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Monthly

A NEW CHAPTER FOR AGING

Villages OKC Redefining What It Means to Grow Older

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A NEW CHAPTER FOR AGING

How Villages OKC Is Redefining What It Means to Grow Older

By Eddie Roach

For generations, Americans have viewed aging through the lens of retirement, slowing down and eventually needing more care. But a growing movement is challenging that narrative, arguing that the later years of life can be among the most purposeful, connected and fulfilling.

That philosophy has shaped Villages OKC since its founding nearly a decade ago, and today the Oklahoma City nonprofit is embracing its boldest chapter yet.

With new leadership, a refreshed brand and an expanding network of community partnerships, Villages OKC is positioning itself not simply as a nonprofit serving older adults, but as a catalyst for changing how Oklahomans think about aging itself.

The organization recently announced that Danny Eischen, who has guided Villages OKC through an important period of growth, has transitioned from Executive Director to the Board of Directors. Succeeding him is Kip McElwee, a respected healthcare executive.

The leadership transition comes alongside the introduction of a new visual identity, including a streamlined V-shaped logo and the tagline, “Because purpose doesn’t retire.” Together, they reflect an organization whose mission extends beyond providing programs—it seeks to inspire a new mindset.

“Villages OKC helps foster purpose and a positive view of aging,” McElwee said. “Through member-driven educational programming and a thriving social community, we create opportunities to grow together, gather often and give back.”

That message is especially timely.

Oklahoma’s older adult population is growing rapidly, mirroring a nationwide demographic shift as millions of Baby Boomers enter retirement. Yet many people are rethinking what retirement should look like. Rather than withdrawing from their communities, they are seeking opportunities to continue learning, volunteering, building friendships and preparing thoughtfully for the years ahead.

Villages OKC has championed that approach since its inception.

Founded in 2017, the organization drew inspiration from the national Village movement that began in Boston’s Beacon Hill neighborhood. The movement challenged the long-held belief that growing older inevitably meant leaving home for institutional care. Instead, it promoted the idea that neighbors, volunteers, businesses and community organizations could work together to help older adults remain engaged, independent and connected where they already live.

Under the leadership of founding Executive Director Marilyn Olson, Villages OKC transformed that vision into reality. What began as a grassroots initiative evolved into one of Oklahoma’s most respected organizations dedicated to positive aging.

Along the way, the nonprofit developed a portfolio of educational programs designed to help people prepare—not panic—for the future. Monthly Positive Aging seminars connected experts with older adults on topics ranging from longevity and wellness to housing and caregiving. GIFT Workshops encouraged families to organize important legal and healthcare documents before emergencies occurred. Brain Academy promoted lifelong learning, while technology classes helped hundreds of older adults confidently embrace the digital world. Volunteer ambassadors strengthened relationships throughout central Oklahoma by connecting neighbors with neighbors.

Eischen has been part of that journey from the beginning.



Marilyn Olson, at left, is joined by Kip McElwee and Danny Eischen.

As Villages OKC’s inaugural board president in 2017, the chief executive officer of Concordia Life Plan Community remained one of the organization’s strongest advocates. In late 2025, Concordia and Villages OKC announced a strategic partnership providing office space, administrative support, technology, wellness programming and operational assistance while preserving Villages OKC’s independence.

Now, with McElwee at the helm, the organization is expanding its reach through a growing network of collaborators that includes Signature Hospice of Oklahoma, NewView Oklahoma, the YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City, Metro Technology Centers, sustaining partners Nerve Renewal and CompleteOK, and more than a dozen education partners committed to helping older adults live well.

McElwee’s background reflects that same commitment. With more than 25 years of leadership in hospice, long-term care and healthcare operations—including founding Signature Hospice of Oklahoma and overseeing six skilled nursing facilities—she brings both operational expertise and a deeply personal leadership philosophy.

“My mission has always been to lead with integrity, serve with compassion and build organizations where people thrive,” she said.

Looking ahead, Villages OKC’s vision reaches far beyond Oklahoma City. The organization hopes to become a national model for communities that believe every season of life can be lived with curiosity, mobility, connection, purpose and community impact.

For Villages OKC, the new logo represents more than a fresh look. It symbolizes a growing movement built on a simple but transformative idea: aging isn’t about winding down—it’s about discovering new ways to grow, gather and give back. Because, as the organization’s new tagline reminds us, purpose doesn’t retire.



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Villages OKC Fundraiser Luncheon

Villages OKC is inviting community members, business leaders and supporters to help redefine what aging can look like at its Fundraiser Luncheon on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 11:30 a.m. at the Oklahoma City Golf & Country Club.

With the theme “Redefining Aging: Because Purpose Doesn’t Retire,” the luncheon will celebrate the power of purpose, connection and community while raising funds to expand Villages OKC programs and services for older adults throughout the Oklahoma City area.

Lance Robertson, former U.S. assistant secretary for aging and administrator of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Administration for Community Living, will moderate the program. Featured speakers include Kip McElwee, new executive director of Villages OKC, and Barbara Sullivan, national director of the Village to Village Network.

McElwee, who brings more than 25 years of leadership experience in hospice, long-term care and healthcare operations, will share her vision for the organization and opportunities to broaden its community impact.

Sullivan will provide a national perspective on the Village Movement and how community-based organizations are helping older adults remain independent, engaged and connected. Robertson will then lead a conversation with McElwee and Sullivan exploring the future of aging, the importance of purpose later in life and the growing role communities can play in helping people thrive as they age.

Award-winning violinist Kyle Dillingham will provide music, and the program will include a presentation of the colors and a video celebrating Villages OKC’s history.

Community members are encouraged to attend, become sponsors and make financial contributions. Funds raised will directly support Villages OKC programs that create opportunities for older adults to grow together, gather often and give back.

By attending or contributing, supporters can help advance a simple but powerful message: Because purpose doesn’t retire.



Kip McElwee



Lance Robertson



Barbara Sullivan



Kyle Dillingham

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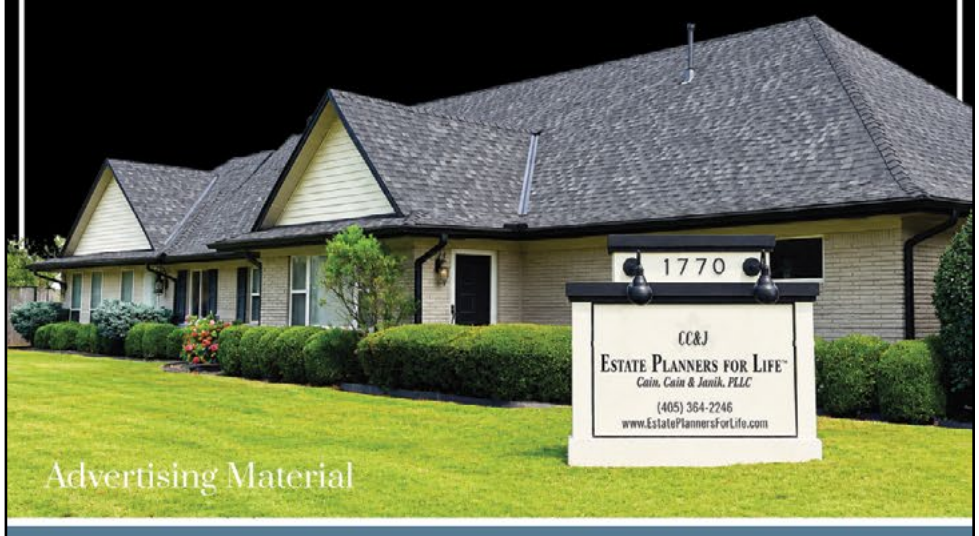
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Giving Straight Answers to Common Estate Planning Questions

By Tamara Cain, Attorney and Estate Planning Educator, Cain, Cain & Janik



Q: *I've put everything in my revocable living trust so my family won't have to deal with probate when I die. Does that mean everything will be taken care of automatically?*

A: That's a common misconception. A properly funded revocable living trust can help your family avoid probate, but there's still work to do when someone dies or becomes disabled. There are assets to transfer, accounts to settle, paperwork to complete, and decisions to make.

We see the consequences when checking the chain of title on real property or mineral interests. Sometimes, no one took responsibility for settling or probating a grandparent's estate. Years later, the next generation is left sorting things out.

When you create a revocable living trust, you name someone to manage things when you can no longer do so. That person may be your surviving spouse, an adult child, or another trusted individual. But being named trustee doesn't mean that person knows what to do.

Depending on how assets are titled, there may be deeds to prepare, affidavits to file, financial institutions to contact, and death certificates to provide. Life insurance and retirement accounts may require beneficiary claims. Bills must be addressed; tax returns may be required, and assets eventually distributed according to the trust.

Even when everything has been planned correctly, there is a process to follow. At Cain, Cain & Janik, we believe preparing for that process is just as important as creating the estate plan itself.

