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Christmas Tree Lighting and Candy Land Lighted Parade in Downtown Weatherford

The Weatherford Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Society will be hosting a Christmas Tree lighting ceremony and Christmas Parade in downtown Weatherford on Thursday, November 30th.

The fun begins at 5:30pm at McPhetridge Park in Downtown Weatherford with the lighting of the town Christmas tree.

At 6pm following the Christmas tree lighting ceremony, The Candy Lane Lighted Christmas Parade will begin. Several local businesses, schools, and community organizations have signed up and

will provide floats or will walk in the parade that will take place on Main Street in downtown Weatherford.

Following the parade judges will award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes to the best floats.

Along with the parade and the lighting ceremony, there will be Music performed by the Weatherford High School Jazz band as well as photos opportunities with Santa following the parade.

For more information you can visit the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page by searching "Weatherford Area Chamber of Commerce" or visit www.cityofweatherford.com/chamber-of-commerce/

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!



December 2nd
@ Horse Creek Landscaping & Garden Center
12pm - 2pm
for 📷

Horse Creek Landscaping and Garden Center to Host Their 3rd Annual Christmas Festival

Tis the season for holiday festivals and Horse Creek Landscaping and Garden Center has you covered with a celebration that is sure to be a fun-filled time for the whole family. On Saturday, December 2nd from 10am to 2pm Horse Creek Landscaping and Garden Center invites everyone to get into the Christmas spirit at their location at 23940 E. 0970 Rd north of Weatherford off Highway 54.

With free games, an ornament crafting station and train rides for children as well as several local vendors selling a variety of goods the event promises to have something for the whole family.

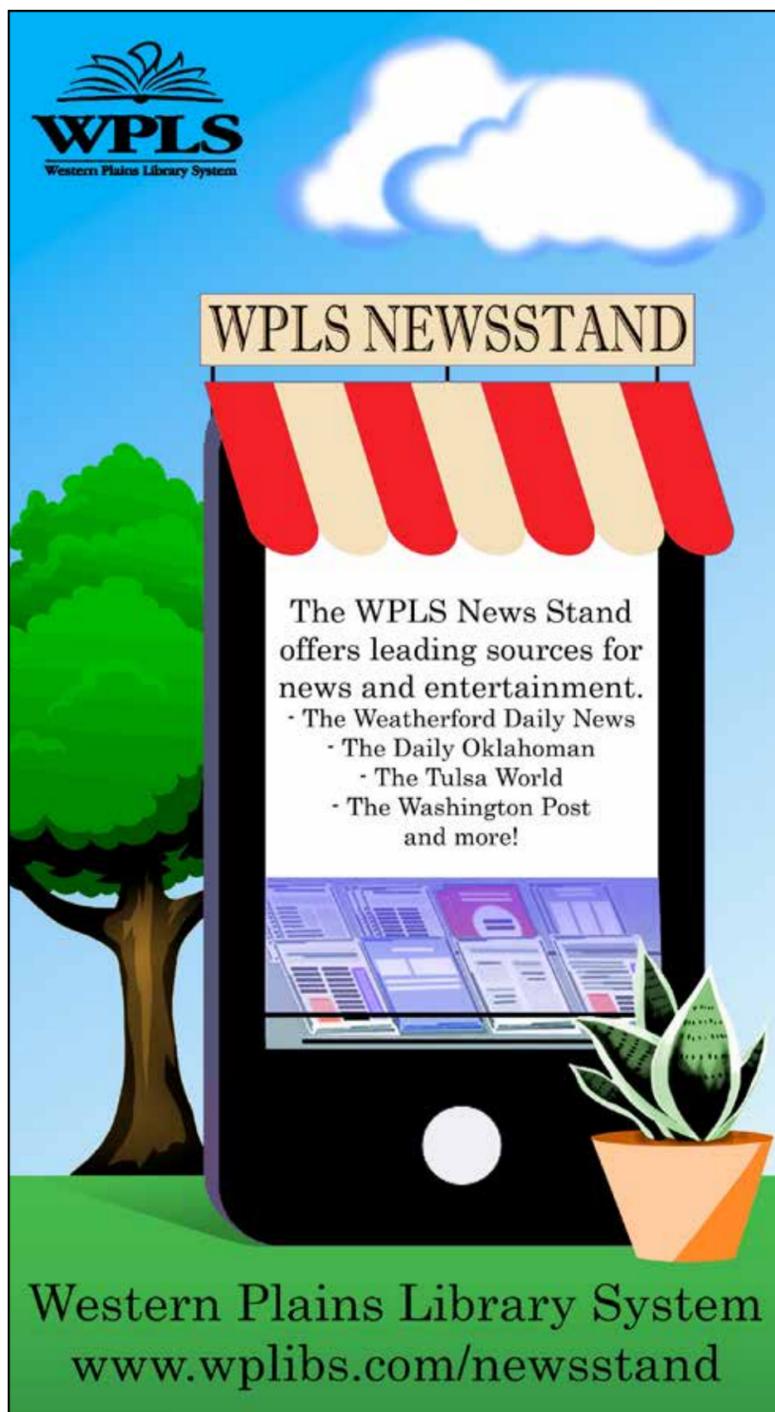
Some of the goods folks can expect to see from the local vendors include: homemade jellies, salsas, tamales, pazole soup, breads and baked goods, as well as variety of natural supplements, tinctures, and herbal teas to name a few. Pop's Ice Food Truck will also be in attendance selling fair style foods and there will be free hot chocolate to warm up any potential attendees.

