



## RURAL RENEWAL INITIATIVE

### 2025 RURAL RENEWAL SYMPOSIUM

Woodward Conference Center

Woodward, Oklahoma

November 3-5, 2025

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

**12:30–1:30 PM** Registration

**1:30–1:45 PM** Welcome, symposium goals, logistics

**Audrey King**

*Oklahoma State University*

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#### Main Session 1 – Ballroom

**1:45–2:05 PM** - Exploring Resilience & 'Hometown Pride' Across Rural Communities

**Jason Headrick**

*Texas Tech University*

**2:05–2:15 PM** - A Decade of Rural Voices: Insights from 10 Years of the Survey of Rural Challenges

**Becky McCray**

*SaveYour.Town*

**2:15–2:35 PM** - Where Cotton Roots Meet Combat Boots: A Case Study Exploration of Community Resilience in Altus, Oklahoma

**Laney Reasner**

*Oklahoma State University*

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**2:35–3:20 PM** - Rural Scholars Panel Discussion

**Audrey King**

*Oklahoma State University*

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**3:20–4:00 PM** - Networking Break & Poster Session

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#### Main Session 2 – Ballroom

**4:00–4:20 PM** - Rural Resource Gaps: Health Implications of Access Disparities faced by [State's] Agricultural Community

**Carrie Baker**

*Oklahoma State University*

**4:20–4:40 PM** - The Feasibility of Implementing a Community Paramedicine Program in Delaware County

**Deana Wheeler**

*Oklahoma State University*

**4:40–5:00 PM** – Transforming Rural Health: Strategies for Effective Mobile Health Clinic Deployment

**Tao Hu**

*Oklahoma State University*

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#### Dinner and Rural Renewal Champions – Ballroom

**5:30 – 6:00 PM** – Banquet Welcome and Buffet Line

**Tyson Ochsner**

*Oklahoma State University*

**6:00 – 6:45 PM** – 2025 Rural Renewal Research Prize Winner will be awarded to:

**John Green**

*Mississippi State University*



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### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

#### 8:00 – 9:00 AM Breakfast and Morning Overview

 **Ed Kirtley**

 *Oklahoma State University*

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#### 9:00 – 10:15 AM Breakout Sessions

Presenters in each room will speak in the order they are listed. Each room will follow the same time slots.

- Rural Climate Impacts
- Education and Youth Development
- Community Resources
- Community Health and Design

**Presenter 1:** 9:00 – 9:15

**Presenter 2:** 9:15 -9:30

**Presenter 3:** 9:30 – 9:45

**Presenter 4:** 9:45 – 10:00

**Presenter 5:** 10:00 – 10:15

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#### 10:15 – 11:00 AM - Networking Break & Poster Session

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#### Main Session 3 – Main Ballroom

#### 11:00 – 11:30 AM - Question and Answer Session with 2025 Research Prize Winner

 **John Green**

 *Mississippi State University*

#### 11:30 – 12:15 PM - Rural Climate Resilience Panel

 **Tyson Ochsner**

 *Oklahoma State University*

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#### 12:15 – 2:00 PM Lunch on your own

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#### 2:00 PM – Tours will start promptly at 2:00 PM



**High Plains Tech Center**



**USDA Agricultural Research Services**



**Woodward Downtown Walking Tour**

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#### 5:30 – 7:00 PM – Dinner, panel discussion with rural community leaders, and awarding of the 2025 Rural Renewal Citizenship Prize to:

 **Jamey Mitchell**

 *Mayor, City of Texoma*



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### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

#### 8:00 – 9:00 AM Breakfast and Morning Overview

 **Audrey King**

 *Oklahoma State University*

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#### 9:00 – 10:00 AM - Networking Break & Poster Session

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#### Main Session 4 – Ballroom

#### 10:00 – 10:20 AM – Intergenerational Wisdom and Adaptive Capacity: A Qualitative Analysis of Community Resilience Among American Indians