Our Lifetime Protection Plan is built around an ongoing relationship with our clients. We help fund their trusts, keep documents current, and maintain an Asset Review Report identifying their assets and how they are held. That report becomes particularly valuable when a death occurs. Rather than asking a grieving spouse or family member to start from scratch, we already have a roadmap.

Our Estate Planners for Life™ process also includes training for successor trustees and other helpers. We want them to understand their responsibilities before they're called upon to act, not discover them during an already difficult time.

And when that time comes, we're here to help. Having worked with our clients over the years, we already know the surviving spouse. We often know the adult children and any unusual family circumstances. We're not strangers being introduced during a crisis.

The goal of good estate planning isn't simply to avoid probate or have the right documents signed. It's to make things as manageable as possible for the people you love.

A trust doesn't administer itself. But with good planning, prepared trustees, organized records, and experienced guidance, the process can be much easier for everyone involved.

About the Author: Tamara Cain is an attorney, author, and estate planning educator with Cain, Cain & Janik, PLLC, in Norman, Oklahoma. She has practiced law for more than 35 years and has focused on estate planning since 2009. Through Estate Planners for Life™, she helps families protect their assets, prepare the people they love, and preserve their family legacies.

Have an estate planning question? Submit your question for a future A Matter of Trust column at **www.EstatePlannersforLife.com.**

Positive Aging Seminar to explore difficult family conversations

The holiday season brings families together, but it can also create opportunities for difficult conversations about sensitive issues. Knowing how to approach those discussions can make the difference between family conflict and meaningful understanding.

The November Positive Aging seminar, ***"Family Dynamics: How to Have Hard Conversations and Communication Tools That Work,"*** will explore strategies for effective communication within a family. The free program from Villages OKC is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 12, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Conference Center at Metro Technology Centers, 1900 Springlake Dr. in Oklahoma City.



Heidenrich



Sargent



Golden-Pogue



Wilson

"Heading into the holidays, many families will seek opportunities to address concerns that have been weighing on them," said Julie Davis, seminar organizer. "We want to provide practical tools that can change the narrative and lead to healthier, more productive conversations."

The program will feature four professionals offering perspectives drawn from financial planning, end-of-life issues, emotional intelligence and communication.

Panelists include Kenneth C. Heidenrich, CPA; Linda M. Sargent, president of Directors Life Assurance Co.; and Andrea L. Golden-Pogue and Mark N. Wilson, co-founders of EQ World USA.

Heidenrich and Sargent will share real-world client experiences involving financial concerns and end-of-life planning. Golden-Pogue and Wilson will provide communication strategies designed to help families navigate difficult discussions with greater empathy and understanding.

Topics will include recognizing emotional triggers, choosing appropriate times and settings for sensitive conversations, listening without becoming defensive, managing emotions and knowing when to postpone a discussion.

The panel also will address what happens when conversations go badly and how families can repair relationships afterward.

Davis said the goal is to equip participants with practical skills they can use immediately, particularly as families gather for the holidays.

"Sometimes the most important conversations are the hardest to begin," Davis said. "We hope attendees leave with greater confidence, compassion and the tools to make those conversations productive."

The seminar will include audience questions and discussion. The program is free and open to the public. Registration is available on **www.villagesokc.org** or by calling (405) 212-9120.





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INTEGRIS HEALTH Becomes Part of Risant Health

Risant Health™

Transformative vision to improve health outcomes by expanding access to value-based care in Oklahoma

INTEGRIS Health and Risant Health have signed a definitive agreement for INTEGRIS Health to become part of Risant Health, pending regulatory approvals. Risant Health is a nonprofit, charitable organization created to bring together like-minded organizations, increase more affordable access to value-based care, and raise the bar for approaches that bring the best health outcomes.

"We're excited to have INTEGRIS Health become part of Risant Health and join us in changing healthcare in this country," said Greg A. Adams, chair and chief executive officer for Kaiser Permanente. "Together, Risant Health and its organizations are moving healthcare from siloed, episodic care to a value-based care approach with an increased focus on evidence-based care that achieves healthier outcomes for more people. INTEGRIS Health's expertise in complex clinical services, combined with its experiences in value-based care, offers an opportunity to continue improving health and affordability for the people of Oklahoma."

Headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, INTEGRIS Health would become the third health system to become part of Risant Health, joining Geisinger and Cone Health.

INTEGRIS Health is Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system and a recognized leader in clinical excellence, known for its high-quality services continuum spanning from primary care to advanced specialties. It has the state's largest physician network, a statewide network of 10 acute and 10 specialty hospitals, physician clinics, and urgent care. As one of the state's largest private employers, its 13,000 employees are guided by a single mission: partnering with people to live healthier lives.

"Becoming part of Risant Health is about delivering on our mission — partnering with people to live healthier lives — but faster," said Timothy Pehrson, chief executive officer for INTEGRIS Health.

"This will be done by adding resources, proven value-based care capabilities and investments in our hospitals and clinics, in growth, in technology, and in the clinical enablers that will help our physicians and nurses serve our communities better. These are investments and capabilities we couldn't make or build on our own, not at this scale and not this fast."

INTEGRIS Health will maintain its medical staff, name and brand, and its leadership team will remain in place. Its mission will not change, and it will continue to work with other health plans, provider organizations, and independent physicians.

Risant Health's success in advancing value-based care will offer INTEGRIS Health patients access to more robust health management technology, tools, and programs, while INTEGRIS Health employed and network physicians will gain access to integrated, value-based care solutions through Risant Health's value-based platform.

Risant Health, alongside Geisinger and Cone Health, has made demonstrable progress in accelerating the transformation of healthcare delivery in America.

Improved wait times

At Geisinger Community Medical Center (GCMC), patients are receiving care in the emergency department approximately 60% faster on average than before Care Without Delay (CWD) was implemented,

See **INTEGRIS** page 11

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INTEGRIS con't from page 8

reducing wait times and improving access to timely treatment.*

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Through joining Risant Health, Geisinger has realized benefits translating to nearly 1% of operating margin improvement.

Together, INTEGRIS Health, Risant Health, and its organizations will continue this momentum, bringing better health outcomes to even more Americans.

*Percent reduction in admission process time at GCMC through May 31, 2026

**Estimated specialty visits avoided at Geisinger per month as of June 30, 2026

***Percent reduction of time spent in notes per clinical encounter for Cone Health Medical Group providers as of June 30, 2026

About INTEGRIS Health

INTEGRIS Health is Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system and is known for innovation and unparalleled quality, offering advanced treatment options and specialties found nowhere else in the region.

INTEGRIS Health has a statewide network of hospitals, physician clinics, urgent care, rehabilitation, mental health and addiction recovery, home health and hospice services. As one of the state's largest private employers, its 13,000 caregivers are guided by a single mission: partnering with people to live healthier lives.

About Risant Health

Raising the bar for delivering equitable, high-quality patient outcomes.

Risant Health is a nonprofit organization created to expand and accelerate the adoption of value-based care in America by partnering with leading community-based health systems.

Risant Health brings together Kaiser Permanente's expertise in value-based, integrated care with that of like-minded, high-performing, nonprofit, community-based health systems operating in diverse business models to accelerate their strategies to deliver superior health outcomes at a lower total cost of care.

By deploying proven capabilities, sharing best practices, and preserving the strengths of local health systems, Risant Health seeks to improve quality, affordability, and the patient experience for more communities across the country.





OPINION

THE SAVVY SENIOR

Can't Sleep? Help is Available

Dear Savvy Senior

I'm 70 and have struggled with sleep for years. I often wake up in the middle of the night and can't quiet my mind enough to fall back asleep. Would seeing a sleep
--Tired Terry

Dear Terry,

Waking up at 2 a.m. and lying there with your mind racing can be maddening, especially when you can't seem to fall back asleep. But you don't have to just live with it. Ongoing sleep problems often have an underlying cause that can be identified and treated.

An estimated 40 to 50 percent of older adults struggle with chronic sleep problems, yet many never mention them to their doctor. That's unfortunate because untreated sleep disorders can raise the risk of falls, memory problems, depression, high blood pressure, heart disease and diabetes.

Common causes

Insomnia is the most common sleep complaint among older adults. It can make it hard to fall asleep, stay asleep or fall back asleep after waking during the night. For many people, the problem is a racing mind – worrying about family, finances, health issues or tomorrow's to-do list instead of sleeping.

Insomnia may also stem from pain, medications, anxiety, depression, arthritis, frequent nighttime urination, acid reflux, or too much caffeine or alcohol.

Another common, and often overlooked, cause of poor sleep is obstructive sleep apnea. This condition causes breathing to repeatedly stop and start during sleep, often without the person realizing it. Warning signs include loud snoring, gasping or choking during sleep, morning headaches and excessive daytime sleepiness. Untreated sleep apnea can increase the risk of heart disease, stroke and other serious health problems.

Restless legs syndrome, which causes an uncomfortable urge to move the legs while resting, is another condition that can make it difficult to fall asleep.

