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An American flag flies in downtown Alva on Wednesday. Members of the local American Legion Post No. 92 posted dozens of flags around the town square to celebrate Veterans Day. Photo by Jordan Green

# SGA votes down resolution urging cancellation of in-person learning

By **JORDAN GREEN**  
News Editor

Northwestern Student Government Association senators on Monday voted against a resolution urging the university’s administrators to cancel in-person instruction after Thanksgiving break.

The resolution, co-authored by SGA President Ethan Sacket and Secretary Dacoda McDowell-Wahpekeche, tied on a 5 – 5 vote. It fell two votes short of the two-thirds majority it needed to pass.

In the resolution, Sacket and Wahpekeche called on university officials to implement virtual learning plans after the break “to lessen the amount of positive COVID-19 cases after Thanksgiving.”

Northwestern officials say they still intend to have students return to campus from Nov. 30 to Dec. 11 to finish classes and take final exams in-person. Thanksgiving break will begin Nov. 23.

“It’s basically asking them to create a plan, whether we follow through or not,” Wahpekeche said. “We felt as if there hasn’t really been a plan.”

Northwestern’s coronavirus



Northwestern Student Government Association President Ethan Sacket speaks to SGA senators during a meeting in the Student Center Ballroom on Monday night. Senators voted down a resolution urging university administrators to cancel in-person learning after Thanksgiving break in response to the coronavirus. Photo by Jordan Green

case numbers have increased in the last two weeks, and some students say they’re concerned that returning to campus after the break would be unsafe, Wahpekeche said.

The university had a combined 36 active cases among

its campuses in Alva, Enid and Woodward as of Nov. 6.

University officials have not reported the number of active cases on individual campuses.

During the hour-long meeting, senators and students spoke about their experiences with dis-

tance learning during the spring semester, when universities across the nation closed down to stop the spread of the virus.

Some questioned the university’s decision to make students return to campus after

See **RESOLUTION**, Page 2

## 2020 ELECTION Students react to Biden win

By **GEORGE SMITH**  
Student Reporter

Former Vice President Joe Biden collected the electoral votes on Friday to put him past the tipping point of the 270 needed to win the presidency.

“I am honored and humbled by the trust the American people have placed in me and in Vice President-elect [Kamala] Harris,” Biden said in a statement after being declared the president-elect.

Biden gave his acceptance speech shortly after 8 p.m. Nov. 7 — four days after the Nov. 3 election.

“Now that this campaign is over,” he said in his acceptance  
See **BIDEN**, Page 3



**Biden**



**Trump**

# News

## RESOLUTION: Students share concerns over in-person, virtual learning

Continued from Page 1

Thanksgiving break.

“Cases are on the rise,” SGA Vice President Dawson Maxwell said. “As the administration has planned, we are going to come back after Thanksgiving break for those two weeks and finish out the semester. That’s looking a little not safe.”

Several Oklahoma universities – including the state’s flagship universities, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University – have already announced that their students will complete the fall semester in a virtual format. Some of the state’s regional universities, including Southwestern Oklahoma State University, have made similar plans.

Olivia Yandel, an SGA co-adviser and assistant director of the J.R. Holder Wellness Center, said the university will not require students to be tested for the virus after returning from the break.

“For those of you who live in the dorms, is it a concern to you that people are able to fly home and fly back and not have to worry about getting their temperature taken or having to bring back a negative test?” she asked.

Wahpekeche said students could be exposed to the virus during traditional Thanksgiving events.

“Thanksgiving, when you’re around your family – the CDC [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention] has released that there needs to be a change of plans to your Thanksgiving, but knowing us, I’m not changing it,” he said.

Not all students said they were in favor of the proposed online format.

Sen. Austin Rankin said he believes students are less motivated to learn when they’re not in the classroom. He also said students may not perform as well on final



Photo by Jordan Green

**Student Government Association Sen. Austin Rankin speaks during a meeting in the Student Center Monday night. Senators voted down a resolution urging officials to cancel in-person learning after Thanksgiving break.**

exams if they’re conducted online.

“For me, it’s easier to fail to a computer than it is to a professor,” Rankin said. “I don’t feel guilty when I fail in front of a computer. But if I’m looking at the professor and failing, it’s a little bit harder.”

Sacket, who co-authored the resolution, said he shared Rankin’s concerns.

“I myself did not thrive in the online environment at all,” he said. “I think the administration and students also understand that. That’s why they pushed to have us here in-person in the fall. Just looking at what other universities are

doing, that’s the main reason we brought this up.”

Sen. Collin Zink said he feels safe returning to campus after the break because university staff will sanitize and disinfect public areas of the dorms and other university buildings.

Rankin said he voted against the resolution because he believes distance learning is detrimental to some students. Instead of switching to an online format, he said he believes the university should require returning students to be tested for the coronavirus.

“The farther apart you get, the

less passionate you get,” he said. “When I’m at school and I’m in class every day, it’s a lot easier to stay focused and to stay attentive to my education. When I’m separate, and even when I’m in my Zoom calls, it’s so easy to not focus and to not pay attention.”

Though the resolution failed, Sacket said he will continue to work with university administrators to develop guidelines that keep students safe.

“I think it’s important to have those conversations with the dean of students and administration,” Sacket said. “I will still have those

conversations, but I am OK. I am happy with how the night went.”

### MOSBURG: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM STUDENTS

Caleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs at Northwestern, said university officials are monitoring active coronavirus cases on university campuses. He said the university’s plans to resume in-person learning could change.

“We have a lot of elements that we watch, and we pay attention to what’s going on community-wide,” he said. “Numbers change within minutes or hours or seconds. That’s just something we’re continuing to watch. Right now, the plan is to come back after Thanksgiving. If those plans change, we will communicate it out to our students and our campus communities, our faculty, and our staff.”

While the resolution failed, Mosburg said he knows that some students are concerned about returning to campus. He said administrators want to hear from students, and he said they would consider what students have to say.

“We would take [the resolution] into consideration,” Mosburg said. “We’re daily looking at numbers. We’re daily watching to see how things are going. We definitely want to hear from our students. That’s not something we shut the door on or anything like that. We want to know what our students are thinking. ... Without doing a knee-jerk reaction, we’re trying to look at all of the different elements and do what’s best for our campus.”

*Editor’s Note: McDowell-Wahpekeche is a student reporter and circulation manager for the Northwestern News. He did not contribute to or review this story prior to publication.*

## Student ticketed after colliding with university police car

By **JORDAN GREEN**  
News Editor

When a Northwestern student collided with another vehicle in Alva on Oct. 30, he didn’t have to wait for the police to arrive.

An officer was already there – in the other car.

A Northwestern student collided with a university police car on Oct. 30 at the intersection of College Avenue and Oklahoma Boulevard after the student made an improper left turn, Alva police reported.

Northwestern student Blake Gerber and Northwestern Police Officer Blake Trezell were uninjured in the wreck, police report-

ed, and their vehicles had only minor damage.

Trezell was driving the university police department’s marked 2011 Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser eastbound in the outside lane of Oklahoma Boulevard near the intersection of College Avenue, and Gerber was driving his 2009 Dodge Ram southbound on College Avenue.

Gerber turned left at the intersection, striking the left rear side of the police car, according to a traffic collision report filed by the Alva Police Department.

Police said both vehicles were drivable after the collision. According to the report, police ticketed Gerber for making the improper turn.



**At right: The left rear side of the Northwestern Police Department’s 2011 Ford Crown Victoria was dented in an Oct. 30 accident involving a Northwestern student. The accident occurred at the intersection of College Avenue and Oklahoma Boulevard, and the student was ticketed for making an improper left turn. No one was injured in the collision.**

Photo by Jordan Green

# News

## GRADUATION DAY

### University plans to host in-person graduation Dec. 6

By SEAN DOHERTY  
Student Reporter

Northwestern Oklahoma State University is planning to host commencement ceremonies Dec. 6 for fall, summer and spring 2020 graduates.