Santa will also be making an appearance at the event and Jesse Frizzell Photography will be offering photos with Mr. Claus.

Horse Creek Landscaping and Garden Center's shop which is usually closed for the winter Season will be open during the event, so any interested attendees can make some off-season purchases.

Horse Creek Landscaping and Garden Center will have toy donation boxes at the event and they ask any and all attendees to bring unwrapped toys for donation to children in need this holiday season.

For more information about the event you can visit Horse Creek Landscaping and Garden Center's Facebook page or you can give them a call at (580) 772-0212.



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Rosemary Powell

Rosemary Katherine Powell was born on October 29, 1924, to Sherman and Nellie Dehart in LeFlore, OK. She was called home on November 6, 2023, surrounded by those who loved her most in Yukon at the age of 99.



Rosemary enjoyed playing basketball in school and riding horses as a young girl. She also assisted her parents in running their grocery store in town. Upon graduating from high school, Rosemary attended Southeastern Oklahoma State University before heading to Stillwater and Oklahoma A&M, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1948.

While studying in Stillwater, Rosemary fell for a handsome fellow named Wayne Powell. She and Wayne were married on June 12, 1948, and moved to Chickasha, OK. They enjoyed their time in Chickasha and happily welcomed their son, Charles, and daughter, Terri, while there. In 1966, the family moved to Clinton, OK, where Rosemary remained until moving to Spanish Cove in Yukon, OK, in 2009.

Never one to sit around, Rosemary was always so proud of her work outside the home. While residing in Chickasha, she worked as Church Secretary for the Methodist Church and for the Oklahoma College for Women as the Secretary to the College President. After moving to Clinton, Rosemary worked for Kellwood Corporation as the Executive Secretary to the Plant Manager until her retirement in 1986.

After retiring, Wayne and Rosemary traveled as much as possible. They enjoyed cruising around the globe and taking bus trips with Village Travels. Some of their favorite trips were the cross-country trips taken with their grandkids. Rosemary enjoyed crossword puzzles, counted cross stitch, was a member of several bridge clubs around Clinton, and was a very active First United Methodist Church member. She loved to cook for her family when they visited; she was always ready to prepare your favorite dish if she knew you were coming. After moving to Spanish Cove, Rosemary enjoyed spending her time making new friends and chatting over lunch. She joined new bridge clubs while living there and was often hard to reach because her social calendar was so full. She sang in the choir and took day trips with her friends. She loved it when her family visited, and she could show them off to her buddies. She was always most proud when her grandkids and great-grandkids were around. She was known around The Cove for her bridge-playing skills and for always wearing fantastic jackets.

Rosemary was an amazing seamstress! She always created dresses or outfits for her family, friends, and sometimes their toys (mostly her granddaughters' dolls or Barbies). She was a notorious perfectionist and would work tirelessly until every stitch was perfect. She was most proud of being able to sew her daughter Terri's wedding dress herself. Every stitch and bead was impeccable from a practice dress made from a bed sheet to the final flowing gown.

Always a lady, Rosemary never overstayed her welcome. She knew her time here on earth was done and left us with grace and love. She was always quick with a smile or hug and never forgot to tell her family she loved them. She will be deeply missed by many for years to come, yet we know she is at peace celebrating the life we continue to live with the family she has missed so much while she was still here.

Rosemary was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne, and two sisters, Betty Brooks and Norma Walden.

She is survived by her children: son Charles Powell of Norman; and daughter Terri Stake of Kingfisher. Her Grandchildren: Erin Williford of Norman; Danielle Henry of Enid; and Nicholas Stake of Edmond; sister Shirley Cox of OKC; five great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Robert Bond

Robert Eugene Bond was born July 17, 1952, in Coffeetown, KS, to Floyd and Geneva (Benson) Bond, and passed away Friday, November 17, 2023, in his home.