When to seek help

If you have trouble sleeping at least three nights a week for three months or longer, or you're frequently tired during the day, talk with your primary care provider. You should also seek medical advice if you snore loudly, stop breathing during sleep, wake up gasping for air, or find yourself nodding off while reading, watching TV or driving.

Your doctor can review your symptoms, medications and medical history to help identify what's causing your sleep problems. If needed, you may be referred to a sleep specialist.

Seeing a sleep specialist

Sleep specialists are physicians trained to diagnose and treat sleep disorders, including insomnia, sleep apnea and restless legs syndrome.

Depending on your symptoms, a sleep specialist may recommend a home sleep apnea test or an overnight sleep study that monitors your breathing, brain activity, heart rate and oxygen levels while you sleep.

Treatment depends on the cause. Sleep apnea is often treated with a continuous positive airway pressure, or CPAP, machine or other therapies that help keep the airway open during sleep. For chronic insomnia, the first-line treatment is usually cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia, known as CBT-I, a short-term program that helps people change the thoughts and habits that interfere with sleep. Research shows CBT-I is often more effective than sleeping pills over the long term.

Medicare generally covers sleep specialist visits and medically necessary sleep tests when ordered by a doctor. People with Medicare Advantage plans may have different costs and network rules.

To find an accredited sleep center, ask your doctor for a referral or visit SleepEducation.org, the public education website of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.

You don't have to accept poor sleep as a normal part of aging. If you've been struggling for months, or even years, talk with your doctor. The right diagnosis and treatment can help you sleep better and improve your health, safety and quality of life.

Send your questions or comments to questions@savvysenior.org, or to Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070

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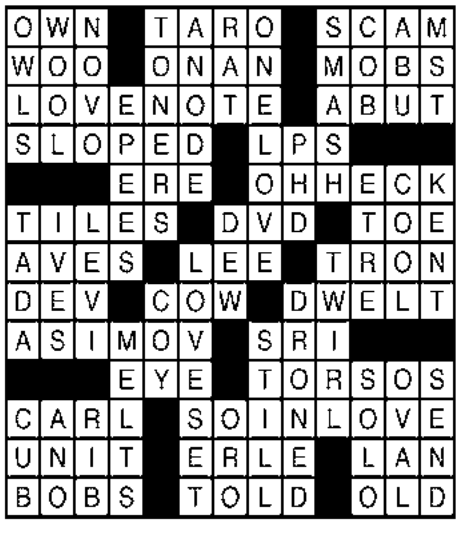
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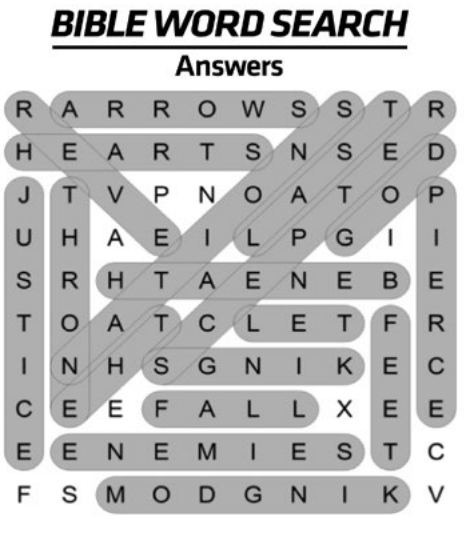
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Social Security Announces Benefit Increase for 2027

The Social Security Administration (SSA) today announced a 3.6 percent benefit increase for 2027. Social Security benefits include Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI), and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). On average, Social Security retirement benefits will increase by $75 per month.

Nearly 72 million Social Security beneficiaries will see a 3.6 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) beginning in January 2027. Increased payments to about 7.3 million people receiving SSI will begin on December 31, 2026. (Note: Some people receive both Social Security benefits and SSI).

"Social Security will implement this cost-of-living adjustment for 76 million Americans, giving them greater financial stability," said Commissioner Frank J. Bisignano. "Under President Donald J. Trump, Social Security is delivering better, faster, higher-quality service for the American people."

Individuals with personal my Social Security accounts can view their COLA notice online starting in late November—up to three weeks earlier than receiving a paper notice in the mail. Account holders can also choose to receive text or email alerts when a new message, including their COLA notice, is available in their personal my Social Security account's Message Center. Individuals who do not have a personal account will need to create one and enroll in paperless notices by November 18 to see their COLA notice online. Create an account today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Individuals who have not enrolled in paperless notices in my Social Security will receive their COLA notice by mail in December.

Social Security beneficiaries will receive a simplified, one-page COLA notice, which uses plain and personalized language, and provides exact dates and dollar amounts of an individual's new benefit amount and any deductions.

Information about Medicare changes for 2027 will be available at www.medicare.gov. For Medicare enrollees, the 2027 premium amount will be available via my Social Security Message Center starting in late November. Individuals who have not opted to receive messages online will receive their COLA notice by mail in December.

The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

For additional information, visit **www.ssa.gov/cola.**

OKLAHOMA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

What Consumers Should Know Before Buying Long-Term Care Insurance

By Glen Mulready, Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner

About two years ago, I discussed long-term care insurance and why it's important for Oklahomans to understand how it works. That message remains just as relevant today—especially as our population continues to age. According to the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, the number of older Oklahomans is expected to grow by 21.3% by 2034. For the first time, adults 65 and older are projected to outnumber children in our state. With these shifts in mind, now is a good time to revisit long-term care insurance.

What is long-term care insurance?

Long-term care insurance helps pay for care that supports daily living activities over an extended period. This can include services such as home care, nursing home care, assisted living care, or adult day health programs. Policies may cover one or several types of care. It's important to note that long-term care insurance does not replace coverage offered by major medical policies, Medicare Advantage plans, or accelerated death benefit products.

How much does long-term care cost?

Long-term care can be expensive. The ElderCareCosts 2026 Cost of Senior Care Index shows just how quickly these expenses add up. In Oklahoma, in-home care averages $6,292 per month, or $75,504 a year. These figures are medians and can vary widely depending on where you live and the level of care you need.

Does Medicare cover long-term care?

Medicare generally does NOT cover long-term custodial care, which is the most common type of care older adults need. Medicare Part A may cover short-term skilled nursing facility care, hospice care, or limited home health services if specific conditions are met. Some residents may qualify for long-term care through Medicaid based on income and assets. Others may choose to purchase a private long-term care insurance policy for additional protection.

Do I need long-term care insurance?

Your need for long-term care insurance depends on several factors:

- Your current health. If you have medical conditions or expect to need help with daily activities later in life, long-term care insurance may provide valuable support.
- Your age. The likelihood of needing care increases with age, and premiums are often more affordable when purchased earlier.
- Your financial situation. Long-term care insurance may be a good fit if you can manage the premiums and want to protect your savings or assets from future care costs.

What resources are available to Oklahoma consumers?

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) offers a comprehensive Long-Term Care Insurance Shopper's Guide that explains coverage options and answers common questions. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services also provides a Long-Term Care Pathfinder tool to help you locate services and explore care choices.

Long-term care decisions can feel overwhelming, but you don't have to navigate them alone. The Oklahoma Insurance Department is here to help you understand your options and make the choice that's right for you and your family. We'll show you the way! Call 800-522-0071 or visit **oid.ok.gov**.

A Better Approach to Primary Care for Seniors

As health needs change with age, having the right primary care team becomes increasingly important. From managing ongoing conditions to reviewing medications and staying current on preventive screenings, older adults benefit from care that considers the whole person—not just symptoms or the reason for a visit.

At VIPcare, primary care is designed around the needs of adults 65 and older. With a focus on personal relationships, convenient services, and proactive support, VIPcare helps patients take an active role in their health and work toward better health.
More Time for Meaningful Care

Healthcare should never feel rushed. Patients deserve the opportunity to explain their concerns, ask questions, and understand their options without feeling like they need to hurry through an appointment.

VIPcare providers spend more time with patients, creating opportunities for thoughtful conversations and a better understanding of each person's health. Whether discussing a new concern, managing a chronic condition, or reviewing treatment options, providers work with patients to develop care plans that reflect their individual needs and priorities.

This approach helps build lasting relationships rooted in trust, communication, and respect.

Personalized Care for Every Stage of Life

Staying healthy means more than treating symptoms. It also means supporting the activities, relationships, and everyday routines that make life meaningful.

VIPcare emphasizes preventive care, chronic condition management, medication reviews, and personalized wellness planning. By considering each patient's medical history, lifestyle, and goals, providers can help identify potential concerns and guide patients toward informed health decisions.

Every person's needs are different. There is no one-size-fits-all when it comes to healthcare. Personalized primary care helps ensure that health goals and treatment plans reflect those differences.

Convenient Services and Connected Support

Managing multiple health needs can be challenging when appointments, lab work, prescriptions, and specialist visits require coordination. That's where VIPcare steps in. VIPcare helps simplify the process by offering a range of services designed to make healthcare more convenient.