Spring and summer graduates will be honored at 1 p.m. and fall graduates will be honored at 3:30 p.m. in Percefull Fieldhouse.

“We are excited to offer students who graduated last spring an opportunity to have an in-person graduation as well, thus the two ceremonies,” said Dr. Bo Hannaford, executive vice president of academic affairs.

The university announced that, because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, each graduate is only permitted to have two guests in attendance. Officials asked faculty not to attend the ceremony.

Kelsey Martin, director of marketing and university relations, said the university made the decision based off of current safety standards and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. Aside from the social distancing precautions, the ceremony will be the same as it was in previous years, Martin said.

“We have thought through many scenarios, and this is the best situation to honor our graduates,” Martin said.

Percefull Fieldhouse has designated seating to allow for social distancing. Officials said proper ventilation has been installed within the building, and attendees are required to wear face coverings. Extensive cleaning and disinfecting will take place between ceremonies.

“To have these ceremonies, we still need to be responsible and adhere to our protocols for safety in terms of social distancing and wearing masks,” Hannaford said. “While having the graduation in the gym, as is our tradition in December, we cannot have the faculty participate. This allows us to have the room on the floor of the gym for our students to socially



Photo by University Relations

Northwestern Oklahoma State University fall 2018 graduates are shown above. The university will host an in-person graduation ceremony Dec. 6.

distance.”

“Two tickets is based solely off of what we have space for in the gym,” said Calleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs. “We only have limited space that would allow for a safe environment and still allow us to successfully have a ceremony for both graduating groups.”

Some Oklahoma universities have already chosen to do virtual graduation ceremonies for fall graduates.

“We are excited to be able to have an in-person graduation,” Hannaford said. “I believe Northwestern is one of three or four universities in the state doing so.”

Kris Robinson graduated this spring, but is not planning to attend the ceremony.

“If I’m only allowed two tickets to my graduation, that means only my parents can attend,” Robinson said. “I have plenty more that would want to go, like my siblings, grandparents and cousins. That’s why I’m electing not to walk this fall. I’ve been out

of college this long. I just want to move on and let it be,” Robinson said.

#### ‘WE DEFINITELY WANT TO PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY’

Mosburg said the university is aware of graduates’ frustrations with the decision.

“We understand there may be frustrations about that,” Mosburg said. “We would encourage them to still walk. We’re going to have it live-streamed, so people would be able to see them walking and where they’re from. It’s an opportunity for students to be able to walk across the stage. We don’t make them do it, but if they want the opportunity to do so, we definitely want to provide the opportunity if we can.”

Ethan Harzman will graduate with an agribusiness degree this fall, and he is planning to walk across the stage.

“It’s pretty disappointing I can’t have my whole family there

to see me walk,” Harzman said. “I feel like it’s a big milestone to graduate from college, and I have to choose only two people to see me walk across the stage. I’ve been waiting for this moment for a long time, and now I can’t experience it with everyone I want there.”

Mosburg said the university empathizes with graduates and wants to honor their achievements.

“We understand the effort, hard work and dedication it takes to be able to graduate,” Mosburg said. “That ceremony to be able to walk across the stage, even though it seems somewhat minimal – just walking across the stage holds some significance and it gives closure. It allows for people to have that time to say, ‘I did it.’ That’s why we want to give an opportunity if we can.”

Mosburg said he stands behind the university’s decision.

“We wish we could do more and really open the door and allow for all family to be able to

be there or friends, but we know that’s not possible,” he said. “In order for us to be able to do it, we’ve got to have some restrictions on allowing for so many people inside the facility.”

#### ‘I UNDERSTAND’

Harzman said she understands the university’s decision as well.

“I understand what’s going on around the world, and if that will keep everyone safe—say if someone brought their grandparents or something—I completely understand why they are doing it.”

The university’s main concern is to provide a safe environment for graduates and their guests to witness the milestone of university commencement, Hannaford said.

“These have been tough decisions to make and the ceremonies will be a bit different,” Hannaford said. “But we feel our students deserve an opportunity to walk across the stage, and this is our goal.”

## BIDEN: Students voice support for, opposition to president-elect

### Continued from Page 1

speech, “what is the will of the people? What is our mandate? I believe it’s this: America has called upon us to march to the forces of decency, the forces of fairness, to march to the forces of science, and the forces of hope and the great battles of our time. The battle to control the virus, the battle to build prosperity, the battle to secure your family’s healthcare, the battle to achieve racial justice and root-out systemic racism in this country.”

ism in this country.”

Freshman political science major Austin Rankin said Biden was aiming to give a clear, unifying message in his speech.

“From the start, Biden has ran a unifying campaign, whereas Donald Trump — in almost every circumstance — has been divisive,” Rankin said. “It’s always been my opinion that he (Trump) just wants to divide people.”

Rankin, who is the president of the 4-H Club at Northwestern,

also said that Biden’s policies are more in-line with his own governmental views.

After Pennsylvania’s 20 electoral votes were called for Biden on Saturday, President Donald Trump and his staff began filing lawsuits in battleground states in an effort to overturn the results with a recount.

Biden currently has leads in Arizona, Georgia, Nevada and Pennsylvania. To win reelection, Trump would need to overturn at

least three of those states.

“Very seldom do recounts overturn a decision,” said Dr. Roger Hardaway, a professor of history at Northwestern.

Recounts move hundreds of votes, not the thousands Trump needs to win those states, Hardaway said.

Before the election was called in Biden’s favor, Dawson Maxwell, a junior criminal justice major and the vice president of the Northwestern student govern-

ment association, said he expected Trump to win a second term.

Maxwell said his support for Trump comes from his major.

“The career field that I’m going into is criminal justice, and law enforcement overwhelmingly supported his platform, and being pro-police myself, it felt obligatory,” he said.

This presidential election had the highest number of votes of any presidential election in history.

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Letters must be turned in by noon on Monday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwosu.edu. Please limit submissions to no more than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to condense or edit any letter for grammar, libel and space limitations. All letters submitted may not be used.

All letters represent the views of the author.

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# Editorial



## Everything takes time

*Changing appearance, attitude, lifestyle or anything in general takes time and patience. The key is to not worry or fret too much.*

By **DEVYN LANSDEN**  
Student Reporter

The past couple of months I have made a lot of changes. To my appearance and my attitude.

I started running in the beginning of July, thanks to my boyfriend. At first, it was just something that I did cause it is always nice to get out and exercise.

Once running started to be a part of my daily routine, I decided I might as well start eating better. I now do intermediate fasting which is not eating for 16 hours and eat for eight hours every day.

During the eight hours I try my best to eat the best I can. I was doing it without even thinking too much of it. Next thing I know, intermediate fasting was becoming easier and easier.

In October I finally shared on Instagram what I have accomplished since July, which was losing 20 pounds.

A lot of people were interested and told me I inspired them, so I thought more people would enjoy knowing what my mind set was like during the past couple of months when I was exercising and losing weight.

The key is to not look at yourself, just push that to the back of your mind. I notice in a lot of people they judge themselves a lot. This isn't a good thing when

wanting to lose weight, so the best thing to do is to not pay too much attention to results. Just do your work and before you know it, someone else will be saying how good you look.

Weighing yourself every day is also something you shouldn't do. If you check your weight every day then nothing will happen.

I bought a scale in August because I was in a weight loss competition so I needed to have one in my house. But now I am in the habit of checking my weight frequently so I had to move the scale into the garage, somewhere I wouldn't see it every day and be enticed to step on it.

