

# THE HILLTOP

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

Volume XXIII : Issue III

FALL 2023



## 18 REASONS TO CELEBRATE

CANYON WEST GIFT  
'LIFTS WC TO THE NEXT LEVEL'

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

There are generous gifts and then there are transformational gifts. The Canyon West Golf Course is truly a transformational gift! Not only will owning our own golf course help Weatherford College recruit championship-caliber golfers, it will also allow us to add new workforce programs like culinary arts, golf course and sports turf management, and landscape management. The incredible generosity of Nancy and Richard Stuart continues to transform Weatherford College in a very positive way. Thank you, Nancy and Richard!

Entrepreneurship is alive and well at WC. This edition of The Hilltop showcases a family of sisters who graduated from the WC cosmetology program and collaboratively started their own successful beauty shop, the “House of Blonde.” In addition to traditional workforce programs, WC continues to grow cybersecurity, robotics, advanced manufacturing, and artificial intelligence programs. Artificial intelligence is also profiled in the pages that follow.

Dean Kathy Boswell has been appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to serve on the Texas Board of Nursing. In her 43 years of service to WC, Dean Boswell has been instrumental in the development of our LVN, ADN, and BSN programs. She is collaboratively lifting our allied health programs to new heights.

Finally, Coach Kailee May and the defending conference champion WC volleyball team had another great season! When this publication went to press, our team had already won their second straight conference championship and Coach May earned her second Conference Coach of the Year Award.

I sincerely hope that you enjoy reading this edition of The Hilltop as much as I enjoy getting to come to work at this noble institution on a daily basis.



*Tod Allen Farmer*

Dr. Tod Allen Farmer  
President

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Readers may send comments,  
story ideas or letters to:

THE HILLTOP  
225 College Park Drive  
Weatherford, TX 76086  
817-598-6279  
kedwards@wc.edu

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## 18 REASONS TO CELEBRATE CANYON WEST GIFT 'LIFTS WC TO THE NEXT LEVEL'



by Brent Baker

Donations come in many shapes and sizes. Generous donors give checks, stocks, life insurance policies, art, and even homes.

But an entire golf course is another matter altogether.

When the word began to circulate that Richard and Nancy Stuart were donating Canyon West Golf Course to Weatherford College, the community noticed. The largest gift in the history of the college has reverberated throughout the Parker County area. And it kicked off a chorus of questions.

Will it still be a golf course? What can the college do with a golf course? Will it still be called Canyon West? Can I book a tee time?

“The generosity of the Stuarts will allow WC to add new programs such as culinary arts and turf management, not to mention what it will do for our golf program,” said President Tod Allen Farmer. “Additionally, we will be able to hold alumni and various community events in the beautiful Canyon West clubhouse.”

And yes, it will remain a working golf course, retaining its current membership roster and remaining open to the public. A name change was discussed briefly, but the Stuarts have built an impeccable reputation since they acquired the course in 2012, so the Canyon West name remains.

Originally opened in 1997, the course is a 6,653-yard, par-72 tract south of Interstate 20 in southwest Parker County, part of the Brock community. The Stuarts have invested an incredible amount of time and money in continuously improving the course over the past 11 years. Richard has been a fixture at Canyon West, seeing his vision of an even better golf experience come to fruition

with an endless series of daily decisions, modifications and overall improvements.

So why donate the course to Weatherford College?

“Both Richard and I know that education is so important in improving our community and nation, as well as helping young people achieve their dreams,” Nancy said. “Our parents helped us look to the future, and we hope our support in this direction will build a strong Weatherford College to support achievers in their pursuit of the future, and help others along the way.”

The Stuarts have spent the past two decades getting to know Weatherford College, and trust was built on those experiences. Nancy has served as vice president of the WC Foundation for many years, and they have been among the college’s top donors on multiple high-profile projects. Plus, as founders of Chicken Express, they have funded the WC education of countless restaurant employees, investing in young people that they knew first hand.

“We choose Weatherford College because this is our home and community, we are proud of them and what the college does to make all of our students stars and achievers,” she said. “WC can give any student the individual attention they need and still be close to home.”

The Stuarts are pleased and the college is grateful. But what about the golfers?