Depending on the clinic, patients may have access to on-site lab work, diagnostic services, and preventive screenings. Same-day sick appointments and virtual visits offer additional options when health concerns arise. Patients can also reach an on-call provider 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

VIPcare also emphasizes communication and coordination with specialists and other healthcare professionals involved in a patient's care. Keeping everyone connected helps support a more complete view of a patient's health and makes it easier to navigate next steps.

Taking a Proactive Approach to Better Health

The best time to address a health concern is often before it becomes a bigger problem. Regular checkups, recommended screenings, medication reviews, and guidance on healthy habits can help identify changes early and support long-term wellness.

For older adults, this proactive approach can play an important role in maintaining independence, managing existing conditions, and enjoying more time doing the things they love.

At its heart, senior-focused primary care is about making sure patients feel heard, respected, and supported. VIPcare brings together personalized attention, preventive care, and coordinated services to help older adults feel more confident about their healthcare. Because everyone deserves a healthcare partner who takes the time to put them first.

VIPcare is now open in Yukon, Oklahoma, and accepting new patients. It is located at 1032 W Vandament Ave, Ste 106 & 107, Yukon, OK 73099.

Call (405) 956-2990 or visit **www.getvipcare.com** to learn more or schedule an appointment.

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Celebration of Life Mr. Sam Gillaspy



The Arcadia Round Barn will celebrate the life and legacy of beloved volunteer and storyteller Samuel “Mr. Sam” Gillaspy with a special “Celebration of Life & 3rd Annual Mr. Sam’s Barn Dance” on Saturday, November 7, 2026.

The afternoon begins at 3:30 p.m. with greetings, stories and memories shared by friends and family, followed by an open mic. At 5 p.m., attendees can enjoy a video tribute, sandwiches and Mr. Sam’s favorite cookies.

The evening wraps up with live music and dancing from 5:30 p.m.–7 p.m. featuring The Joe Baxter Band.

Come share memories, celebrate a remarkable life, and help keep Mr. Sam’s spirit alive at the historic Arcadia Round Barn.

This event is free and open to the public. Questions, call the Round Barn Gift Shop (405) 396-2286.

SAMUEL D. “MR. SAM” GILLASPY
March 24, 1927 – August 19, 2026

Samuel D. “Mr. Sam” Gillaspy, 99, passed away on August 19, 2026, from congestive heart failure. Born in Binger, Oklahoma, on March 24, 1927, he graduated from Central High School in 1945 and went on to live a remarkable life defined by service, hard work, friendship, and an extraordinary love of people.

In many ways, Mr. Sam was the face of the historic Arcadia Round Barn. For more than twenty years, he brought the barn’s history to life with his signature cowboy hat and boots, infectious smile, boundless energy, and gift for making everyone feel welcome. Every Monday morning was his volunteer day, and as a dedicated docent and President Emeritus of the Arcadia Historical & Preservation Society, he shared the stories of the Round Barn, the Arcadia community, and Route 66 with visitors from around the world.

A natural storyteller and passionate volunteer, Mr. Sam became one of the Round Barn’s most beloved ambassadors. He was frequently interviewed by television stations and newspapers, but his greatest joy was meeting people face-to-face, sharing a colorful story, and making new friends. Visitors who made their way upstairs to the barn’s famous wooden dance floor might even find themselves dancing the Texas Two-Step or waltz with Mr. Sam. He always had another story to tell, often accompanied by a little humor and a twinkle in his eye.

His love of sharing history and bringing people together extended well beyond the Round Barn to his Rock of Ages Farm, three miles east of Arcadia. For nearly forty years, he welcomed thousands of visitors to the farm for tours, fellowship, hayrides, and unforgettable adventures. Whether at the farm or the barn, Mr. Sam had a special way of turning an ordinary visit into a lasting memory.

A proud member of the Greatest Generation, Mr. Sam enlisted in the United States Marine Corps at the age of seventeen and served during World War II. Following the war, he began a forty-year career with the Dolese Company. Along the way, he raised a family, farmed, volunteered, and devoted much of his life to helping others and serving his community.

Mr. Sam married Betty Covington in 1948, and they shared a life together until her passing in 1969 at the age of 43. He later married Martha Futrell, who remained his loving life partner until her passing in 2015. In his later years, Jeannie Vollmer became his steady companion and dance partner, sharing in his love of music, friendship, and life.

Even well into his nineties, Mr. Sam continued to visit the Round Barn, greet old friends and welcome new visitors, share stories, and occasionally take to the dance floor upstairs. His enthusiasm for life and genuine interest in others never diminished. He was a familiar and cherished presence whose warmth, humor, and hospitality left an impression on everyone fortunate enough to meet him.

Mr. Sam is survived by his loving daughters, Rita Thiel and Cynthia Provenzano, along with other family members.

His passing marks the loss of a truly special individual whose life touched thousands of people. His legacy is woven into the history of the Arcadia Round Barn, the community he loved, and the countless friendships he made along Route 66. Though he will be deeply missed, his stories will continue to be told, his laughter will be remembered, and his spirit will live on wherever people gather to share a story, lend a helping hand, or take a turn on the dance floor.

A Celebration of Life for Mr. Sam Gillaspy will be held at the Arcadia Round Barn on Saturday, November 7, 2026. Friends and family are invited to gather at 3:30 p.m. for an informal celebration and to share their favorite stories and memories of Mr. Sam. Sandwiches and cookies will be served at 5:00 p.m., followed by the 3rd Annual Mr. Sam Barn Dance at 5:30 p.m., featuring live music in the Round Barn loft.

In true Mr. Sam fashion, the celebration will be an opportunity to remember a life well lived, reconnect with friends, share a few stories, and perhaps enjoy a dance in his honor.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Arcadia Round Barn in memory of Mr. Sam at **www.arcadiaroundbarn.com**

Ardmore Boasts New Mural

Story by Darl DeVault, contributing editor

Oklahomans and passengers on Amtrak's Heartland Flyer, who travel twice daily, are invited to view the Ardmore Beautification Council's huge new 250th-birthday greeting card mural, celebrating America's shared history and pride.

This massive mural on the back wall of the historic Turrentine Building honors America and celebrates the 250th anniversary. The United States of America's historic 250th anniversary of its founding was July 4, 2026, a monumental milestone commemorated across the nation under the banners of the Semiquincentennial, America 250 and Freedom 250.

The mural is located next to the train tracks on East Main Street in Ardmore, Oklahoma.

"I think that everyone deserves our best effort to honor them," muralist Bob Palmer said. "It was a privilege to be approached by the Ardmore Beautification Council and to get to design this as a lasting tribute to our nation's greatest concept — freedom."

The 290-foot-long, 60-foot-tall mural may be the largest greeting-card mural honoring America's 250th anniversary. The Happy Birthday America Card cover begins on the left, and the bottom of the flag stretches almost three-fourths of the 290-foot wall to the sponsors section at the far right.

"The Heartland Flyer passenger trains that go through Ardmore allow people to join the community in honoring our rich legacy of celebrating democracy," Palmer said. "The community has a great view of the mural from the adjoining Depot Park."

The huge greeting card features portions of an American Flag and a bald eagle painted by master muralists from Oklahoma: Bob Palmer (Bethany), Joel Randell (Luther), while Shane Cox (OKC) painted the eagle.

Retired UCO Art Professor Bob Palmer served as the project's lead muralist, historian and architect, anchoring its narrative. As founder of Palmer Studios and creator of thousands of murals, including Anadarko's "I Believe in Anadarko" and "Space Bison," he serves as a vital link to the community.

Palmer's former student, Joel Randell, is a nationally recognized sculptor known for bronze statues across the country, including the Bass Reeves monument. He applied his expertise to the patriotic greeting card segments on the mural's two-dimensional surface. Kayla Kahout from Walters created the listing of the sponsors at the other end which creates the illusion of a foldable greeting card.

