



WESTVIEW
BOYS' HOME

BULLETIN

Published for the friends of the young men at Westview



Building for the not-so-distant future

We're raising the roof on our north campus! We have a number of projects underway that will make life better at Westview, and we're excited about that!

We've set aside several acres on our north campus for our young men (and their guests) for camping and recreation. Now we're adding several new features to this space: a pavilion (for cook-outs and rain shelter), a ropes course, a disc golf course, and restroom facilities.

We're starting with the pavilion and restrooms because they give us the working space to work on the other projects. Our young men have been active in these projects in preparing the land, unloading materials, and raising the roofs of these new facilities. This means that these project have been doubly helpful to our purposes; not only will they provide enjoyment for our young men in the years

to come, the very process of building them provides learning and work experiences for them, just as our Summer Work program does. Work now—play when the work is done.

Westview has a grant and some gifts that provide the funds for these projects, and our campus manager, Terry Owens, is leading the Westview team (and young men!) through the construction process. He and the caregivers are also giving hands-

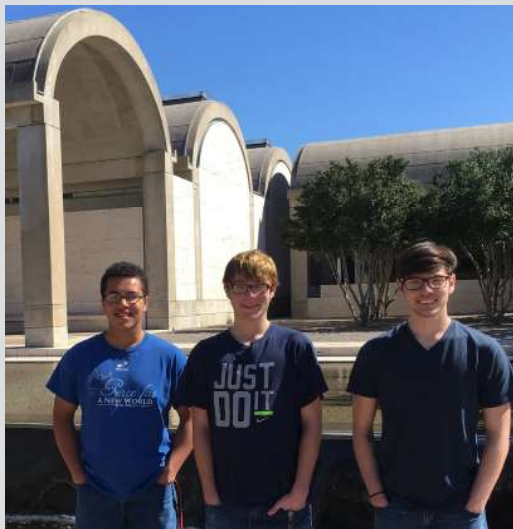


on instruction in construction work to our young men as the work moves along. Because our young men worked hard, we were able to put up all of the beams in one day. The roof installation will come soon. As we make progress through the other projects, we'll post photos on our web site to show our progress.

All of this work connects well with our Summer Work & Play Program. Not only will there be construction projects in the months ahead that allow our young men to learn and earn, there will be the completed work at which they can have some well-deserved fun.

We are grateful to God for the devoted friends of our young men and Westview Boys' Home who make these exciting projects possible. We look forward in the days ahead to the future for which we've been blessed to prepare. [W](#)

Rounding out our education



The crew at Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, TX

Among our hopes for young men at Westview is that they go out into the world with a broad range of experience and education—including the fine arts. A recent trip to Fort Worth provided three young men with an abundance of memorable artistic experiences.

Brian, Kade, and Mark traveled to Fort Worth with Westview team member Ron Bruner to enjoy a weekend of the fine arts. Their Friday evening started with a visit to Bass Hall in downtown Fort Worth, where they enjoyed listening to the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra play a varied program:

- Victor Agudelo – La Madre de Agua
- Dvorák – Cello Concerto, with Johannes Moser
- Saint-Saëns – Organ Symphony, with H. Joseph Butler

Olin Chism, a reviewer for the Fort Worth

Star-Telegram, wrote: “Saint-Saëns’ “Organ Symphony” is a highly theatrical work given a highly theatrical performance by conductor Miguel Harth-Bedoya and the Fort Worth Symphony.”

On Saturday morning the group went to the Kimbell Art Museum, perhaps one of the finest museums west of the Mississippi. There the young men enjoyed seeing a collection of work by Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Raeburn, Van Gogh, Cézanne, Monet, Matisse, Mondrian, and Picasso, as well as a collection of Asian work.

After lunch (and, yes, food can be art!), the group went to see the Academy-Award winning movie, *Hidden Figures*.

Each young man acquired new experiences and found something in each encounter that they enjoyed. Everyone who was a part of this trip appreciated the donors who make these kind of experiences possible for us. Thank you! [W](#)



Bass Hall, Fort Worth, TX

Lev·er·age – use to maximum advantage

In life, success is not dependent on what we’ve been given but more on how committed we are to using everything we have. Our work with livestock projects is just one arena where our young men learn the importance of leverage.

One thousand four hundred pounds of heifer. Eighty pounds (with his wallet in his pocket) of young man. At first it might seem a crazy mis-match that would never work in the show ring. Because Noah is willing to put everything he has into it, though, he manages to carry it off.

This diminutive young man leverages his strong will, uncountable hours of working with his calf, and acquired experience against the natural laws of physics. Physics would seem to dictate that the large mass (the heifer) would pull the smaller mass (Noah) wherever it wanted. By knowing

when and where to pull or prod, though, Noah establishes a relational leverage that empowers him to lead his calf wherever he wants to go.

After showing his calf at OYE, Noah was proud of how well he had shown his animal. He had done his job perfectly. The proudest man in the building, though, was Doug Gonzalez, Westview’s ranch manager. Doug had worked with Steve and Tammy Young, Noah’s caregivers, to oversee Noah’s work with his heifer. They all had believed in Noah; what they were now proud to see was that Noah believed in Noah.

