



WESTVIEW
BOYS' HOME

BULLETIN



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What we really want for Christmas . . .

Some of us have lived and worked at Westview long enough that we have launched our own offspring into the world, where they have married and have their own children. That makes us empty nesters and grandparents!

So, when the holidays come, it's a blessing for us to have everyone under the same roof and at the same table. It is delightful to share a table full of amazing food, even if you know there is no way you'll eat all of it.

Eventually, nearly everyone becomes so involved appreciating the blessings of the table that we have a moment to be still and see clearly what God has done. God has given us a great gift in our family. Whether they are with us or out in the world

busily about God's business, they are a blessing to us and to the world.

Dwelling in that moment, seeing our blessing gives us a hope for what we would want for our young men.

What do we really want for Christmas? We'll have to wait a while for it, but here it is. We want our young men to so flourish in the years to come that they are blessed with a family they love and that loves them in return. We want them—years from now—to sit at a table, surrounded by their loved ones, and feel the same kind of joy that we feel in the midst of our family. We hope, too, that in that moment they can feel the same gratitude to God that we feel.

This doesn't mean that the families

of our young men will look the same as ours. It doesn't mean that they will have a job like we have, or pursue the same hobbies.

We know that many of the friends of our young men and our partners in this great work hope and work for the same future. Some of us want these young men to experience the joy of family with which we've been blessed. Some of us want these young men to have the family that we've never had.

Giving of our resources, prayer, time and money will help bring this wonderful gift in the future. That is the kind of gift that will keep on giving. Thank you to each and everyone of you who has been so generous in making this future come to pass!

Westview's ranch is a happening place!

Some rhythms of the calendar hold true year after year. If it is October, pigs must be showing up, and this was true throughout October. Terry Owens has managed the purchasing of the animals and Angelene Garrett is overseeing the program with help from other caregivers. AJ has a gilt and barrow; Colton has a gilt and barrow; Arin has a barrow; James has a barrow; Jay has a barrow; Andrew has a barrow; and Cody has a gilt and a barrow. The way our guys are taking care of these little pigs, they won't be little for long!



Getting to know our new pigs

Our calf projects are now well underway. Jake Carter, our ranch manager, is working closely with our young people in the calf program. Several young men and some caregiver daughters, Emma and Mia McCord, are participating. Christian and Malachi both have a steer. Emma has a heifer and a steer; Mia has a heifer.



Learning how to work with cattle

Westview alumnus Tyler Fletcher has completed boot camp at Fort Leonard Wood. Caregivers Robbie and Angelene Garrett took two of Tyler's Westview brothers to be a part of graduation ceremonies. Tyler is now at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas for field medic training. Upon completion, he will be in the Oklahoma National Guard and will continue his studies at the University of Tulsa.



Celebrating Tyler's achievement

Westview board tours independent living site

The Westview Boys' Home board of directors is passionate about and active in our mission to serve young men who have completed their time on our ranch yet still need help with their launch into life. They have demonstrated that compassionate care in their steady progress toward our expanded independent living program.

For its October meeting, the board met at our new site in Weatherford. There they were able to readily imagine their dream for this new facility.

The bulk of the funds (\$1,627,000) for this project are in place. We are now working on funds to add an office facility (\$150,000) and a commissary (\$75,000). We also have a matching grant for \$92,060 to provide for the beginning operating costs of this work. If you'd like to help with our independent living project, please contact Ron Bruner or Terry Owens at (580) 688-9281.



Commitments to our donors

- Westview will honor special requests the donor makes for the use of the gift given; if this is not possible, we will not accept the gift.
- Westview will send a receipt to the donor to record the gift for tax purposes.
- Westview will maintain a record of all gifts given, but we will never release information about our donors to others.
- Westview will honor requests for a gift to be anonymous, or, when requested by a foundation or trust, will appropriately publicize a gift and its public benefit.
- Westview will never lend, lease, nor sell its donor lists to anyone at any time.
- The team at Westview diligently works to spend the vast bulk of its donations on services to our boys; most years Westview spends 10% or less of its revenues on fund raising and reporting.



Christian celebrates a good crosscountry run

Westview's young men in your will or trust.

Searching for new caregivers

Did you know that caregivers, on average, work for Westview for eight years?

Westview has become a haven where educators and youth ministers, tired of the politics they often face in their careers, can find a place to minister with young people. Caregivers at Westview have the opportunity to form life-changing relationships with youth who need outstanding role models and

healthy relationships. Living with our young men in spacious homes on our 1,500 acre campus gives you the time and space to make those connections. Our caregivers receive support from administrators who provide the resources and negotiate the politics.

If you have questions about the ministry of caregiving, call (580) 688-9281 and ask for Terry Owens, Director of Operations.



Caregiver Angelene Garrett shares a roller coaster ride with Arin

Enduring the drought

You don't have to be a farmer or rancher to know that this year of drought has presented extreme challenges. Because of the support of the Westview Foundation, though, Westview Boys' Home has had the human and financial resources to weather 80 mile-per-hour winds and months of drought. With those resources we've been able to keep the land and our herd in good shape. We're also getting ready for the days that the rain returns and our pastures are once again plush and green.

To find out more about the part you might be able to play in caring for our ranch, please contact the Foundation at: The Westview Foundation, P.O. Box 714, Hollis, OK 73550; (580) 688-3608.

BIRTHDAYS

James Greasley.....	11/19
Andrew Decuir.....	1/14
Colton Castro	2/15
Arin Hilley.....	2/23
Ezra Jacobson.....	3/12
Alexander Sanchez.....	3/15
Jay Emerson.....	3/19

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



A Message from Home

Gratitude. If there is one word that sums up how the Westview team feels this time of year, it is gratitude.

We thank God that we have the opportunity to work with the young men in our care. We know that they're important to God and to their families, and they are a breath of fresh air to us.

We are grateful that we have this ranch as a home. Our 1,500 acres are ideal for our work and young men. On top of that, the sunrises and sunsets are spectacular.

We are thankful for our church home, where our young men are loved and we are encouraged.

We are grateful for our families, who support us in so many ways and through so many years.

We are deeply thankful for our many partners in this work, who pray for our young men, send us encouraging notes, volunteer to take care of our campus, and give generously and compassionately to empower the amazing impact Westview has.

We are grateful.



Dr. Ron Bruner
Executive Director