“I have been a member at Canyon West for almost 10 years,” said Shannon Hart, local business owner and Brock ISD School Board member. “In that time, Richard has made thousands of dollars in improvements all over the course. The fact that the college is taking over will only enhance what is the crown jewel of Parker County golf courses. I look forward to seeing what the college will bring to Canyon West for many years to come.”

Since the announcement of the gift, many people have worked behind the scenes to make the transfer a reality, including college staff, the WC Board of Trustees, golf course employees, attorneys and, of course, the Stuart Family. It was more complicated than most expected, but the transfer officially closed on October 23rd, and Canyon West is now officially a Weatherford College asset.

As the process came to a conclusion, Farmer reflected on what the donation means to Weatherford College.

“This gift lifts WC to the next level,” he said. “We are so appreciative and look forward to the amazing future of Canyon West.”

For more on the golf course, including hole-by-hole descriptions and photos, go to [canyonwestgolf.com](http://canyonwestgolf.com). 📷

# MEMORIES



JoLynn Embry Wharton was on campus recently and found a photo of herself and the “Coyote Cuties” in a 1986 WC publication.

## FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

**Dolores Chapman**, 82, of Weatherford, passed away September 3.

**Bonnie Jo Finch**, 86, of Weatherford, passed away August 11.

**George Ford**, 92, of Mineral Wells, passed away July 25.

**Patricia Lorraine Grove**, 54, of McAllen, passed away August 28.

**Jeanelle Holder Jackson**, 98, of Paradise, passed away August 1.

**Mary Ruth Huse**, 95, of Weatherford, passed away August 13. 1996 WC

Alumna of the Year. Retired in 1992 as WC's head librarian.

**Naomi Kay Nash**, 18, of Weatherford, passed away October 15.

**Dr. Bill Knight**, 89, of Mineola, passed away June 3. WC Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient, 2015.

**Samuel Leo Lopez**, 64, of Austin, passed away August 22.

**Abram Moreno**, 29, of Boyd, passed away August 1.

**Steve Rothrock**, 65, of Weatherford,

passed away August 17. Served as a WC speech instructor for 18 years.

**Stephanie Kathleen Suffka**, 50, of Haltom City, passed away September 25.

**Ruby Elaine Hass Willingham**, 77, of Baird, passed away October 4. Class of 2000.

**Eric Dean Wood**, 56, of Weatherford, passed away August 10.

**Carolyn Anne Vereen**, 67, of Weatherford, passed away September 30.

# WC WELCOMES YDOYAGA AS NEW VICE PRESIDENT



Born and raised in Dallas with plenty of time spent on the family farm in Corsicana, Dr. Shannon Ydoyaga understands the city and large college systems, but she's also just as comfortable in a smaller community talking about agriculture.

Pair that with more than 20 years of higher education leadership, and she was the perfect candidate for WC's new executive vice president for academic services position.

"WC reminds me a lot of Del Mar College in Corpus Christi," she said. "There are a lot of wonderful faculty, and there's a huge opportunity to give back to the community during a time of tremendous growth in the region."

Prior to her three years at Del Mar where she served as the dean for health sciences and professional education, Ydoyaga established her higher education career at Dallas College where her 13-year term of service saw her as an associate dean and a district director. Most recently she served as the vice president for academic affairs at the South Campus of Tarrant County College.

In her new role at Weatherford College, Ydoyaga will provide leadership for academic programs, faculty and support services. She will also work closely with industry partners to develop curriculum and training aligned with emerging workforce needs.

"We want to have a full offering of programs to serve the community and align with where the jobs are," she said. "So, for the next year or two we'll be spending a lot of time doing new program development to align with job demands, meet industry standards and make sure we're operating from a place of instructional excellence."

To achieve that goal, WC has a talented pool of faculty entering a new promotion and rank system that Ydoyaga has the pleasure of implementing. She said the new system will help create pathways for career progression for existing faculty.

"The faculty at WC are innovative," she said. "They care about the students and are passionate about the areas in which they teach. I'm so excited to listen and learn what their needs are so that I can help serve them."

She is also eager to serve the WC community and looks forward to building strong partnerships with area school districts and universities to create seamless pathways for students. For now, she's learning what's in place and what's working well.

"I want to respect the history and understand the culture," Ydoyaga said. "If things are working you don't want to disrupt that, you want to embrace it."

