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## SAGE STEAM Camp Celebrates 5th Anniversary at SWOSU



Provided

The SAGE STEAM Camp's fifth year was a success, with 51 campers from 26 different counties and 38 schools successfully completing the 2023 program.

The Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts/Humanities, and Mathematics (SAGE STEAM) Camp is proud to announce its fifth-year anniversary at SWOSU. This year marks the tenth year of hosting STEM camps for middle school girls in Oklahoma at SWOSU, building upon the success of its predecessor Tech Trek. Over the past decade, these two camps have empowered and inspired 486 young campers.

SAGE STEAM Camp, a weeklong summer program, was held from Sunday, June 11 to Saturday, June 17 on the Weatherford campus. The camp is specifically intended for girls entering the eighth grade in the upcoming fall. Campers are nominated by teachers and community leaders and then selected, based on their need for the experience and their passion for STEAM with a maximum limit of two students per organization. Throughout the week, the camp provides middle-school girls with a diverse

range of hands-on experiences, valuable interactions with female mentors, exposure to numerous career opportunities, and an immersive college-life experience to nurture their potential interest in pursuing STEAM fields.

This year, 51 exceptional campers from 26 different counties and 38 schools successfully graduated from the program on Friday, June 16.

During the weeklong camp, participants actively engaged in 30 enriching workshops. These workshops, seamlessly, integrated STEAM across various locations, including SWOSU labs and classrooms, the Stafford Air & Space Museum, and the Ol' Fishin' Hole. Campers also had the unique opportunity to connect and interact with 33 accomplished women professionals, known as STEAMentors, on Thursday evening of camp.

Campers were encouraged to explore new activities and gain insights into a wide array of careers, allowing

them to discover their personal preferences and interests. The primary objective of SAGE STEAM Camp is to showcase the enriching, attainable, and rewarding nature of STEAM careers, inspiring young girls to confidently pursue their passions. To decrease financial barriers, the camp registration fee is well below the cost per camper, thanks to the support of business, community, and individual donors.

The camp culminated in the Awards and Graduation celebration, where the participants were honored for their achievements and contributions. To bring the week's events to a close, the campers enjoyed a delightful picnic, visited the Heartland Car Cruise, and had the opportunity to stargaze from the rooftop of a SWOSU building.

To learn more about the SAGE STEAM Camp, visit their website: <https://www.swosu.edu/about/pre-college-programs/sage-steam-camp/index.php>.



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**Freda Mae King**

Funeral services for Freda Mae King, 76 year-old Colony resident, were held Saturday, July 1, 2023, at Columbian Memorial Presbyterian Church in Colony with Javan Shaw officiating. Burial will follow in Poage Cemetery, northeast of Colony under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



Freda was born September 2, 1946, in Blackgum, OK to Louis Eugene and Elvie Mae (Flanagan) Craighead and passed away, Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City. Freda was raised in Blackgum and later moved to Colony where she attended school. On December 2, 1961, she married Danny King, Sr. in Colony where they made their home. Freda worked as a cook in the Colony schools, a teacher's aide in the Eakly schools and later with Corn Heritage Village in Corn. She enjoyed fishing, bowling and spending time with family and friends.

Freda is survived by her husband of 61 years Danny King, Sr. of their home in Colony; three sons: Daniel King of Colony, Danny D. King and wife Kandie of Weatherford and David King and wife Kim of Singapore; one brother Richard Craighead and wife Shelia of Sapulpa; three sisters: Rosie Thornhill and husband Jim of LaPorte, TX, Diana Constant and husband Bruce of Kingsburg, CA and Tresa Fryar of Mount Ida, AR; a cousin Elva Jean Neighbor; four grandchildren: Kylee Lindsey and husband James of Clinton, Hunter King and wife Kylee of Weatherford, Kaitlyn Sheperd and fiancé Cy Roark of Oklahoma City and Dylan King of Singapore; and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers Lonnie and Joe.

**Malvin O'Neal Koch**

Funeral service for Malvin O'Neal Koch, 90 year old Weatherford resident, was held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. in the Lockstone Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Gary Miller officiating. Burial will follow in the Greenwood Cemetery under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



Malvin was born October 13, 1932, in Campbell, Nebraska, to Joseph and Rachel Koch and passed away Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at Brookdale Senior Living in Weatherford at the age of 90 years, 8 months and 15 days.

Malvin was the eldest of 5 children. Malvin's family moved from Nebraska to Weatherford to begin farming when he was about 3 years old. He attended the Missouri country school, graduating from Weatherford High School in 1951 and spent 2 years at OSU in the School of Agriculture. He joined the United States Air Force in 1953.

