

# Student Spotlight:

## Ramone Lewis

International Student Feels Like Part of the WTC Family

Originally hailing from Kingston, Jamaica, sophomore Ramone Lewis plays for the WTC Men's Soccer team. He plays central defensive midfield and central attacking midfield.

Lewis is also a WTC Foundation Scholarship recipient.

"This scholarship has affected me in a positive way as it helped me to focus more on school and soccer and less on working to pay my tuition," said the Business Administration major.

"I am truly grateful for it and want to show my gratitude to the WTC Foundation for awarding me this scholarship."

He plans to transfer to a Division I school after graduation—and open his own business.

When it came time to choose a college, Lewis didn't have many offers on the table. His best friend from high school received a scholarship to WTC and spoke to the coach on Lewis's behalf.

"The coach offered me a scholarship after watching my highlight reel," said Lewis. "I decided I would accept the offer and come here."

Like many students, COVID-19 affected him negatively and positively.

"It had been a year since I've seen my family because of COVID. I got the opportunity to see them in the summer."



*Ramone Lewis, WTC International Student,  
plays for the Men's Soccer team.*

The protocols Lewis has to follow daily is affecting him mentally and physically, but it's been a good year for him so far.

"I'm only looking for greatness at the end of the year. Nothing is given—everything is earned."

What's Lewis's favorite thing about WTC?

"I would have to say the people. The staff members are super sweet I couldn't ask for any better they're loving and caring. They treat me like family."

# WTC Supports Scurry County United Way

WTC Raises Funds in lieu of the Fall Festival

Every year, WTC holds our annual Fall Festival, a fundraiser for the Scurry County United Way. However, out of an abundance of caution, WTC canceled the event this year due to COVID-19.

Because this popular event helps the Scurry County United Way, WTC faculty and staff wanted to be sure we could still support the organization that helps many people in our community.

In lieu of the Fall Festival, WTC held a fundraiser for faculty and staff to directly contribute to the Scurry County United Way's annual campaign. Our generous faculty and staff raised over \$2,013.00.

The Scurry County United Way supports the following organizations:

- Boy Scouts of America, Buffalo Trail Council
- Cancer Services Network, Inc.
- Gateway Family Services, Inc.
- Girl Scouts of Texas Oklahoma Plains
- Jumpstart Enrichment for Tomorrow's Students
- Scurry County 4H
- Scurry County Food Cupboard
- Scurry County Museum
- Snyder Community Resource Center
- Snyder Volunteer Fire Department
- West Texas Children's Advocacy Center



*Two of the Special Prize winners at WTC's 2019 Fall Festival.*

## Telescope Project in Final Phase

Equipment Gets New Home at Cavender Energy Field



*Top: The Harvest Moon on Oct. 1, 2020.  
Bottom: The new concrete slab for the telescope at Cavender Energy Field.*

The WTC Foundation's Inspire Program funds many interesting projects to improve the student experience here on campus. Currently in its third phase of development, the Telescope project benefits Astronomy students during their nighttime labs. Dana Fahnrapp, Petroleum Technology instructor, initiated the project.

When the Celestron Schmidt Cassegrain 14" telescope was first purchased, Astronomy labs were held behind the Science building. Due to the lack of an electrical source and bright lights from the buildings, students struggled to use the telescope to its full capacity. To remedy this, a concrete slab foundation was poured at Cavender Energy Field. The new location provides a stable resting place for the telescope. The darker conditions

at Cavender Energy Field allow students to see the night sky more clearly.

To complete the final phase of the project, a specialized housing structure will be built so that the telescope can remain set up and ready for student use. In addition, a twenty-four hour camera surveillance system will be installed to protect the equipment.

Not only does this project benefit WTC's Astronomy students, but will eventually be open to members of the Snyder community on special occasions. Fahnrapp hopes to hold events open to the public to view special celestial occurrences in the night sky including the Harvest Moon, partial solar eclipses, super moons, and opportunities to see Jupiter and Saturn.

# Message from the Development Office

from the Director of College Advancement

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As we come to the end of a tumultuous year, it is easy to lose sight of the outstanding accomplishments and achievements that have taken place despite significant obstacles and setbacks. After moving to virtual learning in the spring, WTC, like many other businesses, closed its campus in response to the pandemic to protect the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff.

Since reopening and welcoming students back on campus, WTC has taken steps to mitigate the ongoing COVID-19 dangers.

For the fall semester, WTC instituted daily temperature checks, strict mask guidelines, and social distancing mandates, as well as modified learning options to keep students, faculty, staff, and our community safe. We have seen incredible resilience

from our campus community adapting to the challenges that come with this “new normal.”

2020 has been a unique and trying year for every single one of us. I want to thank every member of the WTC family for your unwavering support through these unprecedented times from the bottom of my heart.

The WTC Foundation appreciates the ongoing gifts that enable us to continue running programs on campus to fund student scholarships and faculty and staff projects to improve the campus for all. None of this would be possible without you.

We look forward to the time that we can join together to celebrate our students, both past and present, our accomplishments, and our dedication to WTC’s future.



*Alex Phillips*

*Director of College Advancement*

Again, thank you for your support and encouragement this year and every year.

## Gifts to the WTC Foundation

February thru December 2020

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### **Dr. Robert L. Clinton Memorial Scholarship**

*In memory of Dr. Robert Clinton*  
Wanda Clinton

### **Darden Family Foundation Scholarship**

Larry Darden

### **Shawn Odom Memorial Scholarship**

Scott and Sherry Odom

### **Western Texas College Memorial Scholarship**

Jeffrey and Janell Martin

### **Westerner Fund**

Vena Genuchi Alesio  
Jerry Baird  
Dr. Barbara Beebe  
June Posey Brock  
David Clinton  
Paula Parks Fulford  
Don and Annette Huston  
Snyder Chamber of Commerce and Gold Coats  
Snyder Wheels Car Club  
Western Texas College Foundation

*To make a gift to the WTC Foundation, contact Alex Phillips, Director of College Advancement at 325-574-7943.*

# Dedicated Benches Update

Dedicated benches installed



*In Loving Memory of Mickey Baird, Student Activities Director*



*In Loving Memory of Josh Beebe, Beloved Son and Brother*



*In Honor of Dr. & Mrs. Robert Clinton*



*In Loving Memory of Coach Bob O'Day from Mike, Tammy, and Tracy*

The WTC Dedicated Bench fundraiser began last fall with great support and success. All of the dedicated benches have been installed, and are already being put to good use by students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

A limited number of benches remain available to dedicate to anyone of

your choosing. The proceeds from each purchase of an \$800 bench go into the Westerner Fund. The Westerner Fund helps subsidize student scholarships, educational and cultural activities, as well as campus and facility improvement and development. All gifts to the Westerner Fund are invested and only the interest is used, ensuring that

the funding lasts in perpetuity. Your gift creates a sustainable resource for student success at Western Texas College.

If you would like to purchase a dedicated bench, please reach out to Alex Phillips at [alex.phillips@wtc.edu](mailto:alex.phillips@wtc.edu) or call 325-574-7943.

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