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QUARTER 4



FOCUS ON.

89'er
Theater

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Winter Tech Survival Guide

Discover how you can prepare yourself for Oklahoma's Winter Weather.

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WEBSITES TO KNOW

Explore our favorite digital resources to help simplify your life in the new year.

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BENEFITS OF INDOOR CAMERAS

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Letters from **LEADERS**

Kim Grellner - VP Tech Solutions & Strategic Operations



As the holiday season arrives, we want to take a moment to wish you and your loved ones joy, peace, and prosperity. This time of year reminds us how fortunate we are to serve such incredible communities—and 2025 has truly been a year worth celebrating!

Thanks to the dedication of our team and the support of our members, we've made remarkable strides in bridging the digital divide. This year alone, we deployed fiber to 15 new communities, ensuring more families and businesses have access to the fast, reliable connectivity they deserve. We also built over 1,000 miles of new fiber, bringing our total network to more than 15,000 miles across 82 communities. Today, 80% of our cooperative membership enjoys fiber connectivity, and we're on track to reach 100% by the end of 2027, a milestone that will transform life in rural western Oklahoma.

Fiber is more than technology; it's the foundation for thriving communities. It's the invisible thread that connects families to loved ones during the holidays, enables students to learn without limits, and empowers local businesses to compete in a global marketplace. In rural areas, fiber brings opportunities that were once out of reach—telehealth for better healthcare access, precision agriculture for smarter farming, and remote work options that keep talent close to home. Every mile of fiber we build strengthens the fabric of our communities, ensuring that progress and prosperity aren't reserved for the cities, but shared by all.

Collaboration has been key to our success. We are excited to continue working alongside other great cooperatives to expand fiber networks and minimize disruption for rural customers. Together, we're building a future where no community is left behind in the digital age.

Our commitment to rural prosperity goes beyond technology. In 2025, we continued investing in college and technology scholarships, supporting local youth and helping them pursue their dreams. These programs reflect our belief that education and connectivity go hand in hand in creating brighter futures.

As we wrap up this incredible year, we want to thank you—our members—for your trust and support. Every mile of fiber we lay and every community we connect is possible because of you. From all of us at Pioneer, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! Here's to an exciting 2026 filled with progress, partnerships, and possibilities.

Together, we're not just connecting homes—we're connecting hearts and communities.

Welcome to GoPioneer!

Our mission is to help the communities of Pioneer learn, evolve and move forward in the ever-changing world of technology.

We welcome feedback, story ideas, or any questions relating to this magazine, previous articles, or even your personal inquiries.

Baffled by your teen's obsession with emojis? Confused about why you get WiFi in the garage but not in your bedroom? Let us know! This magazine is just as much yours as ours, and we are excited to help you become more adept in the tech world.

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Topic of Q4 2025:

Staying Connected Through the Season

In this issue of GoPioneer, we take a practical look at the tools and technology that help keep life running smoothly through Oklahoma's winter months. From smart ways to stay prepared during storms to everyday digital resources that make life easier, this edition highlights simple steps that can strengthen safety, convenience, and connection for families across our communities.

We also share helpful guides, local stories, and tech insights to start the new year informed and supported.

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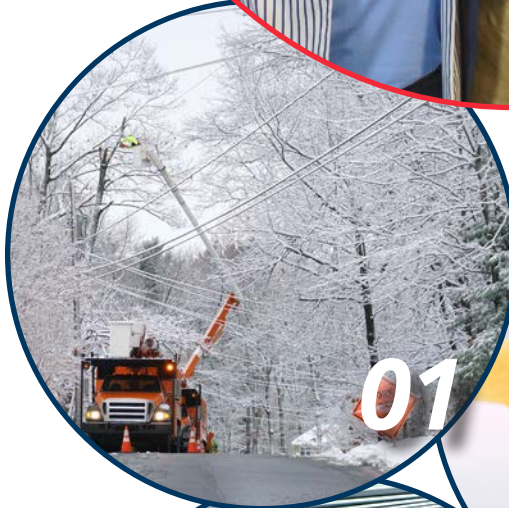
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WINTER TECH

Survival Guide

Winter in Oklahoma has a personality of its own. One day it's sunny, the next day the wind sounds like it's trying to pull your house off the foundation — and somewhere in between, the power loves to flicker. When that happens, the technology we rely on suddenly becomes even more important. With a little prep, you can make sure your home stays connected, your devices stay alive, and you aren't scrambling in the dark trying to figure out what's happening outside.