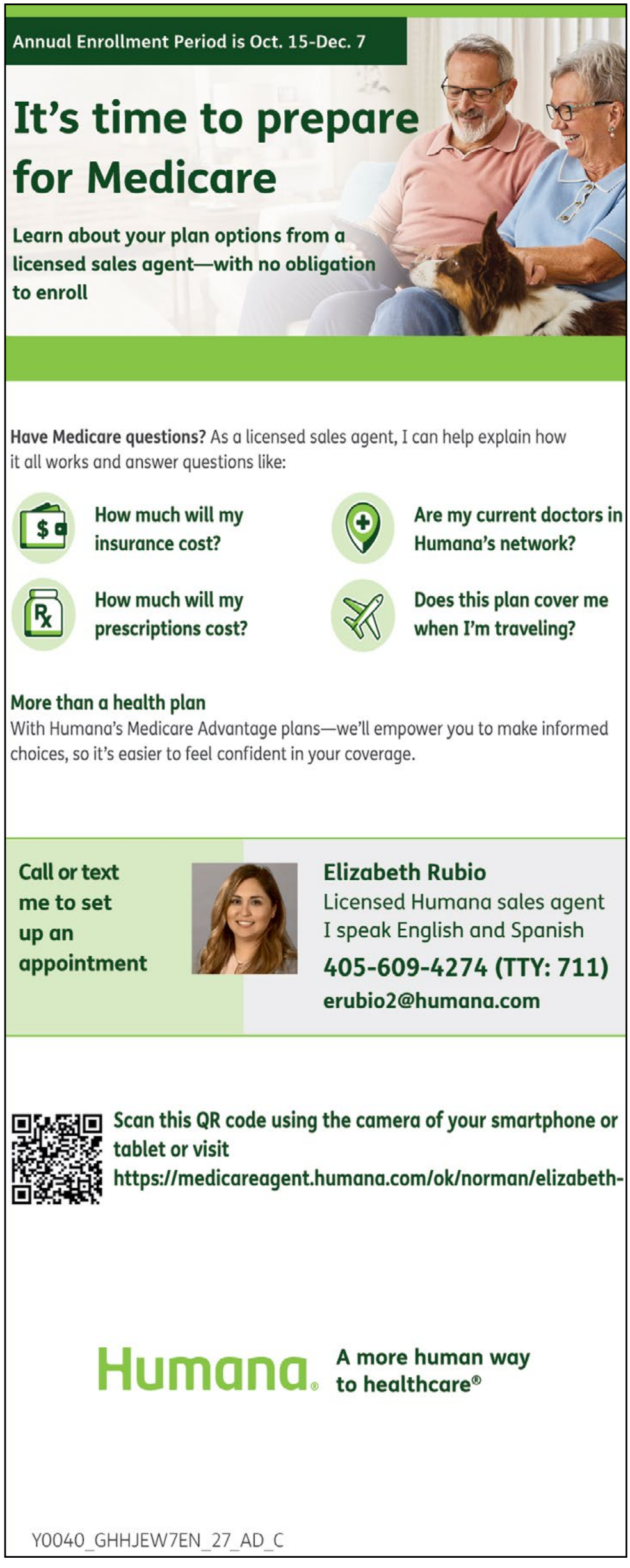
Again, Cox was entrusted with the hyper-realistic 50-foot-tall eagle with the most depth, with shading that makes the huge eagle figure appear to "fly" in front of the flag on the wall.

Painting a "huge wall next to train tracks" creates challenges with perspective and texture. For the most intricate assignment —the eagle —Cox supervised the scale and background elements. He decided how to bring the eagle alive against the massive, flowing stars and stripes of the flag and the atmospheric skies that tie Palmer's design and Cox's detail together.

Meanwhile, Palmer's guiding touch united all the design elements required for a wall of this magnitude. This obviously caught the attention of engineers on freight trains, who would blow their signals in approval as they passed.

Palmer's group excels at maintaining proportion on large

See **MURAL** page 22



Love Drives Urban's 75-Year Marriage

By Richard Stephens, staff writer

Vernon and Betty Urban have shared a lot in their 95-plus years.

Senior News & Living (SNL) asked Vernon and Betty Urban: What are the keys for a long, successful marriage?
Vernon. Never go to bed mad.
SNL. So, I failed that one already.
Vernon. Well, we kind of fail it ourselves once in a while - but it's a good practice.
SNL. How important are things like compromise, honesty, respect and fairness in a marriage?
Betty. Super important.
Vernon. I think honesty is top notch myself.
SNL. Anything else?
Betty. And we went to church every Sunday.
The Urbans shared their life story on Sept. 15, Vernon's 96th birthday, in their apartment in Moore. Betty is 95 years old. They were engaging, talkative and expressive, clearly enjoying each other's company with laughs and shared stories. They frequently looked at each other.
SNL. When did you renew your marriage vows?
Vernon. Well, we've done 25 and 50 both and 70. And then 75.

A Marriage Worth Celebrating
They renew their vows at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Moore. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, only .0016% of marriages make the 75-year mark.
Their three daughters, Veronica Gabriel, Barbara Goss, and Carol McCoin organized a celebration at their retirement center. Vernon recalled, "Well, we told the girls, no big parties." They organized one anyway, bringing 100 family members and fellow residents together. Betty simply said, "It was beautiful."

Getting to Know You
SNL. You met Betty on a blind date in February 1951 while stationed at Tinker AFB. How did it go?
Betty. We liked each other. And he talked about his folks, about mom and dad…So, he was really nice and we just had a good time together. They double-dated, went to a movie, enjoyed a soda afterward and Vernon drove Betty home.
Vernon. I was so afraid of girls, I never talked to them…Never had a date. I don't think we kissed on the first date. Do you remember?
Betty. I don't think we kissed on the first date.
Vernon. I wasn't about to ask her for a kiss…I didn't know how in the hell to kiss (laughing).
Vernon fell for Betty right away. After she agreed to a second date, he said, "Oh my God. I'm so in love with her.'"
SNL. What's it like to be in love at almost first sight?
Vernon. It's unbelievable. I can't even tell how magnificent that is," he said, his voice raising. "If it could happen to everybody, that would be something. I couldn't wait to see her again.
They had a lot in common, including growing up on farms: Betty's was in Calumet, while Vernon's was in Topeka, Kansas.

Married, Then Separated
Air Force Airman Vernon had a problem, though. He was being transferred to Nagoya, Japan, in two weeks. The couple decided to marry before his departure, with Betty's father giving his permission.



Vernon and Betty Urban celebrated 75 years of marriage on Aug. 11, 2026. They are holding their wedding photo

On Aug. 11, 1951, they wed. On Aug. 30, Vernon departed. While separated, they wrote letters to each other every day.
Starting a Family
Vernon transferred to Perrin AFB, Texas, in February 1953. That December, Veronica was born, a real blessing because a doctor once said Betty would never have children. Three more blessings came when Bradley was born in December 1955 (now deceased), Barbara in December 1956, and Carol in September 1963.

Work Suited to Their Talents
Over the years, Vernon voluntarily transferred among 30 jobs, taking on increasing responsibilities across several professions, including the Frisco Railroad, Federal Aviation Administration (GS-14), American Automobile Association, and Oklahoma Tax Commission.
After the children entered school, Betty became a Licensed Practical Nurse and worked at Oklahoma City's Bone and Joint Hospital and Palatine, Illinois' St Joseph Home For the Elderly from age 40 to 67.

Retirement
The Urbans vacationed on a motorcycle across the United States and Acapulco, Mexico; flew to Washington, D.C. and Las Vegas in a small airplane piloted by Vernon; camped in an Airstream with friends in all 50 states and Canada; and Vernon restored multiple classic cars. Betty remarked, "We did everything we wanted to do and then some."
Carol summarized. "They're great. They have done everything. They have been everywhere. You know, they've had tons of friends. They're just amazing people and they were amazing parents. We were so blessed to have them."
The Urbans have seven grandchildren and a lifetime of experiences to look back on.

Epilogue
Here's wishing Vernon and Betty continued health and happiness over the next five years, until they can renew their marriage vows once again for their 80th anniversary.

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MURAL from page 17



Happy Birthday America 250 mural sponsored by the Ardmore Beautification Council and others, completed Sept 19th.
photo by Drew Butler/The Ardmoreite

surfaces, ensuring the mural appears accurate both up close and from a passing train.

"In the many environments I have painted in, this one will forever stand out in my memory because of the freedom we have enjoyed for 250 years," Palmer said. "It is neat how people are still excited to this day to celebrate it with a huge art project."

When record September heat delayed the project by a day, Kohout was enlisted to add celebratory fireworks near the traditional salute to the 250th anniversary on the greeting card's cover. Her artistry in the sponsor section strengthened the community's connection to this shared celebration.

Although the more than 100-degree days pushed the project to five days instead of four, the crew says Happy Birthday, America, and wants us all to enjoy many more years of freedom.





Santa Market Offers Free Photos, Parking

Story and Photos by Darl DeVault, contributing editor

Santa Market continues its 17-year tradition of offering holiday shoppers access to one of Oklahoma's most robust two-day nonprofit craft shows. To give customers more time to prepare for Christmas, the free-admission Santa Market Craft Show runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, November 20–21, at the Pavilion Building on the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds.

These November dates will create a vibrant, festive atmosphere, helping shoppers get into the holiday spirit early and giving them ample time to prepare for the holidays. The two-day showcase of one-of-a-kind, Christmas-themed creations benefits the Alzheimer's Association of Oklahoma.

The first 500 visitors each day will receive free shopping bags, sponsored by local businesses. In addition to handmade items, vendors offer pet supplies, jewelry, home decor, and more. The Market also features free parking and a silent auction.

"We have enlisted many volunteers to organize this show all year," co-founder Molly Nye said. "It is a true labor of love that helps all of us by taking positive action to combat Alzheimer's Disease."

In America, the Alzheimer's Association estimates that one in three older adults dies with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or another dementia, and 7.4 million are living with these diseases.