Our decades of commitment to livestock programs for the youth at Westview are rooted in our experience that these program are an outstanding way to leverage success into the lives of our youth. We remain thankful to those who empower this work. [W](#)



Noah and the heifer

Playing into our strengths

In the classic movie, *The Natural*, Roy Hobbs is a young man with a great gift as an athlete. His father sees his gift but warns him, “You’ve got a gift, Roy, but it’s not enough. You’ve got to develop yourself. Rely too much on your own gift and you’ll fail.”

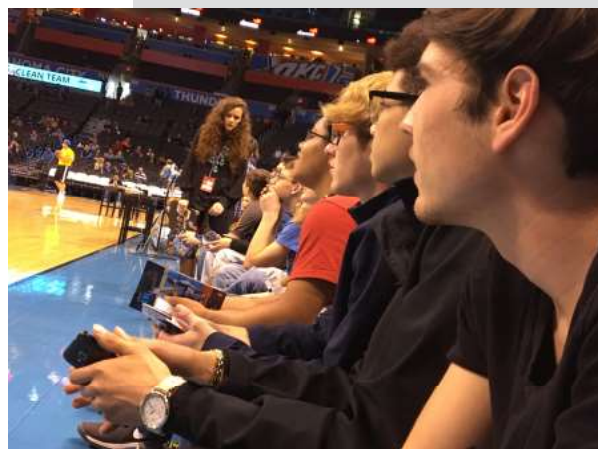
Having a God-given gift is a great blessing, but that’s not enough. To be successful, we’ve got to grow in our skill with the gift, find joy in using our gift, and give God the glory in the practice of that gift.

Kade Richardson is living out the truth of this statement through his music. Kade has a great gift as a musician, and particularly as a saxophonist. He has practiced hard and stepped up to become a core member of the Hollis High School Band. In his time at Westview, Kade has impressed all of the Westview team members with his musicianship.

Just before Christmas, Kade auditioned to be a part of the Shortgrass Honor Band. With over thirty schools participating, and dozens of musicians trying out for each part, Kade was chosen to be one of four saxophone players in this honor band.

On March sixth and seventh the honor band met in Elk City and began rehearsals with its director. Nine hours of rehearsal and twenty-four hours later, the Shortgrass High School Honor Band performed for an appreciative audience.

Even though Kade doesn’t plan to make a living as a musician, we believe that music is a gift God has given Kade that will continue to give him joy throughout his life. We are grateful for the giver of the gift and the one who has found joy in the use of it. [W](#)



You can see the Thunder out here

In southwestern Oklahoma the sight of a thunderstorm swelling and rolling in—accompanied by the low rumble of thunder—is often a welcome sight. The transformation of the Oklahoma City Thunder from expansion team to championship contender has been equally dramatic. A special friend has empowered our young men to witness this drama by giving them Thunder tickets every year since 2011.

This year our young men got up early on Sunday morning to drive to Yukon, Oklahoma, where they worshiped with their friends at the South Yukon Church of Christ. After worship, this congregation—long time supporters of the work at Westview—fed our young men lunch and sent

them on their way to downtown Oklahoma City for the game.

Our special friend had made arrangements for the guys to sit court side while the Thunder warmed up for their game with the Charlotte Hornets. As the game got ready to start, they moved up to their seats to cheer the Thunder on.

Once again Russell Westbrook managed to pull off a triple double, but, unfortunately, the Thunder lost this game. After the game the guys and their caregivers stopped for a little supper and then made their way safely home.

We celebrate the goodness and generosity of our friends at Westview and we thank you all for your loving care for our young men. [W](#)





Working with animals is a regular part of life for the young men at Westview. Mark, River, Micah, and Tristan care about and are proud of the animals in their care.



A tradition of champions

Some families develop a reputation; year after year they bring quality livestock to the show and they show them well. That's the kind of track record that the Westview family has built over the years: award-winning animals shown by award-winning showmen.


That steady effort applied in a consistent direction is why a number of donors work through the Westview Foundation to help keep these programs strong. For more information, please contact us at:

The Westview Foundation
P.O. Box 714
Hollis, OK 73550
(580) 688-3608 

Would you like to know more about Westview, its programs, and our ranch?
Please visit our web site at:
www.westviewboyshome.com

BIRTHDAYS

Kanyon Bradford	6/2
Jason Lowery	6/16
Adrick Herbert-Sheppard. . .	6/18
Zayne Jimenez	6/30
Anthony Buckley	8/12



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Westview is supported by its many friends and local congregations of the Churches of Christ



A MESSAGE FROM HOME

“What makes Westview different?” Over the past several bulletins, I’ve given several answers to this question, but here is another important difference.

Westview operates with a unique financial model.

Very few people have the resources to pay for the true costs of a residential child care facility; consequently those costs are usually borne by the state, an insurance company, or the child care agency itself. Westview does not contract with the state to care for children; we care for youth who would otherwise “fall through the cracks.”

Instead, Westview works with highly motivated donors to cover the cost of care for the young men on our campus. We also use our farm and ranch income to help cover costs. Westview does ask parents to participate to some degree in the expense of keeping their children at the Home, but only to the extent they are capable. No young man has ever been turned away for lack of funding.

For the gifted and caring team at Westview, I thank you, the gracious people whose generosity empowers us to participate in God’s work among these wonderful young men.

May God bless you and yours,


Ron Bruner
Executive Director