Malvin was on active duty for 8 years, serving in the states, and was also stationed in Goose Bay Labrador, Canada, and Greenland as an Arctic Survival Instructor and later as a Medic. He later joined the Air Force Reserves, serving a total of 22 ½ years in the military. He was very proud of his service and always happy to share a story about one of his service assignments. While serving at Stead AFB in Reno, Nevada, he met and married Dyann Jurey in 1955. They had 2 children: a son and a daughter.

Malvin worked at a variety of careers after his active duty, returning to college and completing both a BS and Master of Education from SWOSU. He enjoyed teaching Industrial Technology at Marlow and later at Weatherford High School. After his teaching career, he made the choice to work at 3M, and was a shift supervisor for the Photo Color group, working at 3M for 19 years.

He was a lifetime member in the American Legion, serving faithfully for many years as Secretary-Treasurer for the Bergner-Eaton Post #91. After retirement, Malvin and Dyann also enjoyed planning and taking long driving trips, visiting family, national parks and attending car shows.

He loved fishing, hunting and working with his wood lathe, gardening, and, of course, working on cars with his brothers. He was an early member of the Weatherford Car Club, supporting many events when he was not waxing and polishing his El Camino.

Malvin's faith in God was very important to him; he was saved at a young age and was an active church member for his entire adult life. In his later years, he was a dedicated member of the Christ Community Church of Weatherford.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Mervine and wife Genevia, brother Kenneth and wife Goldie, one sister Loretta (Koch) Bass, and son Dalvin D. Koch.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years Dyann Koch of Weatherford; daughter Melinda Sauer and husband Aaron; and one sister Izetta R. Watson and husband Jim of Newcastle, Indiana; nephews Dean Koch and wife Saska, Rick Koch and wife Sheila, Michael Koch and wife Jaime, nieces: Christina (Koch) Felder and husband Mark; Sheila (Watson) Glanzer and husband Selwyn, Amanda (Watson) Wood and husband Greg, and numerous great nephews and nieces.

Malvin was fortunate to enjoy the company of lifelong friends Carol Gaunt, Delbert Amen, Donald Amen. We would like to thank Dee and Danny Davis, Ray and MG Brown, Gary and Linda Miller for their love and care during his long illness. The family would also like to thank the wonderful staff at Brookdale Assisted Living for their dedicated care, and the special care from Dr. J. Huser, III, the Weatherford Hospital staff, and Ashley Cummings and the Carter Home Health team.

In lieu of flowers, please remember the American Lung Association.

**Opal Vivian Boyd**

Funeral services for Opal Vivian Boyd, 101 year-old Weatherford resident, was held Thursday, July 6, 2023, 2:00 P.M. in The Chapel of Lockstone Funeral Home with Barry Rutherford officiating. Burial will follow in Lone Star Cemetery, west of Rocky under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.



Opal was born April 8, 1922, in Kiowa County, to John Bunyan and Katie Viola (Holman) Page and passed from this life on Monday, July 3, 2023, at Corn Heritage Village of Weatherford. Opal grew up in Washita County, and at the age of 13, moved with her family to Elwood, Indiana, to live for three years before returning to Oklahoma.

As a young adult, she was employed by Booth's Drug Store in Hobart where she met her future husband Wilson Franklin Boyd, a sailor in the United State Navy during World War II. They were united in marriage on April 18, 1945. During their marriage, Opal enjoyed sewing clothes for her family, traveling and going on picnics.

She and Bill ran a booth at the local antique mall, as well as traveling to flea markets in western Oklahoma where they would sell glassware and refurbished antiques. She also loved hosting family, friends, and church brethren at her home where you would always get a delicious meal (and some incredible desserts!).

Opal accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized at the age of 17. She was an active member of the Church of the Firstborn. She will always be remembered for her love for God, her steadfast faith, and her devotion to her family.

Opal was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Bill; her daughter: Sandy; and two grandsons Billy Evans, Jr. and Brian Boyd. She leaves behind two sons: Rick Boyd and wife Rainee of Newkirk, Oklahoma and Travis Boyd and wife Cindy of McDonough, Georgia; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

**Janice Dupree**

Funeral services for Janice Lee Dupree, 79 year-old Clinton resident, were held Saturday, July 8, 2023, 10:00 A.M. at Cumberland Presbyterian Church with Easton Page and Rodney Neufeld officiating. Burial will follow in Stafford Cemetery under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home. The family will receive friends Friday, July 7, 2023, at the funeral home from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M.



Janice was born October 13, 1943, in Clinton to Claiborn E. and Gladys (Johnson) Frazier and passed away, surrounded by her family, Saturday, July 1, 2023, in the Corn Heritage Village of Weatherford.

