



News

16 May, 2022

SWOSU Announces Summer Picnic & Jerry Hodge Book Launch

The Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) annual Summer Picnic will be held on Friday, June 17, from 6-8 p.m. on the Burton House lawn on the south side of the Weatherford campus.

In addition to lawn games, food and drinks, this year's event will include a special book launch by alumnus and benefactor Jerry Hodge of Amarillo (TX) for his book, *You're On, Cowboy!* Hodge and SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell will discuss the book and take questions from attendees. Press inquiries regarding *You're On, Cowboy!* should contact LisaBeth Thomas at 512.923.4574 or email Lb@lisabeththomas.com.

Following the event, attendees are, as has become tradition, encouraged to move their lawn chairs from Burton House to College Avenue to enjoy the 2022 Heartland Cruise Car show, now in its 32nd year.

You're On, Cowboy! focuses on lessons learned by Hodge from taking risks, taking names and knowing when to fold. It is a memoir that retraces the path that led Hodge to become wildly successful in business and eventually successful in marriage.

Hodge and his wife, Margaret, recently donated a record-breaking \$5 million charitable gift to SWOSU, which is the largest single donation in the history of the university. The gift is being used for a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to pharmacy, rural health and healthcare education. The facility will be named in honor of the Hodges, and a new endowment benefitting students enrolled in the SWOSU College of Pharmacy will also be established in connection with the gift.

The SWOSU Summer Picnic is a free community event sponsored by the SWOSU Alumni Association. Those who plan to attend are asked to RSVP to Taylor Adler, Taylor.Adler@swosu.edu, 580-774-6331.