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One such silver dollar was an 1885-O (New Orleans) was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) as a Mint State 65 which sold for \$8,812.50.

The star of the auction was an 1881-S (San Francisco) certified by PCGS as a Mint State 67. It brought \$19,387.50.

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MISC.

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LOCAL & AREA NEWS



Mike Smith
News Director

Dr. Trisha Wald Named Associate Dean of SWOSU Everett Dobson SBT

Dr. Trisha Wald has been selected associate dean of Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Everett Dobson School of Business and Technology (Dobson SBT) in Weatherford.

Her appointment is effective June 1.

Wald is a graduate of Thomas High School, a 2003 graduate of SWOSU and a 2006 graduate of the University of Oklahoma College of Law, where she graduated with honors.

After practicing law for a few years, Wald came back to SWOSU and started teaching in the Fall of 2008. While at SWOSU, she has taught classes in business law, tax law and accounting. In addition to teaching, she has been active in scholarly activities through research and presentations with both the Academy of Legal Studies



in Business (ALSB), a national group, and its regional affiliate, the Southern Academy of Legal Studies in Business (SALSB).

Wald engages in campus and community activities. She was granted tenure and promoted to the rank of associate professor in 2014. In that year, she also received the Outstanding Accounting Educator Award from the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants. From June of 2016 until December of 2018, she served as chair of the Department of Business and Computer Science. In 2017, Wald was awarded the prestigious Bernhardt Academic Excellence Award at SWOSU. In the Fall of 2019, she was promoted to the rank of professor. She has served as the chair of the SWOSU Department of Business since January of 2022.

She and her husband Nick live in Weatherford and have three children in Weatherford Public Schools – Noah, an 8th grader; Eli, a 5th grader, and Jacob, a 3rd grader. They are members of the St. Eugene Catholic Church in Weatherford.

SWOSU Launches Digital Transcript Delivery

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with locations in Weatherford, Sayre and Yukon recently partnered with Parchment, a digital credential service, to simplify the ordering and speed of delivery of transcripts. This is the university's first delivery system for electronic transcripts.

"We are delighted to bring this enormous improvement in service to our students and alumni," SWOSU Registrar Jennifer Cook-Johns said. "Working with Parchment, we have a system that is convenient, efficient and supports university goals of sustainability."

Students and alumni are now able to order transcripts for \$8 each. Digital transcripts will be sent electronically, and paper transcripts will be delivered by U.S. mail.

Additional fees may be required for rushed and international deliveries.

"Most orders placed before 3 p.m. on weekdays will be filled in the same day," Cook-Johns said. "In peak seasons such as immediately before or after a semester, fulfillment times may be slightly delayed."

SWOSU Vice President for Student Services Dr. Adam Johnson said this service provides students and alumni with an expedited level of service to assist them with their pursuit of graduate school, scholarship and enrollment opportunities.

The Academic Records Office has removed the digital form located on its website. To order transcripts, please visit www.parchment.com.



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CUSTER CO/BUDGET- Custer County commissioners met jointly with the county excise board to discuss the estimate of needs for the county. Excise board chairman Harold Gleason said the county is in good financial shape. Discussion was held over the sheriff's budget for the next fiscal year and will wait on updated numbers in a few areas. The boards are scheduled to meet again next month to solidify the next spending plan for the county.

CLINTON CC/EVENT APPLICATION- Clinton City Council, acting as the industrial authority, approved an event grant application for Clinton Baseball, Inc. Billy Goodwin said the organization is bidding to host a state tournament that is projected to bring at least 2000 people to Clinton.

WEATHERFORD SCHOOLS/GROWTH- As the population of Weatherford showed an increase in the last census so has student growth for Weatherford Public Schools. District Superintendent Jill Henderson said the district will need to review its needs at the higher grade levels in the coming years as enrollment projections show an expected increase in the future.

CUSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/BATHROOMS- Custer County commissioners approved contracts with AIP and Rick Scott construction over possible upgrades to courthouse bathrooms. Brandon Box with Rick Scott Construction said the work will be done in phases to minimize any disruptions during business hours. The proposal is to upgrade a total of six bathrooms and add a 7th. Rick Scott construction will serve as the construction manager for the project and AIP will serve in the design phase.

CUSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/SETTLEMENT- Custer County commissioners approved a settlement on a road use agreement with Invenergy. County Commission chairman Bruce Walker said the settlement is for \$4.4 million. \$3.3 million will go to District 2 and \$1.1 million to District 1 for road damage by Invenergy during its windfarm project.

DEWEY CO DIST COURT/SECHRIST- The prosecution has filed a bill of particulars in Dewey County District Court, seeking the death penalty for an Apache man charged with two counts of first degree murder. Thirty-four-year-old Tye Sechrist is charged in connection with the shooting deaths of a Leedy EMT and her sister-in-law. A two week jury trial is set to begin October 11th for Sechrist who is accused of the 2021 shooting and killing of 44-year old Angel Boyd and 31-year old Stacy Boyd.

WATER STUDY- Clinton Mayor David Berrong said a study to determine if it's feasible for a water pipeline to be built between Weatherford and Clinton that would make it possible to share water throughout Custer County remains on-going. The projected amount of pipeline would be about 14 miles.

CLINTON/EXPLOSION UPDATE-As the investigation continues into a house explosion near Clinton, Custer County Sheriff's officials have released the names of those who died as a result of the incident. The victims are identified as 55-year-old Glen Penner and 66-year old Shirley Penner. The explosion occurred about 5 miles west of Clinton. The cause of the explosion remains under investigation.

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Happy Birthday Wishes for May 25th- Ciara Arriaga, Melinda Christensen, Sid Griffith, Ashlyn Maddox, Jay Richardson; **May 26th-** Greg Kissler, Ethan Newman, Travis Pugh, Linda Punneo, Dwayne Ricks, Emmazetta Sutton; **May 27th-** Greg Bickle, Nancy Crissman, Virginia George, Jim Hardin, Roy Hoch, Angie Odom, Logan Roles, Marla Russ, Chase Stutzman; **May 28th-** Leo Boling, Randy Hacker, William Jeffers, April Marley, Bobby McGregor, Ashley Schones, Donna Taylor, Kasha Thomason, Sarah Ynguanzo; **May 29th-** Brenda Anderson, Ethan Anderson, Betty Deela, Bobby Kyucates, Chandler Miller, Wayne Schoonmaker, Natalie Simpson, Sondra Smith, Kason Thomason, Heath Wright; **May 30th-** Keith Bodrick, Brian Brunner, Jonathan Coronado, Kayla DeWitt, Katherine Kreizensebeck, Gabriel Neely, Caleb Edens Rodolph, Gary Roller, L.T. Scott, Lloyd Shaffer, Cordelia Stephens, Krystin Turney, Ann Vogt; **May 31st-** Don Heinrichs, Brady Hickman, Robin Karlin, Vivian Kliewer, Kevin Propps, Rena Sambrano, Amie Upchurch, Gary Wade

SPORTS *Presented by:*

Gregor Weck & Megan Brown Earn All-Region Status



Provided
SWOSU Golf's Gregor Weck (pictured left) of Wiesbaden, Germany, and Megan Brown (pictured right) of Cordell, OK, were named to the All Region team for their performances during the 2021-22 golf season.

Jon Chidester
SWOSU Assistant AD/Media Relations

The SWOSU golf program had a men's and women's athlete earn All-Central Region status after the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) and Women's Golf Coaches Association (WGCA) announced the 2021-22 regional awards for division II this week.

Gregor Weck (men's golf) and Megan Brown (women's golf) both find themselves labeled as All-Region after strong seasons on the course for SWOSU. Weck earns the honor for the first time in his career, while Brown is now a back-to-back All-Region selection.

"I am extremely excited for both Megan and

Gregor," said head coach Brad Fleetwood. "With our region becoming increasingly more competitive over the years, this list is getting harder and harder to make. Both players had amazing seasons and this honor is very well deserved. I am very proud of both of them!"