Ydoyaga earned her Doctor of Philosophy in Education Leadership degree from Capella University. She also holds a Master of Science in Management from Texas A&M University-Commerce and a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Mississippi.

"Dr. Ydoyaga believes in the community college mission," said WC President Tod Allen Farmer, "and the opportunities it brings to transform the lives of students and their families by building educational pathways to jobs of the future, while developing core general education knowledge, skills and abilities with the whole student in mind in preparation of emerging technologies."

## F A L L 2 0 2 3 ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Official numbers for the Fall 2023 semester enrollment were announced at the September meeting of the Weatherford College Board of Trustees.

As of Monday, Sept. 11, there were 5,547 students enrolled in WC, as compared to 5,337 students last year. This represents a 4.4 percent increase.

WC Wise County is up 16.3 percent with 499 students this year as compared to 418 this time last year.

The number of international students is also up this year with 77 students from 37 countries including Brazil, Chad, Denmark, France, India, The Philippines, Serbia, South Sudan, Ukraine, and Vietnam.



# WC'S BOSWELL APPOINTED TO TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



Governor Greg Abbott announced the appointment of Kathy Boswell to the Texas Board of Nursing in August.

Boswell is the Dean of Health and Human Sciences for Weatherford College and established the college's associate degree nursing program in 2000.

"It is an honor and a privilege to have been asked by the governor to serve on the Texas Board of Nursing," she said. "I am excited to begin my term and join the current board members who serve this great state and the profession of nursing."

Boswell is a member of the Texas Association of Deans and Directors of Professional Nursing Programs and the Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators and a former member of the American Nursing Association.

Additionally, she volunteers as the chairwoman of the City of Mineral Wells Parks and Recreation Board and for the American Red Cross Youth Swim Program.

A WC alumna, she also earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master of Science from Texas Woman's University.

Her term on the State Board of Nursing goes through Jan. 31, 2029.

The board oversees the practice of professional nursing, examination of students, and standards of professional conduct for license holders. The board also prescribes and publishes the minimum requirements and standards for course studies in various nursing degree programs.

"I am pleased that Governor Abbott accepted the nomination and appointed Dean Kathy Boswell to serve on the Texas Board of Nursing," said WC President Tod Allen Farmer. "In her 43 years of service to WC, Dean Boswell has been instrumental in the development of our LVN, ADN and BSN programs. She is collaboratively lifting our allied health programs to new heights."

## SONG INDUCTED INTO STEINWAY TEACHERS HALL OF FAME

Add "Hall of Famer" to Dr. Hyeyoung Song's list of accolades.

WC's master pianist was inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame Oct. 4 in New York City. Talented educators from the United States and Canada who foster passion, creativity and discipline in the next generation of piano artists are selected for this distinguished honor every two years.

WC President Tod Allen Farmer and Duane Durrett, WC dean of fine arts, attended the ceremony. They hosted a contingent of donors and community members who made the trip to The Big Apple to support Song and to tour the Steinway manufacturing plant.

Song's name is now on a wall in the facility along with music educators from some of the most prestigious institutions in the world.

"I am so grateful to have the warm support of Weatherford College, and I thank everyone who made this trip together," Song said. "It was a great honor. This honor is not for me but for WC, our students and the community."

Nuri Han, a current WC piano student, and Xavier Kim, a WC alumnus now studying music at The City College of New York, performed for the group in the prestigious "Steinway Vault" housing



some of the company's most prized instruments. The group also spent time with two other WC alumni working in successful careers in New York.

The college's Steinway program has been funded by generous donors.

You can enjoy a performance from Dr. Song on the Alkek Fine Arts Center stage on Nov. 29 at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

# LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO HAVE BORING HAIR



## by Misty Browning

Beauty and hair styling came naturally to Weatherford College cosmetology student Sydney Smith.

As the youngest of five sisters, she watched all the beauty trends her older siblings tried throughout her childhood. In a large family, being the first in the bathroom is the key to being on time, but Sydney loved every minute of watching and learning from her older sisters.

“I couldn’t imagine growing up with brothers; having four sisters was the best thing God could have done for us five,” she explained. “We all get along so well and know that we will have best friends for life. As the youngest sister, I’ve had the chance to watch my sisters through growth, failures and love. I wouldn’t want it any other way. I truly am so blessed.”

