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115th Annual Hydro Free Fair opening up this weekend

Chase Wright
Staff Writer



The Hydro Free Fair will be in full swing on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, August 18th - 20th at the fair grounds between City Park, 3rd St. and Cowles Ave. in Hydro, OK. The Hydro Free Fair has many events, rides, and games for people of all ages, and consistently delivers as

Oklahoma's oldest community fair.

Beginning in September 1904 (and then dubbed "The Harvest Festival"), the Fair solely featured exhibits from local farmers and ranchers. A few years later, the official start of the Free Fair began in 1907 with the inclusion of other attractions like rides, games, and prizes. The most popular attractions according to the Hydro Historical Society were "giant smoke balloons, a greased pole, and shooting matches with neighboring gun clubs participating." At the time, Hydro's agricultural exhibits commonly went on to win first prizes at the Oklahoma State Fair.

People came from all over the state by trains to compete in roping contests, livestock shows, and to grab a slice of



Provided

The Hydro Free Fair opens this Thursday August 18th at 6:30 pm. Members of the Amusement company board pictured left to right is Ben Warner, Jeremy Bussey, Jim Mogg, Janey Pease, Charlie Weiland, Susan Kimble, Chris Lawles, Donna Hamilton, and Crystal Hammons.

(See HYDRO FAIR, Page 3)

Hope is Alive to host Sobriety Sprint this Saturday

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Hope is Alive (HIA) is holding their annual Sobriety Sprint on Saturday, August 20th. The TZ Memorial Sobriety Sprint was first held five years ago in honor of Zach Arismendez who passed away on June 4th, 2017. The first memorial sprint brought in hundreds of runners in support of Zach and the team at Hope is Alive. So, they decided to make it an annual celebration; not of just their friend, but of all who have been touched by the journey to sobriety. Today, the Sobriety Sprint is open to anyone, with runners honoring those lost to addiction and those in all stages of sobriety, and is full of fun, family-friendly support where people can celebrate becoming clean &

sober and get motivated to continue their journey.

This is the 6th Sobriety Sprint and is being held in four locations with award pins, a DJ, fellowship, and a special memorial along the course. Each registered racer "will receive a runner t-shirt, an HIA string bag, a Sobriety Sprint Medal, and a pair of HIA sunglasses!" Runs will be held in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Wichita and in Weatherford. Race times begin with same-day registration at 7:45am, announcements and a group photo at 8:40am, and the start of the race/fun walk at 9am. The Weatherford location is hosted by the First Baptist Church on East Davis Avenue. Early packet pickups are available on Friday, August 19th

between 10am and 5pm at the First Baptist Church.

Sign-ups for early registration, sponsorship, and volunteering can be done at sobrietyprint.com. All proceeds will go to the Hope is Alive Scholarship Fund.

Hope is Alive was founded with a mission to "radically change the lives of drug addicts, alcoholics, and those that love them." The program was started by Lance and Ally Lang with the goal to lead program graduates to long term sobriety through personal guidance and support in homes where they will experience new ways to work towards sobriety. Their three-phase program offers a tailored and

(See SOBRIETY SPRINT, Page 3)

HOPE IS ALIVE PRESENTS
SOBRIETY SPRINT
TZ MEMORIAL 5K >>> 2022

WEATHERFORD

SATURDAY, AUG 20TH, 9-10:30AM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1510 E Davis Ave, Weatherford, OK 73096

Five years ago, we hosted the first "TZ Memorial Sobriety Sprint", in hopes of honoring our friend Zach Arismendez who passed away clean and sober on June 4th, 2017. It was a HUGE success! Hundreds of runners came out and we had a blast celebrating our friend. So, we chose to make this fun, family-friendly event an annual thing. If you are clean and sober, the run is a great way to celebrate that! If you've lost someone to addiction, the run is a great way to honor & remember them. At Hope is Alive we stand with those in sobriety and honor those we've lost. That's what the Sobriety Sprint is all about!

This year's race will mark our sixth "Sobriety Sprint". With a memorial along the course this will be an event you will NOT want to miss! All proceeds from this year's "TZ Memorial Sobriety Sprint" will go to the Hope is Alive Scholarship Fund.