I meal prep every week, this was something I was scared of because I get bored easily so I was afraid that I would get tired of my food and not want to eat it.

I have done it since the beginning of August so now I know what I like and what I won't get tired of.

The biggest meal I eat is supper. For lunch I eat a smoothie or a protein bar. The only reason I don't have to eat so much in a day is because it took months of doing it. This isn't something to just pick up, trust me. Before, for lunch I would eat yogurt, avocado toast, hummus, eggs, etc. Something that I liked but wasn't too much and somewhat healthy.

So the key is to want to make yourself better and do not try to change yourself too fast. Everything takes time.

## To Zoom or not to Zoom?

*Should students have the option to attend class via Zoom or in-person? There could be benefits.*

By **LOGAN MERIWETHER**  
Student Reporter

Should Northwestern students be allowed to choose whether they attend class via Zoom or in person?

There are benefits and negatives to both sides like most things. During the COVID-19 pandemic this could be a great deal for student and faculty safety. We would still have the same amount of students on class, and also have the chance to lower in person in class numbers.

This could also be beneficial for students attendance if a student cannot make it to class that day they could have the option to attend virtually and not miss class discussion or assignments. A negative can be that students won't apply themselves to their work like they would in class, but that lies on the students if you choose to attend class through Zoom you need to be able to keep up with your homework and attend class

regularly. Students that attend through Zoom also need to make sure they have everything they need to complete assignments, if they are a Mass Communications major they would need to make sure they can do Photoshop assignments or assignments where a computer is needed.

Another option could be to split classes in half and one half attends class in person for a week or two weeks. While the other half attends class through zoom. This would cut down the number of students in person at one time, allowing for more distance in the classroom and on campus. Assignments and tests could be staggered where students in class can do homework that has to be turned in the classroom or done on a school computer. Where a students that is on Zoom can turn in their assignments through email. When it is time for a test all students will meet that day in class and take it and then they will continue with their normal schedule.

When finals rolled around

Northwestern could implement a new learning schedule for students where they were all back in class the final week together so they can study and prepare for their tests. This way the school would not have to have different final times from what they are already set at and they can be done properly so students wouldn't be allowed to cheat.

Students that are online will have to apply themselves while the teacher is not right in front of them and will need to make sure to ask questions or schedule a Zoom time after class so they can receive additional help. Every student no matter if they were in Zoom or in class should be trying their best to do well in their classes and get a quality education, because they are paying for that education.

This could be a great way to lower the odds of getting COVID-19 on campus. With the smaller in class numbers and the ability to have more separation in the classroom, could help keep students safe.

## Celebrate kindness on Friday

By **DESTINY GARDNER**  
Student Reporter

In a world where you can be anything, be kind.

Share your gratitude to the world and compassion to others around you on World Kindness Day.

This day is celebrated on Nov. 13 every year. Its purposes are to highlight good deeds in the community and to focus on the positive power and the common thread of kindness which binds us.

This day has the power to bridge the gap between nations. I believe that this day should be more widely recognized among different communities to show appreciation to others in our community and the world. The idea is to lift or brighten someone's day.

Give someone a compliment or do a good deed for someone with no expectation of anything in return. Another way is to do something in nature, like plant a tree or flowers to show you care about the environment.

Join many others to contribute to this day. 2020 has been a rough ride as it is, so recognizing and celebrating this day of care and selflessness to the earth and the people around you will have a meaningful impact. Make someone else's day without expecting anything in return. I believe that, if this day was celebrated more, communities would be so much more positive.

As a college student, it helps a lot to know that there are people there to boost you up. College can be very stressful, so to have even just a little bit of positivity helps make the day better.

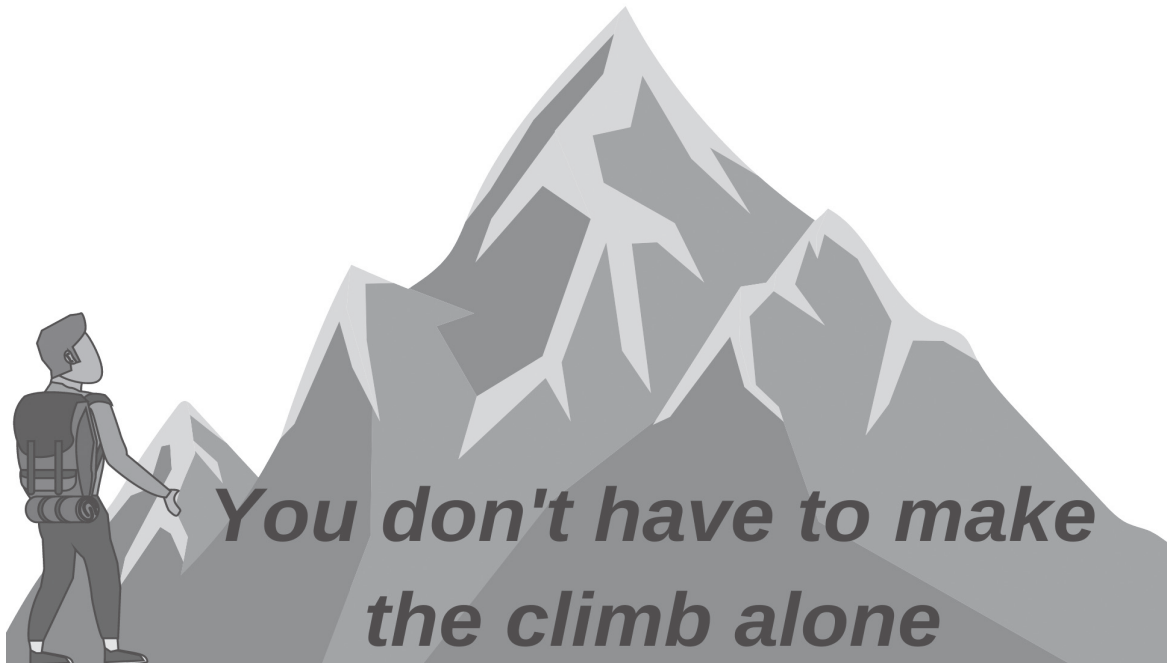
This day was introduced in 1998 by the World Kindness Movement. The World Kindness Movement is an organization with no religious or political affiliation and has the aim of bringing similar kindness movements across the globe together.

This day is the easiest way to appreciate someone or something with no costs at all. All it takes is a little compassion and positivity. So, on Friday, be someone's reason to smile without wanting anything in return.

World Kindness Day can and will have a huge impact if people get out of their comfort zones a little bit and reach out to others.

Be someone's reason to smile, and keep the self-love and love to others open and positive for the best results of this day.

# Editorial



By **MCKAYLA HOLSON**  
Editorial Editor

**H**elpless. That's how I felt. What do you do when a friend tells you they want to die?

I've never been in a situation like that before and I was clueless as to what to do.

I've had friends jokingly tell me that they wanted to die, but I've never had a friend who I thought would actually do that. I just didn't know what to do.

Maybe if I write about this, someone will see it and have the knowledge of what to do and what not to do if they're ever in a similar situation.

Evoletreatment.com listed eight things you should do when a friend tells you they want to die.

## DO THESE:

### 1. Acknowledge their openness.

It's an act of courage if someone opens up to you about this topic. Acknowledge that. I thanked my friend for confiding in me. It's hard to confess feelings like that because we feel that people never understand. We might not ever understand how someone is feeling, but we can try to help.

### 2. Listen closely and validate their feelings.

Stop talking for a while and let them get their emotions out. Use body language to show that you're listening. Don't interrupt. Give them a shoulder to cry on. It's OK for them to cry. It's OK that they feel bad. They've been through a lot and must be in a lot of pain.