Robert moved to Oklahoma as a teenager and attended High School in Canton, OK. He married Lou Wanda (Smith) on June 15, 1973, in Clinton. Robert worked and retired as a Production team leader at Bar-S Foods. He was a member of the Pigeon Club and the Calvary Baptist Church in Weatherford. He enjoyed working with Pigeons, hunting, fishing, going to Clinton Red Tornado Football games, and spending time with his grandkids.

He was preceded in death by both parents, his son Bobby Bond, his brother Jack Bond, and two sister Donita Morrison, and Marilyn Sontag.

He is survived by his wife Lou Wanda, of the home, a daughter Brandie Bond of Clinton, a son Barry Bond and his wife Deana of Foss, a brother Ronny Denny, and his wife Deanna of Cordell, 7 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren.

Toni Pawnee

Toni Patricia Pawnee was born July 13, 1959, to Raymond "Chicken" Whitebuffalo, Sr. and Ethel (Ellis) Whitebuffalo in Clinton, OK and passed away Saturday, November 11, 2023, in the Integris Hospice House in Oklahoma City, OK.



Toni was raised in Clinton, OK where she attended Clinton Public Schools.

She is a member of the Kiowa Nation as well as the Pima Tribe, Cheyenne, and Arapaho Tribe of Oklahoma.

She was married to the late Michael James Pawnee February 10, 1987, and they were happily married for 32 years before his passing.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, grandparents, Benjamin and Phobe Ellis, and Olive Holgan, Aunts Georgia Dupoint and Pearl Woodward, mother and father-in-law, William and Alta Pawnee, sisters, Winnifred Winn and Hazel Fourkiller and brother, Raymond Whitebuffalo, Jr.

She is survived by son, Jeremy Whitebuffalo, of Colorado, daughters, Lee (Isaac) Rhoads, Arapaho, OK and Anna Helen Spottedwolf, Clinton, OK, sisters, Lela Cozad and husband, Daniel, Anadarko, Ok and Cheryl Gouge, Eufaula, OK and Billie Jean Propst and husband, Mike, Godfrey, IL, and Loretta Scantlen, Norman, OK, brothers, Lloyd "Chet" Winn and wife Cindy, Ethete Wyoming and Joe Fish Dupoint, Carnegie, OK.

She is also survived by 14 grandchildren, John, Utin, Trini, Damien, Cecilia, Ashley, Arianna, Jaeda, Jaia, Jayden, Stryker and Sadie Ann, Harmony, Rosie Iron, and her Furbaby, Hami.

Emet Graft

Charles Emet Graft was born October 9, 1943, to Rene and Mildred (Ashton) Graft in Clinton, OK and passed way Saturday, November 18, 2023, in the River Valley Nursing Home in Clinton, OK.



Emet spent his childhood on the family farm in north Custer County raising cattle and farming wheat. He was an explorer and liked to see what was on the other side of the hill.

He would walk to Mrs. Coit's house, who lived one mile south, and borrow a book and perhaps some extra dessert she might have around.

He liked to walk to the Burmah Store, owned by his Aunt Dwade Skelton picking up bottles along the way, to sell for a cold 10 cent pop. It was only an eight-mile round trip.

He started the first grade in the fall of 1948, he went to Independence and four years later to Custer City where he graduated in 1961. Upon graduation, he served six months active duty with Army Reserves in Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

He had to wait two extra weeks to take Rabie shots for a cat bite. In January of 1962 he started at Oklahoma State University. Then the love bug bit him and he and Beth Anne Sutton were married on May 31, 1963, in Clinton. He then finished his education at Southwestern State in Weatherford with a master's degree.

He received his honorable discharge to the Reserves in 1969.

His love of sports led him to his fist job, high school basketball and baseball coach at Butler, OK. In 1972 he accepted the principal's job In Leedey, OK and taught until May of 1983. He then went to work for the Ward family in the First State Bank of Camargo, OK.

Then moving to the American State Bank of Thomas, OK in June of 1984, which later was to become The Bank of the West where he retired in Leedey in 2009.

Emet grew up attending Vicksburg Church and gave his life to the Lord at the age of nine.

He and Beth Anne had two beautiful daughters, Leesa Anne, and Anngela Beth, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Upon retiring from the bank Emet and Beth Anne made their home in Clinton, OK where he attended the Clinton First Baptist Church where he served as deacon and was a faithful and active member.

He is preceded in death by his parents, and a brother, Jim Graft.

He is survived by his wife, Beth Anne, of the home, daughter, Leesa, and her husband, Dayne Baldwin, and Anngela Lambeth all of Clinton.

