

WEST TEXAS REHABILITATION CENTER

# ROUND-UP

# 55<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL *Rehab* TELETHON



*Aaron* **WATSON** *AND* **TIGIRLILY** *Gold*  
**FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY JANUARY 25 2025**

55TH ANNUAL TELETHON • ABILENE CONVENTION CENTER • ABILENE, TEXAS • 7PM





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The old saying goes, “Days go by slow and years go by fast”. This is so true and it is hard to believe we are at the end of 2024. As I write this letter we are only days away from the Thanksgiving holidays, Christmas

decorations are everywhere you look and everyone is looking forward to holiday breaks and celebrations with friends and family.

I hope we all take the time to appreciate what we have each day and not just around the holiday season. Kelly and I lost our fathers this year and it is just a sobering reminder that none of us are guaranteed tomorrow. If anyone has or is experiencing a loss, I would encourage you to contact either of our hospices, Hospice of the Big Country or Hospice of San Angelo, as both offer outstanding bereavement and grief programs which can help you or loved ones navigate these difficult times.

I would encourage all of you to read the story of little Oakley in this issue. Her story is one of hope and healing that YOU help make possible for more than 850 patients each and every day at our locations in Abilene, San Angelo and Ozona. All of our blessings are a gift from God and even in tough circumstances HIS plans for us are beyond our understanding, but knowing HE is with us each day is such a comforting feeling.

We kick off the new year on January 25th with our largest fundraiser, Rehab 2025! Our 55th annual telethon promises to provide plenty of excitement and an opportunity to support West Texas Rehab and our amazing patients. Our entertainers include Aaron Watson, Tigirlily Gold, Red Steagall, Jake Hooker and Ariel Hutchins, as well as Charlie Chase who will be hosting for his 25th year. Please read more about the telethon, including our online auction, which has been open since November 15, 2024 and is another way you can support our patients. Remember even if you don't get an item, you can help those items bring their best value!

Just to update you on the status of our capital campaign for our new facility in Abilene. As of this writing we are \$46.8 million dollars raised/committed toward our \$85 million goal. We are in the grant writing phase of this project and we are still taking individual gifts as we anticipate raising the balance sometime in 2025. Thank you to all who have contributed to this amazing project, and if you have not yet made a donation to this project, we would love to visit with you and get you on board. Please click on the QR code in this issue for more information.

Another exciting project is our new Hospice of San Angelo Inpatient Care Unit, which will open in February in San Angelo, Texas. This 15-bed unit is the only one of its kind in San Angelo and we are excited about our partnership with Shannon Medical Center. Together this dream will be a reality very soon!

A huge thank you to everyone who supports our fundraising efforts throughout the year. There is a calendar of fundraising opportunities in the back of this magazine, and we look forward to seeing you at one of these fundraisers in 2025, beginning with the telethon on January 25th. We cannot do what we do without our amazing donors, and hope you will take time to read about John and Christi Robertson of Coleman and an amazing group of volunteers who have a long history of supporting the Rehab Center.

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a blessed holiday season! I hope you have an amazing New Year, and in 2025 may God continue to bless your families, the great State of Texas and this awesome country of ours!



Respectfully,  
Steve Martin, President/CEO

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Rehab2025 Telethon

## On the Cover

55th Annual  
Rehab Telethon  
featuring Aaron Watson  
& Tigirlily Gold

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# A CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY: A WIN-WIN for YOU & WEST TEXAS REHAB

Are you looking for a way to make a lasting impact while also securing your financial future? Consider a charitable gift annuity (CGA). It's a simple, yet powerful tool that can benefit both you and West Texas Rehab.

## What is a Charitable Gift Annuity?

A CGA is a legal agreement between you and a nonprofit organization- like West Texas Rehab. You donate a gift of cash, stocks, or other assets to a charity. In return, a charity pays you a fixed income for life. The amount of your annuity payment will depend on your age, the amount of your gift, and the payout rate at the time of the gift.

## Why Should You Consider a CGA?

1. Immediate Tax Benefits: When you make a gift to a CGA, you'll receive an immediate income tax deduction. This can significantly reduce your tax liability.

2. Guaranteed Income for Life: A CGA provides a steady stream of income for the rest of your life or, if you like, you and one other person. This can be especially helpful for retirees or those seeking additional income. You can also set up a CGA to provide a guaranteed income for life for another person besides you or your spouse.