To encourage community participation, volunteers, donors, and supporters can call co-founder Joan Clarke at 405-314-1033 to donate items or services for the auction and the Alzheimer's booth, strengthening community bonds and support for the cause.

As one of Oklahoma's largest nonprofit arts and crafts shows, the festive shopping event expanded to two days in 2018 and features more than 190 carefully selected creative vendors. They offer a unique, diverse range of products, including handmade arts and crafts, jewelry, home decor, hand-painted ornaments, and fashion items.

Last year, the event raised $53,000 for Alzheimer's research, and since its inception, it has raised an impressive $400,000, underscoring the community's vital role in supporting this cause.

Visitors are encouraged to bring their children for free photos with Santa, Del Humphreys, a member of the International Brotherhood of Real Bearded Santas. Visitors can also speak with Mrs. Claus, Linda Turner. Organizers say The Grinch will be there this year.

The Market's selection includes hand-painted ornaments, festive wreaths, and handmade arts and crafts such as knitted scarves and unique pottery pieces. The event also offers boutique and holiday items, jewelry, children's clothing, books, and food treats.

Joan Clarke, Molly, and Megan Nye started this event in 2010 after Joan's husband passed away from Alzheimer's, inspiring a massive community-driven effort to support a cause close to their hearts.

"Molly and I had been selling at craft shows for years, and we decided to organize our own event. We booked a small hotel room and started with 17 vendors," Clarke said. "By the time our third year began, we realized how much work it takes to put on a quality show, so we decided to turn it into a fundraiser. This decision wasn't made lightly; it marked the start of our journey to create a successful event that not only brings joy to our community but also supports a cause close to our hearts."

Molly immediately suggested Alzheimer's as the cause, given the personal experiences of Joan and Megan, each of whom lost their husband and father, respectively, to the terrible disease.

"These personal experiences drive our commitment to the cause and inspire us to make the Show a success each year," Clarke said. "The growing number of vendors, attendees, and funds raised shows how much our community's support matters in the fight against Alzheimer's and makes participants feel their involvement is truly impactful."





Del Humphreys played Santa last year, and Santa is available for children to have free photos taken during the two days of the show.

Linda Turner will reprise her role as Mrs. Claus to speak with children and take photos.

"Our excellent vendors make this show what it is each year. We are one big family; everyone helps promote and advertise the show and find new vendors. They donate to our cause, both financially and with their products, even though it's voluntary," Clarke said.

"They assist with setup, cleanup, and everything in between. Three vendors have been with us for all 17 years. Countless others have displayed for 5, 8, or even 10 years. One vendor called it 'The Greatest Show on Earth,' and it truly is."

Many vendors donate products and gift certificates for the Alzheimer's Association's silent auction and booth, helping to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support, and research.

All proceeds benefit the Alzheimer's Association Oklahoma Chapter, which provides support services, care options and education for families and caregivers and has offices in Tulsa and Oklahoma City. For vendor or sponsorship opportunities, please contact the organizers by email at thesantamarket@gmail.com or visit their website at thesantamarket.org. See Santa Market updates on its Facebook page.

For more information, visit **www.thesantamarket.org**.

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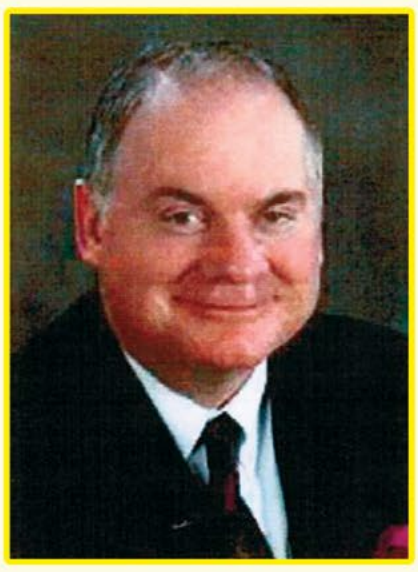
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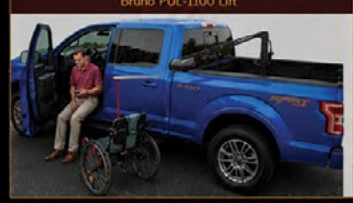
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Senior Day at Fair Showcases "Route 66"



The Christian group Okie Stompers, a dance troupe from Norman, delivered a spirited performance.

Story and photos by Darl DeVault, contributing editor

On September 23, the 49th Annual Senior Day 2026 at the Oklahoma State Fair featured many newsworthy activities, transforming the Modern Living Building into a dedicated senior center that celebrated the "Route 66" theme. The building's Special Events Area hosted an energetic tribute to the Mother Road and thousands of seniors.

The day kicked off with Sharron Clifton singing the National Anthem, followed by songs from several Ms. Oklahoma Senior Americas to energize the crowd. In the first few hours, 1,000 attendees moved through the exhibit hall and visited the many booths.

As the presenting sponsor of "Senior Day Energized by OG&E," OG&E hosted a prominent booth where customer support members answered questions and distributed information on senior-specific offerings.

Throughout the day, the stage hosted contests, audience-participation events, and age-appropriate headline acts.

One highlight of the mix of entertainment, health information, and social activities for fairgoers aged 55 and older was the performance by Charli Zee, a Patsy Cline tribute artist. The Moore resident electrified the audience early in the day with a note-perfect, nostalgic 45-minute tribute set, "Sweet Dreams: The Music of Patsy Cline."

"I think Patsy Cline's music is so important to today's senior generation because singing her chart-toppers is more than just songs; they're memories," Charli Zee said in an interview. "Her music takes people back to a special time in their lives, while still connecting with generations who never had the chance to know her."

Zee's voice sparked generational memory in the crowd, with applause between songs as they rediscovered a sense of youth. "Singing Patsy Cline's music for such an appreciative audience was truly special," Zee said. "It's a joy to perform songs that people have loved for decades and still hold close to their hearts."

Later, 10 members of The Okie Stompers of Norman, a well-choreographed group, showcased their unique blend of tap dancing, clogging and line dancing. The performers wore special Route 66 tops for their well-received performance, fitting the theme's mid-century nostalgia.

Led by director and instructor Linda Jones, the group has won awards at many annual Oklahoma events and has also performed nationally and internationally.

Longtime Okie Stompers member Mary Burleson clogged with them for the last time in her 30-year career after helping lead them for many years.

At 1 p.m., audience members took the stage for the Karaoke Contest.

The event was steeped in a "Route 66" celebration, with every booth featuring different Rt. 66 vista backgrounds on the fair's most energetic day. The stage carried that theme, celebrating the historic highway with decorations, games, skits and trivia centered on the Mother Road.

This, along with the 'Senior Accessibility Shuttle' that transported guests from the Hurricane Harbor parking lot to the fairgrounds entrance, made the event truly senior-friendly.

Attendees played a "Road Trip"-themed Bingo game from opening until 2 p.m., encouraging seniors to visit various exhibitors

See **FAIR** page 27

ANNUAL ENROLLMENT

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SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital Named a Best Regional Hospital by U.S. News

Hospital recognized in nine clinical areas

SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital has been named among U.S. News & World Report's 2026-2027 Best Hospitals edition as Best Regional Hospital in Oklahoma City and second Best Regional Hospital in the state of Oklahoma. This is the highest distinction a hospital can earn as part of U.S. News' Best Hospitals Best Hospital Rankings.

Additionally, SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital was named a Best Regional Hospital for Community Access and earned a "High Performing" designation in the types of care evaluated by U.S. News in nine adult procedures and conditions. These included: heart attack; heart failure; heart arrhythmia; stroke; diabetes; spinal fusion surgery; hip replacement surgery; knee replacement surgery; and leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma. Fewer than half of the thousands of hospitals evaluated earned this designation. The publication reported that 89% of patients at SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital are willing to recommend this hospital to others.

"Being recognized as a Best Regional Hospital in Oklahoma City gives patients added confidence when choosing care for themselves and their families," said Rajesh Kumar, MD, chief of staff for SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital. "The distinction reflects the clinical excellence, expertise, and dedication of our teams and reinforces our commitment to delivering high-quality, evidence-based care across a broad range of specialties and services. We are proud of our physicians, nurses, and care teams whose dedication to patient-centered care makes this recognition possible."

U.S. News evaluated nearly 4,500 hospitals across 14 adult specialties and 23 procedures and conditions; less than half earned recognition in any of those 37 areas of care. To determine the Best Hospitals, U.S. News analyzed each hospital's performance based on objective measures such as risk-adjusted mortality rates, preventable complications and patient experience. The Best Hospitals Specialty rankings methodology and Procedures & Conditions ratings methodology measure patient outcomes using data from over 800 million records of patient care.

"Receiving this prestigious recognition from U.S. News & World Report is both an honor and a reflection of the extraordinary work happening across SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital every day," said Stacy Coleman, president of SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital. "Our caregivers are united by a shared commitment to serving others with compassion, excellence and dignity. We are grateful to our patients and communities for the confidence they place in us, and we remain dedicated to advancing our Mission of providing exceptional health care and revealing God's healing presence through every patient encounter."