### 3. Tell them you're there for them.

"We are going to get through this." This is a personal opinion, but I think verbally including yourself in the plan for help is good. I personally feel better when someone says "We're going to get through this," "We'll find a new coping mechanism," etc. Let the person know they're not alone.

### 4. Give them the Suicide Prevention Hotline number.

It's 1-800-273-8255.

There's also a crisis text line if you or your friend don't want to talk on the phone.

Text "HOME" to 741741.

Both numbers have trained support available 24/7.

### 5. Offer to do research for them.

Help them find counseling services available to them. Help find someone to talk to. Research ways and places that can help them.



### 6. Offer hope.

Things will get better. There are ups and downs in life. It's like an ocean.

Life is sometimes like gentle waves crashing or is almost completely steady. And sometimes, life is like a huge, raging storm. The storm will eventually pass.

It might come back, but we will be better prepared when it does, and that storm will also pass.

### 7. Tell an adult or trained professional.

I had no clue what I was doing. I noticed things got worse, and I reached out to mutual friends for help. Friends who are older and much wiser than I am. With their help, I think we're on the right track to getting better.

### 8. Ask if they have a plan.

This is terrifying, and I can't imagine asking that question. What triggered my need to ask for help was when my friend put his fingers to his head, pretended to shoot himself and said "tonight."

That scared the hell out of me. It made me shake, and I didn't know what to do, I just knew that I had to do something. I reached out to a mutual friend of ours, and

he helped me talk with our friend.

Those are tips of what to do that the website provided. The website also said to call 911 if you feel your friend is in immediate danger.

## DON'T DO THESE:

Evoletreatment also listed five things NOT to do.

### 1. Do not promise secrecy.

Would you rather have a friend who is upset with you or a dead one? It's for their own good, and you might even save their life.

### 2. Don't play therapist.

You're not a trained professional. Get help. Find someone who is a professional.

### 3. Don't ask for too many details on their feelings.

They're in pain — that's what you need to know. Your friend will let you know what's wrong when they're comfortable explaining. Some people, like my friend, don't like sharing because they feel like people won't understand. Just try to be there for them.

### 4. Don't say you understand what they're going through.

You probably don't. Your friend might not even understand what's happening. You are not them. Nobody ever fully understands what anyone is going through.

### 5. Don't ignore the situation.

Your friend is basically trusting you with their life when they give you that information. Try to get them the help they need.

Suicide rates seem to always be increasing, especially for younger people.

We all need to take care of each other.

It is always OK to ask for help. It is always OK to reach out. Nobody has to take on battles by themselves. It will be a difficult climb, but we can all get better.

## Get inspired!

*"The person who completes suicide, dies once. Those left behind die a thousand deaths, trying to relive those terrible moments and understand ... why?"*

– Author unknown

*"If you want to show me that you really love me, don't say that you would die for me. Instead, stay alive for me."*

– Unknown

*"Place your hand over your heart. Can you feel it? That is called purpose. You're alive for a reason, so don't ever give up."*

– Unknown

*"There are far, far better things ahead than anything we leave behind."*

– C. S. Lewis

*"When it is darkest, we can see the stars."*

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

*"To anyone out there who's hurting — it's not a sign of weakness to ask for help. It's a sign of strength."*

– Barack Obama

# Parents, educators in K-12 schools help students learn in COVID era

## Alva mother to fellow parents: 'Be with your kids'

By LEAH DARNELL  
Student Reporter

This spring, the sounds of children's laughter filled the basement of Amelia Bushman's home in Alva, where she runs a daycare. Upstairs, three of her children – Lydia, Landon and Maesyn – scattered school assignments across the floor of their new "classroom." Bushman struggled to keep her children motivated to complete classwork while she remained busy with her daycare business. "Our school did a lot of review, and it wasn't very interactive," Bushman said. "It was a lot of watching videos that the teacher had made, and it was a review. So, they kind of got bored of it."

The coronavirus drastically changed education in schools across the United States – as well as the Alva schools the Bushman children attend – and it continues to do so. Education officials quickly made the decision to shut down schools as the coronavirus pandemic reached a high in the middle of the spring semester. The shuttering of schools forced parents like Bushman to be their children's teachers at home while balancing their own jobs.

During the time her children practiced distance learning, Bushman had three out of her five children in the Alva Public Schools system. Their ages range between 5 and 10.

Someone had to keep Landon and Maesyn, her two youngest children, on task, Bushman said. Both of her children would quickly click through their assignments for the day, but would not take the time to do the home-school assignments correctly. Bushman had to ask their teachers to send the assignments back so the work would be done correctly.

While parents faced a variety of challenges and difficulties, resources and family services were available for parents and students.

Amber Maier at Northwest Family Services, along with her coworkers, continued to offer counseling even under the circumstances. Maier and her coworkers met with families using a Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) compliant program, which also helped families do visitation virtually.

During the sudden shift to online learning, Chesni Thomas, a middle school teacher in Alva, taught her students through Google Classroom and had Google Meet times set aside to check in with her group of students.

While she was balancing her responsibilities as a teacher, Thomas was trying to help her daughter, Asa, with her own home-school assignments.

Thomas said she was "making sure that she felt engagement and that she was important while I was still making sure that the educa-



Photos by Leah Darnell

Above: Amelia Bushman helps her daughter Maesyn read the directions on her assignments as son Maverick looks on. Below: Landon Bushman is learning to write letters for an assignment. He traces each one and writes the letter.

tional needs of my students were being met via the internet."

Before school began for the fall semester, coronavirus numbers were low in Woods County, and Alva school officials provided a plan to bring students back to school safely. At the same time, they offered other learning methods for families who are choosing to practice distance learning.

### ALVA SCHOOLS ADAPT

Tim Argo, Alva Public Schools superintendent, said the school has implemented new safety guidelines.

"One [new guideline] is cafeteria," Argo said. "We all don't eat in the cafeteria at the same time. We have some alternate eating locations. We have transitioned our students to where they all face the same direction in the cafeteria."

The second new guideline pertains to bus routes. Argo and other administrators asked parents to take their children to school and pick them up from school at the end of the day.

School officials are providing breakfast and lunch for students who are going to school virtually.

School officials are also assigning teachers to work with students via Google Meet. Those teachers will help students complete their coursework. Counselors are available through Google Meet for families who choose to meet with one.

"We've tried to provide them [virtual students] the same resources we would a student who is in our brick and mortar," Argo said.

At the state level, the Oklahoma State Board of Education provided resources and information for



parents during the spring semester. State officials compiled a list of frequently-asked questions from parents and answered those questions in a 28-page document on the State Department of Education's website. They also had Zoom calls with school officials around the state.

Joy Hofmeister, the state superintendent of public instruction, provided advice for schools that are seeing an increase in student coronavirus cases.

### SAFETY IS A PRIORITY

"Of course the most important, and I should have reserved this for that highest priority of ours, is the safety and well-being and health of our students and those who serve in schools," Hofmeister said. "And yet we know that many, many Oklahomans care deeply about the education of their family and children and those in the community.

What we aren't seeing everyone as aware of [is] how we all play a role in giving that opportunity for in-person learning for our students or denying that because of high outbreaks."

Bushman kept her children at home this school year because of the numerous outbreaks around the state, and because she feared Alva may have to make the transition back to online learning.

Bushman said it's important for her to keep a schedule so she can balance teaching her children and running her daycare. She is trying to transition her daycare into a preschool. While she is scheduling her kids' day, she is also trying to hire workers for her preschool so she can spend more time with her children.

Bushman has a schedule of when her children need to be on a certain program. While her three children are studying, Bushman lets them know where she is

around the house so that, in the meantime, each can do a different task or activity and doesn't require one-on-one help.