 **Lana Beasley**

 *Oklahoma State University*

#### 10:20 – 10:40 AM - Buggin' Out: Exploring Tick Talk Across the Urban-Rural Divide

 **Lauri M. Baker**

 *University of Florida*

#### 10:40 – 11:00 AM - Overlooked Assets: Sleezebag Motels, No-Tell Motels, and the Places Our Families Once Stayed

 **Ronald H. Frantz, Jr.**

 *The Frantz Alliance, LLC*

#### 11:00 – 11:20 PM – Perceptions of Medical Marijuana in Rural Oklahoma Communities

 **Josiah Cruikshank**

 *Oklahoma State University*

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#### Closing – Ballroom

#### 11:20 – 11:35 AM - Weckler Prize Awards

 **Paul Weckler**

 *Oklahoma State University*

#### 11:35 – 11:45 AM -Closing Remarks

 **Shane Robinson**

 *Oklahoma State University*



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## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### RURAL CLIMATE IMPACTS

9:00 – 9:15 AM - Climate Change Adaptability in Rural New Mexico



**Sawssan Boufous**



*New Mexico State University*

9:15 – 9:30 AM – The Effects of Extreme Temperature on Downtown Vitality



**Andrew Vanleuven**



*University of Vermont*

9:30 – 9:45 AM – Visualizing Resiliency: Aftermath of Hurricane Ida and Recovery Efforts in Bayou Communities



**Kashif Rustamani**



*Louisiana State University*

9:45 – 10:00 AM - Nothing to come back to: The Insurance Crisis in Southeastern Louisiana



**Jacopo Aldrighetti**



*Louisiana State University*

10:00 – 10:15 AM – Community Forestry and Rural Community Resilience: Insights from Nepal's Community Forestry Program



**Mukesh Bhattarai**



*Kansas State University*

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### EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

9:00 – 9:15 AM – Extending Civic Leadership to Rural Youth: A Guide for Youth to Lead Collaboratively with Their Community



**Delaney Weisend**



*Oklahoma State University*

9:15 – 9:30 AM – Rooted in Place, Driven in Purpose: Educator Insights on Engagement-Based Learning



**Hoyt Nebgen**



*Oklahoma State University*

9:30 – 9:45 AM – Well Water Education and Testing in Rural Education



**Jeff Sadler**



*Oklahoma State University*

9:45 – 10:00 AM - Something EPIC is Going on in Rural Communities



**Brittany Williams**



*College Edu-Nation*

10:00 – 10:15 AM – Cultivating Confidence: The Evolution of Scientific Identity in the Rural Scholars Program



**Audrey King**



*Oklahoma State University*

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#### COMMUNITY RESOURCES

9:00 – 9:15 AM – Grant Writing for Rural Communities



**Sarah Diamond**



*Diamond Grants*

9:15 – 9:30 AM – Unleashing Untapped Rural Entrepreneurial Potential



**Andrew Button**



*Mashup Lab*

9:30 – 9:45 AM – Reviving a Cultural Landmark: Community Engagement Strategies at the Woodward Arts Theatre



**Candee Brossman**



*Woodward Arts Theatre*

9:45 – 10:00 AM – Water and Wastewater System Sustainability and the Rural Infrastructure Grant Program



**Brandon Bowman**



*Oklahoma Rural Water Association*

10:00 – 10:15 AM – Oklahoma Groundwater Nitrate Study



**Colin Caso**



*Oklahoma State University*

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#### COMMUNITY HEALTH AND DESIGN

9:00 – 9:15 AM – Science Communication and Trust in Times of Outbreaks: A Health Belief Model Approach



**Dorcas Sunday**



*University of Florida*

9:15 – 9:30 AM – Bird Flu's Trend Is Taking Flight: A Content Analysis of HPAI Social Media Messaging During an Outbreak



**Kayla Bragg**



*University of Florida*

9:30 – 9:45 AM – Navigating the Journey of Latino and Non-Latino Farm and Food Business Owners Through the Food System and Entrepreneurial Ecosystem



**Raquel Taylor**



*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

9:45 – 10:00 AM – Rural Renewal and Architectural Design: Speculative Methods for Designing in Indian Country



