

**BOXHOLDER** 

July 31 - August 6, 2024 • 10040 Hwy 54 • Weatherford • (580) 772 - 5939 • E-mail: Sales@WestOkWeekly.com • www.WestOkWeekly.com • Vol. 11 No. 31

### 2024 Clinton Roundup Rodeo Brings Out Western Oklahoma Families



Chad Gray / WW

Krystal Blackwell / WW Blakely McKinsey, age 2, shows off her horse riding



Conner Kreizenbeck (Right) and Brayson Broadbent (Left) tend to the calves at the Clinskills in preparation for last week's Clinton Rodeo ton Roundup Rodeo last Friday night just before showtime.



Chad Gray / WW

95.5 FM The Coyote DJ Cameron McGee and Wright Media Sales Associate Allison Garrett gave out shirts and other swag at the Clinton Roundup Rodeo.



Chad Gray / WW

The Clinton Roundup Rodeo as seen from above. The Clinton Roundup Rodeo took place this past Friday and Saturday on the outskirts of Clinton.



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### Reta Wilkerson

Reta Fay (Hubert) Wilkerson was born April 7, 1952, in Weatherford to Ernest David and Clara Juanita (Sharry) Hubert and passed away Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at St. Anthony Hospital in



Oklahoma City, at the age of 72 years, 3 months and 16 days.

Reta was raised and attended school in Weatherford. She married Donald Houston in 1969 and they made their home in Clinton and Weatherford where they raised their family. In 1989, Reta married John Wilkerson and they made their home in Mustang.

Reta enjoyed square dancing, bowling, coaching her children's soccer, camping and traveling. She was an avid cookie jar collector shopping in the antique shops, baking cakes, sewing, and adored her grandchildren.

Reta is survived by two daughters, Angela Hix and husband, Mark of Weatherford and Tara Haines and husband, Brian of Mustang; one son, Kevin Houston and wife, Kathryn of Mustang; three sisters, Renee Ryburn of Weatherford, Linda Hiler and husband, David of Yukon and Eva Tipton of Weatherford; three brothers, Ernest Dean Hubert and wife, Janie of Moore, Darrell Hubert and wife, Yolanda of Catoosa and Phillip Hubert of Corn; ten grandchildren, Connor and Karsyn Hix of Weatherford, Taylor Houston and husband, Matison of Oklahoma City, Zac and Aaron Houston of Mustang, Rylie Early and husband, Gavin of Yukon, Braiden Early of Mustang, and Brantley, Hadley and Harper Haines of Mustang; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, John Wilkerson; and her precious dog, Corkie the Yorkie.

### John Chand

Rev. John Dayal Chand was born January 23, 1929, to Dayal Chand and Martha (Mall) Chand in Ambala City, India. He passed away on Sunday, July 21, 2024, at the Homestead Living Center in Elk City, OK



As a gifted athlete, John participated in track at field hockey in high school and college.

John participated in sports and received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1962, at Ambala City Punjab, India. He also participated in several national tournaments as a member of the Delhi Customs Team. Rev. Chand coached 10-12 year boys in Mt View, Ok. to a state championship in soccer.

John grew up with an interest in serving God from an early age. He taught Sunday school and helped with the youth program at church. He was called into the ministry when in Alwar, India and became an Elder at an early age and preached his first sermon at 23.

After receiving his visa in 1966, John came to the United States to attend seminary to pursue his passion in ministry. He received his Master of Divinity Degree in 1970 from Winebrenner Seminary, Findley, Ohio.

John also received another Master of Divinity from the Methodist Theological School in 1971. John served at numerous Methodist Churches in Ohio and Western Oklahoma from 1971 to 1993. He also ministered in the Mennonite Church and worked with the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes in Hammon, Ok for a short time.

John married Tajwar Sultana on April 5, 1960, in Chandigarh, India. She passed away in 2009 in lrving, Texas.

He met and married Thelma Thomas September 10, 2011, in Clinton, Ok. They began their early married life in Garland, TX and moved to Foss, OK and recently to Elk City, OK.

Rev Chand is survived by his wife, Thelma Thomas, of their home in Elk City, OK; daughter and son-in law, Elizabeth and Dennis Witherspoon, grandchildren: Kerwin Carpenter and wife Lizz, Kendra and Gabriel Neely, and numerous grandchildren from the Thomas family.

John is also survived by his son, Dr. Israel Chand, who is a retired Major, US Army and lives in North Myrtle Beach, SC, and his children: Sarah, Rachel, Joy (who is a Major in the Army and serves as an Executive Officer of a logistics battalion for special forces currently residing in Colorado), and Joshua Chand (who led his high school track team to the state title and graduated from Westpoint); one great-granddaughter, Esther Bold, of Alaska; Paul Chand, brother in California and numerous nieces and nephews in India, United States, Canada and Sweden.