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SOBRIETYSPRINT.COM

THURSDAY, AUG. 18th

- 7:30am - Livestock Judging Books Open @ Livestock Barn
- 8:00am - Livestock Judging Contest Begins @ Livestock Barn
- 8:00am - Entries Open for Exhibits @ Community Building
- 12:00pm - All Baked Goods Entries Close @ Community Building
- 4:15pm - Horse Show Books Open @ Rodeo Arena
- 4:30pm - Flower Entries Close @ Community Building
- 5:00pm - Exhibit Building Books Close @ Community Building
- 5:30pm - Horse Show Starts @ Rodeo Arena
- 6:00pm - All Livestock Entries Due @ Livestock Barn
- 6:30pm - Opening Ceremony @ Main Stage
- 7:00pm - All Rides and Concessions Open @ Midway
- 7:30pm - Free Entertainment Program @ Main Stage

FRIDAY, AUG. 19th

- 7:30am - Swine, Goat, Sheep and Cattle Show @ Livestock Barn
- 9:00am - Kids Races and Stunts @ Centennial Field
- 7:00pm - All Rides and Concessions Open @ Midway
- 7:30pm - Free Entertainment Program @ Main Stage
- 8:00pm - 3-in-1 Ranch Rodeo @ Rodeo Arena

SATURDAY, AUG. 20th

- 8:00am - Premium Money paid until 10am @ Community Building
- 10:00am - Parade @ Main Street
- 11:00am - Kid Tractor Pull @ Community Building
- 1:00pm - Mud Volleyball @ Rodeo Arena
- 4:00pm - Washers and Watermelons @ Community Building
- 5:00pm - Cake Auction Entry Deadline @ Community Building
- 7:00pm - All Rides and Concessions Open @ Midway
- 7:30pm - Cake Auction @ Community Building
- 8:00pm - 3-in-1 Ranch Rodeo @ Rodeo Arena
- 9:00pm - Free Entertainment @ Main Stage



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Vida Sue Hamar

Vida was born October 17, 1943, in a small community of Prairie Hill-south of Duke to Gilbert and Lillie Mae (Bass) Marquart and passed away Saturday, August 6, 2022, in Oklahoma City having reached the age of 78 years, 9 months and 20 days.



Vida was the youngest of three children. She grew up on the family farm riding horses with her daddy in parades as members of the Duke and Olustee riding clubs. She learned to sew, cook and bake from her mother, although their food never tasted the same.

Vida attended Prairie Hill School through the second grade. The remainder of her school years were spent at Duke where the lefty played forward for the Lady Tigers. She participated in many activities before graduating with the Duke High School, Class of 1961. Vida fondly remembered her senior trip to a dude ranch near San Antonio and also crossed over into Mexico at Piedras Negras, the whole time while riding in the back of a wheat truck with mattresses on the floor and a tarp over the top. Vida remained friends with many classmates and enjoyed the Duke High School reunion this past May.

In the summer of 1960, a young harvester pulled on to the farm. On August 24, 1963, a rainy night in Duke, Vida would marry that young harvester, Jerald Penn Hamar. They first lived in Weatherford while attending Southwestern State College. After graduation it was on to Aline where Jerald began his career in education and coaching. It was here the family grew with the birth of daughter, Pendra Sue in 1965 and Lanny Eugene in 1969. As the wife of a coach, it was on to the next stop-living in Mutual, Canton and finally Hydro for the past 40 years.

Missing a basketball game was never an option with the state tournament always being the highlight of each year. Golf came into her life with grandson, Kason. She loved going to his golf tournaments come rain, sleet, shine, hot cold or wind. She was there for the birdies and the bogeys and could speak golf lingo like a pro.

Vida held various jobs in both accounts payable and accounts receivable until her retirement in 2008. She enjoyed 10 years sitting at the Hydro precinct for the Caddo County Election Board and her Tuesday morning crocheting with the Happy Hookers. She especially cherished the family trips to golf tournaments, Branson and to Niagra Falls, Canada for their 50th Anniversary.

Vida was a member of the United Methodist Church of Duke and attended the United Methodist Church of Hydro. Vida was a wonderful and loving wife, mother, grandma, sister, aunt, cousin and friend.