3. Legacy Planning: By making a CGA, you can leave a lasting legacy. Your gift could support the important work of West Texas Rehab, ensuring that our mission - "To improve the quality of life of those we serve regardless of financial circumstances"- continues for generations to come.

4. Simplicity: CGAs are relatively simple to set up and manage. West Texas Rehab's Foundation team can be a resource to you and your professional advisers as you move through the process.

## How Does a CGA Benefit Your Favorite Nonprofit - and you?

1. Immediate Funding: A CGA provides immediate funding for West Texas Rehab's programs and services.

2. Long-Term Support: A portion of your gift will be invested to generate future income for West Texas Rehab.

3. A CGA is a Win-Win Giving Tool: By choosing a CGA, you can make a significant impact on West Texas Rehab, or other nonprofit, while also securing your own financial future. It's a win-win for everyone involved.

## Ready to Learn More?

To learn more about charitable gift annuities, with no obligation, please contact one of our Foundation officers (listed below).

They can provide you with more information and answer any questions you may have.

**Chad Hirt**  
(325) 223-6415  
chirt@wtrc.com

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## West Texas Rehab's Hospice of San Angelo Inpatient Care Unit

### Expanding How We Care for Our Community.

At West Texas Rehabilitation Center, between our three locations, we care for over 850 patients daily. From treating a newborn child through our pediatric services, to being there during the final stages of life with hospice care, we take pride in being able to say that we truly serve all walks of life, from birth to death. But, in addition, we're constantly looking at ways we can improve healthcare and expand the way we care for our community. When it comes to inpatient services for

end-of-life care, there's a glaring void in San Angelo.

As the only non-profit hospice provider in the Concho Valley, we felt it was our responsibility to fill this gap. Through a partnership with Shannon Medical Center, we are making a \$4.5M investment to remodel the 3rd floor of Shannon South into an inpatient hospice care unit that will not only meet this unmet need, but make this community proud. Serviced by West Texas Rehab's Hospice of San Angelo, this 15-bed unit will feature suites with a patient side and a family area so when patients are too sick to be at home, their loved ones can still stay with them and comfortably be by their side.

This unit will also feature a beautiful Chapel named in memory

of Bryce Thieman, who passed away under the loving care of West Texas Rehab's Hospice of San Angelo.

This was made possible by a generous gift from the Thieman Family.

Like all of the services at West Texas Rehab Center, the care at this new facility will be provided regardless of the patient's financial circumstance. And we do mean care - because end-of-life care is the most precious journey of them all.

*We are excited and proud to announce that construction is nearing completion and we will be ready to serve patients in this new space soon!*

**For more information about this exciting new edition to West Texas Rehab, contact Hospice Services at**

**325-658-6524.**



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# DECKER

## Capital Partners



### We're Proud to Support the West Texas Rehabilitation Center

The causes that inspire you are as unique as the life you lead. We all live and give differently, but the support of the right financial partner has the power to multiply generosity. It is our privilege to help people make an impact - and to make our own.

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### VOLUNTEER spotlight BY CHUCK RODGERS, VP DEVELOPMENT, WTRC FOUNDATION



JOHN & CHRISTI ROBERTSON

#### From Fightin' Fires to Fightin' Cattle

How does a retired firefighter from the Metroplex who owns a successful commercial landscaping company, end up moving to Coleman, Texas to own a livestock auction barn? Well, it turns it's pretty simple: just follow your dream!

That's right, when he was just a boy, John Robertson knew that one day...he wanted to own a livestock barn! "I've been around cattle and livestock my whole life with my dad, my whole family, and it was always a dream of mine to get into the cattle business," John reminisces. "My grandpa used to take me down to the Cleburne auction barn and, even then, I thought: one day I'm gonna own me a livestock barn!"

It was actually about five years ago that John and his wife, Christi, made the first contact with Bob and Sylvia

Eddington, long-time owners of the Coleman Livestock Auction and dear friends of West Texas Rehab Center. John recalls, "We had talked with Bob and Sylvia about buying the barn, but due to legal reasons and things like that, we couldn't do at that time. Then in 2020 during Covid, we got a phone call from Ross Burdick and the Eddingtons and started the process. Took about a year to get it done, and now we own an auction barn!" John and Christi, as well as their youngest son, Logan, loaded up

and moved to Coleman, actually living just outside there in Santa Anna. Their oldest son, Colby, is still in the Dallas area running the landscape business, while Logan finishes high school and will graduate this year.