### **Alsina Plummer**

Alsina Marjorie Plummer was born September 28, 1937, east of Fay, to Floyd Eldra and Ida Almira (Humphreys) Busler and passed away Thursday, July 18, 2024, at St. Anthony Hospital in



Oklahoma City. Alsina was raised and attended school in Eagle City and Fay where she graduated from Fay High School in 1955. She worked for an abstract office and met her future husband, Evan, on New Year's Eve in 1955. On December 27,1956, Alsina married Evan Wells Plummer at Etna Wesleyan Church, southwest of Watonga. After a short time living in Watonga, they moved to the homeplace southwest of town to raise their family. Alsina enjoyed cooking, sewing, working in her garden, canning vegetables and being a mother. She loved taking care of her kids and grandkids. Alsina will be remembered as being a devoted homemaker, mother, and grandmother, always helping and serving others. She will be dearly missed by her family and others who knew her.

Alsina is survived by two daughters, Sharon Bacon and husband, Doyle of Dodge City, KS and Carol Lewis and husband, Brad of Waurika; two sons, Wayne Plummer and James Plummer of Geary; three sisters, Helen Leonard of Weatherford, Irene Busler of Eagle City, and Filma Schimmels and husband, Fred of Oklahoma City; six grandchildren, Bridget Prochonow, McKayla Bacon, Ty Bacon, Chase Lewis, Catelyn Lewis and Mackenzie Lewis; and numerous extended nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Evan of 42 years; three brothers, Delmer and wife, Betty Humphreys, Vernie and wife, Etta Busler and Asa Busler; one sister, Reba and husband, Norman Arthaud; and a brother-in-law, Garland Leonard.

### Joe Franco

Jose A. Franco "Joe", born January 7, 1942, in Coal Mine, Texas, to Vincente and Margarita (Porto) Franco. He passed away on July 21, 2024 in his home, surrounded by his family. He lived a rich



and fulfilling life, marked by hard work, dedication, and a love for family and simple pleasures.

Joe spent much of his early career as a derrick hand in the oil fields, later transitioning to construction work. His strong work ethic led him to Bar S, where he worked until his retirement in 2013. Remarkably, he taught himself to read and write, embodying resilience and determination.

Joe was able to find love twice in his lifetime. He married Maria in 1966 and spent many beautiful years together raising 6 children. Maria later passed away in 1992. Joe then found love a second time and married Sheryl on December 28, 2001.

He had a passion for music, and often found singing and playing the guitar. Joe enjoyed fishing, and he cherished the times spent grilling out with family and friends. Alongside his beloved wife Sheryl, he was an active member of the Blind Club, finding community and support among its members.

The highlights of his life were deeply rooted in family. He treasured his upbringing with his parents and held dear the moments spent with loved ones. Marrying Maria was a pinnacle of his joy, and together they shared a life filled with love and companionship. His role as a preacher was a testament to his faith and commitment to guiding others. In his leisure, he found great enjoyment in watching Western movies, a pastime that brought him much comfort and nostalgia.

Joe leaves behind a legacy of love, hard work, and unwavering faith. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Joe is preceded in death by his parents, Vincente and Margarita, wives, Maria Franco and Sheryl Franco, and sister, Maria Luisa Roque.

Left to cherish Joe's memory and legacy are his children; Eusebio Ramos of Weatherford, Miguel Franco of El Reno, Estevan "Steven" and Priscilla Franco of Clinton, Angelina "Angie" Rios and Benjamin of OKC, Teresa and Robert Morley of Clinton, Matilde "Tilly" Franco, of Clinton, step son, Jason Cryer and Johnna of OKC, and step daughter, Sabrina Huddleston of Clinton, sisters, Connie Franco of Clinton, and Irene and Daniel Williams "Uncle Red" of Arapaho, 18 grandchildren; John, Phillip, Minnie Maria, Esperanza, Eusebio Jr, Armondo, Maria, Marcus, Tony, Charles, Andrew, Derek, Jason, Mason, Karson, Rome, Lilly, and Riley, he is also survived by a host of other family and friends.

### **Justin Weathers**

Justin Jobe Weathers was born September 17, 1970, the son of Bob Weathers and Mary Kay (Johnson) in Enid, OK and he passed away Monday, July 8, 2024, in Oklahoma City, OK.



Justin was raised in

Enid, OK and Sallisaw, OK attending school in both places and graduating from Enid High School in 1987. He received his heat and air certification and worked for Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, OK. He moved to Oklahoma City and worked for the Oklahoma City Public Schools where he did both maintenance and heat and air. He made Edmond his home and his most recent position was Climate Master Heat and Air in Oklahoma City. Justin continued his education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, OK where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Technology. He was married to Tina Clinton in 2004 in Enid, OK and she preceded him in death. He was a member of the Baptist Church and the Masonic Lodge.

He was survived by his son, Nicholas Weathers and wife, Angelina and their daughter, Evangeline, of Norman, OK, his parents, Bob and Becky Weathers, Custer City and Kay George, of California.

### Norma Funderburg

Norma Jean Funderburg went peacefully in the arms of her Lord and Savior on July 22, 2024, at the age of 85 years, 3 months and 23 days. She was born on March 29, 1939, to Nola (Marsh) and Jacob Kyker



in Washington County, Tennessee.