Vida is survived by her husband of 59 years, Jerald Hamar; daughter, Pendra Cook and husband, Terry of Hydro; son, Lanny Hamar all of Hydro; grandson, Kason Cook and fiancé Macey Hall of Tulsa; sister, Wydon Warren and husband, Troy of Lawton; sisters-in-law, Karla Marquart of Duke, Ruth Ann Barron of Taloga and Iva Phillips and husband, Bill of Sharon; and many special nieces, nephews and cousins. Special friends, Cathy Meyer and family of Helena, Arlan and Ellen Steers of Taloga and Dorothy Royalty of Fay. She was preceded in death by her parents, Gib and Lillie Mae Marquart; brother, Jerry Marquart; parents-in-law, Penn and Evelyn Hamar; and brother-in-law, Daniel Barron.

Kaden Michael Carpenter

Kaden (aka "KK") was born January 11, 2012, to Kerwin and Liza Carpenter in Elk City, OK and passed away Sunday, August 7, 2022, in Pryor, OK.



"KK" was raised in Foss, OK and attended his first three years of school in Canute. Results of Covid-19 he was home schooled thru the 3rd grade. He would have been in this year's fourth grade class.

He was quite a jokester and loved to have fun. He was an expert gamer and loved to play Fortnite. He also loved any kind of board game and was an avid Farko player. He loved superheroes and the "Hulk" was a favorite.

He is survived by his parents, Kerwin and Liza Carpenter, of the home, sister, Zoey Carpenter, four brothers, Larry Hebert, Zachary Heath, James Carpenter, and Randy Carpenter.

He is also survived by paternal grandparents, Liz and Dennis Witherspoon, Foss, OK and maternal grandparents, Debbie and Bruce Holeman, of Washington and maternal great-grandparents, Thelma and John Chand, Elk City, OK.

Charlotte R. Taylor

Charlotte (Pitts) Taylor was one of 13 children and was born November 8, 1960, to George and ruth (Wilkerson) Pitts in Oklahoma City, OK and passed away Saturday, August 6, 2022, in her Elk City home.



Charlotte was raised and attended school in Elk City. She married Dale Thomas Taylor in 1977 in Wheeler, TX. She has made her home in Elk City and Clinton. She was a stay-at-home mom for her four children.

She loved spending time with her family, and she was the Rock that kept the family going and being together. She enjoyed going to thrift stores to shop, collecting knick-knacks and was a fan of Championship wrestling.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband and nine siblings.

She is survived by three daughters, Christi Taylor, Lisa Taylor and Lacy Urbina and husband, Thomas, all of Clinton, son Tony Taylor and wife, Angela, Elk City, two sisters, Georgian Mason and Debra Jones, both of Elk City and brother, Richard Pitts, OKC.

She is also survived by 12 grandchildren, Katy Taylor, Austin DeSpain, Brittany Taylor, Jonathan Taylor, Cody Taylor, Blake Bronkena, Madison Urbina, Kylee Urbina, Jon Urbina, Lyndsy Urbina, Shelby Sams and Tommy Urbina, and five great-grandchildren, Leo, Hailey, Grace, Lincoln and Tray and numerous other bonus grandchildren.

Treva Vogl

Treva Kay (Beasley) Vogl was born May 13, 1961 and passed away peacefully at home with her husband holding her hand on Wednesday, August 3, 2022, at the age of 61 years, 2 months and 21 days.