Weck (Wiesbaden, Germany) most recently notched a top-10 finish at the NCAA Central/Midwest Super Regional in the final event of the year, making it six top-10 finishes for him this season. He also had a pair of second-place finishes including at the Great American Conference Championships.

He is now the sixth SWOSU Men's Golfer to earn a spot on the PING All-Region team, joining

Kason Cook (2020), Wouter Myburgh (2013), Stefan Idstam (2014-17), Manuel Arzuaga (2015) and Jake Duvall (2015-16).

Brown (Cordell, Okla.) won the Rattler Invitational back on March 1 and had five total top-10 finishes to her credit this season. Of those five, three were third-place individual finishes or better. Brown continues to add onto her resume as a Lady Bulldog and is set to return to Weatherford in the fall.

She is the third SWOSU Women's Golfer to earn a spot on the WGCA All-Region team in multiple seasons, joining Elin Wahlin (2017, 2018) and Gloria Choi (2017, 2018, 2019). Five total Lady Bulldogs have earned All-Region nods, including Ashlyn Hall in 2013 and Ana Gomez in 2014.

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Harold & Carol Wright Family Named to SWOSU Planned Giving Society

The Harold and Carol Wright family of Weatherford has been named to the SWOSU Tomorrows planned giving society.

Dr. Diane Lovell, president of Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU), recently made the announcement.

The Wrights have generously made provision for SWOSU in their estate planning. Their thoughtful investment in SWOSU will be used to provide substantial endowed support to the SWOSU kinesiology, exercise science and physical education programs and to the SWOSU band program through the Wright Family Endowment at the SWOSU Foundation, Inc.

Harold Wright and his wife Carol (Roberson) Wright are both 1971 graduates of SWOSU. Harold and Carol met while SWOSU students both working part-time at a famous now-gone dining locale The Spot. They are proud parents and grandparents and have been married for over 52 years.

Harold served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives from 2008 to 2020 and has been inducted into the SWOSU Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

Carol also earned her Master of Education degree from SWOSU in 1980.

“We appreciate all that SWOSU does for our regional economy and culture, and we are very pleased to be named to the SWOSU Tomorrows Planned Giving Society,” the Wrights said. “It is our hope that other SWOSU alumni and friends will contact SWOSU and learn how they can strengthen the university through planned giving.”

Harold’s father, the late Glenn Wright, was a 1949 SWOSU alumnus who led band programs in Erick and Anadarko. Harold’s mother, the late Ernestine (Holcomb) “Ernie” Wright, was a 1959 SWOSU alumnae who served as an instructor at SWOSU for many years.

The Harold and Carol Wright Family has many more



ties to SWOSU:

Glenn Wright’s father Harry L. Wright was an active member of the SWOSU band program in the 1920’s.

Glenn Wright’s brother Jake was a 1951 alumnus.

Harold’s sister Suzan (Wright) Gates and her husband Winston Gates are 1983 and 1994 SWOSU graduates, respectively.

Harold and Carol’s daughter District Attorney Angela Marsee attended SWOSU, and their son Heston attended SWOSU and serves on the SWOSU Athletic Association Board of Directors.

Harold and Carol’s daughter-in-law Claudia (Burgess) Wright is a 1998 SWOSU graduate.

Harold’s grandmother, the late Miriam Holcomb, was assistant manager and dietician in the SWOSU cafeteria.

Harold’s cousin Dr. Robert “Bob” Wright earned degrees from SWOSU in 1951 and 1961. Bob’s brothers Don Wright and Leroy Wright were both also SWOSU alumni and lifelong educators.

Dozens of SWOSU students have been employed at Harold and Carol’s business Wright Wradio over the years.

“SWOSU stands firmly on the Hilltop today because of visionary private investors and partners like Harold and Carol Wright,” Lovell said. “We are honored that Harold and Carol chose to invest in SWOSU by including our institution in their estate planning. Their generosity will provide support to our students for decades to come.”