An accomplished pianist, Norma began playing at her local church at the tender age of four. She played her instrument for her entire life. Her music gave joy and peace to those who heard her play. She recorded an album of her beautiful singing and played piano and organ for churches, school events, and various other venues. Norma was also part of a quartet that performed around Oklahoma and for a Christian radio station. Even in her last few weeks, she brought joy by playing for the residents at Oxford Springs, a place she cherished deeply. Her music gave her a God-given purpose, making her smile despite her challenges. Norma also enjoyed family time, bird watching, and watching western movies.

Norma graduated from Lamar High School in 1957, and life's adventures took her to California. Norma Jean married Robert B. Tickle on December 2, 1965, in Indio, California. They had their two children together in Long Beach, California. Robert passed away on December 8, 1992. Norma Jean fell in love again and married Johnny Funderburg on December 24, 1996. He lifted her spirits and her music equipment, and they were happy together. Sadly, Johnny passed away on May 5, 2005.

In 1996, Norma was diagnosed with cancer. She faced this challenge with incredible grit and toughness, inspiring everyone around her with her unwavering spirit and determination. Norma had a way to make those around her smile with her sense of humor, no matter her situation.

She leaves behind her loving family: her son, David Tickle, and his girlfriend, Kim Messina, of Yukon; her daughter, Bobbi Shelton, and her husband, Joe, of Weatherford; grandchildren, Brandon Abla and his wife, Alicia, of Yukon; Taylor Hinojosa and her husband, Eloy, of Weatherford; Griffin Shelton of Ponca City; Brittney Jackson and her husband, John, of Lebanon, TN; and greatgrandchildren Kilian, Declan, Rhys, and Lynlee Abla; Paisley Hill; Osker and Lennox Hinojosa; and Oaklynn Lopez.

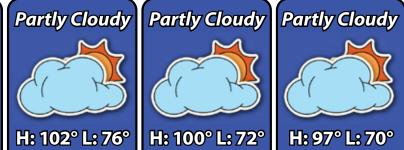
She was preceded in death by spouse, Robert Tickle and spouse, Johnny Funderburg; her parents; brothers, Dennis, James, and Howard Kyker; and sisters, Ruby Edwards, Mabel Payne, and Velma Huisman.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the staff of Weatherford Regional Hospital for their love and compassion. Special thanks also go to the staff of Oxford Springs, which Norma affectionately called "Home." She found great comfort there, especially with "Blue" the turkey, who lifted her spirits during tough times.





Wednesday



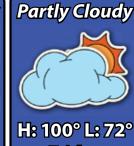
**Thursday** 

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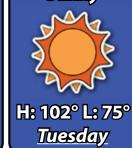


Friday





Mostly Sunny H: 100° L: 74° Monday



Sunny

**Financing Available** Today!



## WPLS Celebrates Another Successful Summer Reading Program

RETROFOAI



Courtesy WPLS / Facebook

The Western Plains Library System recently held a pool party for kids that reached their summer reading goals. Pictured are the "Grand Prize Winners," hailing from Clinton, Cordell, Seiling, Sentinel, and Weatherford.







**Online Silent Auction** July 29-August 9, 2024

## **Live Auction & Dinner** Saturday, August 10, 2024

**Pioneer Event Center** Weatherford, OK www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com

Scan here for more information









Friday Saturday August 3rd August 2nd 40% off all Uptown Merchandise! M-F 9:30am-5pm Shopping Hours: Sat 9:30am - 4pm 1225 E. Main Weatherford, OK (on Route 66) 580-772-2238

## HIGHER **GROUND**

## What Now?



Many young people and some adults have spent exciting days in a church camp, retreat, Vacation Bible school, or mission trip this past summer.

Many young people and some adults have spent exciting days in a church camp, retreat, Vacation Bible school, or mission trips this

past summer. Life changing decisions or commitments are often made that chart the course of these young people for years to come.

However, those decisions spent apart from the real world may soon fade or become blurred if proper follow-up operations are not put in place by the home church.

Church staff are often overwhelmed or simply unaware of the challenge of this important phase of church ministry. Every individual is significant and chosen by God to fulfill his/her role in kingdom ministry.

The harvest is in need of devoted laborers who have a passion and vision of being involved in the greatest life purpose they can know.

This can start in the lives of young people who develop a hunger and thirst for the knowledge

of God. Who knows what might have happened if a 16 year-old youth, Steve Estes, had not had the knowledge and passion to pour himself and his knowledge of scripture into the life of Joni

Eareckson. Joni thought her life was over as she struggled to make sense of living the life of a quadriplegic. Because of Steve's efforts and knowledge, the world has been richly blessed and multiplied thousands of handicapped children and their parents have been given hope by her blessed

ministry. What will the local church do to ensure these new Christians or recharged believers get started on the road to a lifetime of spiritual growth? We cannot assume that they will know how to study the Bible as opposed to reading a few verses without a thought of application.