"When patients face a major surgery or a chronic medical condition, having access to clear, quality data is vital," said U.S. News' Managing Editor and Chief of Health Analysis Ben Harder. "A High Performing rating means that SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital outperformed a national threshold, giving families a reliable starting point as they consult with their doctors to choose the best place for care."

To find an SSM Health St. Anthony hospital, emergency department or clinical location near you, go to **ssmhealth.com/locations**.

FAIR from page 25

throughout the building to fill their cards and win prizes.

Many health organizations offered booths with free health and wellness information, while the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Department provided safety information.

The day also featured 24 exhibitors focused on senior health and recreation. Community service booths were available, including those from the Metropolitan Library System.

Organizers gave away more than $10,000 in door prizes donated by the booths across three sessions. Many seniors picked up a ticket for each session for a chance to win one of many donated gifts. Multiple drawings in the morning, early afternoon, and late afternoon saw many happy seniors head to the stage to receive their prizes.

The Oklahoma Senior Games booth, located at the far end of the building away from the exhibit area, drew a large crowd. Volunteers and special guests, including 2027 Miss Oklahoma State Fair Leah Hughes and her "Star," Elara Law, staffed the booth, greeted visitors, and promoted active living.

While the Modern Living Building hosted the core activities, seniors accessed several other benefits throughout the fairgrounds, including discounted tickets to the massive "America 250" observation wheel for $5.

Elvis Presley tribute artist Mike Black rounded out the entertainment with seven of Elvis' best songs and closed the show at 5:30 p.m. A crowd favorite, he has been in the lineup since 2021. Black started his show as Elvis in a high-collared, rhinestone-studded jumpsuit, with high-energy hip shaking on the stage.

After leaving the stage, he showed Elvis' charisma, singing as he draped silk scarves on appreciative fans throughout the rest of his set.

The volunteer Senior Day committee's unwavering dedication and inspired work were evident throughout the event. Fair Manager of Creative Programs Morgan Chappell also contributed to the event's resounding success, leaving attendees proud and satisfied with their participation.



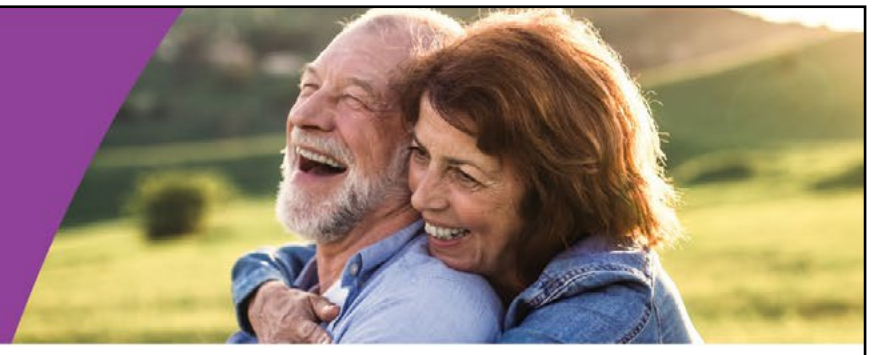
Mike Black closed out the action-packed day with his dynamic tribute to Elvis.

Patsy Cline Tribute Artist Charli Zee kicked off the headline entertainment in her first lineup appearance with "Dream a Little Dream of Me."



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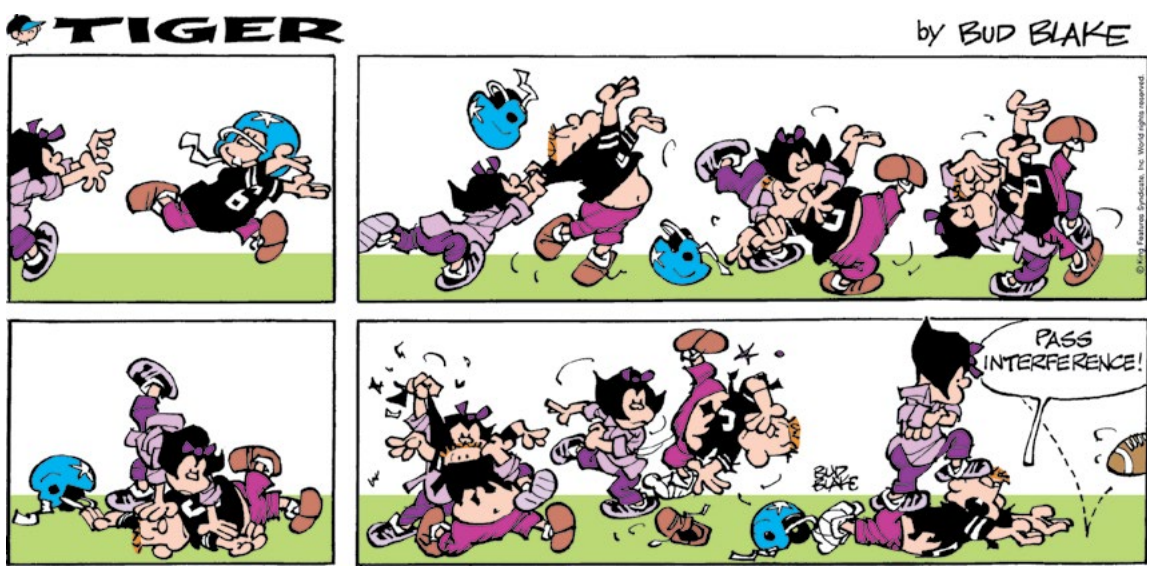
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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

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Psalm 45:5-6

Let your sharp **arrows pierce** the **hearts** of the **king's enemies**; let the **nations fall beneath** your **feet**. Your **throne**, O **God**, will **last** for **ever** and ever; a **scepter** of **justice** will be **the** scepter of your **kingdom**.

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E	E	N	E	M	I	E	S	T	C
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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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Answers on pg 12

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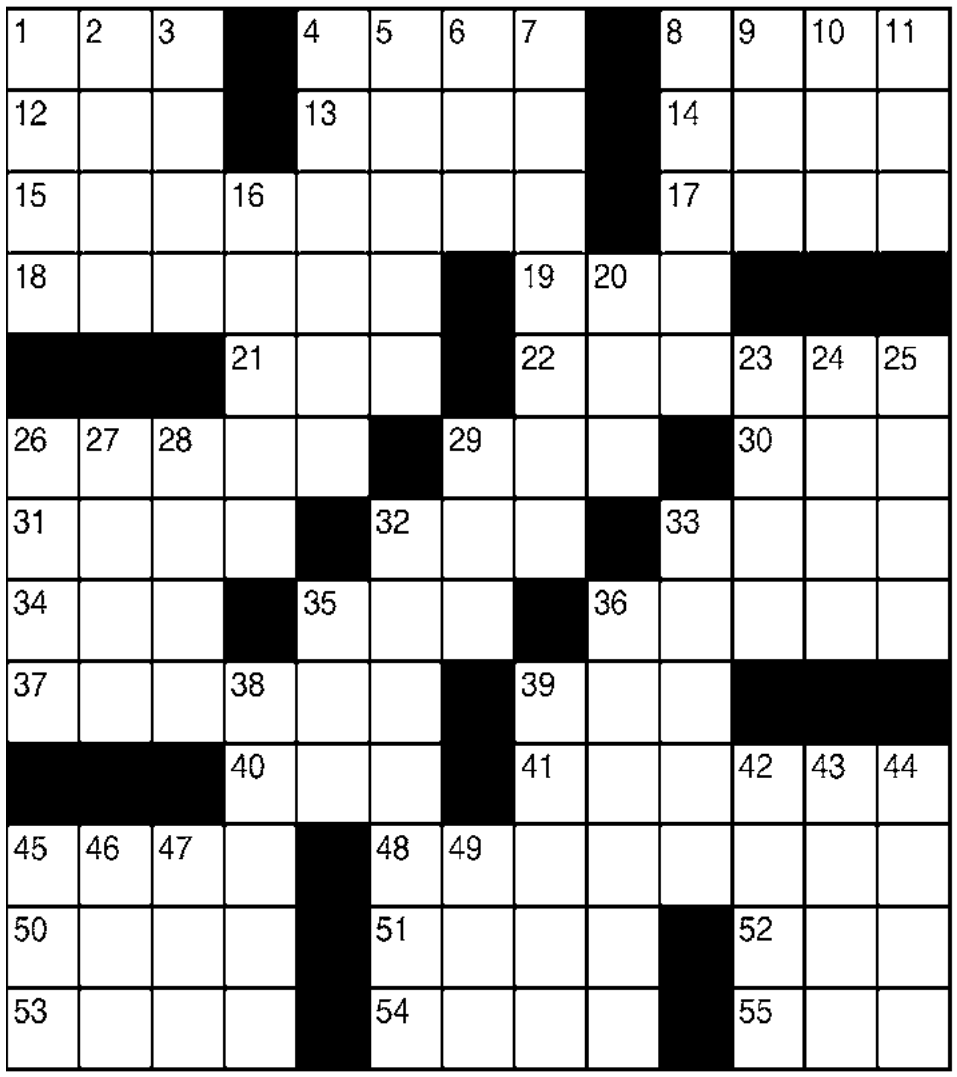
ACROSS