As the girls grew up and became adults, the older sisters took their love of beauty and makeovers and made a successful career in cosmetology. Sister Kasi owns a custom lipstick lab called Haute Habits Beauty Bar on Magnolia in Fort Worth. The oldest of the Smith sisters, Britany, became a certified cosmetologist and opened House of Blonde, also in Fort Worth. The salon became

a family affair, with sisters Kortney and Kelsey coming on after school; Kelsey is a WC cosmetology graduate. A combination of the sisters’ involvement in cosmetology and Kelsey’s success at WC encouraged Sydney to follow in their footsteps. As soon as she was able, she enrolled in WC’s program.

“I went to Weatherford College cosmetology because my sister, who is a year older than me, went there the previous year and loved it and the instructors,” Sydney said. “I thought by going there, I would be as successful as her. Weatherford College is a friendly environment in all aspects.”

Valerie Hopkins, cosmetology program director, speaks highly of Sydney and her work, calling her one of the most hard-working students. She’s excited to see what her future holds.

“One of my favorite quotes that fits Sydney is, ‘A True stylist works for it, walks it, wears it and lives it,’” she gushed.

With Sydney scheduled to graduate in May, she has joined her sisters as a blonde specialist at House of Blonde. It’s the perfect conclusion to years of hard work and studying, with the bonus of working with some of her favorite people.

*continues with* HOUSE OF BLONDE *on page 15*

# WEATHERFORD COLLEGE AROUND CAMPUS



1. Students had a great time at Stuart Field during Field Night, part of Welcome Week activities at the beginning of the fall semester.

2. Impact Mechanical was the first-ever title sponsor for the WC Foundation Golf Tournament at Canyon West. Representing Impact Mechanical were John and Ruel Hamilton.

3. Art instructor Eben Hall took time to hang art, including his own works, in the new Emerging Technologies and Workforce Building.

4. Have you seen Officer Lauren Foster's funny social media video? The video, created by Director of Public Relations Crystal Woerly, was a spoof of a popular online video reviewing a Bentley vehicle. WC's version went viral—with more than 6,000,000 impressions on Facebook alone!

5 & 6. WC had a big presence at the Weatherford Police Department's "National Night Out" event in October at Heritage





Park. Students from the softball team, the WC Fire Academy, and others joined in the festivities.

7 & 8. The community gathered to dedicate a beautiful granite bench on Oct. 11 in honor of DPS Trooper Russell Boyd, a WC graduate who died in the line of duty exactly 40 years prior in 1983. The memorial was the capstone project for Jo Ann McClendon, a graduate of WC's organizational leadership program.

9. Jeff Lightfoot, longtime coach of the WC baseball team, and Trooper Reynolds, former Coyote baseball player, were inducted into the Weatherford High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

10. Former Miss Texas Gloria Gilbert interviewed President Farmer during a recent East Parker County Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

11. WC Student Ambassadors presented a donation of toiletry bags to the Tarrant Area Food Bank for their West location in the Brock area.

# COYOTE VOLLEYBALL DOMINATING IN 2023



The Weatherford College volleyball team has proven that its first season was no fluke.

After winning the conference championship in their inaugural campaign, the 2023 team picked up where the first squad left off. When this edition of The Hilltop went to press, the team had just finished the regular season with another conference championship, ranking No. 12 in the nation with an astounding 29-3 overall record.

The team had the second highest kills per set statistic in the nation (13.75), Selanny Puente ranked No. 2 in the nation in hitting

percentage (.400) and Abby Benitez won the conference Defensive Player of the Week Award an impressive four times.

In the All-Conference Team announced Oct. 30, Kailee May won her second Coach of the Year Award, Meagan Ledbetter was Co-Player of the Year, Puente won Offensive Player of the Year, Lorena Gomez was Setter of the Year and Peighton Serda earned Newcomer of the Year.

The team was slated to host the Region V Volleyball Tournament for the first time at the Betty Jo Graber Athletic Center Nov. 2-4.

For the latest information on the volleyball team and all of WC athletics, go to [wcatletics.com](http://wcatletics.com).

## WC RODEO HOSTS 5TH ANNUAL ALUMNI RODEO

WC held its 5th annual Alumni Rodeo in October. What was supposed to be a one-time event in the sesquicentennial year has become an enjoyable annual tradition.



# SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS



JRJ Construction has established a new permanent scholarship fund for Weatherford College students. The JRJ Legacy Scholarship is part of the Bob Glenn Endowment Program in the WC Foundation. Pictured with WC President Tod Allen Farmer are JRJ leadership team members (left to right) Dustin Brown, Jordan Jones, Adam Feriend and Mende Feriend.

The Aledo Ex-Students Association has established a new permanent scholarship fund for Weatherford College students. The fund is earmarked for Aledo High School graduates and was given in memory of AHS alumni Jimmy Jackson and Don Homsley, who gave their lives in Vietnam, and Paul Kim, who died in Ukraine. The scholarship is also part of the Bob Glenn Endowment Program in the WC Foundation. Pictured with WC President Tod Allen Farmer are June Fraser King, association president, and Bettie Sue Fraser Cook, vice president.

## MCKINLEY, EMBRY SCHOLARSHIPS BECOME PERMANENT ENDOWMENTS



Board member and a friend of the family who spearheaded the effort. “This is not only for the McKinley family, but for all the deserving future Weatherford College students this scholarship will benefit so greatly.”

Creason was also very instrumental in the effort to raise scholarship funds to honor Rod Embry, a WC distinguished alumnus who dedicated more than 30 years as the college’s golf coach. When Embry passed away July 2nd, Creason and a number of alumni wanted to honor the coach’s memory. He reached out to his friend and former Coyote golf team member Ruel Hamilton, who played for Embry in the 1970s.

Hamilton answered the call, pledging to raise and/or donate \$100,000 to the Rod Embry Scholarship over the next five years. “Rod was one of the finest Christian men I have ever met,” Hamilton said. “I have always felt that having Rod there at that stage in my life was like winning the lottery, except that what I got out of it was more valuable than money.

“He was not just our coach, he was also a role model,” Hamilton said. “We knew that we were more than just his players. He cared for us and was more concerned about what kind of men we would become than what kind of golfers we were.”

To donate to the McKinley Family Scholarship, the Rod Embry Scholarship or any other WC project, visit [wc.edu/foundation](http://wc.edu/foundation).

Sports have been important threads in the fabric of Weatherford College student life for decades, and there is no better evidence than the establishment of two new WC Foundation scholarship funds.

First, it took only 10 days for friends of the McKinley family to contribute enough funds to establish a permanent scholarship endowment in their honor. Multiple donors gave to honor longtime WC Athletic Director Bob McKinley, his late wife Dee, and their children, WC staff members Trey and Traci with the McKinley Family Scholarship.

“It would be a challenge for anyone to identify a family which has given more of themselves to our beloved Weatherford College than the McKinley family,” said Warren Creason, a WC Foundation



President Farmer



Jamie Bodiford Brinkley



# PRESIDENTIAL LUNCHEON



Traci McKinley



Keri Waller



Kailee May

Dr. Tod Allen Farmer hosted another successful Presidential Luncheon in the Alkek Fine Arts Center in September. The crowd, made up of community members, students and WC employees, enjoyed music from the WC Jazz Orchestra, emcee work by Volleyball Coach Kailee May, comments from Distinguished Alumna Jamie Bodiford Brinkley, and President Farmer's annual address. Traci McKinley won the Presidential Service Award, Keri Waller took home a Presidential Core Value Coin, and the crowd celebrated another banner WC year.





# WC PREPARED FOR AI IMPACT IN THE CLASSROOM

Instructors at Weatherford College are taking a proactive approach to artificial intelligence and its impact on the classroom.

Professors Marcie DeChiara and Jared Stewart spoke about the pros and cons of AI during in-service sessions and at a recent meeting of the WC Board of Trustees.

Stewart explained the positives of AI for instructors, including time savings provided by automating tasks like lesson plans, thereby freeing up creative energy for mentorship and additional student support.

For students, AI offers instant access to virtual tutors to help summarize texts, clarify classroom concepts and rephrase lessons in their language for non-native English speakers.

DeChiara addressed how AI can harm academic integrity as students attempt to pass AI-created text as their own. Instructors face further dilemmas in detecting AI-written papers.

“We thought, in the beginning, we would be able to use AI against itself to detect AI writing,” she said. “That has not been the case. It cannot reliably detect itself.”