She was born to Gerald Austin and Clara Pauline (Smith) Beasley in Lewistown, Montana where her father was a missionary. From there, preaching brought them to Winfield, Kansas, Wichita, Kansas, and Electra, Texas. It was here that Treva attended Junior High and High School, and graduated in 1979 as class Valedictorian. Following graduation, she spent her freshman year at Oklahoma Christian College where she majored in accounting. She soon transferred to Lubbock Christian College after her parents moved to Silverton, Texas, and changed her major to Education. She pledged LOA - Lambda Omega Alpha. It was in Genesis Evidences class that Treva first met her future husband, and the relationship grew as he was in her brother club of Kyodai and her intramural basketball coach. The first date was Sadie Hawkins' inner club event where Treva was tasked with asking a guy on a date. Anyone that knows Treva, and her traditional disposition, can understand that her asking Steve out for their first date was an uncomfortable experience. Needless to say, her efforts paid off with dividends and the rest was history from there as they were inseparable from that day on. Stephan "Steve" Alton and Treva Vogl were married on November 27, 1981 in Silverton, Texas. In the spring of 1982, Steve was offered a preaching job which took him and Treva to Mullinville, Kansas. It was then that Treva began her journey as a preacher's wife, serving many congregations, teaching countless children's Bible classes, women's classes, shining her light and sharing encouragement. She was famous for her Valentine's Day parties for widows and Memorial Day blow out parties at the house. She loved hosting, and enjoyed games with friends and family from dominoes, cards to horseshoes and beyond. She believed in prayer and never neglected any topic or need. This is around the time that Steve coined her "Miss Treva" and there was never a prayer that he led that didn't include, "Dear God, thank you for Miss Treva, and sending her to us from heaven".

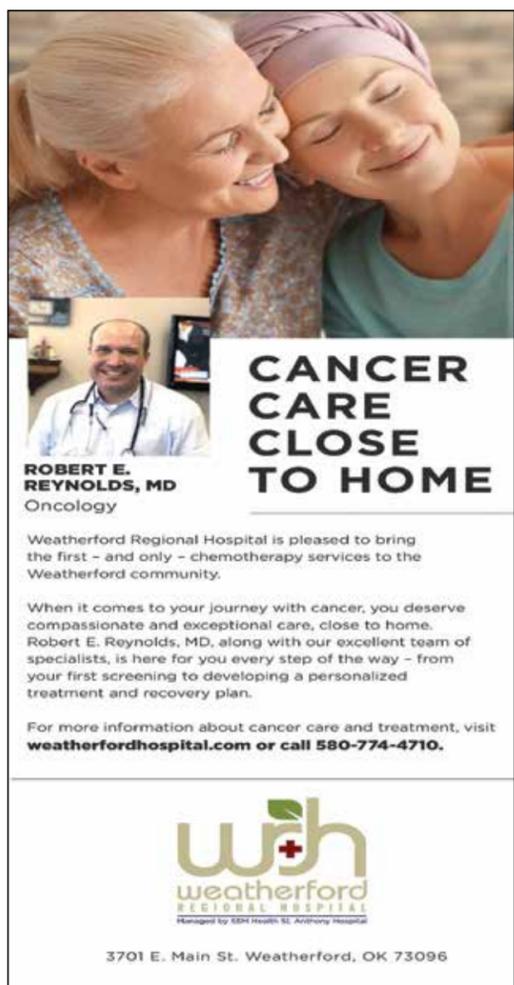
September 2, 1984 she and Steve welcomed their first son Austin James Vogl born in Greensburg, Kansas. October 3, 1986, they welcomed their first daughter, Kristen JaNae Vogl, and January 16, 1988 Justin Gregory Vogl, their second son, arrived, both also born in Greensburg, Kansas. In the summer of 1990, the family moved to Paris, Texas where Steve accepted a position at the College Church of Christ as pulpit minister. Shortly following, the family welcomed their third son, Weston John Vogl, born June 27, 1990 in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Treva was a fierce mother. She stayed at home with her children and was passionate about being the best mother to her "babies" (as she endearingly referred to them even after they were grown).

In the course of ministry, the family then moved to Gilmer, Texas, where Treva completed her Education degree at the University of Texas at Tyler. Following Gilmer, the family moved to Mineral Wells, Texas, where Treva started her teaching career at the Junior High. Throughout her 15 year teaching career, she taught Texas History, US History, and English all at the Junior High level. She invested more than the curriculum into her students, and viewed her work as a mission field. In 2002, the family moved to Jacksboro, Texas, where Steve served as pulpit minister for Jacksboro Church of Christ and where he completed his 22 year preaching career to become a landman in the oil/gas industry. From there, he and Treva lived in Brock, Texas, Millsap, Texas, Weatherford, Texas, Casper, Wyoming, Houston, Texas and finally Weatherford, Oklahoma. This career move allowed Treva the opportunity to no longer work in education and become, as Steve puts it, "a woman of leisure". She became even more involved in church works, ladies' Bible study groups, and she and Steve began to travel the world - Hawaii, Scotland, New York, Massachusetts, Alaska and beyond. It was here that they welcomed their first grandchild, and her cherished titles of "Tati" and "Mimi" were gained. To date, she has been blessed with 10 grandchildren - Hunter Galubenski, Camden, Kade, Jasmine, Henry, Cohen, Clara Jo, Willie, Landry, Charlie and Cedar (expected November 2022.) This was her favorite role of them all, once sweetly saying, "If I knew being a grandmother was this great, I would have done it first".