Will they grasp the importance of prayer and the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer? Will they know how to share their faith in a simple way with their peers? Will some mature Christian give their time and experience to one-on-one mentor the young person in this

impressionable stage? We may assume that if we get them enrolled in a Sunday school class or youth group they will automatically take root and grow. Kids need individual attention, someone with whom they

can share their deepest concerns and questions.

Parents need to be involved but their homes may not be the laboratories of learning that they

need. Members of the church staff may not have the time to do the needed follow-up of all the young people, but mature church members can assist if given some training and guidelines. Of course, we must be careful not to overwhelm them with challenges beyond their ability to grasp and in so doing cause them to give up the struggle. They need to be challenged, but not overwhelmed. Age-appropriate materials and instruction are important.

We who have been in church all our lives may assume that new believers understand churchy language. They need to be able to express their questions, struggles, doubts and fears. Accountability is important.

They need to understand what it means to be a follower of Jesus—that it is not just praying a prayer, or raising a hand; it is not wanting to be or do better; it is a relationship that grows with obedience and a life of service.

Certainly, the names of those individuals concerned should be made public to the church so that concerned prayer can be offered in their behalf. The church is a family and each member is accountable for and to each other.

May God bless and guide as we all concern ourselves with this ministry.

To comment jhm82@outlook.com, 1580-302-1142



## Colton Parkinson Named New Director of Stafford Air and Space Museum













The Stafford Air and Space Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Colton Parkinson as its new Director. Colton brings a wealth of experience and a deep passion for aerospace and education to his new role.

Colton graduated from Purcell High School in 2010. He went on to graduate summa cum laude from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in 2022, earning a bachelor's degree in engineering technology.

Colton is currently pursuing a master's degree in education and engineering, which he is expected to complete in 2025.

Colton's Professional Experience includes a summer internship at NASA in 2019. He was awarded another internship with NASA in 2022, which was unfortunately canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He participated in the NASA Pathways Internship Program from January through May 2021.

Colton served as a Stafford Scholar from April 2019 through May 2022. He was museum Building Maintenance and Registrar from June 2022 until May 2023. He spent last year as an instructor in the Engineering Technology Department at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

"I had some very good memories with General Stafford," said Colton in a recent interview with Newstalk KCLI. "He was an amazing individual, and I don't think people realize how important he was to society as a whole. His mind was truly incredible."

Colton's first day for his new position will be August 5th. He will be succeeding long-time Museum Director Max Ary, who celebrated his retirement last week.

Colton and his wife, Arianna, are the owners of the Thomas Tribune and Old Caldwell Trails & Stables. They reside in Fay, Oklahoma.

Colton Parkinson's journey with the Stafford Air and Space Museum, coupled with his dedication to the field and his academic accomplishments, make him an excellent fit for the role of Director.

His leadership is expected to bring fresh perspectives and continue the museum's legacy of excellence in aerospace education and community engagement.

"We're currently expanding our education center, which will have a STEM Interactive Exhibit, a flight simulator, plus a big meeting area," said Colton. "We have some big things coming down the pipeline that we're looking forward to.



## TWO BAR W FARMS

For Sale

Ignite Equine Complete Tubs Dove Performance Nutrition Bagged Feed 21 Bale bundles (Teff, Bermuda, Alfalfa, Straw) Dry Round Bales - Various types, call for info

Kelly 580-819-0664 or Jack 580-819-0343

ELK CITY PD / SHOOTING - Elk City Police responded to a shooting on West 3rd Street near Oklahoma Avenue. Police say during their investigation, officers identified the suspect and later took that person into custody. One gunshot victim was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Police have not released names surrounding the incident. Police say the suspect has indicated that he discarded the gun after leaving the scene. Efforts are underway to locate the firearm.

SWOSU / ROTARY - Dr. Adam Johnson, the vice president of student services at SWOSU, was the most recent guest speaker at Rotary in Weatherford. Dr. Johnson spoke about enrollment and retention at SWOSU. Dr. Johnson says the university is running down by about 18 students in its pharmacy program. He also says SWOSU recently submitted a grant of \$2.5 million for a Hispanic bilingual student support specialist who can assist in recruitment and retention efforts.

### CORDELL / BACK TO SCHOOL BASH -

Cordell Memorial Hospital will be hosting a back-to-school bash at the Washita County Activity Center in Cordell on August 1st from 9 am - 3 pm. The Health Department will be on site during the event from 10 am -1 pm to provide vaccines for both new and returning students. The Health Department will also provide free physicals for students during those hours.

WEATHERFORD / HARMON — Weatherford Schools Superintendent Mark Harmon looks ahead to the future needs in the district, including a new high school. Harmon says it's still a lengthy process that requires communication between architects, construction managers, and leadership teams; not to mention the staff, teachers, and board members required once construction is finished. Once it's decided what is needed, the district will meet with bond advisors to prepare a bond issue to put before district voters.