In the midst of the chaos, Bushman said, she hired someone who is skilled in different areas to assist the preschoolers. If her children don't get assignments done during the day, they do home-school lessons during the evening hours. They also complete work on the weekends.

*"Life is too short to just flip out and lose your cool over the little things, so just take it little by little."*  
— Amelia Bushman

"I have learned from just starting off in March to now there are so many resources out there that it can overwhelm you," Bushman said. "There is tons of online things. There is tons of things you can order and have sent to you. Prices vary. It can be overwhelming with how much information [is available], and I told my family, I said, 'It will not be for a lack of resources that our kids won't learn because there is tons of stuff out there.'"

Distance learning wasn't an option for some parents, including Thomas. Since school started back in August, she has been back to work in her classroom at Alva Middle School. Asa Thomas is going to school while wearing a mask and practicing social distancing.

"So, there are a few reasons as to why I sent Asa back to the school building brick-and-mortar setting, as we call it," Thomas said. "No. I was because I feel like Alva has done a great job of making sure that our kids are going to be safe and taking precautions wearing masks out in areas where you can't socially distance. I really believe in that, and I really believe in the public school system. But then, the other side of that, I am a teacher, and so I really don't have a choice.

"I guess, at the end of the day, you do have choices, but it made it a much easier decision for me because I know what Mr. Argo and our other administrators have put in place, and I know what their heart is for our students, and I feel like she is safe."

Bushman offered some advice to parents from what she has learned so far in this school year. "Just take each day as it comes because one day is going to look completely different than the next," Bushman said. "Life is too short to just flip out and lose your cool over the little things, so just take it little by little, and it's not going to be pretty. It might be messy, but just go with it, and be with your kids."

By LOGAN MERIWETHER  
Student Reporter

The middle school basketball coach at Darlington Public Schools, which won the state championship and almost had a perfect record in 2019, lost her chance to obtain the undefeated season she had planned for her team because of COVID-19.

Amy Tully coached her seventh and eighth grade girls team to a one-loss season in 2019. She was excited for this year's season to be here. Because she has more girls coming up from sixth grade, she had a lot of talent, she said. She said she expected another great year and hopefully an undefeated season.

"We were working really hard during the off-season," Tully said. "The girls and I were really excited for what we had to come."

Darlington Superintendent Loren Tackett said that, once COVID-19 hit Oklahoma and forced schools to shut down, things changed rapidly in Darlington. Tully began teaching virtually until summer started. After school started back up again in the fall, she said she was saddened with the news that she was still not able to start practicing – and that she would not have any games at the start of the semester.

### STATE OFFICIALS PROVIDE TRAINING, TOOLS

Joy Hofmeister, the state of Oklahoma's superintendent of public instruction, said she and others have been working to get students back in classrooms safely. Hofmeister has been working with stakeholders, school districts, teachers and public health officials to give schools the latest information about COVID-19.

Hofmeister said smaller schools – such as Enid Public Schools, where 600 students are in quarantine – have been hit the hardest. Hofmeister said this has to do with mask policies in schools.

Oklahoma City schools have implemented requirements for students and staff to wear masks. Schools in the surrounding areas have had fewer COVID-19 cases.

During the summer, Hofmeister said she worked to provide tools and training to educators because professional development support is key for teachers. One one of those tools is the Exact Path program. This program is for grades K-12 and is designed to help reinforce their skills. The program will customize a plan for each individual.

Teaching online not only relies on the teacher to put out information, but also requires students to do their part as well.

Darlington Principal Gina Musea said that, as soon as schools were shut down, school districts were implementing different ways



Photo provided

Members of the Darlington Middle School basketball team pose for a photo with their coach, Amy Tully (center). The team's 2020 season was canceled.

to teach students. One of the main ways was by conducting virtual learning through Zoom.

When students are in the classroom, they are more focused on what they are doing, Musea said. They have a teacher there to answer questions, and to make sure students are doing their work, Tackett said. Many children struggled when they didn't have a teacher helping them, she said.

Many school districts decided it would be best to still give students homework, but that it wouldn't affect their grades if they didn't do it. If students were passing, they still passed whether they did the work or not.

### BEST OF BOTH WORLDS?

Teaching virtually and in the classroom is completely up to school officials and what they believe is safest for their community. Darlington schools in El Reno decided it would be best to use both teaching platforms.

With Darlington being a smaller school and not having a lot of faculty, the pandemic has added a lot of stress on all of the teachers, officials said.

Tully now teaches physical education all day and has to do virtual lessons after school for her online students. She comes up with different workouts and fun exercises for her students by videoing herself doing the exercises. She then sends the videos to the students. The students on the online format have to re-enact the video and send Tully theirs so she can grade it.

### DIVIDE AND CONQUER

Officials in the Alva Public School district say they are trying to take the load off of their teachers by having strictly online teachers and strictly in-classroom teachers, Alva Public Schools Superintendent Tim Argo said.

This breaks up the work load and has made things a lot easier on the teachers, he said. At the same time, students are still getting educated on both formats. For the students who are strictly online, this gives them more of a chance to ask questions and get help on their homework, ensuring they get an equal education, Argo said.

Of the more than 1,000 students in the Alva Public Schools district, 975 attend school in-person, Argo said.

Argo said he had his work cut out for him on figuring out how he was going to get students back in school safely.

"I started making phone calls to other schools districts," Argo said.

He said he met with local and county health officials, medical professionals, teachers and support staff.

"We took the approach of meeting as many people as possible to come up with a plan," Argo said.

Argo and the faculty encourage students wearing their masks, he said. Argo said he wants to make sure students are well educated on how face masks can help keep them safe. He said his students and staff have done well about wearing their face masks.

Argo said he encourages stu-



Argo



Musea

dents and staff to practice social distancing. If students and staff can stay at least six feet away from others, they can remove their masks and get some fresh air, he said.

Alva school officials are having students eat meals at different times and are alternating them among different locations.

School officials asked parents to drop their children off at school and pick them up after school. Parents have done this successfully, and the number of students riding school buses has decreased, Argo said.

When it comes to sports, Alva is limiting the amount of contact students have in football. The district is only allowing a certain number in the locker room to change clothes at one time.

The Darlington Public Schools district has implemented similar students' temperatures when students arrive at school, Musea said.

Musea said she and her staff are doing whatever it takes to keep their students safe. Being a smaller school allows them to separate the desks in classrooms. In physical education classes, students can either go outside or stay inside with their masks on.

When Darlington has a positive COVID-19 case, the whole class is quarantined, and so is anyone else who has had contact with the student who has the virus.