Janice was raised in Stafford where she graduated from high school in 1961. Before graduating she was an active basketball player, a member of the honor society and class salutatorian. She continued her education by acquiring two certificates at Clinton Cosmetology School to both practice and teach as an instructor. Janice married James Isaac Dupree on December 22, 1963, in Clinton. She was self-employed and managed her salon in the Trade Winds Inn. In 1981, she built the Granada Styling Center and moved her business to a largely undeveloped 30th Street. She continued to work at this location with her long-time colleague Donna Ackley until her health declined. Janice was proud to be a Christian and served as an elder and Sunday school teacher at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and served as an elder at the Restoration Church. She participated in multiple Bible study groups over the years, most recently at The Edge Church where she attended for many years. She gave generously to non-profit charities and those who were in need of assistance. Her passions included gardening, decorating, hosting social gatherings, collecting American Indian artwork, and reading.

Janice is survived by her son Jason Dupree and wife Melinda of Clinton; two sisters: Kay Schwartz and husband Bill of Weatherford and Mary Statser and husband Wes of Weatherford; and numerous cherished nephews, nieces and friends. Special acknowledgment and gratitude for the medical care provided by Dr. Sanjaykumar Hapani and his office staff, Dr. Jeffrey Ogar and the medical staff at the Weatherford Regional Hospital, the many doctors, nurses, and medical personnel at Mercy Hospital and OU Medical. She was preceded in death by her husband James Dupree; her parents Claiborn and Gladys Frazier; grandparents Mama and Papa Johnson, grandparents Claiborn and Mary Frazier; Uncle Carl Johnson; Uncle Roy and Mattie Johnson; Uncle Wayland Johnson; and Aunt Julia and Pete Shaw.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This organization helps to pay for expensive medications through grant funding and it was this funding that assisted with Janice's needs.

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SCAN ME

# SWOSU Receives \$5 Million for Hodge Center Project



The latest rendering of the Jerry & Margaret Hodge Center for Pharmacy & Rural Health which will be situated at the intersection of Bradley and Caddo streets in Weatherford on the northeast side of the SWOSU campus. MA+ Architects are the Hodge Center architects and Joe D. Hall Construction, LLC, is the Hodge Center construction manager.

The Oklahoma State Legislature has approved \$5 million in pandemic relief funds to assist Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with establishing a new rural healthcare center on the Weatherford campus. The center will also become the new home of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy.

The \$5 million was included in Oklahoma House Bill 1188 and enacted into law in May 2023.

These funds will supplement the \$10 million SWOSU previously received in the \$55 million healthcare workforce training plan adopted by the Legislature and enacted into law in May 2022.

The plan aims at increasing the number of healthcare professionals in Oklahoma.

SWOSU's funds are part of the \$1.8 billion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding granted to Oklahoma and will assist in the building of the Jerry and Margaret Hodge Pharmacy and Rural Health Center.

"The Oklahoma Legislature has asked institutions of higher education like SWOSU to step up and help meet the healthcare workforce needs of Oklahoma, SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell said. "SWOSU views this charge as a core tenet of our public service mission and why we stand firmly on the Hilltop."

SWOSU will combine the total of \$15 million in ARPA funding with \$5 million in private support already received from SWOSU alumnus Jerry Hodge and his wife, Margaret, of Amarillo (TX). The Hodges' contribution, which was announced in 2021, represents the largest charitable gift in SWOSU history. An additional \$7 million in support will be provided via the Yes! Weatherford economic development sales tax extension initiative, which was approved by Weatherford voters in 2020.

The Hodge Center project will enable SWOSU's healthcare programs in nursing and allied health to substantially increase capacity and will significantly enhance the university's renowned pharmacy doctoral program.

The building will also expand the community health services of the SWOSU Center for Rural Health. The center will allow for more strategic partnerships with other higher education institutions.

"SWOSU has worked with our generous supporters in the city of Weatherford and with our involved, visionary philanthropic benefactors Jerry and Margaret Hodge—to whom we are abidingly and deeply grateful—to steward this pandemic relief funding in a way that will transform all of SWOSU's healthcare programs," Lovell said.

The additional \$5 million SWOSU will receive pursuant to House Bill 1188 will enable the university to continue its progress on the construction of the Hodge Center while also helping mitigate the negative impacts of inflation and price increases due to shortages of labor and materials.

"We are truly grateful to Senator Chuck Hall and Representative Kyle Hilbert for their strong commitment to seeing ARPA funds stewarded prudently and in a way that yields workforce wins for Oklahomans throughout our state," Lovell said. "We are also so thankful to our SWOSU delegation in the Legislature including Senators Brent Howard, Darcy Jech, and Jack Stewart and Representatives Anthony Moore, Mike Dobrinski, Tammy West, Nick Archer, and Rhonda Baker for their vision and focus in continuing to make historic investments in Oklahoma's healthcare programs. We sincerely commend and thank President Pro Tempore Greg Treat and Speaker Charles McCall for their leadership and service to SWOSU as we seek to deliver results for the people of our state."

