



The ranch north of Overstreet House

A place of wild beauty

**I go to nature to be soothed and healed,
and have my senses put in order. - John Burroughs**

Our modern world is a complex, churning caldron of complex change. If adults struggle with this complexity, how much more stressful is this for a child? How debilitating can this be for young men who come from hard places? It is no small wonder that so many young people struggle.

Here the wisdom of those who built Westview Boys' Home in southwestern Oklahoma becomes apparent. Yes, we have land that is farmed and pastures that have been groomed for our cattle. But much of our land remains just like God made it: a wilderness.

Charles Lindburgh said "Real freedom lies in wilderness, not civilization."

It is in this wilderness that our young men at Westview Boys' Home find the freedom from the chaos to be "soothed and healed" and to have their senses "put in order." In the wilderness, they begin to see themselves clearly

**"Real freedom lies in
wilderness, not civilization"**

and better understand their need for healthy relationships with the important people in their lives.

For over 63 years, this healing place has been made possible by those who understood this wisdom, and we are thankful for their wisdom in joining in.



Singing with friends in chorus

The right kind of leadership

If there is a lack of anything in this world, it is a shortage of trained, experienced, ethical leaders. Westview Boys' Home works to fill this need.

Every year at Easter, youth gather for Leadership Training for Christ. LTC is a leadership training for youth sponsored by local congregations of the Churches of Christ. Our young men attend the North Texas LTC, which meets in Dallas, Texas.

Our guys—with 78 other youth from the Childress church—were a part of this great weekend. In January, our young men began working with others on teams: practicing drama, discovering puppets, and learning new songs. They also developed individual skills: song leading, speeches, and Bible reading.

Tristan and Eli excelled in Bible Bowl this year, which covered the gospel of John. Zayne, a senior, was able to participate in his fifth LTC. We are proud of their work!



Our new 2019 Ford Transit

Old Friends Fund a New Van!

Because of several gifts given by a number of families who have enduring commitments to the young men at Westview Boys' Home, the Westview team was recently able to replace one of its older vans with a new 2019 Ford van.

Part of the money was given by a family who sought to continue their family's tradition of providing support for Westview; they donated appreciated stock from their parents' estate. This gift allowed them to avoid taxes on that stock and provided much-needed transportation for our young men.

Another portion of the money was given by on-line and direct-deposit givers who had generously donated for months and had not restricted the use of their steady giving. We gathered together these gifts to complete the purchase.

The result of these thoughtful gifts is a new 2019 Ford Transit van. We replaced a van with over 150,000 miles and we have scheduled two more vans for replacement over the next year. Interested donors should contact John Moore, our director of development, about helping with this project.

Three Not-So-Little Pigs

Years from now, when our young men think back about their experiences in middle and high school, one of the things we hope they remember is that they helped open the M. L. Lewis Expo Center, the new show barn in Hollis. On February 18, 2019, seven young men from Westview and the daughter of one of our caregivers exhibited pigs for the first time in that show ring.



Three young men show their Herefords

Terry Owens, Westview's campus manager, led a team of caregivers to guide our young men: Angelene and Robbie Garrett, Bev and Donnie Leigh, and Geneva and Ray Owens.

Although we had pigs of most of the breeds present, we had a very strong trio of Herefords. Here are the results:

Keelan Coit – Second place, Class I, Cross

Kris Murrell – Third place, Class I, Hereford; First place, Class I, Yorkshire

Josh Reed – Second place, Class I, Duroc

Tyson Storie – First place, Class I, Hereford; Reserve Breed Champion

Sam Taylor – Third place, Class I, Hampshire

Eli Turner – First place, Class I, Duroc; Second place Class I Hereford

Dylan Van Horn – First Place, Class I, Spot

Skylar Keeton – Fourth place, Class I, Cross

The Youngs receive honors

Honor is the reward of virtue.
- Cicero

The Westview Boys' Home administration has announced its selection of Steve and Tammy Young for the 2018 Ed Deaver Service Award. That award is for Westview team members who exemplify the best of the good things for which Westview stands and who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to our young men.

Steve and Tammy have cared for young men at Overstreet House for five years now. During their entire tenure, they have been important servant leaders in Westview's show calf team.

As a token of this honor, the Youngs received new Westview field jackets.



Steve and Tammy Young

This service award is named for an early board member of Westview Boys' Home—Ed Deaver—who, through decades of service to our young men, exemplified a true servant spirit in the care of youth from hard places. We are grateful for the service of the Youngs; may God continue to bless their work.

Showing in a new ring

On February 18, 2019, the M. L. Lewis Expo Center welcomed exhibitors for the first time. The young men from Westview were glad to be there. Westview's ranch manager, Doug Gonzalez, and caregivers, Steve and Tammy Young, teamed up for the fifth year to help our young men with this character-building work.

They brought a record twelve calves to the show. Several were successful



Jess and his heifer

enough with their steers to make the premium sale: Jesse Campbell, Derek Chapin, Chance Maples, and Noah Meyer. Here are the other results:

Jesse Campbell – Heifer – First place Commercial, Class I, Breed Champion. Steer – First place Hereford, Breed Champion.

