

# THE KINGFISHER POST



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Easter 2024 Photo by AAK Amy Smith

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## KINGFISHER COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOSTS DISASTER EXERCISE

Kingfisher County, OK – Emergency management teams, first responders, and municipal leaders from across Kingfisher County came together on Wednesday, April 9, for a Tabletop Exercise designed to simulate a large-scale tornado disaster.

The exercise began with a simulated severe weather advisory from the National Weather Service, forecasting potential tornado activity. As the scenario unfolded, a tornado warning was issued by midday. A confirmed tornado touched down near Cashion and later moved through Kingfisher, causing significant damage to infrastructure and public buildings, including City Hall.

A second tornado was reported on the ground, impacting both residential and commercial areas. The exercise concluded with a structured evaluation session during which participants discussed what worked well, identified resource and communication gaps, and proposed areas for improvement. Insights from this Tabletop Exercise will be used to develop a formal After-Action Plan with specific improvement actions.

The five-hour event, hosted at Cimarron Electric, was attended by approximately 40 people. Participants included representatives from Pioneer, Kingfisher County Administration, Police, Fire, Public Works, and Emergency Management, as well as leadership from the Cities of Kingfisher, Cashion, and Loyal, with support from the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management. Photos by Maitland Pickle.



# UNMASKING AUTISM

with Morgan  
Gonzales



**Morgan Gonzales of Gonzales Therapy Services**

Morgan Gonzales was a guest on the All About Kingfisher show for an upcoming episode and took the time to speak on Autism, Speech Therapy, and Building a Business.

Morgan grew up on a farm in Vici, Oklahoma, “middle of nowhere,” she jokes, where GPS doesn’t even pronounce the name right. She was raised with cattle, pigs, and horses, and she still lives the country life with her family just north of Enid. In fact, her bio says she’s raising “free-range chickens and kids.” If you’ve seen her kids running barefoot outside with the dogs and chickens, you’d get it. Interestingly, Morgan didn’t set out to be an entrepreneur; in fact, she was warned against it in grad school. But after five years working in the field, she realized she could build something on her own. “If you don’t like the business side of things,” she says, “it’s not for you.” But Morgan jumped in

and learned everything from accounts receivable to running a full therapy clinic.

April is Autism Awareness Month, Morgan’s unexpected specialty: working with autistic children. In grad school, she fell in love with this work, and while her career took her through acute care and other experiences, she’s now come full circle.

What is autism?

Autism, she explains, is a neurodevelopmental disorder, something you’re born with, not something you catch or develop later. Often, signs start to show around age 2 or 3, when social and language demands increase. That’s when red flags like delayed language, limited social interaction, or unusual play behaviors start to appear.

One topic that stood out was how autism presents differently in girls. Morgan revealed something deeply personal: she herself was diagnosed just last year with Level 1 Autism and ADHD. Girls often mask their symptoms by imitating others or characters from shows, which can delay diagnosis. She shared a college story where she unknowingly mimicked a UK accent after working with a British lab partner, something that now makes a lot more sense in hindsight.

Asperger’s, once considered separate, is now part of the autism spectrum. What used to be described as “high functioning” or socially awkward is simply recognized today as a different point on the spectrum.

Why early intervention matters:

Some parents fear labeling their child, Morgan says. But getting a diagnosis can open doors to valuable resources: developmental services, financial assistance, and support for daily needs like diapers or nutrition. More importantly, it helps caregivers better understand their child, not as “bad” or difficult, but as overwhelmed and needing different support. “We want to avoid that gap from growing,” she says. “What looks like a small delay at two can be a huge delay by kindergarten if we don’t step in early.”

Morgan’s story is a powerful reminder that labels don’t limit us—they inform us. Whether it’s a parent noticing early signs in their child or an adult discovering a piece of their identity later in life, understanding autism means opening doors, not closing them. And with people like Morgan leading the way, those doors are opening wider every day. Stay tuned to catch the full conversation on the All About Kingfisher Show, you’ll be able to watch it on YouTube, Facebook, [allaboutkingfisher.com](http://allaboutkingfisher.com), or listen to it on any of your favorite podcast apps.



# BRAYDEN OSTERHOLT: IVY LEAGUE BOUND

Story and photos by AAK Maitland Pickle

## YALE UNIVERSITY

Yale University, founded in 1701 and located in New Haven, Connecticut, is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious Ivy League schools. Known for academic excellence, it offers top-tier programs in law, medicine, arts, and sciences. Yale has produced numerous U.S. presidents, Nobel laureates, and global leaders, and is celebrated for its historic campus, research, and cultural institutions.