A groundbreaking ceremony for Hodge Center was held in June 2022. Longtime SWOSU partners MA+ Architect are the Hodge Center architects, and Joe D. Hall Construction, LLC, is the Hodge Center construction manager. Construction is currently estimated to be completed in Summer/Fall 2025.

For more information, please contact the SWOSU Office of the President at 580-774-3766 or visit their website at [www.SWOSU.edu](http://www.SWOSU.edu).

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## HIGHER GROUND

It's Time for VBS



The signs are in the air! Summer brings memories of that annual opportunity for kids to spend a few days given to specific attention to Bible stories and teaching. This also allows parents to have a few hours of freedom. It's called Vacation Bible School or VBS.

It also brings to my mind my first encounter with anything of a spiritual nature. It was 1944. The war was still raging in Europe and the Pacific. We had just moved to Western Oklahoma to resettle on a farm after Dad had spent a few years working in a defense plant for DuPont. He was determined to get back to his roots. He worked a couple of years for a local farmer who had a large acreage. Mom and we four kids hit the cotton patch that first year to survive the winter.

As a six year old it was more an adventure than work. I was still so short that I didn't have to bend over much to get the bolls.

The second summer a local farmer and his wife, noting that the area contained quite a few young children, felt led to organize a Vacation Bible School in an abandoned school house. There were no churches in the immediate area to feed off of so they ordered their materials from David C. Cook and without any snacks and with little training, they provided my first opportunity to hear about Jesus or receive any Biblical teaching.

My memory does not give me much information or details of the week but one thing still stands out. My teacher shared with us about how God had answered her prayers regarding her husband's health. My young mind resonated with that. There must be a God, we can talk to him and hears us.

The week could have ended with no future plans. But the leadership decided to start a Sunday school that would meet each week to study the Bible and worship. There was no pastor. Today, we would call it a church plant that arose out the providence of God. That Sunday school lasted for at least ten years. We would occasionally have a preacher come by to give a sermon.

Mostly, it was a handful of farmer families who met weekly to worship and study. But it was during that time that God began to speak to my heart. I remember a Methodist pastor from New Liberty, a nearby community, who would drive over and preach to us. He spoke of heaven and hell that made me realize that I would have to make a choice. The Holy Spirit began speaking to my heart. At the age of twelve, in a nearby church revival I gladly surrendered my life to Christ, not knowing much of what that meant. That was 79 years ago and I have often wondered what my life would have been like if that farmer had not taken that step of faith for the children in the community. When I get to heaven I would like to look him up and thank him.

Which brings me to another point; there are many children surrounding you that have no connection with Biblical teaching. See them as potential children of God, desperately needing an introduction to God's love and forgiveness. Go on a rescue mission. Who knows what they could become in the hands of a loving Father. He may want to use your time and compassionate heart to begin the process of changing a child's world.

To comment: 580-302-1142 or [jhm82@2023](mailto:jhm82@2023)

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# LOCAL AND AREA NEWS



**Mike Smith**  
News Director

## "The Coin Guy" - 1950 Proof Half Dollar



Trent Boesen

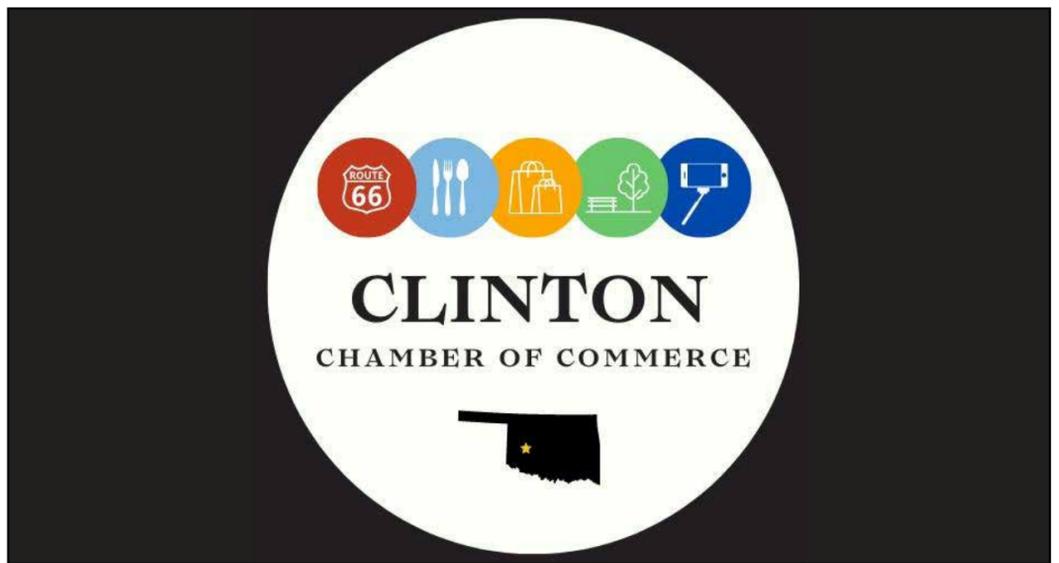
The above pictured half dollar was produced at the Philadelphia mint in 1950 in proof condition. It was certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) as a Proof 66 Deep Cameo (the reflection in the coin is mirror-like in appearance).