One way to counteract these pitfalls is for instructors to change their assignments.

“So we can be assured that students are learning at every stage as opposed to relying on technology to have a computer read what a computer wrote and then a human give a grade to it,” DeChiara said. “That is the worst outcome we could have with AI. Otherwise, it has great potential.”

Staff in the Speaker Jim Wright Library are also prepared to guide students on academic integrity when using AI.

The college IT department has also set up an instructional hub to keep faculty and staff educated on the latest happenings in AI.

“I can tell you we’re on the cusp of this, and we’re doing a lot better than a lot of other institutions are in trying to think ahead about how AI fits into academia,” Stewart said. “I’m really proud to be part of this team.”



# BASKETBALL HOME SCHEDULE

## WOMEN

### NOVEMBER 2023

6	5:30 PM	Western Texas College
13	5:30 PM	SAGU
16	5:30 PM	Jacksonville College

### DECEMBER 2023

4	5:30 PM	SAGU
5	5:00 PM	Howard College
8	5:00 PM	Paris Junior College
12	5:30 PM	Midland College

### JANUARY 2024

13	2:00 PM	McLennan Community College*
24	5:00 PM	Ranger College*
27	2:00 PM	Cisco College*

### FEBRUARY 2024

17	2:00 PM	Collin College*
21	5:00 PM	Grayson College*

### MARCH 2024

2	2:00 PM	Southwestern Christian College*
6	5:00 PM	Hill College*
9	2:00 PM	Temple College*
13-16	TBD	Region V Tournament

## MEN

### NOVEMBER 2023

4	7:00 PM	Western Texas College
8	7:00 PM	Clarendon College
11	4:00 PM	Texas Wesleyan JV
28	6:00 PM	Strength 'N' Motion

### DECEMBER 2023

9	4:00 PM	DFW Prep
12	7:00 PM	Loyalty College Prep

### JANUARY 2024

9	7:00 PM	Tribulation Prep
13	4:00 PM	McLennan Community College*
24	7:00 PM	Ranger College*
27	7:00 PM	CYM Prep

### FEBRUARY 2024

17	4:00 PM	Collin College*
21	7:00 PM	Grayson College*

### MARCH 2024

2	4:00 PM	Southwestern Christian College*
6	7:00 PM	Hill College*
9	4:00 PM	Temple College*
13-16	TBD	Region V Tournament

HOME GAMES PLAYED IN THE BETTY JO GRABER ATHLETIC CENTER | \* DENOTES CONFERENCE GAME

## CLASS NOTES

**Leta Andrews**, a WC Distinguished Alumna Award recipient, has been named to the Texas Women's Hall of Fame by Governor Greg Abbott. She is the winningest high school basketball coach in the nation's history (1,416 wins).

**James and Erin Brownlee** were recently awarded the Community Impact Award by the Parker County Theatre Company. James is WC's theatre director and Erin directs productions and is an adjunct instructor.

**Lauren Leach Girouard ('14)** and Josh Girouard welcomed Lakyn Lee Girouard on July 3.

**Winston Griffith** is now a master's degree student at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He is studying biostatistics in the Milkin Institute School of Public Health and working in clinical research on medical trials.

**Kit Marshall** has accepted a position as director of advocacy and community affairs for the Greater Fort Worth Association of Realtors.

**Kasondra McKay ('10)**, former Lady Coyote basketball player, joined Colorado State University as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator. While at WC she was named the Northern Texas Junior

College Athletic Conference Newcomer of the Year in her first season.

**Heather Miller ('10)** is now a senior associate at Hartman Wanzor McNamara LP, a Fort Worth-based accounting and advising firm.

**Cody Semler**, former Coyote baseball player, has joined Tarleton State University as an assistant coach. Semler has also coached at Old Dominion University, Oklahoma State University, Hillsborough Community College (FL) and Howard College.