Derek Chapin – Heifer – First place Charolais, Breed Champion. Steer – First place, Class I Cross Steer

Christian Fincher – Heifer – First place Commercial, Reserve Breed Champion. Steer – Second place, Class I Cross

Jason Lowery – Heifer – First Place, Breed Champion. Steer – Second place Simmental; Reserve Breed Champion

Chance Maples – Steer – First place Charolais, Breed Champion

Noah Meyer – Steer – First place Chi Steer; Breed Champion

Elijah Robinson – Steer – Second place Chi Steer; Reserve Breed Champion.



Westview at the Lakehoma church

Training parents

In January the Lakehoma Church of Christ hosted Westview Family Services for its "Connected Parent and Child" seminar. The seminar introduces participants to Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®).

Despite the cold, blustery weather, 40 people showed up to study the critical connection between parent and child.

Westview's executive director, Ron Bruner, said, "Westview is thankful to James Waugh and the Lakehoma church for their wonderful hospitality. This is a church that cares about people and their families."

Parents, soon-to-be parents, grandparents, educators, and church leaders were present. Each gained insight into relationships that can empower their connections with children to be more healthy and helpful.

WFS team members Chase Thompson, Ron Bruner, Terry Owens, and Josh Birney led the four segments of the programming. Several participants indicated their interest in upcoming sessions at WFS that will study TBRI® in more detail.

Educators or church leaders who wish to make this training available to their people can contact Terry Owens at Westview for more information.

Counseling Begins at WFS

There is no such thing as a perfect parent but we can all learn how to be a better one. - Ron Bruner

Westview Family Services has begun its intended work. Counseling rooms have been constructed and furnished at its Oklahoma City office. Ron Bruner, executive director of Westview Boys' Home, has announced that Westview team members have begun their counseling and family coaching work there. Westview Family Services is an operating division of Westview Boys' Home.

Chase Thompson, LPC, has begun seeing the families of young men who currently live at Westview Boys' Home. He has also seen other families to provide counseling and visited with other fami-



A counseling room in OKC

lies to help them make good decisions about whether to place their sons in a residential setting.

Josh Birney, Westview's manager of social services, has also begun to use the Oklahoma facility to interview families seeking to place their young men at Westview Boys' Home.

The gift that keeps giving

In 2018, the Ralph Pickle Estate gave a very generous gift establishing the "Ralph Pickle Endowment for Westview Boys' Home." The Pickle family placed this endowment with the Oklahoma City Community Foundation (OCCF). In an endowment, the initial gift stays in the endowment in perpetuity and the income from the gift passes on to Westview annually.



Ralph Pickle, 2016

From 1990 until his passing in 2017, Ralph Pickle was a friend and supporter of the young men at Westview. Ralph's vision was for a gift that would guarantee a cash gift for each young man at his birthday and at Christmas. The remaining income is unrestricted.

Endowments preserve the principal of the money gifted and are invested to provide 5% income per year to the Boys' Home. Investment gains in excess of 5% add to the principal. Over twenty years, the principal can double while providing more income than the initial gift.

The Pickle Estate challenged Westview to create its own "Westview Boys' Home Endowment." They will match, up to \$100,000.00, other gifts we could raise for this endowment. So far we have raised \$72,000, which the Pickle estate has matched. Friends who wish to learn more about these endowments should contact John Moore, our director of development.

Taking care of the ranch

A good farm is recognized as good partly by its beauty.

- Wendell Berry

To those of us who live on the ranch at Westview, this is a beautiful place. That work takes resources, and the Westview Foundation provides some of the cash resources that make this beauty possible.

After all, there are pastures to maintain, trees to plant, and fences to mend. There are over 16 miles of fences on our 1,500 acre ranch!

When you help the Westview Foundation, you help keep the home in which our young men live beautiful. To find out more about how you can help, contact them at: The Westview Foundation, P.O. Box 714, Hollis, OK 73550, (580) 688-3608.

BIRTHDAYS

Kanyon Bradford.....	6/02
Isaiah Wood	6/30
Dylan VanHorn	8/02
Jess Campbell.....	8/07
Sam Taylor	8/20

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



A Message from Home

Do you know what it's like to work with your heroes? My life is blessed with this gift.

In the morning I watch these living saints at Westview fill their schedules with hours of errands and meetings to meet the needs of our young men. When the day goes sideways, they patiently renegotiate their schedules and their attitudes.

Through the day, they guide the unpredictable behavior of young men who don't understand what they're feeling or how to express it. They look beyond the behavior to the need underneath. They help the guys find better ways to know and meet those needs.

At the end of the day, I see them teach the language of relationship to those who struggle to speak it. Even if they don't receive respect at first, they keep respecting the potential of each young man and press on.

Do you know the two words these heroes speak most often? **"You're welcome."** This is their simple response to the many who are thankful for their work and their lives.

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink on a blue background. The signature appears to be "Rou" or similar.