He is also survived by granddaughter, Lacey Castro and husband, Steven Castro, Weatherford OK, Grandson's, Lanne Baldwin, and Grafton Lambeth and wife Devon of Clinton, great grandchildren, Kaiden Cline, Tegan Vargas, Aaron Castro and Tidus Castro and a sister Joan Morgan, numerous nieces, nephews and of other relatives.

Derek Jordan

Charles Derek Jordan was born February 15, 1966, in Clinton, OK, the son of John and Judy Jordan and passed away very unexpected on Sunday, November 12, 2023, at his Clinton home.



Derek was raised in Clinton and attended all twelve years of schooling in Clinton and graduated from Clinton High School in 1984. While in high school he was an outstanding wrestler and played football.

He continued his education at the Okmulgee Trade School and received a certificate in Diesel Mechanics. He married Misty Jones on November 26, 1994, in Harrison, Arkansas. They made their home in Clinton where he worked for Oklahoma Natural Gas Company. He moved to Yukon and was employed with the City of Yukon in the sanitation department. He returned to Clinton where he was working with O'Reilly's Auto Parts.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Susan Jordan, biological father, Gordon Stehr, grandparents, Alfred and Hulda Stehr, Opal Abercrombie and J.W. Abercrombie and Marshall and Faye Jordan.

He is survived by two daughters, Ashtyn Armandariz and husband, Jacob, Yukon, OK and Ryleigh Jordan and Kyle Wangsgard, OKC, OK, parents, John and Judy Jordan, Clinton, OK, sister, Jamie Miller and husband, Louie, OKC, OK and brother Tony Jordan and wife, Stacie.

He is also survived by a grandchild, Hudson Wangsgard, Niece Carley Miller, and a special friend Kristi Klump Bomgren, Clinton, OK.

Amber Walton

Amber Dawn Walton was born April 29, 1989, to Donald Richardson and Vicki (Kauk) Richardson in Clinton, OK and passed away very unexpected on Sunday, November 5, 2023, in the Great Plains Medical Center in Elk City, OK.



Amber was raised in Clinton until the 8th grade and the family moved to Custer City, OK and she graduated from Thomas High School in 2007. She enlisted in the U.S. Army soon after high school. She was honorably discharged on December 29, 2015, at the rank of Private First Class. She returned to Clinton and worked for Hutch's Convenient Store. She has most recently been employed with the Washita County Jail as Jailer.

She was married to Mitchell Walton on February 29, 2020, at Foss Lake. They resided in Canute, OK since that time.

She was a member of the American Legion, she enjoyed being with her daughters in their dance routines, working small piece puzzles.

She is preceded in death by her father Don Richardson, sister, Kristi Gray, Paternal Grandparent Effie Richardson, and Barabara Richardson, maternal grandparents, Sonny Kauk and Joyce Metzler-Kauk, and her grandfather Ovie Richardson.

She is survived by her husband, Loren Mitchell Walton, three daughters, Heidy Dawn Richardson, Raelynn Skye Walton, Kristen Grace Walton, Wyatt Donald Richardson-Barry, and her mother Vicki.

She is also survived by several aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and extended family.



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<p>Mostly Cloudy</p>  <p>H: 58° L: 47° Wednesday</p>	<p>PM Showers</p>  <p>H: 57° L: 29° Thursday</p>	<p>Partly Cloudy</p>  <p>H: 46° L: 30° Friday</p>	<p>Mostly Sunny</p>  <p>H: 57° L: 34° Saturday</p>	<p>Sunny</p>  <p>H: 57° L: 34° Sunday</p>	<p>Sunny</p>  <p>H: 59° L: 34° Monday</p>	<p>Sunny</p>  <p>H: 61° L: 34° Tuesday</p>
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SCAN ME

WHS Students Host Holiday Book Drive Event



Vanessa Valli / WW

Weatherford High School students Cutler Rollins (left) and Kacidie Wallace (right) who are coordinating a holiday book drive with the cooperation of the Weatherford High School and Lookeba-Sickles High School student councils as well as New Life Church in Hydro.

Weatherford High School students Kacidie Wallace and Cutler Rollins are getting into the giving spirit of the holiday season and invite people around western Oklahoma to do the same with their Holiday Book Drive that runs through Friday, December 8th. All books donated will be given to the OK Children's Hospital.

Wallace first organized the Holiday Book Drive two years ago, and initially she coordinated the donation drive by herself, but this year she's enlisted the help of Rollins, New Life Church in Hydro as well as the Student Councils of Weatherford High School and Lookeba Sickles High School.

Interested donors can drop off any books for children aged 1-18 at boxes inside Weatherford High School, Lookeba Sickles High School, New Life Church in Hydro, or you can give Wallace a call and she will come pick up the books.