# THANK YOU

to the following donors who gave recent gifts to the WC Foundation (as of October 11, 2023)

Dr. Diann Ainsworth  
Aledo Ex-Students Association  
Elizabeth and Brent Baker  
Bedwell Family LLC  
Jack C. Blair  
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Challenge of Tarrant Co.  
Mitchell Cochran  
Jean Cook

Vickie and Jerry Durant  
Starla Edwards  
First Bank Texas  
Gough Wealth Management  
Ruel Hamilton  
Dr. Rickey and Judy Harman  
HUB International  
Huckabee & Associates  
Ironworks Coffee

Margaret Johnson  
Henry Lim  
Ron and Tammy McBee  
Impact Mechanical  
North Side Baptist Church  
Parker County Retired  
School Personnel  
Prosperity Bank  
Rhodes Securities

Mark and Debby Riebe  
Southwest Ford  
Texas Book Company  
Weatherford Optimist Club  
Morris and Judy White  
Joe and Karen Wilkinson  
Dr. Steve and Stacey Wood

## WC PRESIDENT JOINS BOARD TO STRENGTHEN TIES WITH BUSINESS

Weatherford College President Tod Allen Farmer has accepted an invitation to contribute his expertise to the mission of bolstering connections between community colleges and the corporate sector. In this capacity, Farmer is honored to join the Higher Education Research and Development Institute (HERDI) Advisory Board South.

“I am honored to be named to the HERDI board,” Farmer said. “Linking higher education to corporate America is of the utmost importance. I look forward to collaboratively supporting economic development on a much larger scale.”

HERDI was established to provide a forum for meaningful dialogue between business leaders, presidents and chancellors of key community colleges across the country.

“Weatherford College is not only a benefit to the students of our area, it is an economic development engine,” said Paul Paschall, mayor of the City of Weatherford and local business owner. “I’m glad to see WC and Dr. Farmer further expanding the college’s work with business and industry.”

Farmer also serves on the Community College Baccalaureate Association (CCBA) Board of Directors and is the current president of the Northern Texas Junior College Athletic Association.

### HOUSE OF BLONDE *from page 5.*

“Working with my sisters is a blast! Being with them every day and working in an environment with all women is just a blessing,” Sydney said. “I wake up excited to go to work every day. Our guests say the whole salon feels like a family because it mostly is and because the other stylists are pretty much sisters, too.”

Many people believe getting one’s hair done isn’t all that important. The beauty standard is no longer just about looks but how they live their lives, the difference they make, the compassion they show and the love they extend.

No matter what, everyone can make a difference because we all have gifts and talents that will make this world a little bit better. For Sydney and her sisters, their gifts are helping their clients feel more confident when they leave their salon.

Helping a client achieve confidence can be a life-changing event, and Sydney loves this aspect of being a hairstylist.

“I love helping women become more confident and feel more beautiful,” she said. “I think it’s so important to make women feel more beautiful. We have guests come in with hair they don’t like daily, and they walk out feeling ten times better than when they came in.”

For now, Sydney’s future is painted blonde. She will continue to work with her sisters until life takes her down a different path.

“In the future, I hope to be as successful as my two older sisters,” she said. “They have a full clientele and have schedules set to their lifestyle. Starting as a fresh stylist, you must take every client because we have to build your clientele. As stylists who have been doing hair for over nine years, you can choose your clients. That’s my goal.”



# UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1	Choir Concert
December 4	Parker County Community Choir performs "Messiah"
December 7	Student Art Show and Reception
December 11	Ex-Student Monthly Luncheon
Dec. 18 - Jan. 2	Campus closed for Winter Break
January 8	Ex-Student Monthly Luncheon
January 16	Classes begin for Spring 2024
January 30	Faculty Jazz & Painting
February 9	WCIPC Winner's Recital: Carter Johnson
February 12	Ex-Student Monthly Luncheon
February 13	Mardi Gras
February 22	Family Ties Jazz Concert
Feb. 29-March 2	Spring Theatre Show
March 18	Ex-Student Monthly Luncheon
March 21	Songwriters Showcase
March 22	Alumni Awards Luncheon
March 22	Duo Azul Piano Concert
March 23	Flute Festival
April 4	It's All About the Music Jazz Concert
April 5	Dr. Song's Beethoven's Sonata Concert Series, Concert IV
April 8	Ex-Student Monthly Luncheon
April 11-13	Spring Mainstage Theatre Show
April 18	Taste of Parker County
April 20	WC International Piano Competition
April 26	College Choir Concert



## SCAN QR CODE FOR WC CALENDAR

WC's calendar page is the best way to stay up-to-date with all WC events.