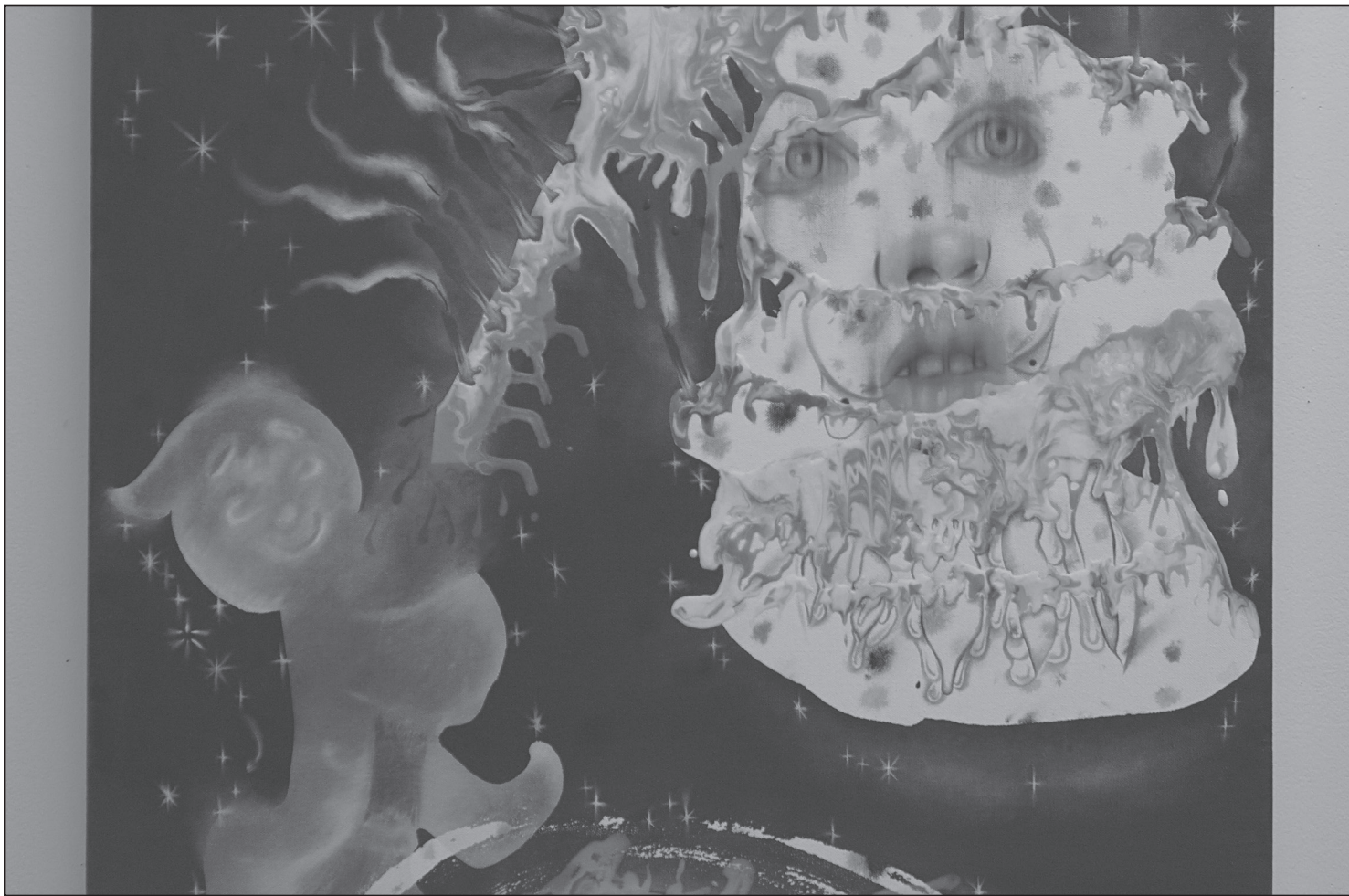
Before a student returns to school, he or she must test negative for the virus.

Going forward, school officials say they hope to return to the classroom and allow their students to play sports.

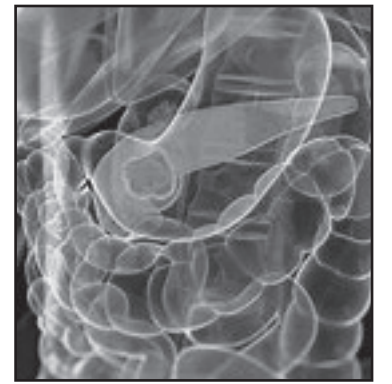
Tully said she is ready to get her team members back into action on the basketball court.

She said she had high hopes that they will get to start their season after Christmas and will be back in full swing with sports.

# Feature



Photos by Jordan Green



A pancreas is shown in this photo.

## Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month is November

By DAVID THORNTON  
Photographer

It is important people have awareness about viruses and diseases beside just COVID-19, even when it is not currently being talked about.

November is Pancreatic cancer awareness month. The purple ribbon is the color that represents the awareness.

Pancreatic cancer has the lowest survival rate of all major cancers. Recognizing the symptoms and understanding who is at risk can lead to early detection, which means better patient outcomes.

Pancreatic cancer is now the third leading cause of cancer death in America. It is estimated that more than 53,000 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year and more than 41,000 – the equivalent of a small city – will die of it.

The exact causes of pancreatic cancer are not yet well understood. Research studies have identified certain risk factors that may increase the likelihood that an individual will develop pancreatic cancer.

Additional factors that may increase risk include being over 60 years old; being male; consuming a diet high in red or processed meats; and obesity.

Smoking is a significant risk factor and may cause about 20-30 percent of all exocrine pancreatic cancer cases.

People who smoke cigarettes are two times more likely to develop pancreatic cancer than people who have never smoked.

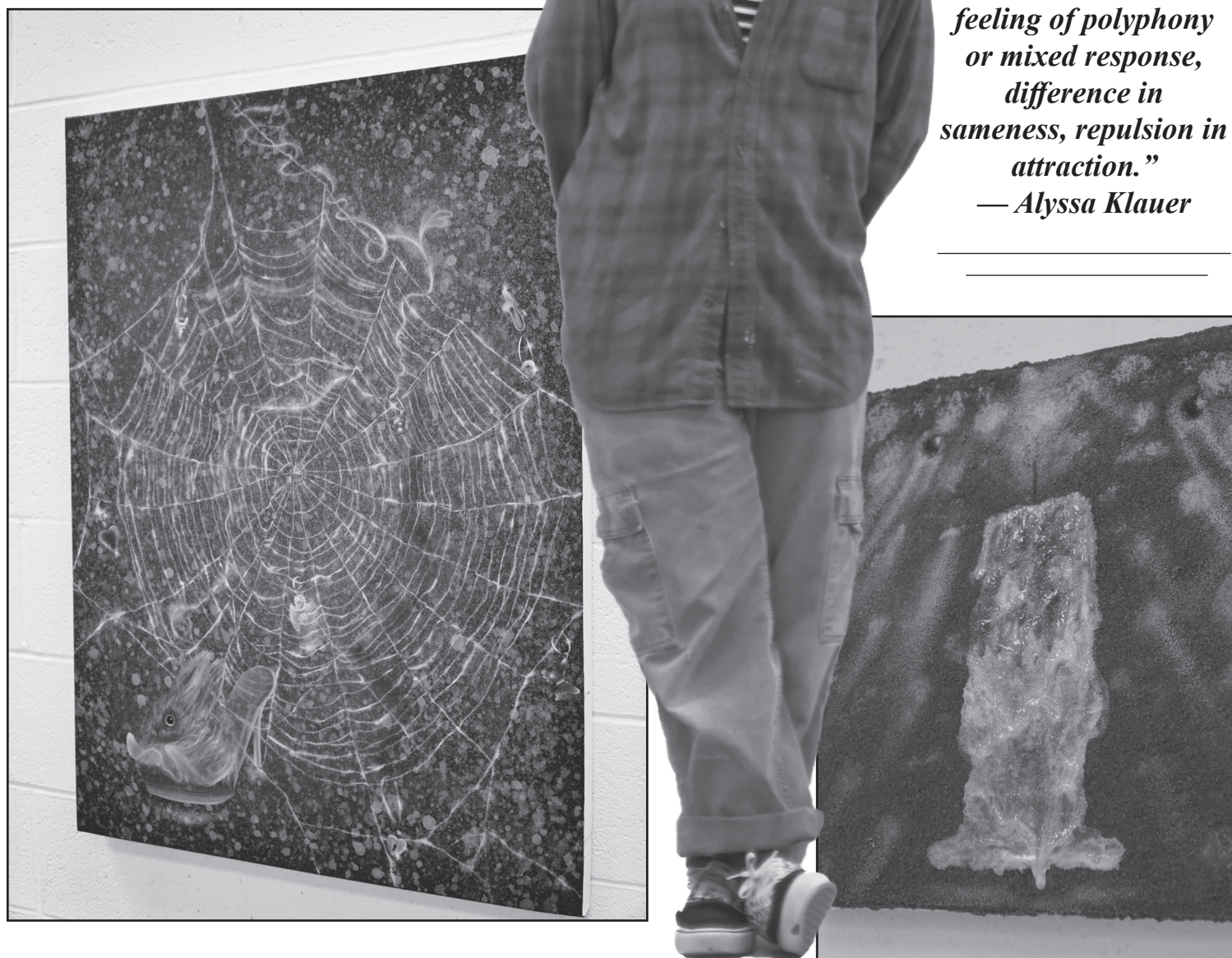
If a person's mother, father, sibling, or child had pancreatic cancer, then that person's risk for developing the disease increases two to three times.