She is preceded in death by her mother and father, and brother, Hoyt. She is survived by her husband, four children and their spouses, A.J. and Whitney Vogl, Brady and Kristen Jones, US Army Captain Justin Vogl and wife Deana, Dr. Weston Vogl and wife Caitly, eleven grandchildren, four sisters, Sheba, Reba, Carmen, Neva, sister-in-law, Brenda, and many nieces and nephews.



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Need an Appraisal?
by Lynn Parr, Realtor®
By definition, an Appraisal is an opinion of value. Opinions can vary and it has often been said that no two appraisers will agree. While this can be true, by following accepted procedures, called methodology, these differences between appraiser's opinions can be minimized. The needs for an appraisal can be varied and many.
1. The most common appraisal need is for the purpose of borrowing money to purchase a home or any other piece of property. It may be for a business. Most lenders require an appraisal of the property being purchased or used as collateral to secure the loan. In some cases, by Federal Regulations, this appraisal must be performed by a State Certified Licensed Appraiser. In other cases, usually depending on the amount of value, a license is not required. In most cases, the lender must be the one to order the appraisal.
2. Another reason for needing an appraisal, could be pricing your property for sale. Many times, if you are listing the property with a Realtor, they will provide what is called a market analysis, which can be a form of an appraisal. Keep in mind, not all real estate personnel are qualified to appraise real estate. Their training is mostly dedicated toward the ethical handling of sales.
3. Other appraisal uses include; legal disputes, such as a divorce or a land division, such as a partition suit. The settlement and basis computation for an estate may require an appraisal. Most of these types of appraisals do not require a licensed individual.
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SCAN ME

HYDRO FAIR

Continued from Page 1

watermelon provided by local farmers. Community ball games were held in the evenings and an outdoor auditorium was erected for music and entertainment. The Blue Ribbon Bakery dazzled audiences with its tantalizing 270-pound cake, as time went on and the fair grew, more shows, games, and contests were added.

When WWI broke out and the country had other things on its mind, the fair was canceled. When the war ended, Hydro's Free Fair bounced back in full swing and quickly resumed its exponential growth. By WWII, the fair was bigger than ever and never took a break or looked back ever since.

During the early fair days, live entertainment came with many surprise weddings! The couples would be kept secret from the crowd and part of the event's fun and charm came from attendants trying to guess who the participants could be. Local businesses would present the couple with gifts and good wishes. The first couple to marry at the fair was Claude Bixler and Adella Fields on September 6th, 1935.

By 1925, the fair raised enough money to build an exhibit hall and the fair was moved to the city park. The new change of scenery was a major success, boasting more room and more fun. Following its new found success, the town constructed pens and sheds for the livestock and a community building for additional programs and exhibits; completed in 1935, the new sanctioned location and amenities bolstered the fair's numbers to become the largest in Caddo county and its county neighbors.

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

With each passing year, the fair brought in more and more visitors, and during the 1980s added the famous Green Machine, Octopus, and various kiddie rides. Concessions and token games were added, and the fair quickly required year-round attention. Weeks of planning and hard work go into making sure every year's fair has 3-days of the greatest entertainment Fall can bring. In 1997, with the addition of the Hustler, the fair became the must-stop spot for many Oklahomans.

Today, the Hydro Free Fair is featured prominently on travel guides and destination polls and is one of the biggest and best fairs to attend in Oklahoma. Attendance continues to remain free for everyone, and tickets for the rides/games are available at the fairgrounds each night.