Alcohol causing problems? Alcoholics Anonymous meets daily at 928 W. Main, Weatherford. Call (580) 819-0727 for more information. 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 to 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. 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 for July 31 – Carol Sue Almon, Billy Gentry, Robbie Gilbert, Jerry Hardin, Loyd Lasley, Russell Lee, Sherri Martin, Kassidi Rice, Rosa Sinclair, Eric Stoney, Ray Sutton, Daniel Tallbear, Barbie Trebay, Bryce Waldrop; August 1 – Todd Brunner, Jennifer DeGarmo, Ally Dobbs, McKenna Gentry, Joey Lacy, Beranna Leon, Jamie Moody, Larry Joe Scott, Christian Sharp, Randy Sloan; August 2 – Dena Bass, Cashlyn Hamons, Chance Hanson, Lana Kible, Winona Madison, Bobby Ringler, Darrell Stehr; August 3 - Judy Armstrong, Sammy Dudgeon, Mercedes Estes, Nicole Horn, Lorrie Howry, Koby King, Allen Lackey, David Lasley, Debrah Musick, Doris Payne, Deirik Riley; August 4 - Dustin Devine, Shanda O'Neile, Kim Renison, Jacoby Smith; August 5 - Jim Butcher, Adam Cowan, Lauren Klein, Elizabeth Kliewer, Troy Moorhead, Austin Morrison, Shane Renna, Nicolette Strauch, Kody Marie Thompson, Ginger Sue Thompson, Jesse Wise; August 6 - Billy Byrum, Ray Harris, Rick Koch, Lyndall Switzer.

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### **HELP WANTED!**

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Organizing & Decorating Will haul off trash & donations. Decorizing your life! Contact 580-

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Infinity QX56 2012 - 165K miles. \$16,000 OBO. 405-638-1773.

**Delta Truck Box -** Brand new, full size, white, one top opener. \$800 OBO. 580-330-1437

Military Jeep Hood. Roughly 30"x30." \$250 580-330-1437.

2014 Ford Focus - \$6,500. 580-

2001 Honda 600CC - Navy Blue.

16k miles, \$2,000. 405-892-8301 2003 Chevy Trailblazer - good

tires. \$5,750. 580-330-3489

4-Michelin used passenger

tires - 20 inch. 580-393-1444.

Motorized Mountain Bike -Comes with detatchable 1-wheel trailer. Lots of extras. Low miles. \$600. 580-890-9442.

2009 Mercury Grand Marquis **LS** - \$3,750 OBO. 580-330-3489.

For Sale - Porsch 924, good engine. Dune Buggy frame. Buy both for \$1,000! Contact 405-639-9667.

### **FURNITURE & APPLIANCES**

Riverside Roll Top Oak Desk -Beautiful 1980's model. \$300. 580-772-7357.

Thomasville Dining Set -Has 6 chairs (2 with arm rests). Table comes with heatinsulating cover. Dark cherry color theme. Like new. \$1,000 OBO. MUST SELL! Contact 580-819-0004.

Widescreen TV - 93" CRT. Mitsubishi. \$499. Contact at 580-

Mirrors! Large, framed: \$50; Full length: \$10. 580-613-0108

Coil roofing air nailgun - like new, with 3 boxes of coil nails.

Chairs for Sale! Swivel (\$20), Rocking (\$65) and Adirondack Patio Chairs (\$65). Contact 580-

\$250. 580-330-1437.

613-0108.

3 Handheld Vacuums - \$30 each. 580-613-0108.

FOR SALE - Young Children's Wood Rocking Horse. Like new. \$45. 580-613-0108.

Adjustable Electric Fan - Both head and feet can be adjusted. Full-Size. Call 580-819-0484 for details and pricing.

Queen-Size Headboard - Match Leather. \$25. 580-819-0004.

Entertainment Center, \$100. Gun Cabinet, \$500. White Armoire, \$275. 580-330-1437.

Furniture! 7-Piece Tiger Oak Dinette Pioneer hutch buffet table and 4 chairs. Devilled glass and mirrors fruit motif. \$2,000. Call 580-772-4297.

Wood Door Cabinet - 6 shelves. Stands 5'11. Very good condition. \$65. 580-613-0108.

Commercial Mini Fridge - Size 24" wide x 33" tall x 22" deep. Call 580-819-0004.

**Brothers Sewing Maching -**Portable. \$50. 580-445-6765

Baby Grand Piano - 2nd Owner. Vose and Sons. \$900. 580-613-

23 Dinner Plates - 75 cents each.

580-613-0108.

580-774-7713.

97" Projection Television -\$750. Call 580-772-7997

Large Copper Skillet - \$45.580-613-0108

May Tag Washer/Dryer Combo In good working condition. \$600.

### **FARM, LAWN & GARDEN**

8N Ford tractor - Good condition. \$1,500. Call me at 580-729-0001.

For Sale - Hoe, sprayer, ladders, post hole diggers, golf cart, kerosene stove and tanks, heaters, 245/60R18 tires, folding chairs, hand tools, work bench, lawn mower. 405-246-8952.

Troybilt Garden Tiller - 7HP motor, like new. \$600. Contact 580-729-0001.