Here are some familiar names of celebrities that had pancreatic cancer: Alex Trebek the host of Jeopardy; Steve Jobs, CEO of Apple; singer Arethra Franklin, and actor John Hurts.

# Artist-in-residence

## Klauer's artwork displayed in Nov. 6 showcase event

Alyssa Klauer, the Northwestern Fine Arts Department's artist-in-resident for the month of October, on Nov. 6 displayed some of the work she has recently created.



*“My paintings are constructed on a foundation of visual effects — faux finishes, faux worlds, and phantasmagoric qualities—in an attempt to create a feeling of polyphony or mixed response, difference in sameness, repulsion in attraction.”*  
— Alyssa Klauer

# Entertainment

## Google Home is not just for cheating on your homework

By **MICHELLE WILLSON**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

By now I'm guessing that everyone has heard or used a Google home or echo Dot or a system like that.

My family recently upgraded to have an echo Dot system in their house so they gave me the Google home for my dorm room because I have a Google phone and it works well together.

When I tell you that this is the best thing I have ever done I am not exaggerating.

Me and my sweet mates use it mostly for music but we also used it to keep updated with the election, to answer random late night questions and now I use it as my alarm clock.

I am known for forgetting things like where I put my phone, when to get my laundry and taking my medicine at night.

It's really easy to say Google find my phone, and Google will call my phone so I can find it. I also can set timers and alarms that will help me throughout my day.

Yes, I do realize that this makes me lazier but at least I'm getting things done now. If only it could help me find my student ID cuz I need to lose that at least twice a week.

I know they're expensive and not everyone can afford them My



family got ours for free through a contest from our local grocery store but I definitely really think that it's a helpful tool.

My mom utilized it in the daycare to play songs, sing while daycare kids washed their hands and brushed their teeth and for white noise as they slept.

The other day I was at work but I was able to send a message from my phone to the Google home for my suitemate who

wasn't answering her phone. In almost like a walkie talkie.

I would definitely give this system a 5 out of 5. It makes life easier, it's fun to have.

I've just began to scratch the surface on what it can really do. I personally think it is great for students who lack the motivation or energy to do get out of bed and set alarms of any other tasks like that.

## P.S.: The PS4 is great

By **ERICK LIVINGSTON**  
*Student Reporter*

One of the most long awaited items to come to stores will soon be upon us, the PS5 (Playstation 5) will soon come to stores.

The next generation console that Sony has created has many high tech features and bonuses that previous consoles have not had. In the previous console (the PS4) many people were sick and tired of watching their screens, just waiting for their game to start up.

But with the PS5 that is a problem of the past. The developers came up with a solution to fix the problem by building a customized SSD (Solid State Drive) which as a result makes the systems loading times going as fast as 5.5 GB per second.

Speed is important, but another quality that most gamers will agree on is that space is also a major thing in consoles. The PS5 will have a whopping 667 GB storage drive, that's a little under two hundred more storage than the PS4 had.

But that's just the base storage the chief architect for the PS5 stated that the new system will have expandable storage options. Unfortunately, that option will not be available at launch.

Ask any fashionable person

you know and they would most likely agree that accessories are a huge part of an outfit.

It's a very similar function when is come to gaming consoles, the biggest change coming to the accessories for the PS5 is the 3D audio headset that will be available.

3D audio will make it possible for you to hear dialogue and noises from specific areas. For example if you hear a bush move on your right then your right ear will be the only side to pick up the noise.

Graphics make or break games, the amount of games that had a great story but had graphics that made it completely unplayable is too big.

But it's the console's responsibility to show the graphics, and the PS5 will have some never seen benefits that are costly.

The new gen will have 120 FPS (Frames per second) and 4k resolution and 8k resolution. Owning the system itself will not upgrade your tv these are examples of the support the new system will have.

Personally, I can not wait to get the new PS5 console. The benefits of upgrading your personal entertainment console definitely have more rather than just keeping the same thing. So if you are looking for an upgrade or wanting to game, I recommend the PS5.

*Read the Northwestern News!*

### R.I.P. Alex Trebek



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### MTV EMA Results

#### Best Video:

"Popstar" by DJ Khaled

#### Best Artist:

Lady Gaga

#### Best song

"Dynamite" by BTS

#### Best Pop

Little Mix

#### Best group

BTS

#### Best New

Doja Cat

#### Biggest Fans

BTS

#### Best Latin

Karol G

#### Best Rock

Coldplay

#### Best HipHop

Cardi B

#### Best Electronic

David Guetta

#### Best Aternative

Hayley Williams



# Sports

## Ranger rodeo ropes for roses

By SEAN DOHERTY  
Student Reporter

Late October means three things—colder weather, spooky decor and rodeo in the Alva Dome.

The indoor arena at the Woods County fairgrounds is the site of the NWOSU Rodeo team's National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) Ranger Rodeo.

On Oct. 25, the NWOSU Rodeo team hosted 101 breakaway roping competitors to Alva for their "Rope for the Roses" event. Top professional cowgirls, weekend warriors and both high school and college students competed in four rounds for a grand prize of \$10,000.

"We didn't have our college rodeo this year, and we wanted a way to make some money and give the girls a place to go," said Stetson Thompson, NWOSU rodeo assistant coach and general studies major. "We held the Rope in for the Roses to kind of get our name out there, make a little money for the school and give these kids and professional athletes something to go to."

Stockton Graves, NWOSU ro-

deo coach, worked with Jeremy Wiebener, Devery VanLandingham and other local sponsors to get roping stock, prizes and prize money donated for the roping.

Cedar Anderson, a junior health and sports science major from Carrington, North Dakota, helped spread the word.

"I posted it all over Facebook and kind of just spread the word to some of my closer friends and friends of friends," Anderson said.

Anderson and other NWOSU rodeo team members also competed in the roping. Callie McGhee, senior ag-business major, made the "short round"; she was one of 15 top competitors after three rounds.

"Making the short round at that roping was pretty exciting for me," McGhee said. "I was on my colt who has only been entered a couple of times. My good horse died last month so having (the colt) step up and work like a finished horse was a great feeling."

JJ Hampton from Stephenville, Texas, roped four consecutive calves the fastest to win the grand prize.

Beau Peterson, an Oklahoma Panhandle State University stu-

dent, made the fastest run of the roping—1.4 seconds.

Former NWOSU rodeo team member and NIRA champion Taylor Munsell won the fourth round.

Several other former NWOSU students and local competitors placed as well.

Anderson enjoyed the high-caliber competition.

"It was pretty awesome," Anderson said. "I mean, Stockton, before everyone got there, told everyone, 'This is gonna be a pretty big breakaway roping. You're going to be against the toughest girls in the world, and you'll have to show up.' Having those girls surrounding you, it kind of changes your mindset. I mean, you had to rope to their level...a lot of the girls on our team did."

McGhee appreciated the opportunity and hopes the rodeo team and Graves continue to put the roping on.

"I was grateful Stockton decided to put on a roping like that in Alva," McGhee said. "It is a good opportunity for a lot of girls who don't get to enter things like that. I hope he decides to have it again next year."