"I just want as many books as I can get, so I'm willing to do whatever it takes to get them," said Wallace in an interview on Conversation Corner with Van and Jon in the Morning. When asked why she wanted to donate books to the Children's Hospital, Wallace recalled her own experiences:

"The childrens hospital has always been interesting to me. I've had several surgeries and I just love the nurses who make me smile and make me comfortable there. I can't be a nurse yet, obviously, but I can give someone a real hope for Christmas."

For more information or to schedule a pickup by Wallace or Rollins you can call (405) 695-1105.

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Colony Christmas Art Exhibit
Kauger Gallery | Colony, Oklahoma
December 2 - 3, 2023

Opening Reception: December 2, 2023 | 12pm - 3pm

Featured Artist:

James South.....Retired SWOSU Photography VP
Glenda Ross.....SWOSU Sculpture Professor
Glen Henry.....Cameron Professor of Art
James Jennings.....Retired Pottery Art Teacher
Patty Lack.....Retired Painting Art Teacher
D.G. Smalling.....OKC Artist, Painter
Jaden Pebeahsy.....Cameron Art Student, Painter
Briley Duncan.....Art Student, Drawing Painting

Jim VanDeman: Artist, Drawings/Bows & Arrows

Patrick Riley: Artist, Masks and Paintings

Karin Stafford: Art Teacher, OSSM - Pottery

Exhibit Sponsored by: Colony Community Action Committee

Town Of Colony Hosting Two Holiday Events

The Colony Community Action Committee is sponsoring a two day Christmas Art and Archery Festival in conjunction with an Indian taco and bake sale on Decemeber 2nd and 3rd. The two day event will feature art from local artists, custom bows and arrows from local craftsman, as well as delicious Indian Tacos and baked goods who's sale will help fund the Colony Volunteer Fire Department.

The Colony Christmas Art Exhibit will take place Saturday, December 2nd from 10am to 5pm and Sunday, December 3 from 12pm to 4pm at the Kauger Art Gallery and Colony Community Building located in downtown Colony.

An opening reception for the Art exhibit is scheduled for December 2nd from 12pm to 3pm at the Kauger Gallery.

The Archery festival is set to feature bows and arrows from some of the best traditional bow and arrow makers in the State of Oklahoma. There will also be opportunities to meet the President of the Crowder Lake Archery Club and the President of the Oklahoma Traditional Bowhunters.

Artists showcasing work at the event include:

- Photographer James South
- Sculpturist Glenda Ross
- Sculpturist and painter Glen Henry
- Potter James Jennings
- Painter Patty Lack
- Painter D.G. Smalling
- Painter Jaden Pebeahsy
- Painter Briley Duncan
- Artisan Jim VanDeman
- Maskmaker and painter Patrick Riley
- Potter Karin Stafford

For all of the foodies the Indian Taco dinner and bake sale will take place at the Colony Community Building on Saturday, Decemeber 2nd from 10am to 3pm.

Tickets for the Indian Taco dinner are \$10 and a variety of baked goods will also be on sale at the event. A silent auction of Colony memorabilia will take place during the Indian Taco Dinner and Bake Sale.

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Saturday, December 2, 2023
10AM - 3PM



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Indian Taco & Drink \$10
AND
BAKE SALE

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HIGHER GROUND

You Can't Outgive God



Jim Morrison

There are events of times when your life took a different turn and changed your whole direction, affecting the rest of your life. We all have those moments, often only recognized in retrospect. In this thanksgiving season it is good for us to look back and be thankful that God was at work to change your course of our life.

My spiritual pilgrimage began in 1944. (Yes, that makes me old) A group of farmers in rural western Oklahoma decided that the children in the area needed a Vacation Bible school. So, with no clergy supervision or direction, and no denominational involvement, an abandoned school house was cleaned, some materials were purchased, and a week of bible stories and with I'm sure some cool-aid; we had Vacation Bible School. Only one thing lingers in my memory. The teacher of my class, Mrs. Killingsworth, shared stories about how God had answered prayer in the life of her family. I learned that I could talk to God and that he

cared about me.

But perhaps more important, they decided that a weekly time of Bible study and worship was needed. So, for at least ten years a Community Sunday School was held in that building, each week. Once in a while a pastor would come by to preach. In one of those times, during a sermon in which it was pointed out that our eternal destiny was either heaven or hell, I came under conviction. I was sure I didn't want to go to hell. This led to my commitment to Christ when I was twelve.