**Bailey Brown Mitchell**



*Oklahoma State University*

10:00 – 10:15 AM – Strategies for Engaging in the Process of Team Science



**Raquel Taylor**



*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

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### Poster Presentations

- Building Digital Bridges: Social Capital and Facebook Use in Rural Southwestern Oklahoma Communities  
👤 **Laney Reasner** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Examining Financial Literacy of People with Parkinson Disease (PD) in Oklahoma and Building Sustainable Financial Resources for PD Communities  
👤 **Sabiha Parveen** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Connecting to Resources: Training Pharmacy Technicians as Community Health Workers in Rural Oklahoma Pharmacies  
👤 **Meri Hix** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Age and Gender Patterns in Oklahoma's Rural and Urban Veterinary Workforce  
👤 **Chad Landgraf** 🏠 *OSU Center for Rural Health*
- Integrating Water Yield Modeling with Groundwater Availability in the Red River Basin, Oklahoma  
👤 **Sharmin Siddika** 🏠 *Louisiana State University*
- A Decade of Rural Voices: Insights from 10 Years of the Survey of Rural Challenges  
👤 **Deb Brown** 🏠 *SaveYour.town*
- Embedding Security Awareness into IoT-based Smart Agriculture System  
👤 **Sharmin Jahan** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Rural Emergency Planning through Informal & Volunteer Mutual Aid  
👤 **Frankie Wood-Black** 🏠 *Northern Oklahoma College*
- Beyond Adversity: Exploring Rural Thriving Through a Strengths-Based Mixed-Methods Approach  
👤 **Melissa Dobson** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Resilience is Built from Community: Exploring Strategies for Communicating Climate  
👤 **Rachel Williss** 🏠 *University of Nebraska-Lincoln*
- Summer Stories: Extending the Reach of an OSU Center to Rural Communities  
👤 **Suzii Parsons** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Proactive XSS Attack Detection in Smart Farming via ML/DL Models  
👤 **Sharmin Jahan** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- The Relationships Between Plant Available Water, Crop Yields, and Rural Economies: A Case Study from Oklahoma  
👤 **Arturo Flores** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Igniting Curiosity: STEM Impact on K-12 Students in Jackson County, OK  
👤 **Ashley J. Mattison** 🏠 *Oklahoma State University*



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- Regenerative Agriculture's Cover Crop Technique's Impact on Water Runoff  
    👤 **Lindsey Berube**      🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Small Buildings, Big Impact: Rural Renewal and the Accessory Dwelling Unit  
    👤 **Blake Mitchell**      🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Harvest Rx: Advancing Rural Health Through Food Is Medicine  
    👤 **Leo Perez**      🏠 *Oklahoma State University*
- Assessment of Collegiate Rodeo Student-Athletes' Access to Veterinary Services in Southwest Oklahoma  
    👤 **Jennifer Hammack**      🏠 *Western Oklahoma State College*
- Hank the Cowdog Student-Directed Research Project  
    👤 **Andrew Wilson**      🏠 *Collegiate Edu-Nation*
- A Typical Community Scale Energy Production System to Increase Rural Energy Resilience  
    👤 **Wayne Seames**      🏠 *University of North Dakota*
- An Exploration of Rural Community and School Engagement with West Texas Superintendents  
    👤 **Jason Headrick**      🏠 *Texas Tech University*
- Rural Confluence: Where Science and Community Come Together in Niobrara, NE.  
    👤 **Raquel Taylor**      🏠 *University of Nebraska - Lincoln*



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### Local Restaurants

#### A Touch of Home

- 1824 Main St., Woodward, OK 73801
- <https://orders.cake.net/11163481>

#### Chase's BBQ Shack

- 1122 8<sup>th</sup> St., Woodward, OK 73801
- <https://chasesbbqshack.com>

#### Longshots Bar & Grill

- 810 Main St., Woodward, OK 73801
- <https://longshotgrill.com/menu/>

#### Polly Anna Café

- 902 Main St., Woodward, OK 73801
- <https://local.ilacfiyati.org/e/polly-anna-cafe>

#### Rustic Grub & Grill

- 900 Lakeview Dr., Woodward, OK 73801
- <https://rusticgrubandgrill.my.canva.site>

#### Wagg's Bar-B-Q

- 1223 7<sup>th</sup> St., Woodward, OK 73801
- [https://waggs-bar-b-q.foodjoyy.com/#google\\_vignette](https://waggs-bar-b-q.foodjoyy.com/#google_vignette)

#### Walker Mercantile Co.

- 809 Main St., Woodward, OK 73801
- <https://www.walkermercantile.com/food>

### Coffee

#### Twisters Coffee Co.

- 2131 Oklahoma Ave., Woodward, Ok 73801
- <https://twisters-coffee-co.square.site/?location=L4PBHFWQZVSSB#most-popular>

### Fast Food

- Arby's
- Braum's
- Dairy Queen
- KFC
- McDonald's
- Sonic
- Taco Bell