John told me, "To me, it's a dream come true. We've met a lot of great people, I mean, that's what you meet in west Texas! I've gotten to meet all the families in this community, and those that raise cattle in all the surrounding areas. Just a lot of great folks!"

One of the things that became clear to John and Christi with their purchase of the auction barn, was that there was a long-standing relationship between the Eddingtons and this place he'd never heard of called West Texas Rehab Center, the *Rehab*. John said, "It was the one-year mark of us buying the auction barn when all of a sudden folks from the Rehab wanted to

know if they could have their annual auction sale at my new sale barn. I said sure and it's begun what I like to think of as a great partnership. Now, Christi and I have gotten to know all of you as friends. You've become like family!

"And when I see the smiles on the faces of the people y'all help, like the little girl I saw at your Dinner Show, it doesn't just make it worth it, but something we can't wait to keep doing!" John and Christi have now started joining us for many of our Rehab events, and they particularly enjoy our yearly Dinner Shows. John once told Jason Prew, part of our Donor Relations team, "If I can add another \$1,000 or \$2,000 or \$3,000 or \$10,000...I just feel better and better every year that we keep raising more money for you guys!" How about that!

Needless to say, we at West Texas Rehab have loved the relationship we've had with Coleman and the many years of help they've provided our patients. And now, getting to continue that relationship with the John and Christi Robertson, well that's kind of a dream come true for us, too!





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# Hearts Remembered

Hearts Remembered is held each year during Valentine season. This is an event which offers an opportunity for family and friends to publicly honor or remember a special person in their life while supporting Hospice of the Big Country in providing care for the terminally ill.

For a \$10 or more donation, your chosen name will be inscribed on a heart and prominently displayed during the month of February at The Abilene West Texas Rehabilitation Center.



## 23rd Annual



Abilene Clay Sports  
Abilene, Texas  
Friday April 4th &  
Saturday April 5th 2025

The REHAB 'Top Gun' Sporting Clays Classic is an exciting annual spring event that satisfies both the skilled and amateur clay shooter.

More than 500 shooters attend each year at Abilene Clay Sports, making it the largest clay shoot in the Abilene area.

All proceeds benefit West Texas Rehabilitation Center.

[WestTexasRehab.org](http://WestTexasRehab.org)

### Sponsor Opportunities & Considerations

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\$195

Sponsor opportunities & considerations:  
Elizabeth Peters (325)793-3509 or  
[epeters@wtrc.com](mailto:epeters@wtrc.com)



**REHAB Hospice of the San Angelo**

**DANCING WITH THE SAN ANGELO STARS**

Chris Knappe, Monica Meza-Harding, Marcus Herrera, Hailey Newlin, Claire Phillips, Ryan Gandy, Mary Gathoni, Cooper Hogg, Shelly Stromboe, Johnny Fisher

**April 24, 2025**

Taishi and Brandon Ligon

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WESTTEXASREHAB.ORG](http://WESTTEXASREHAB.ORG) OR CALL 325-223-6364



## EQUIPMENT *wishlist*

Department	Department	Quote
Hospice	Noninvasive Ventilator/Bipap to manage respiratory distress at end of Life	\$16,000
Adult OT	Stereo Optical Vision Screener for Driving Evaluations	9,000.00
AB PT	5 Section Pelvic Health Treatment Table	4,645.00
Adult PT	BTE Simulator	45,356.75
Pedi ST	20 I-Pads for Pediatric Speech Communication Interactions	8,422.34
HOSA	High Flow Oxygen Concentrator X 2units	2,419.20
Adult PT	Sit 2 Stand Squat Assist Trainer	6,671.95
Pedi	Green House and gardening table for horticultural therapy	8,810.00
Pedi OT/ST	Annabel Tipi Trellis for Horticultural Therapy	1,200.00
Adult PT/OT	Intelect Shockwave Therapy system	16,640.00
Adult PT	Pathway Ultrasound Imaging system for womens health	7,450.00
Adult PT	ReWalk Myocycle Exercise System for Spinal Cord Injuries	33,650.00
Pedi PT	Pedi Therapy Equipment- Peanut ball, Resistance Tunnel NMES Unit, Vibration Plate	3,000.00
Adult PT/OT	Light Force Laser Therapy System	49,900.00
Emp. Services	Team Trainer	1,949.00
PT	TuffStuff Fitness Leg Press for Adult Therapy	5,799.00
Audio	Interacoustics Titan OAE/ABR for pediatric hearing evaluations	20,045.00
Audio	Natus Otoscan Digital Ear Scanner	15,482.50
Pedi PT	Pediatric Lite Gait with treadmill for pedi gait training	33,500.00
Audio	Interacoustics Eclipse - Early detection hearing test for infants	7,300.00
Adult PT	Assault Stataionary Bike	899.00
Pedi ST	Tobi Dynavox Speech Communication Device	12,500.00
Adult PT	Assault Runner	2,999.00
Pedi PT	Walking Pad and SenMoCor Sensory/Motor Testing System	1,000.00
Pedi PT	Qpads Balance Training System	2,000.00
Adult PT	Medical Leg Extension and Leg Curl	7,895.00