Another defining moment came about 14 years later while teaching school in Albuquerque. I had come under conviction that perhaps God was calling me from the classroom to a life of ministry. I could find no release, unable to sleep, or think of anything else. Finally, I found my way into the office of Russell Patrick, the Bible teacher at the University Baptist Student Union. I poured out my heart and the wise counselor said, "Jim, it looks like to me that God is calling you into ministry and you need to prepare." Somehow it all came together and I walked out of that room feeling as if the weight of the world had been lifted off my shoulders. So, with little money but with great excitement, I was headed for seminary and four years of graduate study. It normally takes three years but I had to work a lot so I extended it.

The next defining moment came during my third year Seminary. A fellow student, Joe Hyden,

approached me with a job opportunity.

He invited me to spend the summer selling Bibles and other Biblical materials door-to-door for the Southwestern Company—the same experience that Gov. Stitt had as a young man. I accepted the challenge and did well—so well in fact that Spencer Hayes, the division manager urged me to come back the next summer. I insisted that I needed to be looking for a position as campus minister upon graduating that Spring. At that time several students from Southwestern State College, my alma mater, were working for the company so he made frequent trips to Weatherford. He said he would be going to Weatherford in a few weeks and he would visit some pastors and encourage them to consider hiring me as director of the director of the Baptist Student Union. With that seemingly impossible glimmer of hope I agreed to sell for another summer. This led to a phone call inviting me to come for an interview and rest is history. I was to spend 37 years investing in the lives of college students, 20 years as chaplain at a county jail and an ongoing ministry at a truck stop. And it all goes back to a farmer with a God given idea that the kids in that rural area needed to know about Jesus.

As you reflect on your journey, I'm sure you can define some points in time when God quietly acted to show himself strong in your behalf. Reflect and be confident: 580-302-1142, jhm82@outlook.com

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CBA Choir and Academic Team Accoladed



Courtesy CBA

The CBA Academic Team has been named Regional Champions for Fall 2023. Pictured (from left): August Dobrinski, Zack Zybach, Luke Zybach, Cameron Moran, and Daniela Massoumi.

Valerie Fuller
CBA Admin Asst.

Corn Bible Academy (CBA)'s Academic Team will advance to regionals in January.

Five CBA students recently competed with twelve other teams at Blair, OK with an average score of 200 points per game.

Many of their points were gained in cooperative sixty-second rounds: chemical elements, capitals of Asian countries, diagonals of polygons, and MVP's for the NFL.

Individual team members also answered during the toss-up rounds, where August Dobrinski, Luke Zybach, Cameron Moran, Daniela Massoumi, and Zack Zybach were able to score enough to win the tournament championship. The top scorers were August Dobrinski (100 pts) and Luke Zybach (90 pts).

Team members Cruze Bittle and Samantha Rother were not able to attend. Coaches Joyce Creed and Mark Thiessen were proud of the team and the evidence of their hard work and practice.



Chad Gray / WW

These four outstanding high school choir members have been selected to represent Corn Bible Academy in two large Oklahoma choruses.

Pictured (from left): Braxton Driskill, a junior from Clinton, will represent CBA in the 2024 All-OkMEA Mixed All-State Chorus; Annalise Bull, a freshman from Weatherford, will represent CBA in the 2024 OkCDA Mixed Chorus; Lillian Miller, an 8th grader from Hydro, will represent CBA in the 2024 OkCDA Treble Chorus; and Jessica Walker, a freshman from Clinton, will represent CBA in the 2024 OkCDA Mixed Chorus.

ELK CITY / ACADEMICS - The Elk City School Board of Education had a discussion this week surrounding improved academic scores in the district says Superintendent Mike Sparks. The board also approved a \$550 bonus for district staff.

WASHITA CO / ROPER - A Cordell man has pleaded not guilty in Washita County District Court to a charge of 2nd degree arson. Court records show 32-year-old George Justin Roper allegedly set fire to a couch in the living room of a home in the 500 block of Linda Drive in Cordell earlier this year. Roper is scheduled to be back in court December 7th.

CUSTER CO / WRH - Up to \$45,000 of American Rescue Plan Act monies have been approved for use by Custer County Commissioners for a security project at Weatherford Regional Hospital. Chief Executive Officer Brian Denton says it will not only upgrade security but also allow for the review of additional footage in the facility. Denton is hopeful to have the project complete in early 2024.

HINTON / INVESTIGATION - State Representative Justin Humphrey of Lane who chairs the House Criminal Justice and Corrections Committee, says he plans to introduce a bill in the upcoming legislative session that would allow state elected officials to visit any state prison unannounced. Humphrey says he is also pushing state officials to launch an independent investigation into working and living conditions at Great Plains Correctional Center in Hinton. In late September, the department of corrections' office of the Inspector General finalized a report on allegations that prisoners were being confined in small shower stall for up to nine days at a time with limited access to water, bedding, and restroom breaks.