Provided

Weatherford High School softball brings home first place at the I-40 Classic softball tournament. The Eagles went 5-0 all weekend and beat Minco 9-2 in the championship.

SOBRIETY SPRINT

Continued from Page 1

proven approach to work through substance abuse recovery in a way that aims to bring complete emotional sobriety. Through grace, kindness, and accountability, the Hope is Alive homes across the nation have helped thousands create strong foundations on which they can build their futures. Today, the program has maintained a 100% sobriety rate with graduates as these men and women work towards sobriety every day.

To learn more about Hope is Alive, apply, donate, volunteer, find support, and get to know the team, visit sobriety sprint.com.

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Mike Smith
News Director



Provided

Weatherford Public Schools has received a \$12,500 grant from the aeronautics commission for aerospace and aviation education. Clinton High School also received a \$1000 grant from the aeronautics commission.

BECKHAM CO DIST COURT/GARRETT - A mistrial has been declared in a Beckham county jury trial. Forty-three-year old Nicholas Adam Garrett was on trial for various charges, including child sexual abuse for among other things, inappropriately touching a female juvenile in March of 2021. It's reported that the mistrial occurred when one of the jurors got sick during deliberation of the case and the alternate had already been used since one of the regular jurors was dismissed earlier in the day.

CUSTER CO/WIND TURBINE FIRE - A wind turbine caught fire after being struck by lightning. Custer City fire chief Larry Don Terrell said when the department arrived on scene, the head of the wind turbine was already on the ground and said the head and blades were burning. He said the owners arrived and took over the scene as they stood by for any necessary assistance.

SALES TAX - It was another up month for sales tax in the city of Weatherford for June sales. The city finished up just above three-quarters of one-percent at \$1.062 million. In other areas of western Oklahoma: the city of Clinton was up 7.3% at more than \$568,000. Elk city had an increase of just under 7% at \$1.2 million. The city of Cordell had a hike of 24.5% at a little more than \$104,000.

WEATHERFORD/ENROLLMENT - WPS looks to be starting a new school year with higher enrollment. District superintendent Jill Henderson said as of last week the district had 142 new students. In other district business: the board of education approved the handbooks for all campus sites but decided to remove a line from the high school handbook that teachers may allow the use of cell phones in the classroom as an educational tool.

CLINTON/HILL'S PET NUTRITION - Hill's Pet Nutrition plans to add to its U.S. manufacturing capabilities with the purchase of three factories from investor-backed Red Collar Pet Foods. One of the facilities is located in Clinton. Kansas-headquartered Hill's pet nutrition, owned by toothpaste and shower-gel maker Colgate Palmolive, will pay \$700 million for the dry pet-food plants, subject to regulatory approval. Last year, the pet-food company said it planned a \$5.7 million expansion of its facility in Clinton.

CUSTER CO ACCIDENT- An early morning motorcycle accident on interstate 40, just east of Weatherford in Custer County has left a Geronimo man hospitalized in fair condition at OU medical center. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said 37-year-old Justin L. Lewis tried to make an adjustment to equipment on the motorcycle, lost control, departed the road and overturned.

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Happy Birthday Wishes for August 17th - Jy Bass, Scott Cannon, dalton Hawkins, Jennifer Holliman, Bill McMahan, Karl Meigs, Jonetta Reimer, Michelle Taylor; **August 18th** - Lyman Bear, Katie Cornell, Darci Gonzalez, Logan Lasley, Troy Lee, Curtis McCoy, Lilly AnnMcCoy, Coletta McKay, Dale Nickels, Anthony Perez, Jacy Steele, Richard Sweetnet, Marsha Taylor, Ray Weichel, Keith Woods; **August 19th** - Richard Callaway, Kyle DeFord, Elva Dick, Debbie Flaming, Irene Fry, Phyllis Hobbs, Susan Kimble, Betty Leach, Susan Minniz, Pandt Seibold, Rusty Shepherd; **August 20th** - Karen Elkins, Kodi Kingler, James Kriby, Billy Smith, Kyle Sutton; **August 21st** - Dwayne Britton, Korbyn Grace Smith, Kaitlin Keuhne, Mark McAttee, Carol WhiteSkunk, Carri Womack, Patrick Wright; **August 22nd** - Greg Butler, Chad Nye, Kennnda Varnell; **August 23rd** - Cody Bell, Allen Boyd, Jean Cain, Anne Flood, Darryl Green, Donna Jones, Pat Vawter, Jeremy Washa.