Dixon Riding Mowers-\$400 for all three. 405-639-9667

Craftsman Riding Mowers -\$600. 405-639-9667.

STIHL Weed Trimmer - Never used. \$275. 580-774-8678.

### **ANIMALS AND PETS**

Large Birdcage - 26" x 62" \$25 Call 580-890-9442.

Large Metal Birdcage - \$120 New asking \$80. 5-6 ft tall. 580-

Puppies! Born March 2024. Anatolian/Pyranees/Houndogs. Females for \$45, Males for \$60. 580-613-0108.

**Doghouse -** Shingled Roof and Gabled. \$155. 580-613-0108.

home. Would make good farm dogs. 580-330-8658.

Jack Russell Puppies - wormed, tails doct, claws removed. \$400. Call 580-301-0253.

ADOPTABLE ANIMALS at the Friends For Life Animal Society. Kittens, cats, puppies and dogs available. Browse our animals at our website www.okfflas.org

4 Pomegranean Puppies 22-weeks old. 2 Black-and-White females, 1 Black Male, and 1 Brown Male, 903-808-0312

For Sale - Registered Australian shepherd, male. Standard female poodle. Mini male poodle. Mini female poodle. 580-614-1241.

An All-Natural Pet Company designed to keep your fur babies healthy. 90-day 100% satisfaction guarantee. 580-623-3593.

Boston Terrier Pups - ACA Registered. 580-614-1241.

### MISC.

Looking to help the elderly! Errands, housekeeping, laundry, etc. Any way I can be of service! Call 580-331-7321.

Golden Compass Electric Wheelchair - Gently used. Original price was \$6,000, asking \$400. 580-375-9773.

Assorted Materials - Aluminum, Iron, 2x4s, Plywood, Plastic Palettes. 580-890-0053 for pricing

Fresh Peanuts - Located in Carnegie. www.gooberhouse. com. 580-654-1175.

High Quality Bulls - Horned or pulled bulls for sale. Crossbreeding steeds can be a lucrative business! 580-661-1146.

Organic Farm Eggs - \$5 per dozen. 580-613-0108.

Ladies Gold Rolex Watch -Purchased Locally. Asking for \$8,995. 580-772-7997.

Size 33 Record Albums - \$3 per choice or take all for \$1 each. Call 580-890-9442.

House for Rent - Swan Lake. Call 405-826-6376

5-Car Electric Train Set - In up-and-running condition. \$30. 580-890-9442.

Old Road Maps - Pristine condition. Properly stored. Call 580-393-1444

Housekeeping - Serving the elders of Weatherford. Call 747-

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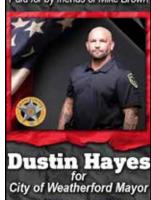
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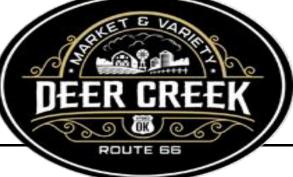
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## Oklahoma History: Shannon Miller, Oklahoma's "All Around" Olympian



**Chase Wright** 

With the 2024 Olympics underway, there's no better

time to look back at one of the most dominating and decorated American gymnasts in history. Shannon Lee Miller, born on March 10, 1977, began her journey in gymnastics at the age of 5. Her family moved to Edmond, Oklahoma shortly after her birth in Rolla, Missouri, and her extraordinary talent within the sport was evident immediately. She traveled to Moscow a few years later for a gymnast camp and by the time she was in high school, she was not only balancing on the bar but balancing curriculum with a fast-paced training, travel, and competition schedule. After a third-place finish at the 1989 Olympic Festival at 12-years-old, her path to become the most decorated American gymnast, male or female (now surpassed by Simone Biles), is a tale of resilience, dedication, and extraordinary talent.

Shannon had a natural flair from a young age and began training under Steve Nunno and Peggy Liddick at Dynamo Gymnastics in Oklahoma City. Nunno and Peggy would become personal trainers to Miller throughout her run to seven Olympic medals and nine World Championships.

Miller's ascent in the gymnastics world continued with her debut internationally in 1990 and 1991 when she scored perfect 10s on the balance beam at the Swiss Cup and the Arthur Gander Memorial, won the all-around title with the highest total score ever by an American Woman, and secured two silver medals at the World Championships in 1991, in Indianapolis. The dominating performances signaled her arrival as a formidable competitor on the global scene.

At the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, Miller scored the highest of any gymnast in the team competition, capturing the bronze medal for the US. In the all-around final competition, she lost by the closest scoring margin in Olympic history, 0.012 points behind first place. For event finals, she won three individual medals: a silver and two bronze medals. She came home with five total medals and the highest American athlete medal total in Barcelona. She competed in every event final at the Olympic Games that year, performing sixteen routines with thirteen of them receiving scores of 9.9 or higher out of 10.

During the 1993 and 1994 World Championships, Miller won the all-around title, becoming the first American gymnast to win back-to-back world all-around titles. In 1995, Miller struggled with injury and had to



the highest total score of the American team.