CLINTON / SCHOOL BOARD - The School Board of Education filing period will be held in early December. One long time area board member, dr. Floyd Simon, says he does not plan to seek reelection to the Clinton School Board of Education. The filing period is from December 4th-6th.



WEEKLY SHOUTOUTS!

OH HAPPY Day TO YOU!

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

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Happy Birthday Wishes for November 29 - Isabella Amen, William Balcom, Jessica Blackwell, Raul Olguin, Eileen Pitzer, Bridgett Sims; **November 30** - D'Fawn Downs, Marjorie Loar, Sam Shell, Dalton Thomas, Matt Thorpe; **December 1** - Angela Castorena, Austin Castorena, Olivia Celsor, Barbard Dodd, Lyndon Hart, Kevin Kreizenbeck, Brad Lax, Natalie Meyer, Jacque Morlan, Franklin Ralston, Linda Smith, Justin Snider; **December 2** - Becky Ball, Raevyn Cavanaugh, Doni Duggan, Gavin Hayslip, Ronnie Hazel, Lisa Hearn, Konner Hood, Terry Jensen, Janet King, Cassandra Ladd, Sy Stewart, George Wilkinson; **December 3** - Tarra Barton, Morgan Brown, Ken Brown, Verda McKellips, Brian Tompkins; **December 4** - Fred Atha, Kristen Bailey, Elizabeth Byrd, Beverly Leonard, Richard Miller, Aubrey Robers, Avery Spottedcorn; **December 5** - Robin Cates, Retha Flue, Donna Gates, Scott Haven, Heather Hock, Kaylee Holland, Elizabeth Janning, Melissa Jett, Amanda Johnson, Madison Lax, Ted Lilly, Adam Lockstone, Gary Long, Rachal Maxon, Chuck Meyer, Kristen Roberson, Carl Schneberger, Chris Shaw, Susan Steiner, Randy Stucker, Harland Unruh

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Tis the Season to Fight Hunger in Oklahoma with "Holiday March"

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HUNGER NEVER TAKES A HOLIDAY

Donations matched at rfbo.org/give

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Cathy Nestlen
Communications Director

Fight hunger in Oklahoma this holiday season with the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma's Holiday Match. Through Jan. 15, all donations will be matched, up to \$450,000, thanks to APMEX, the Cresap Family Foundation and other generous donors. KOCO 5 will once again join as the official television partner of the Holiday Match.

"At APMEX, service is in our DNA. We're truly proud to be in partnership with the Regional Food Bank, working tirelessly to combat hunger in Oklahoma," said Ken Lewis, chief executive officer of APMEX. "I understand firsthand the struggles of hunger, and that's why it drives me to help those who are experiencing the same. It's an honor to be part of a company that's

committed to taking care of our community, and we're going to keep doing it together."

Oklahoma consistently ranks as one of the hungriest states in the nation. A donation to the Holiday Match will mean that \$1 will help the Regional Food Bank provide eight meals to Oklahomans living with food insecurity. Once the match is met, \$1 still helps to provide four meals.

"The Holiday Match is the perfect time to make the most out of your donation and make a big impact in the lives of our food insecure neighbors across central and western Oklahoma," said Stacy Dykstra, chief executive officer of the Regional Food Bank. "We are so grateful to our partners at APMEX and the Cresap Family Foundation for making this match possible."

The Holiday Match helps provide meals for Oklahomans like Laurie, who shops at a food pantry located at a senior center in Oklahoma City.

"It's just wonderful. It really helps me a lot toward the end of the month. I don't know what I'd do without it," Laurie said.

Help deliver hope this holiday season by making a tax-deductible donation at rfbo.org or by calling 405-600-3161. Donations may also be mailed to:

Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma
Holiday Match
P.O. Box 270968
Oklahoma City, OK, 73137-0968



Teresa Kilhofer/WW

Elk City's Christmas in the Park fantastic holiday light display can be viewed nightly from 6-11 p.m. and concludes on New Year's Eve. With wonderful sponsors and donations merrily accepted from visitors, Christmas in the Park is a holiday tradition in Western Oklahoma.

The Weatherford Chamber of Commerce Small Business Society Presents:

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Oklahoma History: The Bustling Streets of “Automobile Alley”



Courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society

Old Broadway Avenue in Oklahoma City. The Photos depict traffic before (top) and after (bottom) the transitional period.

Chase Wright
Staff Writer

Oklahoma City’s bustling economic and political status as the unrivaled capital hub for the state came from a series of events that were greatly sped up by the discovery of oil in the city on December 4th, 1928, along with the automobile boom giving way to Automobile Alley.

In April of 1889, OKC saw an initial rise of settlers when it was officially opened for settlement with the first Land Rush into the newly unassigned lands of the former Indian Territory.