Kingfisher High School is proud to recognize Senior Brayden Osterholt as a 2024 QuestBridge National College Match Finalist, an honor awarded to just 7,288 students out of over 25,500 applicants nationwide. QuestBridge is a prestigious nonprofit organization that connects high-achieving, low-income students with top-tier colleges and universities. Brayden's academic excellence, leadership, and determination helped him stand out on a national level, and his achievement marks a historic milestone: he is the first student from Kingfisher to ever be accepted into Yale University. Rather than participating in the traditional Match program, Brayden opted to apply through QuestBridge's Regular Decision process, which offers more flexibility in selecting a college. Out of over 50,000 applicants to Yale each year, the acceptance rate is

just 4.6%. For QuestBridge applicants through Regular Decision, that number drops even lower—to just 3.17%. Despite the odds, Brayden was one of only 66 students nationwide who matched with Yale through the QuestBridge program, and one of just six students from Oklahoma admitted to Yale this year. He has accepted a full scholarship that will cover 100% of his demonstrated financial need. Brayden plans to major in Environmental Engineering and will attend a special campus event at Yale April 21st–23rd, where he and his family will have the opportunity to explore the university, attend seminars, and celebrate this remarkable opportunity. His journey is a powerful example of perseverance, academic dedication, and the incredible possibilities available to students who dream big. Way to go, Brayden!





# REMEMBRANCE

by Bonny Flesher

Anyone who is from Oklahoma will forever remember April 19, 1995. I also think about my beautiful mom. April was her birthday month, and her favorite religious holiday, Easter, will always be in my heart. I remember exactly where I was on April 19, 1995, at 9:02 when the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City had a truck bomb explode, killing 168 people, 19 of whom were children. I can recall exactly where I walked down the sidewalk at Pioneer delivering mail. But being a mom, what is even more prevalent was my children and where they were.

My son was in 4th grade in Tonya Cameron's class. The bombing, in its devastation, planted a seed to serve in my 4th-grader's heart. In 2003, after graduation, he left on June 10th on a 20-year journey of service to his country. I'm terrible at remembering dates, but when watching a piece of my heart walk away to start his new chapter, there was a part of me that wanted to stomp and scream, while another part couldn't be more proud!

Something that stays with me to this day is that I wrote him every day while at boot camp. When I addressed the letters, I used his middle name, which is what we all called him. Unknowingly, he never received any of my letters because his full name wasn't correct as the Navy saw it. Me and the Navy saw a lot of things from a different perspective! That was an epic moment that failed and broke my heart. He honored the pledge he made that day in Mrs. Cameron's 4th-grade class, retiring after 20 years of service and achieving the rank of Navy Chief.

You probably don't want to complain to me about having your adult children living close by. Yes, he traveled the world, and I was able to visit places I never expected to. There were different stations every three years and several deployments, life-changing events—some devastating, some beautiful. My mom's heart learned the power of prayer! Some of those deployments I was told about, but what is haunting are the stories still bottled up inside him.

The term Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) refers to a disorder in which a person has difficulty recovering after experiencing or witnessing a terrifying event—something we will probably witness if we are on this earth long enough. I never thought my 4th grader would be able to relate to the first



## AAK Bonny Flesher

*Writer and resident of Kingfisher, Oklahoma. She contributes to "All About Kingfisher" through her column "Transitions by Bonny," where she shares local stories and insights. Her work reflects a deep connection to the Kingfisher community and its history.*

responders on April 19, 1995. I have had to learn that I can't make the monsters go away. So when the news talks about those forever changed, I think of my 4th grader and an adult comment he made about serving his country. Another year, as we remember, I have asked the question: where were you on April 19th, 1995, at 9:02?





# OBITUARIES

## Marjorie "Marge" Goss McCarthy

Marjorie "Marge" Goss McCarthy, 86, a longtime resident of Okarche, OK, was born on April 18, 1938, to Henry and Marguerite Goss of Houston, TX, and was peacefully promoted to God's kingdom on March 13, 2025.

As a mother of four, grandmother of four, sister, aunt, and daughter, Marge was a beacon of love and strength to all who knew her.



Marge entered hospice at home in 2023, and we have had the privilege of caring for Marge every day. Marge's kindness, warmth, wisdom, and sense of humor will continue to guide us as we honor her in this physical life. Marge loved her family, the beach, butterflies, flowers, garden, estate sales, and shopping for various treasures. Marge texted beautiful sayings and pictures to everyone each day. Marge loved the Oklahoma Sooners and, even through her journey of hospice, celebrated all the wins and provided advice to the team many times through the TV during a loss. Marge always had her Sooner t-shirt and a lucky charm button near her. Marge loved sweets, with her favorites being lemon, chocolate, vanilla taffy, and banana pudding.

Marge's favorite holiday was Christmas, and over the years, I spent hours and hours finding special ornaments, Santas, baby Jesus, and angels. Christmas Eve always ended with the family reading "Twas the Night before Christmas". Marge created many holiday traditions that will live on in her spirit.