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SWOSU Leads All Schools with Four 2021-22 GAC Team Sportsmanship Awards

The Great American Conference announced its sportsmanship awards for the Spring 2021 and 2021-22 seasons. SWOSU Cross Country, Track & Field, Volleyball, and Soccer all earned the recognition, chosen by the league's head coaches based on a points system.

Southwestern Oklahoma State led all schools with four Sportsmanship Awards for the 2021-22 season.

Cross country, track & field, and volleyball repeated in both the shortened 2021 spring season and full 2021-22 season awards, while soccer picked up its first such honor for the full 2021 fall season.

"These awards tie into the NCAA Division II emphasis on sportsmanship and game environment," GAC Commissioner Will Prewitt said. "We are proud of these institutions that have displayed success on the scoreboard and in ways that aren't necessarily reflected in wins and losses."

In 2012, The GAC's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee initiated a sportsmanship award to be presented for all team sports. The winning school will receive a banner similar to the one presented to GAC tournament championship winners. The goal of the program is for member institutions to promote good sportsmanship among its teams, fans, and all involved with the events.

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Spring 2021 GAC Sportsmanship Award Winners

Sport	School
Spring 2021 Men's Cross Country	Harding
Spring 2021 Women's Cross Country	Southwestern Oklahoma State
2021 Men's Basketball	Southeastern Oklahoma State
2021 Women's Basketball	East Central
Spring 2021 Men's Soccer	Fort Hays State
Spring 2021 Women's Soccer	Harding
Spring 2021 Volleyball	Southwestern Oklahoma State
2021 Men's Golf	Henderson State
2021 Women's Golf	Harding
2021 Women's Tennis	Ouachita
2021 Baseball	Harding
2021 Softball	Arkansas-Monticello
2021 Men's Track & Field	Harding
2021 Women's Track & Field	Southwestern Oklahoma State

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2021-22 GAC Sportsmanship Award Winners

Sport	School
Men's Cross Country	Ouachita
Women's Cross Country	Southwestern Oklahoma State
Men's Soccer	Northeastern State
Women's Soccer	Southwestern Oklahoma State
Football	Northwestern Oklahoma State
Volleyball	Southwestern Oklahoma State
Men's Basketball	Harding
Women's Basketball	East Central
Men's Golf	Harding
Women's Golf	Oklahoma Baptist
Women's Tennis	Ouachita
Men's Track & Field	East Central
Women's Track & Field	Southwestern Oklahoma State
Softball	Northwestern Oklahoma State
Baseball	Harding

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JOHN MARSHALL 09.23.2022	ELK CITY 09.30.2022
WEATHERFORD 08.07.2022	CHICKASHA 10.21.2022
CACHE 10.28.2022	WOODWARD LEAVER NIGHT 11.04.2022

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HIGHER GROUND

The Age of Outrage



Jim Morrison

"This is the age of the half-read page, the mad dash, the quick hash, until the spring in sprung and the fun is done." I heard that phrase at a student conference over fifty years ago. While the same could describe society today, another phrase could be added. It is the age of rage. Civility and critical thinking seems to have gone out the window.

In his book, Christians in the Age of Outrage, Ed Stetzer calls for the Christian community to bring our best when the world is at its worst. Each side of the political aisle does its best to find something to be outraged about. Too often

followers of Christ join in without thinking through or making any effort to check the facts or look beneath the surface statements.

Stetzer points out an example when he references a controversy in 2015 regarding the alleged removal of Merry Christmas from the Starbucks red cups. Joshua Feuerstein posted a Facebook message saying, "Starbucks removed Christmas from their cups because they hate Jesus." Some called for the boycott of Starbucks and other condemnatory statements were made against the company. It turns out that the accusation was completely untrue. Starbucks in the previous six years had never put the words "Merry Christmas" on their holiday cups.