Photo provided

The NWOSU ranger rodeo will take place Feb. 26 - 28 in Alva. With COVID-19 precautions in place, the rodeo was rescheduled from fall 2020.

## NWOSU rodeo set for Feb. 26-28

By ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rodeo has been successfully rescheduled for February 26-28.

"We are happy to announce that we are going to have the Northwestern Rodeo this year," head coach Stockton Graves said. "It will be in February, so everyone will need to bundle up to stay warm. The team is glad to be getting back to rodeoing. We are excited to get back to work and have a full season."

The Northwestern rodeo team will have a large group of returners led by Bridger Anderson, the 2019 CNFR steer wrestling national champion.

"I am excited that we will have

the Ranger Rodeo in Alva again in February," Athletic Director Brad Franz said. "This event is a huge event for Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva and all of the great people of Northwestern Oklahoma. We look forward to the hundreds of contestants that will be here for the event. Coach Stockton Graves has an excellent team, and we are excited for them to compete."

The Northwestern rodeo was on track to have another successful season before the season was cut short due to COVID-19 in the spring. When the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association called off the season, the Rangers had two Rangers qualified for the College National Finals Rodeo, with three more just under the cut line for qualifying.

## Hall of fame announced

*The NWOSU Athletics Department has announced the Hall of Fame class for 2021. Because of COVID-19, this class will be honored with the 2022 inductees.*

By ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Northwestern Oklahoma State University and Ranger Athletics is pleased to announce the 2021 class to be inducted into the Northwestern Sports Hall of Fame.

The 29th Hall of Fame class for Northwestern is Bob Battisti (Basketball Coach and Athletic Director) and Brandon Christenson (Football).

"We are excited to induct these two storied individuals into the Northwestern Hall of Fame," Athletic Director Brad Franz said. "Both of them are true Rangers and embody what it means to have tremendous pride in Northwestern and to wear the Red and Black. We could not be prouder of them and look forward

to inducting them along with the many current Hall of Famers we have."

The annual Hall of Fame ceremony has been postponed this year due to COVID-19. Northwestern will recognize Battisti and Christenson next year with the 2022 Hall of Fame class.

Battisti had many highlights while at Northwestern, included the best record in school history at 29-2, numerous national tournament appearances and he is the winningest coach in school history with 374 wins.

Christenson, a tight end helped secure the 1999 national championship and went on to play in the NFL for the Baltimore Ravens, Jacksonville Jaguars and Oakland Raiders.



Photo provided

The NWOSU cross country team has been practicing while having no season. Athletes have to follow COVID-19 guidelines.



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# News

## ACTING OUT

### Annual children's play takes a virtual turn in pandemic era

By **ETHAN EVERSON**  
Student Reporter

Since the early '30s, Northwestern has hosted a play for the younger students that shows them the theater and gives them a break from school.

Mickey Jordan, instructor of technical theater, explained the upcoming show, "Gretchen and the Grudge." The play is about inner feelings. It is similar to the popular Pixar film "Inside Out" in that respect.

Gretchen, the main character, gets upset after another girl takes her sweater without asking and ruins it. Gretchen then has to learn how to overcome and forgive the girl rather than allowing Grudge, the character who portrays how Gretchen is feeling, to stick around.

The journey Gretchen goes on to get over her grudge of the ruined sweater is one that displays emotional turmoil.

The play will be a short one – only 20 minutes – and will be presented as a formal table reading of the script and will be recorded. Participants will focus on voice acting and inflection. Students, ranging from first through fifth grade, will watch the play at their respective schools.

The play is being performed this way as a cautionary measure to protect against COVID-19. The department is also consider-

ing posting the performance on YouTube if they are unable to perform the play via live stream so others can enjoy the show as well.

In the past, the Northwestern Theatre Department has hosted up to 1,200 students. Will the new COVID-19 guidelines in place, Herod Hall cannot seat that many people.

The preparation for the play is different from previous years.

"In a normal year, we would work 80 hours over the span of a week and a half," Jordan said. "This year, due to COVID, we are limiting exposure and only meeting a few times to rehearse."

In the '60s, Dr. Linda Stewart promoted NWSU theatre as a way to show the younger generation the shows and display what theater is.

"This is the first time children get to see live theater and we go to inspire them and see if they would like to be a part of it one day," Jordan explained.

The program is meant to show kids that theater is fun and give the kids a break from school. Jordan said school can be a lot for kids sometimes and he feels this is something the kids can look forward to and enjoy every year.

Jordan said the students who put the play together are excited when they look back at all the hard work they put into the show.

"It's just a great feeling," Jordan said.



Screengrab from YouTube

Luis Mendoza III, a Northwestern admissions counselor, gives a virtual tour of the university's football field during the university's virtual Ranger Preview day. The event was conducted online because of COVID-19.

## Hundreds attend virtual Ranger Preview

By **JARA REEDER**  
Photo Editor

Northwestern has come to the virtual side of doing things, and the university hosted its first virtual Ranger Preview on Saturday.

The event went live around 10 o'clock Saturday morning on YouTube with a chat room for people to ask questions.

"It went pretty smooth and had a decent turnout," admissions counselor Trey Johnson said. "It was the first, but we hope it will be the last. We prefer to meet our students face-to-face and interact that way."

The event was made pos-

sible by admission counselors Johnson, Selena Estrada, Luis Mendoza III, Collin Stork, Andrea Lauderdale and Megan Patel. Housing secretary Rachael Richardson came up with the plan for the event.

"The challenge was the timeline of getting everything together – the format that we did it in, the time it took to get everything coordinated with the different people who were on screen to shoot the campus tour and edit the videos that we used and things like that," said Matt Adair, assistant dean of student affairs and recruitment. "So, it was just the actual labor in and putting together the event."

The turnout on Saturday was

between 500 and 600 students. The number of students who have watched the video, which was uploaded to YouTube, continues to grow, officials said.

The video features some words from President Janet Cunningham, Executive Vice President Bo Hannaford, and Dean of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Calleb Mosburg. Performances from the university's band, choir, and cheer team were also included.

Two recruitment office workers then gave a virtual tour of the campus.

Adair said the university plans to host more virtual events this year.

## Northwestern has 36 active COVID-19 cases

By **JORDAN GREEN**  
News Editor

Northwestern Oklahoma State University has 36 active cases of the coronavirus, university officials said Nov. 6.

Thirty-three students have the virus, and three university employees have the virus, officials said.

The number of active cases has increased by 13 since Oct. 30, officials reported.

The total number of positive COVID-19 cases among Northwestern students and employees includes cases at all of the university's campuses in Alva, Enid and Woodward.

Officials first reported on Aug. 28 the number of students who have COVID-19.

At the time, six students had tested positive for it.

To see the number of cases on all campuses, visit <https://www.nwsu.edu/coronavirus/active-covid-19-cases-nwsu>.

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**Sorry, no pets and no smoking in apartments.**

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**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE!**  
**Saturday, Nov. 14**  
Sand Plum Soul Designs will be here!  
Draw for discounts and prizes including a grand prize gift bag worth \$200!  
**Gift with purchase will begin!**

# JAZZ IT UP



Photos by Jordan Green

Members of the Northwestern Jazz Ensemble performed in downtown Alva on the lawn of the Woods County Courthouse on Nov. 5. Students were directed by Dr. Michael Seth Cudd, the university's band director. They were joined in the performance by Max Ridgway, an adjunct professor of music at Northwestern, and special guest John Shell, a longtime music teacher.

Clockwise from left: Sam Grinder plays guitar during the ensemble's performance; members of the jazz ensemble play a tune during the performance; Jeff Cher-Aime plays a baritone saxophone.