To donate a piece of equipment from this wishlist, visit:  
[westtexasrehab.org/general-donation/wish-list-equipment](http://westtexasrehab.org/general-donation/wish-list-equipment)



## CALENDAR of events ABILENE DATES, KARLA @ 325.793.3507 / SAN ANGELO DATES, STACY @ 325.223.6311

Date	Event
January 25th	55th Annual REHAB Telethon & Auction
February All Month TBD TBD 14th 28th	Hearts Remembered - Hospice of the Big Country Hospice of the Big Country Boots & Bling Round-Up of the Heart - Breckenridge, TX Fine Arts Building 6:00pm Cattlemen's Roundup of the Heart - Blackhorse Mercantile & Cafe - Breckenridge, TX 6:00pm Singer/Songwriter - San Angelo - The Performing Arts Center, 6:00pm
April 4th 5th 24th 26th TBA	Top Gun Sporting Clay Shoot - 11:00am - 5:00pm - Abilene Clay Sports Top Gun Sporting Clay Shoot - 8:00am - 3:00pm - Abilene Clay Sports - Dinner & Auction, 6:00pm Dancing With The San Angelo Stars Junior Anglers- Fort Phantom, Abilene, TX Rehab Junior Anglers - Fort Phantom Lake - Abilene
May 6th 6th 9th TBA 27th-29th 30th	San Angelo Gives Abilene Gives Legacy of Love Event - Abilene - Abilene Country Club Legacy of Love Event - San Angelo - Bentwood Country Club Camp Rehab - Abilene Spring Swing Golf Classic - San Angelo-Quicksand 9:00am/2:00pm
June 3rd-5th 7th 10th TBA	Camp Rehab-San Angelo Hospice of the Big Country Butterfly Release - Nelson Festival Garden, Abilene Round-Up for Rehab Lamb & Goat Sale - Breckenridge, TX Grain Round-Up Lunch - Top Tier Grain in Miles, TX
July 1st	Stamford Art Show: John Selmon Memorial Gallery - Stamford, TX 6:00pm
August 16th 21st	Round-Up Kick-off BBQ - Fort Chadbourne - 6:00pm Rehab Summer Dinner Show - Abilene Convention Center 6:00pm
September TBA 13th 16th 18th 25th TBA	Round-Up Pig Sale Nolan County Coliseum, Sweetwater, TX 7pm Frank Caraway Sporting Clays Classic - San Angelo Claybird Association, 9:00am Round-up for Rehab Abilene Sale: Abilene Livestock Auction 12:00pm Round-Up Bob's Supper Christoval/Eldorado, Bar H Ranch (Helmers), 6:00pm Round-Up Sale - San Angelo Producers Rehab Junior Anglers - Lake Nasworthy - San Angelo
October 1st 1st 2nd TBA 8th 9th	Cotton Round-Up - San Angelo, TX Round-Up Coleman Sale - Coleman, TX, 11:00am HOBC's Golf Tournament - Fairway Oaks Golf Course - Abilene - 8:00am tee off Round-Up Dudley Brother - Comanche, TX Powell Bull Sale San Angelo Dinner Show - First Community Federal Credit Union Spur Arena 6:00pm
November 4th 5th 6th 7th 13th	Round-Up Sweetwater Shrimp Peel - Nolan County Annex - Sweetwater, 6:00pm SA Quilt Brunch HOBC Candlelight Memorial Service, Logsdon Chapel HSU, 6:30pm Quilt Brunch - Abilene HOSA Candlelight Service - 6:00pm
December 4th 6th 13th	HOSA Light Up a Life, 6:00pm - WTRC LeGrand Memorial Boardwalk- San Angelo Round-Up Danny Isbell Memorial Rehab Jackpot Show, Taylor County Expo Center - Abilene, TX Round-Up Big Country Christmas Ball - Snyder Coliseum, Doors open 7:00pm
January 2026 31st	56th Annual Rehab Telethon & Auction



TBD: To Be Decided. All dates are subject to change. Please check our website at [WestTexasRehab.org](http://WestTexasRehab.org) for all updates.