To better equip those who choose to remember SWOSU in their estate planning, the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. has launched www.SWOSUTomorrows.com, a comprehensive website with updated information about how planned gifts of any size and type can be made to SWOSU. Donors who choose to record their planned gifts to SWOSU will be named as part of the SWOSU Tomorrows giving society and recognized according to their wishes and preferences, joining a special place of honor amongst the university’s many benefactors. Former SWOSU Presidents Dr. Joe Anna Hibler and the late Dr. John Hays served as the founding honorary co-chairs of the SWOSU Tomorrows effort under the guidance of the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. Board of Trustees.

The SWOSU Tomorrows planned giving program is coordinated 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 information on how to make a planned gift to SWOSU or to notify SWOSU that a provision has been made for the university in estate planning, please contact the SWOSU Foundation, Inc. by telephone at 580-774-3267; by e-mail to Executive Director Garrett King at garrett.king@swosu.edu; or by visiting www.SWOSUTomorrows.com.

HIGHER GROUND

Despise not Small Things



Jim Morrison

Although I cannot find it I seem to find that statement in Scripture I’m sure I heard it somewhere. But my point is that often there are small efforts of kindness, though unnoticed at the time, result in major changes.

Let me explain with two illustrations:

Most of you know the story of Lee Strobel and his investigation into the reality of the Christian faith from his atheist mindset. He and his wife had moved to a new condominium. I kindly lady in a downstairs apartment brought a plate of cookies to welcome them to their new home. The lady became good friends with Lee’s wife, Leslie, later inviting her to a Bible study. Over a period of time, Leslie became a believer. Seeing her change in character and manner, Lee spent two years seeking out the truth from scholars. Finally, he admitted the evidence for the

reality of Christ was so strong that he surrendered his life to Christ. Since then he has written numerous books and is a popular speaker sharing the strong evidence for the resurrection of Jesus and the validity of scripture. No one really thinks about the real hero of the story. The lady that brought the plate of cookies could have ignored those neighbors upstairs. She could have been too busy or occupied with her own problems to care. Her small gesture turned two lives around and has resulted in many coming to Christ through ministry of Lee Strobel. His two children are also faithfully involved in ministry; his daughter a writer of children’s Christian books and his son a Seminary professor-- all because of a kind neighbor and a plate of cookies.

Recently I have been showing the video about Louis Zamperini, in the county jail. During World War 2, his plane crashed into the ocean. He and two survivors spend 47 days floating on the ocean before being rescued by the Japanese. He experienced horrible torture for two years before the camp was liberated. After returning home he was welcomed as a hero. But he couldn’t escape the horrors of the prison camp. He had nightmares every night. He found that alcohol could help him blot out the past but he was soon held captive by the drug. His marriage was falling apart, his wife had filed for divorce, and he could see no way out. About that time in 1949 Billy Graham came to Los Angeles to hold a crusade

which lasted for 8 weeks. A concerned neighbor invited his wife to attend the crusade. She agreed and that night she gave her life to Christ. She was so changed that she told Louis that we had been saved and was no longer considering divorce. This thrilled Louis. Then she insisted that he attend the crusade the next night. He agreed but stormed out of the meeting when the invitation was given.

His wife persuaded him to attend the second night over his resistance. This time when the invitation was given he started to walk out again but something held him back and he found himself going forward, surrendering his life to Christ. He lost all desire for alcohol and soon began sharing his new faith across the country, even going back to Japan, speaking to his former guards, now prisoners themselves, of how God had forgiven him and he now forgave them for the harsh treatment he had endured. Many of them came to Christ.

As I showed that story on DVD, several inmates gave their life to Christ. Not many people think of that CONCERNED NEIGHBOR who invited Louis’ wife to the crusade. But without that invitation, perhaps the world have never known his story and the many lives that have changed would still be lost. Be alert to small opportunities to show concern and kindness. God can use our small efforts to do great things.

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WHO

Continued from Page 3

case. In addition to blatantly ignoring the life of the preborn, such statements undermine the increasingly fragile trust globally in the concept of internationally recognized human rights while discrediting the United Nations' legitimacy as a whole.