Its overnight growth was so sudden and large that the provisional governments planned for the unassigned lands were quickly replaced with the Organic Act on May 2, 1890.

The act temporarily placed Nebraska’s laws over the land until local governments could set up legislation.

OKC was brought into the county system and given a seat as one of the 7 Oklahoma counties. At the time, the city of Guthrie held the title of capital.

Throughout the next few years tensions began to rise between OKC and Guthrie as conversations called for OKC to become the new capital.

On June 11, 1910, OKC was officially given the title due to popular vote.

Guthrie leaders called foul play and speculated that the state seal was stolen during the night to ensure OKC got the transfer.

With its new title, OKC leaders quickly began scaling the city’s growth with public entertainment,

the purchase of fairgrounds, housing editions, paved roads, and a secondary railroad system to support the city’s status as a central hub. The growth continued at a steady rate until the discovery of oil spiked its growth tremendously. Oil wells popped up all over the city, including in the flower bed of the capital building (rig: Petunia).

Oil money accelerated the city’s progress and managed to stave off some of the effects from the Great Depression for a lucky few. Many of the citizens were not so fortunate.

By the mid 1920’s, development was at a breakneck pace for a commercial district just north of downtown Oklahoma City.

The 100-foot right-of-way road, Broadway Avenue, became the center of mobility for city transport.

Its popularity came from the sheer width of the street. Speculation from historians believe the width was wide enough to turn around a full team of horses and wagons.

Soon, the frame houses along the road were replaced with brick businesses, hotels, apartments, and automobile dealerships/service companies – 52 of OKC’s 76 auto dealerships were located along Broadway.

Automobile Alley became the hotspot of urban development and production for OKC. Full of warehouses and ornamental brickworks, the bustling street felt otherworldly compared to the soft open world around it.

Christmas Open House
at **4 Lasley Family Farm**
Saturday, December 2, 2023
9:00am-5:00pm

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Second Half Lead Disappears in Home Opener



Jon Chidester
Sports Asst. AD

SWOSU Women's Basketball fell 72-65 to Texas Permian Basin on Saturday night to conclude action at the Food King Classic in Lubbock.

In a similar game flow as Friday's matchup with Lubbock Christian, SWOSU trailed UTPB nearly all evening before mounting a fourth quarter comeback that saw a 17-point deficit shrink to four with 2:49 remaining. From there, the Lady Bulldogs scored just once the rest of the way and lost for a second consecutive night.

The defeat moves SWOSU to 2-3 on the season. They'll get well over a week off before battling Oklahoma Baptist in Shawnee on Thursday, November 30 to begin GAC play.

SWOSU shot 33% in the game overall and 29% from the three-point line, despite knocking down a season high 12 deep balls.

UTPB matched SWOSU in three-point makes but did so at a 50% clip on 12-for-24 shooting. They finished at 44% overall from the field in the game.

It's the first time in five games the Lady Bulldogs did not force their opponent into having at least 20 turnovers. UTPB turned the ball over 18 times after committing six in the fourth quarter which helped aid the SWOSU comeback attempt.

The Lady Dawgs trailed 36-30 at halftime but got outscored 20-12 in the third quarter which created the fourth quarter hole that proved too big to dig out of.

Four finished with double figure scoring led by Averi Zinn with 15 points and six assists and Reese Berkey and Mason Jones who both added 12. Chloe Cantrell had 11 including 3-of-5 from beyond the arc.

SWOSU lost the rebounding battle 45-35. Lanie Gooch led the team with six of those.

SWOSU Players Named CSC Academic All-District

ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT

ANNA BAGER
SUMMER BASS
ASHLYN STIGALL
CLAIRE TORRY

Jon Chidester
Sports Asst. AD

Four from SWOSU Soccer were named to the College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District team, announced Tuesday by the organization.

Bager, Bass, and Torry earn the honor for a second consecutive year. Stigall earns the recognition in her first year as a Bulldog.

Academic All-District selections were based on combined academic and athletic performances among other qualifications. One must also hold a 3.5 minimum cumulative GPA.

The 2023 Academic All-District® Teams, selected by College Sports Communicators, recognize the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on the field or court and in the classroom. The CSC Academic All-America® program separately recognizes honorees in four divisions — NCAA Division I, NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III and NAIA.

Academic All-District® honorees advance to the CSC Academic All-America® ballot. First- and second-team Academic All-America® honorees will be announced in late December.

SWOSU recipients included:

Anna Bager
Major: Health & Physical Education

Summer Bass
Major: Health Science

Ashlyn Stigall
Major: Pre-Nursing

Claire Torry
Major: Nursing

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