The political left has committed its share of sins in this regard. The traditional view of marriage has been at the center of Christian theology for centuries, including most evangelical, as well as Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and other organizations. Yet Chick-fil-a, when stating its Christian belief, was soundly criticized and banned from many places of business, including some airports. Yet no attempt was made to give the company freedom to express

or discuss their Christian stance. In their accusation of intolerance their accusers became the ugly face of intolerance.

In this age of the erosion of Christian values and the efforts to push God out of the picture, it is difficult for followers of Christ to remain Christ-like in their vocal expressions and responses. But we must not take on the same mindset and behavior of the enemy. Indeed, we must recognize that the enemy is not flesh and blood, but a Spirit of Satan causing us to damage our witness and reducing our effectiveness.

We must learn to respond in a Christ-like manner. James 1:19, 20, gives us good advice. "My dear brothers take note of this: let every man be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.

Again I quote Stetzer, "It is easy to insult and yell. It is easy not to rock the boat. Engaging the world is hard. It requires intentionality, faithfulness, love, and courage. But I believe it is what God calls every believer to do. So let's dig in." to comment: jhm82@outlook.com or 580-302-1142

Wright Wradio Network and United Country Heard Auction & Real Estate Serving as Presenting Sponsors for 2022 SWOSU Athletic Auction



(SWOSU Classes of 1971 and 1980) of Weatherford are also both proud SWOSU supporters and benefactors, having established the Wright Family Endowment which benefits multiple SWOSU academic programs.

Corky (SWOSU Class of 1987) and Missy (SWOSU Classes of 1987 and 1992) Heard are the owners of United Country Heard Auction & Real Estate. Corky and Missy are the parents of two daughters: Jessica Heard-Perry (SWOSU Classes of 2014 and 2016) of Weatherford, who currently is employed in the SWOSU Office of Institutional Advancement and works as a professional ring man, and Harley Heard of Tulsa, who attended SWOSU and is employed by St. Francis Healthcare.

Longtime SWOSU supporter Pioneer Cellular is generously serving as Underwriting Sponsor for this year's Auction.

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

Silent auction bidding is open now at www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com and running through August 18. The main event on August 20 will kick off with a cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner served at 6:30 p.m. The live auction beginning at 8 p.m. featuring a wide variety of premium items and experiences available to participants.

Tickets and tables for the live auction and dinner are on sale now. Single tickets are \$100 and tables for 8 are \$1,000. To make your ticket/table purchases or for more information, visit www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com Or contact SWOSU Advancement Coordinator for Athletics Allie Hoang at Allison.Hoang@swosu.edu Or 580-774-3267.

The Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) Athletic Association is pleased to announce that longtime SWOSU benefactors Wright Wradio Network and United Country Heard Auction & Real Estate are serving as Presenting Sponsors of the 16th annual SWOSU Athletic Auction.

Presenting Sponsors provide critical services and gifts-in-kind that enable the auction to succeed without incurring significant costs.

"We are grateful to Wright Wradio Network and United Country Heard Auction & Real Estate for their philanthropic support of the 2022 athletic auction," said

SWOSU President Dr. Diane Lovell. "The generous Presenting Sponsorship from these businesses helps make possible this annual event which raises crucial athletic scholarship funds."

Wright Wradio Network President & General Manager Heston Wright of Weatherford attended SWOSU and serves on the SWOSU Athletic Association Board of Directors. Heston's wife Claudia is a 1998 SWOSU alumnae.

Wright Wradio Network founder former State Rep. Harold Wright (SWOSU Class of 1971 & 2020 Distinguished Alumnus) and Carol (Roberson) Wright



YOLANDA CRESWELL
WEATHERFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPER

Provided
Economic development director Yolanda Creswell said the city of Weatherford has been approved for a \$1 million grant to make improvements to the municipal swimming pool. The city is getting \$500,000 from the state, \$250,000 from the city and another \$250,000 in YES Weatherford monies to make the upgrades. Creswell said officials hope to have the work done by next summer.



TYLER BRIDGES
CLINTON SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT

Provided
Clinton schools superintendent Tyler Bridges provides an update on phase one of the district's capital improvement project. Bridges said bids will go out August 28th for demolition of Nance and Southwest elementaries. Bridges said the first round of bids for the new middle school will go out after the new year.

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