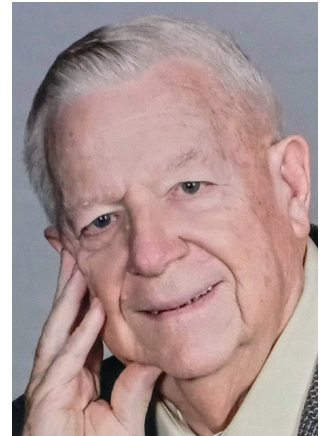
For many years, Marge traveled with her family to exciting places and loved all the adventures. Marge poured her heart into her family and grandchildren. Marge shared many passions with each grandchild, from art to flowers, to sports, to building things, and celebrated each in their unique way. Marge's laughter, her wisdom, and her unwavering love will forever be etched in our hearts. Marge will be welcomed into the Kingdom of Heaven to be with her firstborn son, sisters, parents, and our Heavenly Father.

Sanders Funeral Service is entrusted with Marge's service arrangements. The family will have a come-and-go celebration of Marge's life at 315 Memorial Dr. Okarche, OK, on Saturday, April 12th, from 1 to 4.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations in Marjorie's name be made to the Center of Family Love in Okarche, OK.

## Robert Leon Swart

Robert Leon Swart, was born August 2nd, 1934, in Perry, Oklahoma to Ted and Mary Ruth (Gross) Swart. He attended Perry Public Schools and graduated in 1952. He went on to A&M College now known as Oklahoma State University, graduating in 1957. He married Barbara Ann Groom on May 30th, 1957, and five children were born to their union; Steven Douglas, Michael



Lee, Curtis Allen, James Dean, and last but not least, Karin Diane.

Robert was introduced to his grade school band when he got his first band instrument – a cornet. He played the cornet from 7th to 12th grade in the Perry High School band and continued playing throughout college. He was an avid golfer starting in grade school and played throughout his life. He was a member of many card clubs and loved playing dominoes for over sixty years.

When he came to Kingfisher with Barbara, they opened the Dairy Land and ran it for almost 10 years and owned different drive-ins for several years after. In 1964, he built his first house and continued Robert Swart Construction through his early 80's.

He stayed active in the church, and he had a close relationship with God. The God of Abraham – Issac – and Jacob. He believed and proclaimed that Jesus was surely The Son of the Living God. (John 3:16)

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ted and Mary Ruth Swart; a sister, Roberta, and brother, Jerry.

He was survived by his wife Barbara, his children, Steven and his spouse Derek, Michael and his wife Julie, Curtis and his wife Susan, Jim and his wife Bridgett, and Karin and his husband Bob. Grandchildren, Lauren and husband Aaron, Jacob, Emma, Mccauley, Sarah and husband Dalton, Matthew, Brandon and wife Megan, Brittany and husband Matt, Braden, Jay, Anna and husband Trent, Robby, and Kelly. He is also survived by 10 great grandkids.

His last favorite scripture is "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen!" (Luke 24:5-6)

Visitation for Robert will be Wednesday, April 16 from 9am-6 pm at Sanders Funeral Service.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 am, Thursday, April 17 at Church of the Nazarene with burial at 2:30 pm at Grace Hill Cemetery in Perry, OK.

Under the direction of Sanders Funeral Service.



# OBITUARIES

## Earl Lee Nelson Jr.

We are saddened to announce the passing of Earl Lee Nelson Jr., better known as Junior, born on March 18, 1970, who departed from this life on April 8, 2025. Earl was known for his honesty, kindness, and hard work, often described as goofy and funny by those who knew him. His preferred taste in food included Soul Food, Seafood, Pork Chops, Burgers, BBQ, and Steak, whilst his favorite drinks were Water, Gatorade, and Kool-aid. Earl was an avid reader, his favorite book being 'Dream A World A New'. His musical preferences were as varied as Bob Marley, Yellowman, Otis Redding, Michael Jackson, and The Temptations to name a few.

Earl's favorite TV Shows included Dave Chappelle, Katt Williams, Bernie Mac, and The Boondocks while his favorite movies were Remember the Titans, Big Momma's House, and The Bingo Long Traveling All-Stars & Motor Kings, as well as many others. He admired the artwork of Pablo Picasso and was a fan of the Kansas City Chiefs, Kansas City Royals, and Oklahoma City Thunder sports teams.

Some of Earl's favorite activities were playing games like Phase 10, Dominoes, and Life, and enjoying playing many video games with loved ones. He also enjoyed outdoor activities such as fishing, barbecuing, and hanging out with friends and family. Earl believed in staying fit and often resorted to lifting weights and jogging as part of his exercise regimen. He was an incredible standout football player for Shawnee Mission South, and he was even offered a scholarship to play college football at Arizona State University.

His preferred vacation spots were Kansas City and parts of Kingfisher. Locally, he loved visiting Kingfisher Park, Bally's Casino, and Stroud's Chicken. Earl was very philanthropic and actively involved in causes that prioritized the welfare of others. He loved the color Blue/Red and often shared the wisdom of being honest with others, doing the right thing, and helping those in need.

