

~ OBITUARY ~

KIM LEVAL STANFIELD

Kim Leval Stanfield, 70, died on Oct. 5, 2026, in Houston, Texas.

He was born Sept. 15, 1956.

He spent much of his career working as a mechanic in the oil industry.

He is survived by his wife, Julie; his children, Amy Stanfield, Aaron Stanfield, Jennifer Cibolski, Shannen Cibolski, Kurt Cibolski, Kimberly Keck, and Allie Paramore; and 15 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother.

Memorial service will be October 17, 2026, at Ignite Church in Crosby, TX.

Toronto News

- by Kathy Cummings

Walnuts! It's still raining walnuts. Sunday was noisy with the falling walnuts. It was dangerous to be outside in the area of the trees. I looked up at our biggest tree and saw as many still on the tree as what has already fallen. I'm sure others have this problem also.

As annoying as it is I know what the noise is, but poor Taco, he doesn't understand and was scared most of the day. I turned the volume up on the tv and he curled up next to me and tried to sleep. Any yard with a walnut tree, you need a hard hat to protect you when you're out in the yard.

When and where was the most lopsided college football game?

Hello to all in area nursing and assisted living facilities. Hello also to all in area hospitals and rehab centers.

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Marshall Ogle. We offer our sympathy to all others who lost loved ones this past week. May they all rest in peace.

Answer: Played on October 7, 1916, between the Cumberland College Bulldogs and the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets on the Yellow Jackets' home field of Grant Field in Atlanta. Georgia Tech defeated the Bulldogs 222-0 for the highest and most one-sided score in the history of college football.

Are we finally going to get Fall weather? The forecast for the next 10 days actually looks like Fall-like weather. I know many people are anxious for sweater weather, I'm just looking forward to no more 80°+ days.

Quote: "Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." - Ruth Bader Ginsburg  
*(Intended For Last Week)*

The storm that blew through on Thursday, Oct. 1 bringing a cool front also brought a down fall of walnuts. It sounded like the squirrels were having a fight using the walnuts as bombs. Between them falling on the roof and falling on the AC unit it was very noisy. But even after all of that there are still a bunch of walnuts in the trees.

Rex and Debbie Kellum came by one day last week and picked up a bunch of walnuts, but you can't tell by looking at the yard now after the high winds and temperature drop.

Question: According to the National Park Service, which American woman has the most statues dedicated to her? Sacagawea, Harriet Tubman, Susan B. Anthony, or Pocahontas?

We offer our sympathy to the families and friends of

Randy Voth, Bill Clark Sr., and Linda Morrison. We offer our sympathy to all others who lost loved ones this past week. May they all rest in peace.

The recent rain has sure brought out the toadstools. I guess they're toadstools, could be mushrooms for all I know. I just know we always called them toadstools and fairy rings. Many places around have the fairy rings in their yards. One yard in town has one toadstool bigger than a dinner platter, with another slightly smaller, then a bunch of varying sizes in a big circle. Usually the circles are about 2-3 feet across, but this year there are several 10-15 feet across.

Answer: Sacagawea is depicted in more statues than any other American woman, according to the National Park Service. The Shoshone woman is best known for accompanying Meriwether Lewis and William Clark on their historic expedition across the American West from 1804 to

1806. Sacagawea served as an interpreter and helped the explorers communicate with Native American tribes they encountered along the way. Today, numerous statues and monuments across the United States honor her role in one of the nation's most famous journeys.

Toronto now has a place to take cardboard. A cage has been placed by the dumpster on Broad Street next to CVA Services. This cage is for cardboard only; do not put trash in there. Chad and Vicky Altis are providing the town with a place to recycle cardboard instead of it going to the landfill. All you have to do is put your cardboard in the cage.

The Toronto Volunteer Fire Department, along with the Toronto Library, held a fire safety program Saturday evening in the parking lot of the Library. Fire Chief Evan Murray as well as other members of the fire department taught the kids what to do in the event of a fire. He noted they needed to practice fire drills at home as well as at school.

Chief Murray put on all his gear, including the self-contained breathing apparatus, and crawled around the corner of the truck and sent the kids scurrying away. Amos Cagle and Jason Degraw called the kids back explaining to them that it was Evan under that face mask and helmet. Slowly the kids came back, even more after Murray took off his helmet and face mask.

The kids all gathered around then and wanted to check everything out. Degraw held the tank and let each kid try on the face mask and tank. Then they had a rubber duck race across the parking lot powered by a fire hose. The ducks were numbered and the first duck won a prize.