# 2025





At West Texas Rehab, we have so many stories we'd love to tell you. Stories of hope and healing that have transformed lives once marked by very difficult circumstances. They are stories only YOU could make possible. And in the case of sweet, little Oakley, it's a story you are still making possible!

Imagine being a young couple just moving through life with your three wonderful, healthy daughters (11, 8, and 4), where most of your worries are the same as other families. Who's picking up the kids? What's for dinner? Are we saving enough for their college? "Mom/Dad, I need help with my homework." You're living life pretty much like everyone else.

That was the life David and Allison, and their daughters, Gentry, Emberly and Hartley were living. They had always wanted 4 children so, when Allison got the news that she was pregnant, they were all VERY excited.

Because of Allison's age, her doctor suggested having some additional testing around the eight-week mark of her pregnancy. This additional testing would serve as an early check for any complications, and also reveal if they were having their fourth girl (or if they were finally having a boy).

Allison told her doctor, "We can do the test, but it doesn't matter what the results show—we are having this baby!" When they received the results, they found out two important things. First, they were having another girl—Oakley Hope. Second, Oakley was showing to have an increased risk for a chromosome abnormality, which would most likely be Down syndrome.

This news started a chain reaction of other tests, and at their 20-week sonogram, they confirmed Oakley did have Down syndrome, but also a heart abnormality. Following several more intensive sonograms, the news about Oakley's little heart took shape. Oakley had an Atrioventricular septal defect (AVSD) with a full AV canal.

Oakley was born at Hendrick Medical Center, and she spent a week in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) until she was strong enough to go home to wait for her open-heart surgery. On March 10, 2022, at only four months old, Oakley was admitted to Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth. Oakley underwent open-heart surgery to repair her AVSD. And...after just 10 days post-operative, Oakley was released to go home to continue healing.

When little Oakley returned to Abilene, David and Allison brought her straight to West Texas Rehab. One of the first things Oakley was going to need from the Rehab

was physical therapy (PT). Our head of pediatrics, JoBeth Willis, is a physical therapist and has been with Oakley since the beginning. JoBeth is a gifted therapist and knows Oakley's story well.

JoBeth told me, "If you ever come to my office, you'll see a sign that's from Psalm 127:3 – Children Are A Gift from God. And let me tell you, that little Oakley is truly a gift from God. Not only to me but to her amazing parents and sisters. If you asked me to describe Oakley in a few words, they would be spicy, full of joy and life, and...plain and simple...absolutely adorable!"

This living miracle of a child, who was born with so many obstacles, is walking, running, throwing, catching, and kicking a ball. She is starting to say a few words. She loves coming to the Rehab to work on her strength, using all the amazing and fun equipment the Rehab has been blessed with.

JoBeth met Oakley at West Texas Rehab when she came in for a NICU follow-up evaluation in November 2021. As blessed as JoBeth and all of the Rehab therapists are to be able to work with Oakley, they'll be the first to tell you that, early on, things were tough.

JoBeth recalls, "When I first met this little strawberry blonde baby girl that was born



at 38 weeks with a heart defect that would require a massive open-heart surgery, this sweet baby with Down syndrome weighed 6 pounds 11 ounces and had just spent the last week in the NICU in Abilene. Oakley was so medically fragile. And her skin was almost translucent due to her oxygenation being so low from her heart defect."

Oakley did not move much, slept a lot, and could barely move her arms or legs off the surface of the therapy mat. She was unable to lift her head due to her hypotonia (poor muscle tone) and weakness. JoBeth recommended seeing her only once a month, only because she feared exposure to illness. JoBeth said, "I didn't want anything we were doing to stress her heart any more than we had to until her scheduled open heart surgery at Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth."