Some of Earl's greatest accomplishments included graduating from Shawnee Mission South High School, traveling around the U.S. and parts of the world, having his only child, and being a valued worker, opening the Shawnee, Kansas Hyvee Grocery Store and Merriam, Kansas Chili's. He leaves behind a legacy of kindness and generosity. Earl touched many lives and will be greatly missed by all those who had the privilege to know him.

Earl is survived by his son Blaze Nelson, his nephew Phillip Nelson, his nieces Stephanie Nelson and Destiny Estill, and his sister Kiara Estill as well as many cousins in Kingfisher and around the US.

He was preceded in passing by his brother, Steve Nelson, his mother, Wanda Nelson, and his father, Earl Nelson Sr. Funeral services for Earl will be held on April 30, 2025, at 2:00 PM at Sanders Funeral Service Chapel with burial following at Kingfisher Cemetery. Contributions to assist with Earl's funeral expenses would be deeply appreciated by the family and accepted by mailing a check or money order to Sanders Funeral Service; P.O. Box 536 Kingfisher, OK 73750, or stop by the funeral home at 124 E. Broadway, Kingfisher, OK. Under the direction of Sanders Funeral Service.



## Daniel Gordon Webber

Daniel Gordon Webber, an 82-year-old resident of Yukon, Oklahoma, passed from this life on April 11, 2025. Dan was born on June 5, 1942, to Clarence Arlington Webber, Jr. and His wife Peggy (Martin) Webber.

Upon graduation from Kingfisher High School in 1961, he attended Oklahoma State University on an ROTC scholarship. Dan served in the Oklahoma Army National Guard during the Vietnam era and was among the few service members to be named to the "Governor's 20" – the twenty best marksmen – for pistols and rifles.

Dan graduated from Central State University in 1975 and received his law degree from Oklahoma City University in 1978. He established a law practice based in Watonga and Kingfisher and served as a municipal judge in Okarche for 50 years. He also served as the City Attorney in Watonga and as a judge in the courts of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

He was an avid lover of amateur sports. Dan coached track and baseball at Holy Trinity School in Okarche and was a longtime booster of Watonga's sports programs. He was also a year-round fan of all Oklahoma State University athletics. A self-taught genealogist, Dan traced his ancestry back to pre-Mayflower fishing expeditions from Wales to what is now Maine and to Scottish immigrants whose descendants arrived in Kingfisher in 1889.

Dan was preceded in death by both parents and older brothers Johnny and Tim Webber.

Dan is survived by his wife Cheryl A. Kale, sister Betty Kubat of Redondo Beach, CA, brother Robert Brill of Hennesey, son Daniel Webber, Jr. of Oklahoma City, daughter Rachel Webber of Okarche, and grandchildren Joseph Webber and wife Jordan of Perkins, Matthew Webber and wife Olivia of Hanford, CA, Andrew Webber of Fredericksburg, TX, and Daniel M. Webber of Oklahoma City. He was also welcomed into Cheryl's wonderful family, including her children Dennis Kale, Jr., Stephanie Adkison, and husband Danny, and Kevin Kale and Candy, along with numerous of Cheryl's grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a donation to the Wounded Warrior Project - P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516, the Kingfisher Education Foundation – P.O. Box 24, Kingfisher, OK 73750, or the Oklahoma State University Foundation - 400 S Monroe St, Stillwater, OK 74074. A memorial service for Dan will be at 2:00 pm, Friday, June 20, 2025, at Sanders Funeral Service Chapel. Under the direction of Sanders Funeral Service.





# FIRE SAFETY, FUN, AND FLYING FRIENDS!



Things got fired up in the best way at the Dover Fire Station on Wednesday, April 9th. Dover's Pre-K through 6th grade students spent the day learning the ropes at the Dover Fire Station!

The kids got the full firehouse experience, touring trucks, hands-on hose action (those fake flames didn't stand a chance), talking about what to do in case of a fire and why every family needs a fire plan, and practicing drills. It was big lessons wrapped in big fun.

Lunch was provided by and served thanks to Community State Bank, with Steve Wittrock of Specialty Roofing handling the 200 hot dogs on the grill.

A special shoutout to the Air Evac 131 Life Team for swooping in on the fly and giving these young students an up-close look at the heroes of the sky. Their visit wasn't just cool (hello, helicopter landing!), it was packed with lifesaving lessons and big-time inspiration for little learners. Photos by AAK - Amy Smith



## THE FINAL FOLD

In a quiet yet meaningful gesture of respect, American Legion Post 5 has introduced a flag drop box, a place where community members can properly dispose of their worn or tattered American flags with dignity.

For many, the Stars and Stripes are more than just fabric fluttering in the wind. They represent service, sacrifice, unity, and freedom. Whether flying proudly outside a home, school, or business, the American flag is a powerful symbol of the values we hold dear. And it deserves a respectful farewell.