The pinnacle of her career came in 1996. Miller was struggling from sever tendinitis in her left wrist, a pulled hamstring, and an inability to compete at the Olympic Trials and that year's World Championships. Luckily, she had secured first place at the US National Championships earlier and the American Olympic team allowed her to compete at the Olympics later that year due to her top performer finish. By the time of the Summer Olympic Games, her injury was healed, and she led the American team to Atlanta for one of the most dazzling displays of gymnastics ever seen.

The women's gymnastics team earned the nickname the Magnificent Seven, winning the first ever gold medal for the US in the team competition. It was a grueling duel between the US team and the Soviet Union's Unified Team which had won the team event at every Olympics since 1952. During the competition, three teams were trading places for first. It was a race between Russia, the US, and the Romanian team. Each member of the Magnificent Seven showed up to perform.

As the competition moved to the Vault, Russia was in the lead by 0.897 points. The US team took the lead during the vault at first with an opportunity to seal the win but had a surprise setback as US gymnast Dominique Moceanu had issues on both of her attempts, over-rotating and falling backwards on her landing. Now, the opportunity for the gold swung to Russia, with their world champion and reigning national champions set to perform their routines after. The US's next hope lay in their vault anchor Kerri Strug up next.

Strug performed the same vault, but also uncharacteristically fell back onto the mat on her first attempt, suffering a major injury to her ankle tearing two ligaments. The team and the crowd were in shock. Throughout the competition, the miraculous US gymnastics run had won over the crowd who had been chanting for the US. Now, the Cinderella story looked to be over. The competition allowed two attempts per gymnast, and it was decided that Kerri would try again,

As she gingerly prepared to go again, attempting to walk off the injury. After shaking it out as best she could, Kerri tore down the runway, hit the springboard, twisted through the air, and stuck the landing. The stadium erupted in cheers. Immediately, Kerri collapsed from her pain, and



The gold medal was secured for the US and images and videos of her vault became one of the most historic moments in American and Olympic History.

During the medal ceremony, Kerri was brought back out after getting her injury tended too and while getting their medals the crowd began chanting "USA".

With the gold medal for the team event secured, it was time for individual finals. Shannon Miller took Kerri's place for the vault final. The finals went well across all competitions and Miller ended the 1996 Olympics as the team's highest scoring member and earned herself a gold medal on the balance beam and a bronze medal. She received the only individual gold for the US at that year's Olympics. After the competition ended, the Magnificent Seven went on multiple tours, talk shows, and meetings, receiving an induction into the US Olympic Hall of Fame as a team. In 2012, the vault moment from Kerri Strug was chosen as the number 1 Olympic moment in a Top 30 list for moments in NBC Olympic history. The team inspired a generation of gymnasts.

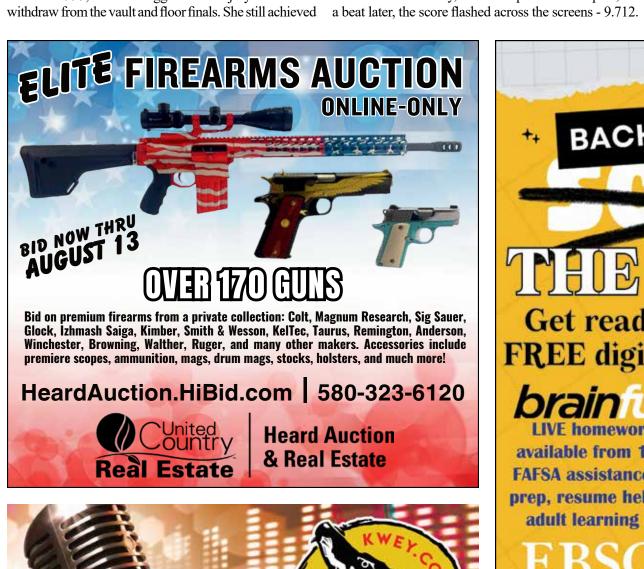
Following the Olympic triumphs, Miller faced some old challenges, struggling with injuries and surgeries, eventually concluding her career with seven Olympic medals and nine World Championship medals. Miller was the first American to win the balance beam at an Olympics and the first woman to win an individual gold fully attending.

Miller has been inducted into the US Gymnastics Hall of Fame, the US Olympic Hall of Fame, the International Gymnastics Hall of Fame, and the Women's International Sports Hall of Fame. She became the only woman, in any sport, to be inducted into the United States Olympic Hall of Fame twice (receiving an induction as an individual and as part of a team).

During retirement, Miller has dedicated herself to promoting health and fitness, founding Shannon Miller Lifestyle, a company focused on health and fitness for women, and the Shannon Miller Foundation, a foundation dedicated to combating childhood obesity.

Her influence extends beyond the realm of gymnastics. Her advocacy for wellness and her role as a motivational speaker has cemented her status as an exemplary role model. Today, she

continues to inspire people to pursue their dreams with tenacity and unwavering dedication. Her story is one of triumph over adversity, the importance of perseverance, and the legacy of a true champion.