Using over-used dies, glue spots, with poor handling all contributed to making quality examples of 1950 almost impossible.

The mintage total for 1950 proof sets is 51,386 which is the lowest for the entire production of Proof Franklin half dollars.

It sold for \$66,000 at auction.

When selling your collection get the most money by calling The Coin Guy 580-890-8076. Thanks for your support.



## Clinton Celebrates America at Friends on Frisco

The Clinton Chamber of Commerce is scheduled to host their 3rd Friends on Frisco event this upcoming Thursday and this month's theme is Americana. The event will run from 6pm to 9pm and will take place along the eastern end of Frisco Ave.

The night's festivities kick off with a flag ceremony presented by the Eagle Scouts color guard.

The 77th Army Band from Fort Sill in Lawton Oklahoma will be playing patriotic tunes at the gazebo at Engleman Park located at 6th and Frisco.

The Veteran's center in Clinton will also be bringing some veterans to enjoy the evening and for citizens to show their appreciation for their service.

There will be lots of food trucks at the event as well as late night shopping and a farmer's market along Frisco Avenue.

Stores will also have games set up for the public to play as well as snow cones and watermelon.

The Clinton Chamber of Commerce has planned 3 more Friends on Frisco events for 2023 that will take place on the second Thursday evening in August, September and October.

August's theme this year is a "Back 2 School Bash and is scheduled for Thursday, August 10.

September's theme this year will be "Get Your Kicks," centered around Route 66m and is scheduled for Thursday, September 14.

October's theme for 2023 will be Oktoberfest and is scheduled for Thursday, October 12.

For more information, visit the Clinton Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page or visit their website at clintonok.org

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FRIDAY	CHICKEN FRIED STEAK SANDWICH & FF: \$10.00
SATURDAY	PORK RIB-EYE DINNER \$12.00

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**CUSTER CO DIST COURT/DIXON** - A claim of negligence has been filed in Custer County District Court, seeking tens of thousands of dollars, naming David Lee Dixon and the City of Clinton as defendants. The claim alleges that Dixon was driving a City of Clinton trash truck and struck Oscar Davis Washa, who was walking west on the I-40 service road in May of 2022. Court records show Dixon reportedly left the scene of the accident and Washa died as a result of his injuries.

**WEATHERFORD/FIRES** - Fireworks played a role in several fires over the weekend in the City of Weatherford. Fire Chief Mike Karlin says a number of fires were reported on the evening of July 4th and into the early morning hours of July 5th. Karlin says earlier in the week, the accidental discharge of fireworks inside a residence on McKenzie Street in Western Hills resulted in minor fire damage to the home and injuries to two people. Karlin says those injuries included smoke inhalation to one person and burns to the hands and feet of the other individual.

**ANTHONY MOORE/ INTERIM STUDIES** - Although the regular legislative session is over, legislative work for State Representative Anthony Moore of Clinton is not. He talks about interim studies he requested. Interim studies are studies of legislative and policy issues that may be requested by any member of the house or senate. They often address issues that have been the subject of legislation that failed to pass in previous sessions,

or emerging issues that are deemed worthy of more in-depth consideration.

**HYDRO/NEW CHIEF** - Hydro has a new Fire Chief. Ben Slagell, who has been with the department for 8 years and most recently has served as assistant chief, takes over fire chief duties. Slagell succeeds Kirk Hartman who will remain on the department and continue as the Emergency Manager for the Town of Hydro.

**CORDELL/ GUN RANGE** - A town revitalization effort is underway in Cordell. Mayor Phil Kliever details expansion plans the city has for the trap and skeet shooting range. Mayor Kliever also says that discussions are underway for a revamping of landscaping downtown.

**FISH SAFETY** - Some of Oklahoma's most popular lakes are under advisory after unsafe levels of mercury were found in fish. The Department of Environmental Quality released its annual report, examining the fish at all of Oklahoma's lakes. Nearly half the lakes in the state have some sort of advisory, meaning it could be unsafe to eat the fish you catch. However, Erin Hatfield with DEQ says every lake is different. The good news: the fish in Foss Reservoir, Fort Cobb Reservoir and Canton Lake have been tested and have low levels of mercury. DEQ officials say fish from these lakes can be eaten often without excessive exposure to mercury.

## WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

**HAPPY Day TO YOU!**

Have a birthday, anniversary, or other special event? Email us at [sales@westokweekly.com](mailto:sales@westokweekly.com) to announce it here for FREE!

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**Christian Free Store** - Donations of school supplies, clothes, shoes, etc. are needed or if you are in need. Please call (580) 637-2345 or (580) 291-3875.  
**Alfalfa, OK Community Center "Bible Study,"** Every Monday Night from 7:00-8:00 Hwy 58. Five miles South of Hwy 152. For more information contact (405) 643-9211. **Free and Open to the Public.**  
**OK Parkinson's Alliance,** monthly support group meeting the second Thursday of each month, excluding December, at 5:30 p.m. at Weatherford's Pioneer Center, 1000 Gartrell Place. Patients, caregivers, family or friends are welcome. **Questions? Contact OK Parkinson's Alliance (405) 810-0695 or [info@OKpa.org](mailto:info@OKpa.org).**  
**Iron sharpens Iron** is a Christ centered adult support group every Tuesday night at 7pm. 233 E Main in Hydro, First Christian Church.

**Happy Birthday Wishes July 12th** - Atly Buckner, Jonathan Wesley Dale Hawthorn, Kelvin Hart, Saska Koch, Glenn Morris, Ray Murray, Kyla Scales, Emma Loe Shoonmaker, Rev. Earl Stephenson, Liam Turney; **July 13th** - Cezanne Barrios, Damon Basler, Sami Grove, Charlene Haronema, Jennifer Jacks, Deanna LeGrand, Danny Moore, Kelsey Nonast, Matthew Perez, Raegan Roof, Norma Thurman; **July 14th** - Caitlen Coxwell, Willie Galindo, Carissa Hewitt, Frieda Beck, Jamie Patton, Pauline Pennington, Debbie Smith; **July 15th** - Vanessa Baileys, Chris Guthrie, Alecia Lay, Layla Lowrance, Aleesha Lustfield, Shaylee Maddox, Jade Mahan, Lee Miller, David Morris, Alison Page Bieberich, Jason Rivera, Jessie Silver, Jessica Spencer, Carl Spradlin, Betty Sturn, Addison Weaver, Jami Weaver; **July 16th** - Carmen Arriaga, Lisa Gipson, MaKayla Morley, Paula Sawatzky, Mason Schmidt, Mason Schmidt, Juan Solis; **July 17th** - Don Claussen, Norma Hale, Sandy Henderson, Angela King, Hannah Miller, Ken Snider, William Walker; **July 18th** - Sidnie Arriaga, Vera Janzen, Christy Manhart, Vickie Mouse, Marquitta Moxley, Sonya Pearson, Lera Sawatzky, Louella Vaughn; **July 19th** - Al Barrett, Bryce Butler, Ethel Cooper, Shaunda Garrison, Alicia Howell, Melanie Miller, Kody Robertson, Alfred Sawatzky, Jana Smith, Mika Tackitt, Kimberly Threadgill, Rose Walton.

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## Three from Women's Golf Land on WGCA All-American Scholar List



**Jon Chidester**  
SWOSU Media Relations

SWOSU Women's Golf placed three student-athletes on the Women's Golf Coaches Association (WGCA) All-American Scholar list, announced by the organization.

Ashlyn Acosta, Drew Dodgion, and Rebecca Lau represented SWOSU on the list. It is Lau's fourth consecutive season earning the honor. She becomes the first golfer in program history to win the award four times. Acosta and Dodgion each earned the recognition for the first time in their careers.

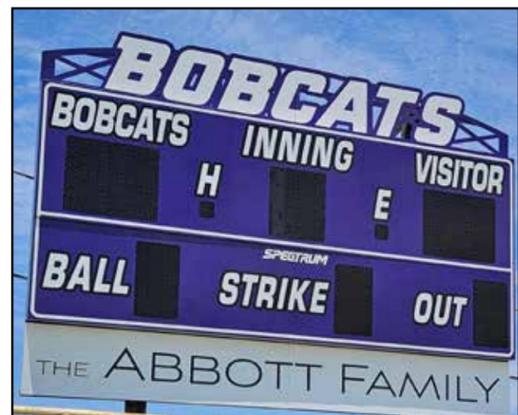
The criteria for selection to the All-American Scholar Team are some of the most stringent in all of college athletics. To be selected, a student-athlete must:

- Have an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or higher

- Be an amateur and on the team's roster through the conclusion of the team's season

- Have played in 50% of the college's regularly scheduled competitive rounds during the year nominated through the team's conference championship

Since 2012, SWOSU Women's Golf has totaled 24 WGCA All-American Scholars from 13 different student-athletes.