That's where the flag drop box comes in.

The United States Flag Code outlines the proper way to dispose of a flag that is no longer fit for display. When a flag becomes worn, faded, or torn beyond repair, it should be retired in a respectful manner, preferably by burning, in a ceremonial setting. The American Legion, a long-standing advocate for veterans and patriotic tradition, often leads these respectful flag retirement ceremonies.

This new drop box provides community members with a convenient, year-round option to ensure their flags receive the respectful retirement they deserve. Simply place your old flag in the drop box, and the American Legion will see to it that it's included in one of their official retirement ceremonies, handled with care, honor, and respect.

It's a simple action with deep meaning. It teaches our younger generations that respect doesn't end with service, that we honor even the symbols that have served us. And for those who have worn the uniform or lost someone who did, this tradition can feel deeply personal.

So if you have a flag that's ready for retirement, don't throw it in the trash. Give it the sendoff it deserves. Visit the new drop box at located at 117 W. Miles Avenue in Kingfisher and let the American Legion Post 5 take it from there.

It's more than just a drop box; it's a tribute. A final salute to a symbol that has stood tall through every storm. Thank you to the American Legion for reminding us of the importance of the American flag.

By AAK - Amy Smith



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# MOVIE PREMIERE PEOPLE LIKE US



## Rodeo Theater in Stockyards City, Oklahoma City,

On Tuesday evening, April 15th, about 100 people gathered at the Rodeo Theater in Stockyards City, Oklahoma City, for the premiere of the documentary *People Like Us*. This film tells the story of the residents of the Center of Family Love in Okarche, primarily through their own words, sharing their lives and their unique perspectives on the world. The evening began with a meet-and-mingle event that included the Center's employees, supporters,

families, and, of course, the stars and VIPs of the night — the residents and cast members. After plenty of photos, attendees made their way into the theater, where the cast members participated in a Q&A session with the audience.

As the lights dimmed, the documentary opened with a historic clip of President George H. W. Bush signing the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990. The story then moved forward to show that, 35 years later, not much has changed.







In the film, Debbie Espinosa, President and CEO of the Center of Family Love and Executive Producer of *People Like Us*, challenged the use of the term “disabled.” “Can’t we remove the ‘dis’? How pathetic that we define a population by what they supposedly can’t do,” she said.



Daisy stole the show. A resident and cast member, Daisy shared some of the most profound life experiences and insights, blending humor with heartbreak in a way that left a lasting impact.

The producers did an excellent job of addressing a complex topic in an accessible, heartfelt way — telling the story through those who live it, in their own voices.

#### Vision for the New Campus

The Center of Family Love is expanding its services with the launch of a second campus — a bold step toward building a new platform for its residents. This future includes growing the Center’s capacity to serve more individuals with disabilities and learning differences.

As part of this initiative, the Center has launched a capital campaign to raise \$40 million for the construction of the Oklahoma Institute for Cognitive Development. This 70,000-square-foot training and education facility will allow the Center to provide programming services to an additional 500 individuals with developmental disabilities.

For more information about the Center of Family Love, visit [centeroffamilylove.org](http://centeroffamilylove.org).

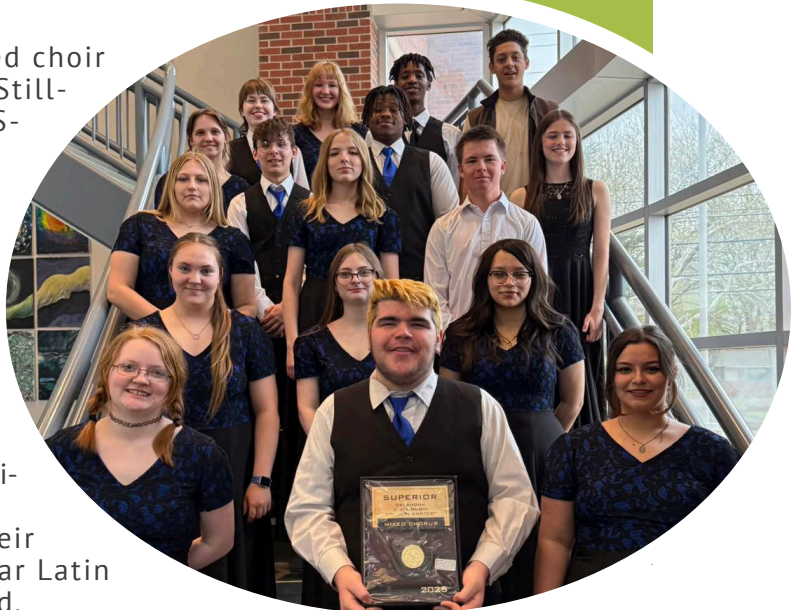




# Varsity Voices Earns Superior Rating at OSSAA State Contest

On April 3, Varsity Voices—the auditioned choir of Kingfisher High School—traveled to Stillwater High School to compete in the OSSAA State Contest. The group advanced to State after receiving a Superior rating at the OSSAA District Contest held on March 12.