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## Connections Food & Resource Center Raises Over 850 Lbs. of Food



Courtesy SWOSU Music Camps

Connections Food & Resource Center's Executive Director Elizabeth Amen (right) poses for a photo with Weatherford Whataburger Managers Arin (left) and Charla (center).

**Alexander Shook** WestOK Contributor

Connections Food & Resource Center was

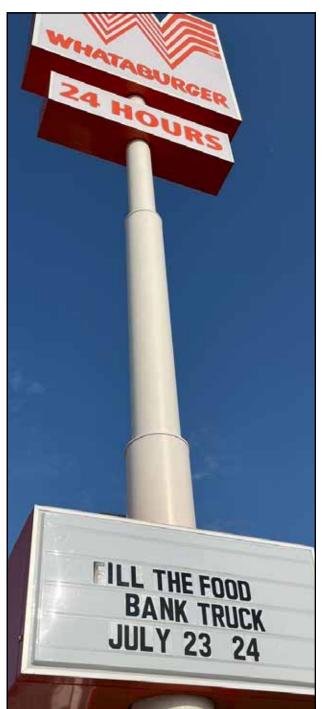
enthusiastic to report a successful two-day food drive last week. According to Executive Director Elizabeth Amen, as well as the Weatherford Connections Facebook page, the "Fill the (Food Bank) Truck" charity event has reportedly raised 887 pounds of food.

The food drive was hosted in conjunction with Whataburger in Weatherford. From July 23rd to 24th, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., various signs were displayed inside the restaurant advertising the food drive. Even the large sign outside the restaurant was changed to help spread the word.

Whataburger patrons were incentivized to donate canned food and other non-perishable items for a coupon good for one free Whataburger on their next

Connections Food & Resource Center is now looking forward to its next fundraiser, which is scheduled for September 12. Devon Energy, a longtime partner of Connections Food & Resource, will be hosting a Golf Tournament in association with United Way. All proceeds will go towards Connections.

Last year's Devon Energy's fundraiser, which was their annual "Give for Good" Employee Silent Auction, brought in around \$70,500 for Connections.











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## Five from SWOSU Named 2023-24 Cobalt Golf All-America Scholars



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Jon Chidester

Five from SWOSU Men's Golf were named 2023-24

Division II Cobalt All-America Scholars, announced Thursday by the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA).

Earning a spot on the scholar list was Cameron Gallagher, Lukas Hendricks, Sutton McMillan, Mariano Racca, and Anders Strand. It's the fourth straight year Strand has been honored, a program record, while Hendricks received recognition for a second straight year. Gallagher, McMillan, and Racca all find themselves as honorees for the first

Five total All-America Scholars ties SWOSU's program record set in 2021. The Bulldogs have had four or more members receive the honor in each of the last four seasons.

To be eligible for Cobalt Golf All-America Scholar nomination, an individual must be a sophomore, junior or senior both academically and athletically. In addition, they must participate in 50% of their team's competitive rounds, have a stroke average under 78.0 in NCAA Division II, and maintain a minimum cumulative career grade-point average of 3.2.

A recipient must also be of high moral character and be in good standing at their college or university.

227 NCAA Division II athletes from 77 schools earned 2023-24 Cobalt All-America Scholar honors. The Bulldogs were one of nine teams in Division II to have at least five represented on the list.

SWOSU's Cobalt All-American Scholars, 2024	
Cameron Gallagher	Senior
Lukas Hendricks	Junior
Sutton McMillan	Sophomore
Mariano Racca	Redshirt Junior
Anders Strand	Senior

Established in 1958, the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) is the professional organization of men's collegiate golf coaches.

The GCAA's mission is to support its member coaches from six divisions, including the NCAA, NAIA and NJCAA, by creating educational opportunities, providing resources, and promoting its members with the purpose of enhancing their overall performance as coaches, mentors, and teachers. The GCAA recognizes the achievements and excellence of its members and student-athletes in academic, athletic, and civic endeavors.

## **SWOSU's Athletic Auction Returns August 10**



**Alexander Shook** 

The 2024 Hall of Fame induction ceremony will

take place at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, August 9. The 18th Annual SWOSU Athletic Auction will commence one day later on Saturday, August 10, where the inductees will be recognized again. Both events will be held in the Pioneer Event Center.

**SWOSU'S Hall of Fame Inductees for 2024** Hayden Priddy.....Basketball, 2015-2019 Woody Roof......Football, 1979-1982 Hailey Tucker.....Basketball, 2015-2019

The newest inductees into the Class of 2024 were announced in June 2024 on behalf of the SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame Committee by Athletic Director Todd Helton

The Online Auction began on July 29, and will continue until August 9. There are over 100 items up for bidding, which can be accessed by visiting www.SWOSUAthleticAuction.com.

A limited number of tickets and tables for the Hall of Fame Banquet and Athletic Auction are still available for purchase and can be bought by calling 580-774-3267, e-mailing joshua.cobb@swosu.edu, or visiting SWOSUAthleticAuction.com.





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