Hydro-Eakly Public Schools recently installed new scoreboards at the baseball and softball fields. (Top left) Volunteers lift up the Lady Bobcats softball scoreboard. (Top Right) The Bobcats Baseball scoreboard after installation. (Bottom Right) The Lady Bobcats after installation.



The Thomas Terrier High School Girls Basketball team seen here after competing in summer league.

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# Oklahoma History: Red River Bridge War

**Chase Wright**  
Staff Writer

The Red River Bridge War was a conflict between

Oklahoma and Texas over boundary lines that arose over two bridges on U.S. Route 69 and U.S. Route 75 between Colbert, Oklahoma, and Denison, Texas. The conflict was a bloodless dispute that began when Oklahoma and Texas jointly built a free bridge to the northwest of the existing toll bridge.

The original toll bridge was owned and operated by the Red River Bridge Company, a private firm owned by Benjamin Colbert. After the construction of the free bridge, the Red River Bridge Company filed an injunction against the Texas Highway Commission on July 10, 1931, to keep it from opening. The injunction stated that the highway commission had promised the previous year to buy the toll bridge for \$60,000, and they demanded a \$10,000 payment each month for a fourteen-month period for their unexpired contract, claiming the commission had not fulfilled its obligation. Governor Ross S. Sterling of Texas ordered the free bridge to be barricaded at Texas's end.

On July 16th, Oklahoma Governor "Alfalfa Bill" Murray ordered they open the new bridge by executive order claiming that Oklahoma's portion of the bridge ran North to South, thereby placing both sides of the river in Oklahoma's boundary as outlined in the Louisiana Purchase. Murray pointed out that Oklahoma was not named in the injunction and was, thereby, exempt from any deal Texas made. Murray sent crews across the bridge to destroy the barricades.

Governor Sterling sent Texas Rangers to defend the highway commission workers and rebuilt the barricade that night. The following day, Oklahoma crews demolished the Oklahoma approach to the toll bridge, making it impassable and traffic across the river came to a standstill. On July 23rd Texas State Legislature passed a bill, allowing the Red River Bridge Company to sue the state over the issue. Soon, the Bridge company joined the state in dissolving the injunction, and by July 25th, rangers were withdrawn, and the free bridge was opened.

Meanwhile, in Oklahoma, Governor Murray declared martial law and enforced the site with Oklahoma National Guardsmen, and even, personally



Courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society

**A group of Texas men standing in front of a sign prohibiting Oklahomans from entering the state of Texas via the Red River Bridge.**

appeared at the site. Local news showcased Murray, sporting his antique revolver, at the "war site." Hours later, a Muskogee, Oklahoma court prohibited him from blocking the bridge approach, but Murray who had already directed his men to allow anyone across either bridge claimed his martial law declaration put him above the power of the federal court.

On July 27th, Murray heard that the free bridge could be closed permanently. So, he sent men across the river, expanding his martial law on both free bridge approaches. Texas papers proclaimed an

"invasion" was taking place.

On August 6th, the injunction against the bridge opening had been fully dissolved, and soon after, the martial law order was rescinded.

The free bridge was opened on September 7th, 1931. News of the dispute made national and international headlines, and in 1995 the bridge was dynamited and replaced. A portion of the original bridge was flagged as a historical attraction and sent to a park in Colbert, Oklahoma.



Chad Gray / WW

Photos from the Levitt AMP Clinton Music Series from the past month. (Top left) Guitarists from Incendio. (Top right) Members from the OKC based Oklahoma Opry. (Bottom left) Carey Morrow and Dr. Shelley Martinson perform a classical duo. (Bottom right) Members of the GoodBlanket Intertribal dance troupe show their tribal dance regalia to audience members.

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- SEPTEMBER 23RD - VS BLANCHARD**
- SEPTEMBER 30TH - @ OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS**
- OCTOBER 7TH - @ TUTTLE**
- OCTOBER 14TH - VS CHICKASHA**