At State, the choir performed *Cantate Domino* by Giovanni Anerio, a challenging 12-page a cappella Renaissance piece, along with *Stars I Shall Find* by Victor C. Johnson. Choirs perform for a panel of three judges, and the final rating is determined by the average of their scores. Varsity Voices earned Superior ratings from all three judges. The ensemble was highly praised for their tone quality, musical interpretation, clear Latin diction, and excellent balance and blend.



## Pictured Choir Members

5th Row: Julianna Austin, Kennedy Stephens, Journe Washington, Andrew Takape  
 4th Row: Indy Barker, Ethan McLean, TJ Washington, Caroline Swafford  
 3rd Row: Amber Beagle, Audrey Long, Hunter Miller  
 2nd Row: Haylee Crum, Serenity Lack, Amya Reyes  
 1st Row (Seniors): Avery Stutts, Caleb Hendryx, Bianca Garcia



## GILMOUR GOOD BEE-HAVIOR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**Gilmore Elementary School Good "BEE"-havior Students of the Week for April 7th through April 11th.**  
 Front Row (left to right): Brooks Wedel, Daxden Wedel, Madisynn Countryman, Noah Self, Luke Blundell, Alexandria Longacre, Saylor Stewart, Lillian Verkler-Thompson, and Wilder Gray.  
 Middle Row (left to right): Ashlyn Ruhl, Milee McKee, Cole Imes, Cael Hellwege, Milah Rodriguez, Baylor Brickman, Eleanor Yost, Caston McDonald, and Caroline Blackwolf. Back Row (left to right): Willow Ward, Rylee Rother, Maddox Farrar, Kaizer McNeill, Collins Kitchens, Sutton Myers, Eli Rangel, Laquez Stone, and Jaxxyn Stasser. Information provided by Niki Black and Teneille Rother.



## KINGFISHER CHOIRS SHINE AT SEILING MUSIC FESTIVAL

On April 4, Kingfisher Upper Elementary (KUE) and Kingfisher Junior High (KJH) participated in the Seiling Music Festival, hosted by Seiling Public Schools. KUE was represented by both the 5th and 6th grade choirs, while KJH featured performances from their Mixed Choir (boys and girls) and Treble Choir (girls only).

Each choir was evaluated by three judges, with scores averaged to determine final ratings. The rating scale is as follows:

I = Superior, II = Excellent, III = Good, IV = Fair, and V = Poor.

All four choirs received Superior ratings from each judge, earning the highest possible overall scores!

KUE Solos and Ensembles

Students earning Excellent ratings:

6th Grade Boys Ensemble: Beau Brueggen, Dominic Long, Phillip Askey, Reid Swafford

**5th Grade Soloists:** Dravyn Brooks, Alexis Countryman, Laurelyn Takape

**6th Grade Soloists:** Hannah Warren, McKenzie Wilson

**Students earning Superior ratings:**

**6th Grade Mixed Ensemble:** Scarlett Heckman, Jaqueline Munoz, Hannah Warren, Eva Franco, Reid Swafford, Phillip Askey, Saylor Shimanek, Annie Wehba, Elina Creps, Rylee Johnson

6th Grade Quartet: Elina Creps, Lizzie Click, McKenzie Wilson, Lilly Larsen

**5th Grade Dover Beach Ensemble**

**5th Grade Antonio Ensemble**

**5th Grade Trio:** Fernanda Juarez, Dravyn Brooks, Brinley Jerkins

**5th Grade Duet:** Laurelyn Takape, Emily Mosely

**5th Grade Soloists:** Kadence Kadavy, Emma Wilson, Lillyann Lawrence, Jesse Austin, Emily Mosely, Availya Felz, Fernanda Juarez, Charlie Derrick

**6th Grade Soloists:** Lizzie Click, Elina Creps, Lilly Larsen, Rylee Johnson, Scarlett Heckman, Dominic Long

**KJH Solos and Ensembles**

**Students earning Excellent in solos:**

**7th Grade:** Korbie Baartman, Sydney Snyder, Naomi Smithson

**8th Grade:** Earl Kiser

Students earning Superior in solos and ensembles:

**Mixed Ensemble:** Brailyn Schroeder, Evelyn Martin, Paige Parrott, Abigail Smith, Jackson Garrett, Samuel Takape, Channing Dunn, Hannah Johnson, Aateri Nowlin, Grace Valencia

**Mixed A Cappella Ensemble:** Samuel Takape (drum), Jackson Garrett, Earl Kiser, Abigail Smith, Naomi Smithson, Evelyn Martin, Valeria Rodriguez, Korbie Baartman, Sydney Snyder, Magaly Charqueno, Parker LeForce