Oakley progressed slowly the next 4 months. The highest her oxygenation level ever got was still below 86%, so all of the Rehab therapists were worried and anxiously ready for Oakley to have heart surgery. JoBeth remembers, "I saw her 21 days after her March 10, 2022 open-heart surgery. The procedure was a huge success, but we continued to want to see her monthly until she was released from any cardiac precautions. She had a healing incision down her sternum and, trust me, there's nothing more unnerving than handling a sweet, tiny 4-month-old infant

with an incision down the front of her chest."

By June, Oakley's oxygenation was improving, her weight had climbed to 11 pounds and her stamina and medical fragility were improving, so she started coming to the Rehab weekly. JoBeth continues weekly physical therapy with Oakley to this day.

With a smile on her face, JoBeth says, "Interestingly, Oakley did not always love physical therapy like she does now. In fact, it was after her heart surgery that we realized she had strong lungs, which she'd use to let out loud cries, often during physical therapy. There were days that I got so worried about how mad and upset she became that I wasn't sure how we'd make it. That's when I would get this small, reassuring smile from her mom, Allison, and that was all the encouragement I needed to keep pushing."

Of course, since she was at West Texas Rehab, Oakley was

also getting some difficult and frustrating therapy on feeding from one of our speech language pathologists, Betsy Ambrose. JoBeth jokingly said, "I'm pretty sure she loved Betsy way more than she loved me!"

Then it was on to the pediatric treadmill, because Oakley had to start working on walking. As she neared 2 years old, JoBeth again struggled thinking, "Is she ever going to walk?" But, of course, this strong and amazing little girl did learn to walk. One day she learned to take a few steps. The next month, she was running, and she hasn't stopped running since.

Jo Beth adds, "Oakley has become one of my biggest cheerleaders. She waves, smiles and greets everyone as she enters the Rehab, and certainly does not know a stranger. She may have been a fiery and spirited Angel in the beginning, but now she is a very determined, strong, and one of the sweetest Angels in my life. I look forward to my Wednesday afternoons with Oakley...and with her entire amazing family!"

On behalf of JoBeth and all of the wonderful, world-class clinicians who worked, and continue to work, with Oakley, and with the more than 850 other patients, young and old, we see every day at West Texas Rehab—THANK YOU for generously supporting West Texas Rehab.





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**REHAB TELETHON 2025**

WEST TEXAS REHABILITATION CENTER

*West Texas Rehab's  
 2025 Telethon & Auction*

**Auction Open**

November 15th - January 25th at Midnight

**Watch Telethon Live**

Saturday January 25th 7:00 P.M. – Midnight

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 Scan the QR code and  
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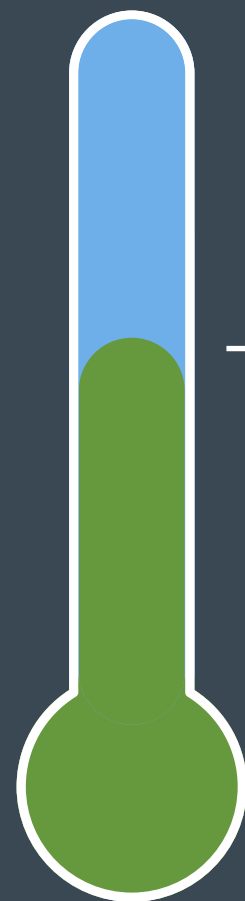






**#BUILDING4PATIENTS**

\$85,000,000



**-\$46,894,000 raised**

If you feel led, please scan the QR code to make your donation .



**SCAN ME**

As of December 1, 2024, we are thrilled to share that over 55% of the funds needed for the new building have been raised!

Our vision is that, 70 years from now, this project will stand as a testament to the dedication of individuals and businesses who came together to create a lasting legacy—ensuring that patients across the Big Country continue to receive world-class care, right here in Abilene.

# 55<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL Rehab TELETHON

Rehab 2025 will be live January 25th and televised from the Abilene Convention Center at 7:00 P.M. It will be the 55th annual Rehab Telethon.

Television Stations airing the show:  
Abilene (KRBC/KTAB) San Angelo (KSAN/KLST) Corpus Christi (KZTV) Midland/Odessa (KOSA) Lubbock (KLBK) Amarillo (KFDA) Waco/Temple/Bryan (KXXV/KRHD), Wichita Falls, Lawton, OK (KSWO). • The show will again be streaming live from anywhere in the world at WestTexasRehab.org.