1 Personal
4 Poi base
8 Fraud
12 Romance
13 — incline (tilted)
14 Unruly groups
15 Message from an admirer
17 Border on
18 On an angle
19 Vinyl records
21 Before
22 "Darn it!"
26 Scrabble pieces
29 Movie format
30 "Little piggie"
31 Rd. crossers
32 Grant's foe
33 1982 sci-fi film
34 "The Newsroom" actor Patel
35 Farm grazer
36 Resided
37 "I, Robot" author
39 Lanka lead-in
40 Storm center
41 Sculpted trunks
45 Sagan or Sandburg
48 Romantic Ella Fitzgerald song
50 Squad
51 — Stanley Gardner
52 PC linking system
53 Short cuts
54 Snitched
55 Vintage

DOWN

1 They give a hoot
2 Scarf material
3 De — (from the start)
4 Printer refills
5 Battery part
6 Squealer
7 Bob Marley hit song
8 Big hit
9 Corn core
10 — Dhabi
11 Rockies hrs.
16 Tools for duels
20 Third degree?
23 To be, in Tours
24 "Neato!"
25 Superman's alias
26 "There!"
27 Currier's partner
28 Jeans maker Strauss
29 Morning moisture
32 Mini-shutout at Wimbledon
33 Spin
35 Demure
36 Buzzed
38 Thaws
39 Unmoving
42 Aviator's milestone
43 Track shape
44 Email command
45 Young lion
46 Year in Spain
47 Chest bone
49 Granada gold

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Answers on pg 12

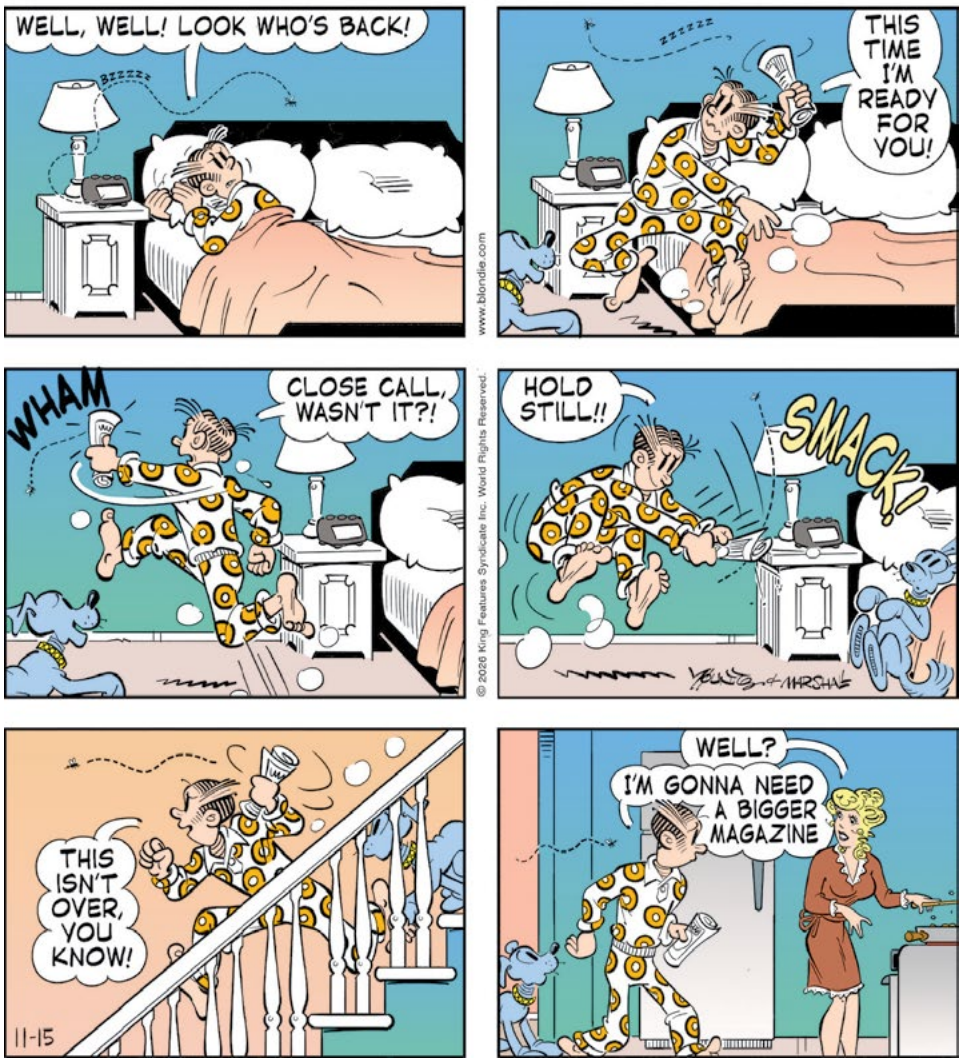
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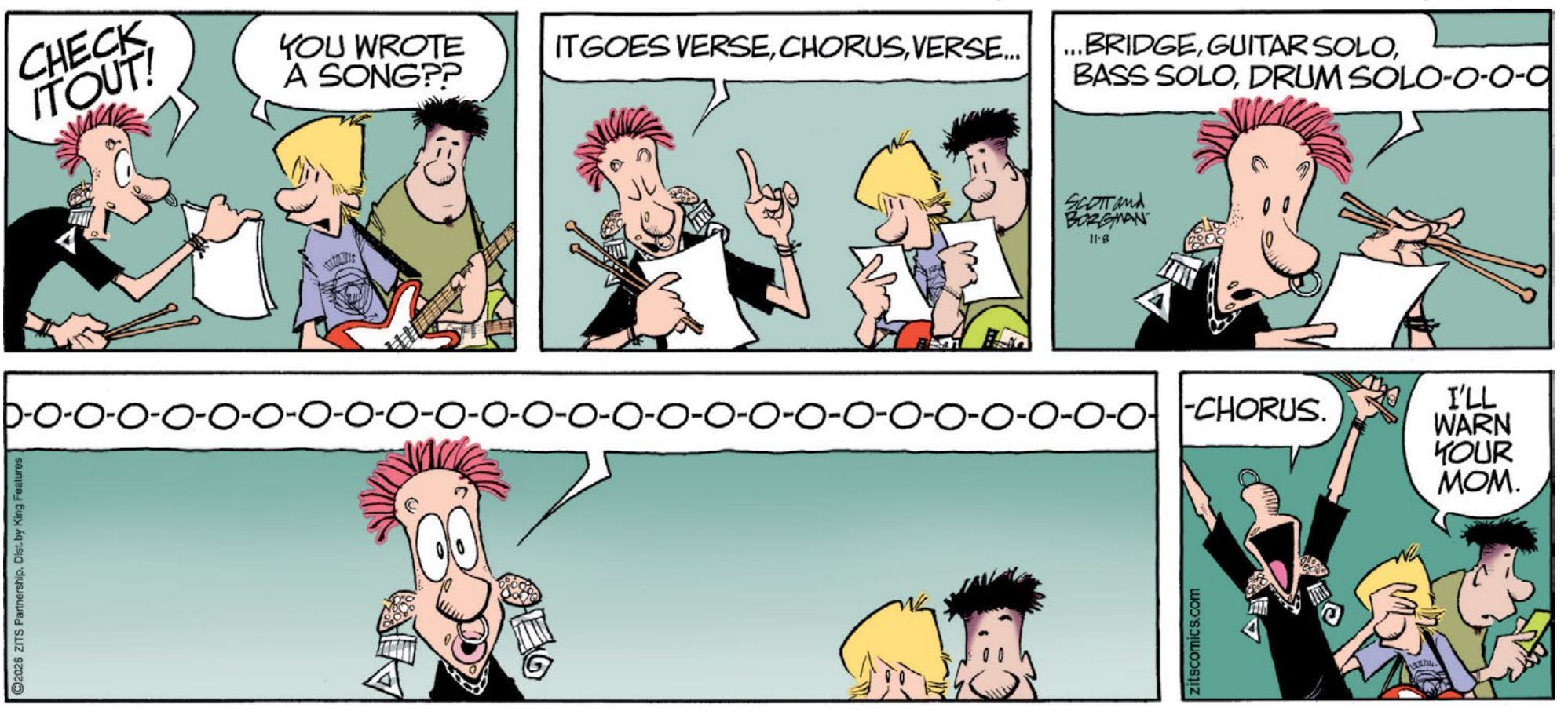
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