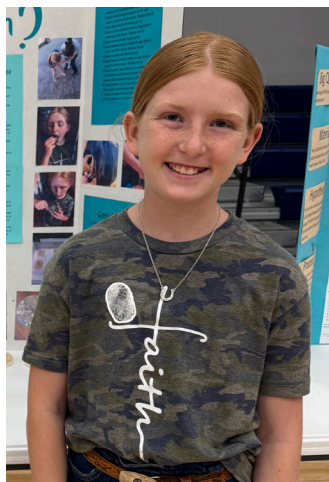
**Treble Ensemble:** Parker LeForce, Hannah Johnson, Aateri Nowlin, Rae Mitchell, Grace Valencia, Sydney Snyder, Evelyn Martin, Naomi Smithson, Valeria Rodriguez, Brailyn Schroeder

**Treble A Cappella Ensemble:** Valeria Rodriguez, Evelyn Martin, Brailyn Schroeder, Naomi Smithson, Abigail Smith, Hannah Johnson, Parker LeForce, Korbie Baartman, Magaly Charqueno, Rae Mitchell

**Soloists:** Abigail Smith (8th), Brailyn Schroeder (7th), Jackson Garrett (8th), Evelyn Martin (7th), Valeria Rodriguez (7th), Hannah Johnson (7th)

**Special Recognition**

5th grade Lomega student Corianne Wilczek, who entered a solo through Magnus Voice Studio, earned a Superior for her solo "Dandelions Gold and Green."



Special Recognition 5th Grade Lomega student Corianne Wilczek

**Awards**

Choirs earning Superior receive festival plaques. Students earning Excellent in solos or ensembles receive a certificate. Students earning Superior in solos or ensembles receive both a medal and a certificate.



5th Grade Choir

Not Pictured: Kadence Kadavy, Charlie Derrick, Jesse Austin Back Row: Brinley Jerkins, Availya Felz, Kyra Nichols, Alexis Countryman, Laurelyn Takape, Emma Gore, Dravyn Brooks Front Row: Fernanda Juarez, Emma Wilson, Lillyann Lawrence, Emery Barrett, Emily Mosely, Carson Burgess, Aiden Pickel



6th Grade Choir

**4th Row:** Reid Swafford, Dominic Long, Phillip Askey, Julian Camarena **3rd Row:** Saylor Shimanek, Brooklyn Kale, McKenzie Wilson, Annie Wehba, Beau Brueggen, Jordan Maddux **2nd Row:** Kortnee Brady, Lizzie Click, Elina Creps **1st Row:** Scarlett Heckman, Eva Franco, Ximenz Ponce, Lilly Larsen, Jaqueline Munoz, Macy Schroeder



Junior High Choir

**Back Row:** Benjamin Navarro, Earl Kiser, Ruger Lytal, Samuel Takape, Channing Dunn, Naomi Smithson, Korbie Baartman, Evelyn Martin, Hannah Johnson, Paige Parrott Middle Row (Girls): Brailyn Schroeder, Grace Valencia, Rae Mitchell, Valeria Rodriguez **Front Row:** Jackson Garrett, Santiago Navarro, Damian Nunnely, Abigail Smith, Sydney Snyder, Parker LeForce, Magaly Charqueno, Aateri Nowlin





## 2025 SOCCER

### HOMECOMING & SPRING SPORTS



### SENIOR NIGHT CELEBRATION

Tuesday, April 15th was a special evening at Kingfisher High School as fans gathered to cheer on the Yellowjacket soccer teams in their matchups against ASTEC Charter — but the night held more than just exciting gameplay. In between games, the school proudly celebrated two major events: Spring Sports Senior Night and the crowning of the 2025 Soccer Homecoming King and Queen.

Congratulations to this year's Homecoming royalty — Hayden Green and Ariana Rivera, who were named the 2025 Kingfisher High School Soccer Homecoming King and Queen. Representing the Homecoming Court were King candidates: Santiago Ortega, Hayden Green, and Elijah Click; and Queen candidates: Karen Munoz, Alondra Ortega, Ariana Rivera, and Natalie Garrett. Adding a touch of charm to the evening were junior attendants Eleanor Blair (Flower Girl) and Liam Bain (Crown Bearer).

The evening also honored 24 senior athletes for their dedication and contributions to Kingfisher's spring sports

programs, including soccer, tennis, golf, and track & field. These outstanding students have shown unwavering commitment, leadership, and passion throughout their high school careers. The honored seniors were: Jaden Bain, Natalie Garrett, Hayden Green, Maddox Jarvis, Julian Marshall, Alex Montiel, Karen Munoz, Alondra Ortega, Santiago Ortega, Zander Padilla, Ariana Rivera, Jake Sisk, Hector Valles, Jairo Velarde, Joaquin Wallace, Mia Franco, Emiley Watkins, Paytun Burnham, Myles Harrison, Cale Leck, Matthew Mecklenburg, Ryan Sanders, Terry Ann McCully, and Talor Mecklenburg.