The kids got to check out two fire trucks and got to hold a hose and open the lever to spray water, with Murray's help. All in all it was a great learning experience for the kids and was enjoyable for the adults to watch. The weather was perfect Saturday evening for the safety program.

Quote: "October is crisp days and cool nights, a time to curl up around the dancing flames and sink into a good book." - John Sinor

Coming Up In The Eureka Area

Oct. 17 & 18, 24 & 25 and Oct. 31 & Nov. 1: Races At Eureka Downs.

Oct. 20: Christ Lutheran Church Heritage Day  
Upper Fall River Church @ 10:30 a.m.,  
Pot Luck Lunch following at Holverson School House

Oct. 29: Trick/Trunk-Or-Treat Main Street  
3:15 - 5 p.m., 1st-3rd Street on Main Street  
For more information, call Robin Wunderlich at 620-750-0714

Oct. 30: Sacred Heart Altar Society  
Annual Fall Luncheon & Raffle  
11 a.m. - 1 p.m., 514 N. Elm St., Eureka  
Call 620-750-0676 or visit EurekaAltarSociety.com

Nov. 4: Bible Baptist Church 75th Anniversary  
Service @ 11 a.m., Dinner to follow  
11th & Elm Streets, Eureka

Nov. 6: Glow Fun Walk/Run: Starts at 6:45 p.m.  
Hosted by The GYM

Nov. 7: Greenwood County Cattlemen's Day

Nov. 7: Yoga in the Park at 9 a.m.  
Free to the public. All ages are welcome.

Have an upcoming community event? Contact The Eureka Herald, to learn how you can add your event to this listing and discuss other options to inform the community of your event.

This calendar is made possible by:

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620-583-5721  
822 E. River Street, in Eureka

Your Place For Community Connection!

Stories & Songs of the Flint Hills

by Annie Wilson – named the “Flint Hills Balladeer” by the Kansas Governor

Weda Skirts – Music is Medicine

“An all-girl band? That’ll never last!” some predicted in 2009 when the Weda Skirts began playing together, centered in Chase County in the heart of the Flint Hills. Now many years later, these five women have proven those naysayers wrong, showing they are as devoted to caring for each other as they are to creating their music.

Their supportive bond is illustrated in an anecdote from their first-ever studio recording session. In that stressful situation, when one girl became overwhelmed and tearful, the other four immediately put down their instruments and formed a tight huddle to comfort and encourage her. (Pretty sure this doesn’t happen in all-male bands.)

For the majority of their adult lives, these women have shared joys and sorrows as they faced life’s critical steps – careers, marriage, children, losses – forming both a sisterhood with each other and a family of devoted followers inspired by their music and spirit.

One time, right before a Weda Skirts show in Winfield’s Walnut Valley Festival, I asked the young man sitting next to me if he knew the upcoming band. He answered

incredulously: “These are my people!” and proceeded to sing along to every song, knowing all the lyrics.

What is the magic of this group? What inspires such devotion in their fans?

First, yes, their music is gorgeous. The rich blend of instruments and “soaring harmonies” of their clear, female voices alone can bring me to tears. But their sincere message is what most touches the heart and lifts the spirit: it’s about how, in an often-frightening world, music can be “medicine” - helping us find joy and solace in nature and in each other.

Most of their songs are written by lead singer and founder, Elexa Dawson. A member of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Nation, her songs embody Native American values. In “Many Moons,” she sits by the fire and gives thanks to the Earth. In “Glad We Came,” she pledges loyalty and friendship: “We might not be family but we’re kindred just the same.”

All the other women write songs, too, and for all the joy they spread with their smiles and often light-hearted tunes, each is also deeply thoughtful, responding honestly to the serious anxieties of our time.

In “Love and Light,” Melissa Tastove feels helpless confronting the world’s many crises by herself, concluding, “I need all my people beside me” where we can “stand together... Guided by our love and light we won’t give up.” In “Sometimes,” my daughter Emily Wilson Barnes writes of how we can pretend to be OK but sometimes want to “scream and cry out loud, make the sounds of anguish of our people.”

The group finds the Flint Hills and the Tallgrass Prairie to be the source of their inspiration. In “Strong City,” Rachel Allai writes of a land “where the prairie meets the sky.” Sarah Bays’ historical ballad “Flood of ‘51” describes the deluge which inundated her grandparents’ farm, when “Nature showed us all we are not in control and took us to our knees.”

Standing together and supporting each other through life’s challenges, the Weda Skirts exemplify the strength of unity – with each other, with their listeners, with the land. Elexa Dawson writes: “I am not just me, and you are not just you. We are something bigger and together we get through.”

For more Stories & Songs of the Flint Hills, see tallgrassexpress.com

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The Eureka Herald

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