In addition to the telethon, an annual internet auction of over 650 items of merchandise and services provided by friends and businesses, in 25 categories, with a retail value of over half a million dollars, will be open and taking bids at WestTexasRehab.org or by downloading the Handbid app and searching for "Rehab 2025 Telethon & Auction." The auction is currently live and bids will be accepted until midnight on January 25th. Auction items will be on display at the Abilene Convention Center beginning at 6pm on January 25th. Be sure to check the auction often, as new items are added daily!

An auction television show featuring all the items will air in Abilene and San Angelo from 5:30pm to 7:00pm on the night of the telethon. The online auction ends at midnight on January 25th.

Thank you to KRBC/ KTAB in Abilene and KLST/KSAN in San Angelo for being our television sponsors.

Corporate Partners are Lawrence Hall Abilene, Sterling Property Group powered by Keller Williams, RHS Construction Services and Dean Hagler Painting. • Our tote board sponsor is Decker Capital Partners and phone bank sponsor is Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas • Check presentation sponsor is Zack, Lou, and Robert O. Briley. • Cattle auction sponsor is Bar G Feedyard. • Auction sponsors are Machinery Auctioneers and Byrd Oilfield Services • Host Hotel is the Courtyard by Marriott Abilene Northeast and TownePlace Suites by Marriott, Abilene, Northeast.

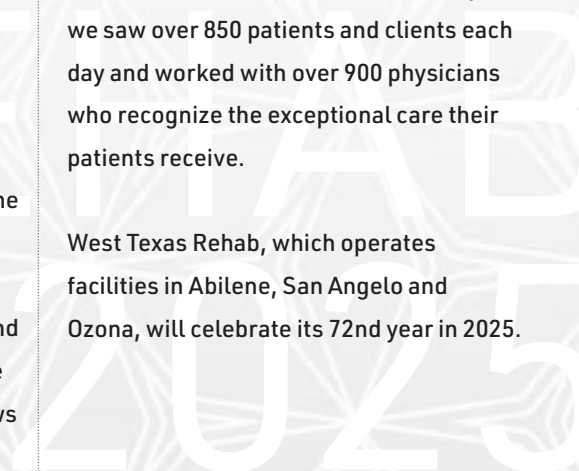
This year, Aaron Watson and Tigirlily Gold will be our featured entertainers. • Big Band/Swing Music artist Jake Hooker will take the stage for the first time • Charlie Chase, long time co-host of the popular "Crook and Chase" talk show on the Nashville Network, will return to anchor the Rehab2025 host desk. • Red Steagall and The Boys in the Bunkhouse will be with us again this year. • Ariel Hutchins, a Texas country artist who grew up right here in Abilene, will join us for her 4rd time at the Telethon. • ESPN Rodeo reporter and Wrangler representative, Jennifer Douglas Smith (Cowboy Hall of Fame,) and Senora Scott, KLST/KSAN anchor, will be live with our patient stories and interviews from stage. • Sam Nichols, KTAB/KRBC

Chief Meteorologist, will help with our phone bank interviews. The telethon and auction raise more than one million dollars annually, making it possible for the West Texas Rehabilitation Center to serve more than 850 patients each day regardless of their financial circumstances.

Don't miss out on anything and everything West Texas Rehab. – Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We would love to see your involvement with the Rehab on social media. Tag us in your post or use the hashtag #WestTexasRehab. See below for our social media information  
INSTAGRAM: westtexasrehab  
X: @WestTXRehab  
YOUTUBE: @WestTexasRehabilitationCenter  
FACEBOOK: West Texas Rehab Center

West Texas Rehab was established in 1953 as a private, non-profit outpatient rehabilitation center and has become one of the largest, most comprehensive facilities of its kind in the nation. Last year we saw over 850 patients and clients each day and worked with over 900 physicians who recognize the exceptional care their patients receive.

West Texas Rehab, which operates facilities in Abilene, San Angelo and Ozona, will celebrate its 72nd year in 2025.