Moreover, we are astonished that the WHO is attempting to de-humanize preborn children and assert that the rights of the preborn do not exist by categorizing self-induced—and, in some cases, illegal—abortions as “self-care” and demanding “the full decriminalization of abortion” without any gestational age limits. To categorize abortions as “self-care” not only strips away the humanity and dignity of an preborn child but contradicts international standards recognizing the preborn child as a rights-holding person. Additionally, advocating for the termination of the life of a human being up to the point of birth is quite shocking and inhumane as a day, an hour, or even moments later, similar action against a child that has been born would constitute murder. Even in countries where early abortion is freely available, there are laws in place restricting abortions based on the preborn child's gestational age.

Furthermore, this guidance not only threatens the conscience rights of health care providers at all levels but treats individuals and institutions that object to abortion as obstacles. The WHO's guidance states that

“access to and continuity of comprehensive abortion care be protected against barriers created by conscientious objection” It continues further, stating “[i]f it proves impossible to regulate conscientious objection in a way that respects, protects and fulfills abortion seekers' rights, conscientious objection in abortion provision may become indefensible.” Conscience protections are critical to prevent health care providers from being forced to take part in ending an innocent human life, thereby violating their ethical, moral, personal, or religious convictions. This radical stance reveals the WHO would rather cave to pressure from the abortion industry and force health care providers to choose between committing violence against an innocent baby and her mother, or be unemployed. This stance inevitably also threatens patient access to health care in geographic areas that are primarily served by faith-based health care providers as those who hold conscience objections would be deemed unfit for service.

We are also alarmed by the WHO's recommendation that women and girls seeking abortion should be allowed to take abortion-inducing drugs without medical supervision. This policy is reckless and harmful to the well-being of women and girls, especially to those living in rural areas. While abortion activists incorrectly assert abortion drugs are safe, evidence-based data signals otherwise. Large-scale, peer-reviewed studies have shown women who take chemical abortion pills are significantly

more at risk of serious complications and more likely to require a visit to the emergency room, while some women even die. According to the United States Food and Drug Administration, abortion drugs have been linked to at least 24 maternal deaths, 1,045 hospitalizations, and over 4,200 serious complications between 2000 and 2021 in the United States. Encouraging the removal of medical oversight from abortion will not save lives but instead put more women and girls at risk of being targeted by illegal purveyors of abortion pills or provided with abortion drugs without consent. As such, the WHO guideline turns a blind eye to the harms of the abortion pill by providing support to those that enable abortion through the trafficking of black market abortifacients.

Every instance of abortion is a tragedy. Instead of advocating for greater access to abortion, the WHO should instead seek to address the root causes that motivate women to seek illegal abortions. This means promoting human dignity and preserving human rights for everyone, including the preborn.

Given the WHO's influence, this guidance will likely cause severe, irreversible harm, not only to US citizens but to women and children worldwide. For these reasons, we ask that the World Health Organization reverse course and retract the anti-life recommendations that it has promoted through the release of its 2022 abortion care guidelines.

Howard Comments On Durable Power of Attorney Act

The governor has signed Senate Bill 1596, also known as the Oklahoma Health Care Agent Act, which establishes requirements for health care power of attorney and allows Oklahomans to make advanced decisions about their care in case they are temporarily or permanently incapacitated. The measure was authored by Sen. Brent Howard, R-Altus.

“All citizens should be able to easily and freely nominate someone to act on their behalf in the unfortunate event that they are unable to make their own health care decisions,” Howard said. “After updating the Durable Power of Attorney Act during

the last legislative session, we've had about a seven-month gap with no direct authorization for health care power of attorney. This will ensure Oklahomans will always have the right to designate a family member or friend to have their best interests in mind if they are unable to do so themselves.”

Howard said the new law is supported by Oklahoma's health care agencies, hospitals and other interested parties.

Rep. Preston Stinson, R-Edmond, was the House author of the measure. The bill went into effect immediately upon the governor's signature and is now law.



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- Fun Run: 9:00am - 10am
- Wellness Fair: 8am - 2pm
- Food Vendors: 9am - 2pm

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