Surrounded by proud families, friends, and supportive fans, these seniors were recognized not just for their athletic talents, but also for the legacy they leave behind. It was a night full of celebration, gratitude, and school spirit — one that will be remembered by the Kingfisher community for years to come.





## KHS STUDENTS OF MARCH



Freshman - Thaddaeus Stephenson



Sophomore - Nicole Campos



Junior - Elijah Click



Senior - Raegan Snider



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APRIL 14, 2025

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*Taylor White*

on passing the  
NCLEX Licensure  
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# HAPPENING

## THE NEEDHAM'S AMERICAN GOSPEL



Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 PM

Kingfisher Nazarene Church



# RESURRECTION WEEKEND

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**GOOD  
FRIDAY  
WORSHIP**

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**APRIL 18  
FRIDAY  
7-8 PM**

**RESURRECTION  
SUNDAY  
WORSHIP  
EXPERIENCE**

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**10:00 AM  
SUNDAY  
APRIL 20**

THE ALL ABOUT KINGFISHER POST IS PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY ON FRIDAY BY KJ FILMWORKS  
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# HAPPENING



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## SHANNON DUNN: COMPASSIONATE CARE AT KINGFISHER iCARE

With a heart for helping others, Shannon Dunn has dedicated her career to improving lives as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Holding a Doctorate of Nursing Practice from NWOSU, she brings both expertise and empathy to her role at Kingfisher iCare, where she has been serving patients for over a year.

Shannon's decision to join iCare was fueled by its strong reputation and the opportunity for professional growth. Having heard glowing reviews from friends and family, she knew it was the right place to continue her journey in healthcare, all while staying close to home.

What truly sets Shannon apart is her deeply personal understanding of patient care. As an ovarian cancer survivor, she has firsthand experience with the emotional, physical, and psychological challenges that come with a diagnosis. Inspired by the exceptional providers who supported her, Shannon strives to offer the same holistic, compassionate care to her own patients, addressing not just their medical needs but their emotional and spiritual well-being as well.

Healthcare runs in the family for Shannon. One of her daughters is a medical assistant at iCare, and she

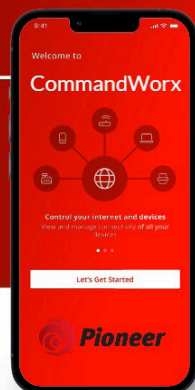
also has relatives who are nurses. Outside of work, she enjoys time with her husband, children, and growing family in Crescent, OK. With three grandsons, a granddaughter, and another grandchild on the way, family remains at the center of her life.

At Kingfisher iCare, Shannon continues to make a difference every day, providing skilled and heartfelt care to her iCare Urgent Care - Kingfisher is open 7 days a week from 8am - 8pm! To schedule you can call them at 572-200-8805 or visit [www.icare-centers.com](http://www.icare-centers.com). Located at 102 Starlite Dr, Kingfisher, Ok 73750



With a heart for helping others, Shannon Dunn has dedicated her career to improving lives as a Family Nurse Practitioner.

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Perfection isn't a word we use lightly, but for Morrison Lawn Services, it's the only way to describe the passion and precision poured into every job. Founded in 2019 by Joseph Morrison, this business is built on dedication, integrity, and a deep love for well-kept lawns. A love first inspired by Joseph's mother and the pride she took in her perfectly manicured yard.

With the support of his partner of 10 years, Tiffany, Joseph launched the business as a way to provide not only for their three children: BrantLee, RheaLynn, and Warren, but also to teach them the values of hard work and responsibility.

Joseph is hands-on, meticulous, and committed to quality in everything he does. For him, this isn't just a job, it's a calling. Whether it's mowing a lawn, installing sod, or designing a holiday light display, he brings the same level of care and precision every time.

Speaking of lights, Morrison Lawn Services offers more than lawn care. Joseph spent two years researching the safest, most professional methods for creating stunning Christmas light displays. The result? Holiday lighting done with intention, precision, and an eye for beauty, because he believes your home should shine, literally.

From fall cleanups to privacy fencing and beyond, Morrison Lawn Services provides a wide range of outdoor solutions for Kingfisher and surrounding areas. Fully insured and equipped with commercial-grade tools, Joseph and his team are ready to take on any project with professionalism and pride.

Looking for someone who'll treat your property like their own? Someone who never cuts corners? Look no further.

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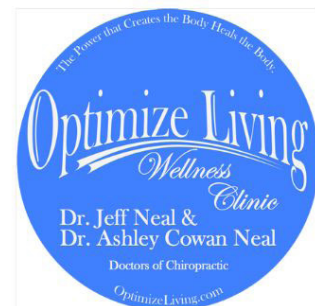
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