Aaron Watson is a man forever looking to the horizon. Where other artists might rest on their laurels, he consistently presses onward to the next frontier, cutting through lazy industry wisdom in favor of success won on his own terms. He is the first independent male country artist ever to debut an album at No. 1 on the Billboard Country chart, a feat recognized in the Country Music Hall of Fame. He has earned a litany of prestigious awards, hundreds of millions of streams on his music, shared the stage with country music legends Willie Nelson and Alan Jackson, and raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for multiple charities. This next chapter of his trailblazing career sees him deep in the weeds on two projects: the first, an album of covers dedicated to his daughter; the second, a 2024-slated album of originals that promises to be his most daring and audacious release to date. "My goal is to put out the best country album in all of country music in 2024," he says simply, "It sounds crazy, but then pretty much everything I've done sounded crazy until I did it."

Watson hails from Amarillo in West Texas and began writing songs whilst still in high school. He began performing in college, eventually forming a band and developing a loyal following. Despite being approached by major labels, Watson chose the road less traveled and released his work independently. This turned out to be the right call when his album "Real Good Time" charted in the top ten nationwide on Country Billboard, an unheard of feat at the time. With the taste of success fresh on his lips, Watson pushed onward and created "Underdog", which became the first Country album

released independently to chart at number one. "People told us that it had never been done. It was impossible. I don't put so much stock in that word anymore."

Success built upon success with Watson's follow up albums. However, 2020 heralded a slow down for the artist by way of the COVID-19 pandemic and an unexpected vocal cord surgery. "That time out reminded me what a blessing this is. To get to do what I love, sing the songs that I write and have people sing them along with me." Watson was keen to get back to his fans, and to make them feel like a part of the family more than ever before.

"Me and my thirteen year old daughter, Jolee Kate, had been talking a lot about music, particularly female singers who write their own stuff. I wanted her to understand the power that comes with owning your own voice." Out of those conversations came Cover Girl, a collection of covers of mold-breaking female country singers performed by Aaron, with his daughter joining him on vocals for one track. "I had no plans for the rest of the world to hear it, but the more

people I told, the more people loved it. So we're doing it as a full release, I'm so excited!"

Aaron Watson is nothing if not audacious, and his promise to fans that his next album of originals will be the best Country album of 2024 stands firm. By his own admission, the songs are, by-and-large, completed, yet Watson continues to push himself to make them better. "I love every second of what I get to do, but if making music is a marathon (and it is), I want to collapse to the ground the second after I cross the finish line. Nothing left to give." Aaron Watson is a man constantly reaffirming his dedication to the craft of songwriting, and it is this commitment to quality and treating his fans with respect that has proved him, time and again, to be the living North Star for country music's free and indomitable spirit.



**AW**

Sister duo Tigirlily Gold has been playing music together since they could walk, and officially formed their band in high school. Growing up, they crisscrossed the mid-west, growing a fierce fan base and playing amphitheaters across their home-state of North Dakota. After moving to Nashville, they landed a weekly residence at Dierks Bentley's Whiskey Row on Nashville's famed lower Broadway. Playing four-hour sets, three to four nights a week, the sisters developed a performance style that's not only captivating and fun but shows just how entertaining is in their blood.

After releasing their original song "Somebody Does," in 2021, the track topped the iTunes chart and Tigirlily Gold was signed to Monument Records. They released their self-titled, debut EP in July 2021, working with multi-Grammy Award Winner Shane McAnally, and hit the road with artists like Walker Hayes and Ashley McBryde. Now, the powerhouse duo embark on a new musical chapter with their debut album, *Blonde*, out now.

*Blonde* is a deeply personal project that includes tales of love and loss alongside powerful anthems and songs of female empowerment. Their debut single at country radio, "Shoot Tequila," reached the Top 40 and found viral success with millions of views across social media, and millions of streams across platforms. The song helped Tigirlily Gold get nominated for two CMT Awards and win their first

ACM Award for New Duo/Group. Their much-anticipated follow up single "I Tried A Ring On" is at Country radio now and is officially their second top 40 radio single.

The sisters performed the song at the 2024 ACM Awards, and have made their Grand Ole Opry debut and performing their music to a national audience on the "TODAY Show." Poised for a breakthrough year, Tigirlily Gold is ready to bring girl group energy back to country.



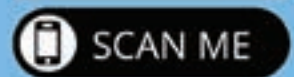
**TIGIRLILY**  
*Gold*

**55<sup>th</sup> Annual Rehab TELETHON**

Rehab 2025



West Texas Rehabilitation Center  
4601 Hartford  
Abilene, Texas 79605



Follow our progress by scanning the QR code.  
Updates are made regularly.

We appreciate all of our donors who have contributed to our project!