## REGISTRATION ENDS 8-14-23

<p><b>BUILDING &amp; MAINTENANCE MANAGER</b> Stafford Air &amp; Space Museum City of Weatherford</p> <p>The STAFFORD AIR &amp; SPACE MUSEUM, a department of the City of Weatherford, announces the opening for the position of BUILDING &amp; MAINTENANCE MANAGER. This is a full-time, 40 hr./week manager position that reports directly to the Director of the Stafford Museum.</p> <p><b>General Description:</b> The position is a multi-faceted job with primary focus on overseeing the entire facility's maintenance and cleaning programs, both internal and exterior. Responsible for maintaining all facility mechanical systems, including HVAC, electrical, plumbing, and other mechanical equipment, including forklift, scissor lifts, and shop equipment, and the exterior of the facility, including immediate museum grounds. Additional responsibilities include supporting the museum's dynamic exhibit development program, and all exhibit maintenance, and to orchestrate large shipments, including selecting shippers, and the loading and unloading of large cargo.</p>	<p><b>General Qualifications:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A minimum of an Associate Degree from a qualified university or technical school, with a strong focus on mechanical and technical areas;</li> <li>• Must have solid mechanical skills, and working skills in woodworking and metal work (welding and plasma cutting) are highly preferred, along with working knowledge of HVAC, plumbing, and electrical systems;</li> <li>• Must be highly organized, with attention to detail, able to follow directions, and capable of overseeing multiple programs at the same time, while consistently understanding and meeting the high-quality standards required by the museum;</li> <li>• Must have a "can-do" attitude, lead by example, and capable of organizing an efficient and effective working team, or able to work independently, when necessary;</li> <li>• Must be able to climb ladders, and work from lifts as high as 40-feet, lift and carry 50 lbs., and become highly aware and careful while working around the museum's exhibits and historical artifacts;</li> <li>• Able to work closely and professionally with museum staff and outside contractors, to acquire bids when necessary, and to oversee completion dates for projects;</li> </ul>	<p><b>General Qualifications (cont):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assure that the museum meets all City and State building codes for safety and operation;</li> <li>• On rare occasions, must be available for after-hour events, or emergency situations;</li> <li>• Must be able to pass routine drug and alcohol testing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Compensation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good competitive salary, with full City benefit package, consisting of paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance, life insurance, retirement, etc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Application:</b> To apply, please fill out standard City application form that can be found on the City of Weatherford's web site or by visiting <a href="https://cityofweatherford.com/available-positions/">https://cityofweatherford.com/available-positions/</a>. Applications can also be picked up and dropped off at the Stafford Air &amp; Space Museum at 3000 Logan Road in Weatherford. In addition, a basic resume of job experience would be helpful! For further questions, please contact Teresa Schoonmaker at the Stafford Museum @ 580-772-5871</p>
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# Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner Gives Insurance Tips After Storms

Recovery efforts are ongoing in Tulsa following the severe storms that hit over Father's Day weekend, causing extensive damage, including fallen trees and widespread power outages. The storm has been far-reaching, leading to heat advisories, limited access to essential retail items and gasoline, and numerous residents still struggling to cope with the aftermath.

In response to this crisis, I issued an emergency order to help facilitate the recovery process. The order enables insurers to access out-of-state claims adjusters to assist in assessing the damage in Oklahoma and streamlines the claims processing by temporarily waiving local licensing requirements. I understand that recovering from a storm can be challenging and somewhat confusing when filing a claim for property damage. Here are a few easy tips.

### 1. Take care of yourself and your family.

Your first concern after a disaster is your family's health and safety. If the storm destroyed your home, business or personal property, know that cleaning up and repairing the damage can be physically, mentally and financially challenging. Most homeowners policies have coverage for debris removal, but only if those trees or branches have caused other covered damage.

### 2. Contact your insurance agent as soon as possible.

Document all your damages before you clean up. Take photos or videos and make a list. Make necessary repairs to prevent further damage and save all your receipts for post-damage repair and cleanup.

Work with your adjuster and complete proof of loss to support your claim. When an adjuster visits your property, make sure you ask for identification.

You can call the Oklahoma Insurance Department (OID) or visit our website to verify his or her licensure. Get any necessary estimates for repairs to determine if it exceeds your deductible. Contact your insurance agent to start the claims process as soon as possible.

### 3. Report damage and be aware of dishonest contractors.

Report damage to [damage.ok.gov](http://damage.ok.gov) or call 2-1-1 even if you do not have insurance. This report helps emergency managers better coordinate recovery efforts and allows our state to potentially qualify for federal assistance. Also, unfortunately, behind every bad storm is a bad actor. Watch out for people going door-to-door or calling homeowners claiming to be building contractors. These could be scam artists, especially if they ask for financial information or money in advance. Report suspicious activity to local authorities and the FEMA Disaster Fraud Hotline at 1-866-720-5721. You can also contact the Attorney General's Office at 1-833-681-1895 or [ConsumerProtection@oag.ok.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@oag.ok.gov). Talk to your neighbors, friends or your agent for recommendations of reputable contractors.

I want to remind all Oklahomans that we are here to help. OID has excellent disaster assistance resources and a team dedicated to helping in your time of need. I encourage anyone affected by the storm to contact us with questions or concerns at 1-800-522-0071. If you feel your claim has not been properly resolved by your insurer or your insurer is not properly handling your claim, you can file a complaint with the OID at [www.oid.ok.gov/](http://www.oid.ok.gov/) complaint. For detailed guidance and more post-disaster information, visit [www.oid.ok.gov/AFTER](http://www.oid.ok.gov/AFTER).

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