TIPS FOR ANY WINTER STORM

Keeping Devices Powered During Outages

When the lights go out, your phone instantly becomes your everything: your flashlight, weather alert system, communication tool, and, if needed, your hotspot.

Turning on Low Power Mode, lowering the brightness, and closing out apps you don't need can help you get hours of extra battery.

Understanding Internet During Storms

Here's something a lot of people don't realize: when your internet "goes out" during a storm, the fiber itself is often still working just fine. The problem is that your router lost power. No router = no Wi-Fi, even if the connection outside your home is perfectly healthy. That's why one of the most effective steps for winter readiness is making sure your home internet can stay online even if the lights flicker.

Apps Worth Having Before You Need Them

A few free apps can save a ton of stress:

- Oklahoma Mesonet — genuinely the best weather source in the state.
- Drive Oklahoma — road conditions, closures, and live traffic cams.
- Your electric co-op's outage map — to see what's happening in real time.
- GroupMe or Life360 — helps family members check in if cell service is spotty.

Having these downloaded before a storm hits makes everything easier.

Protecting Your Devices From Winter Stress

Storms often cause quick little power surges — and they add up. Plug your router, computers, TVs, and game consoles into surge protectors. And if the wind is really bad or the ice is stacking, unplug the things you're not using. Older houses especially benefit from being cautious.

Keeping Your Home Safe and Warm

Smart thermostats can help keep temperatures steady while saving energy. If you use space heaters, plug them directly into the wall (never extension cords) and try not to overload circuits when the power is flickering.

A Quick Check Before the Storm Hits

One of the best habits you can build in the winter is doing a quick technology "once-over" before bad weather rolls in. It takes maybe five minutes, but it pays off. Make sure everything is charged, check that your surge protectors are working, and confirm your router and PowerON backup are plugged in and ready. If you rely on smart cameras or doorbells, open the app ahead of time to ensure they're updating correctly. Little things like this — done before the storms actually arrive — make it much easier to stay calm and connected when the wind picks up and the lights start flickering.

We made you a handy-dandy check list on the next page so you can be ready if Oklahoma throws a storm our way!

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

PowerON

When winter storms hit, the first thing most households lose is Wi-Fi — not because the internet is down, but because the router doesn't have power. PowerON is Pioneer's backup battery designed to keep your home internet equipment running even during an outage.

- Provides up to 6 hours of backup power (varies by equipment)
- Keeps your Wi-Fi online so weather alerts, security systems, and messaging apps continue working
- Protects communication during high winds, ice storms, or rolling outages
- Installs easily and sits quietly next to your router
- Pairs with any Pioneer fiber plan

It won't power your whole home — but it keeps your connection stable when it matters most. For rural households or storm-prone areas, it's one of the most practical winter prep additions you can make.

Visit: GoPioneer.com/internet/PowerON OR talk with your local office for more information!



Storm Ready Checklist

- Charge all devices before a storm**
Phones, tablets, laptops, power banks, and portable lights.
- Keep a power bank in your home AND car**
Cold weather drains batteries faster.
- Download essential apps ahead of time**
Even cell signals can be slow from storms with outages and traffic!
- Back up your router with PowerON**
This ensures Wi-Fi stays active during power flickers and multi-hour outages.
- Screenshot important numbers and maps**
So you can access them even without service.
- Check your surge protectors**
Replace any older ones and use them for routers, TVs, and computers... or anything expensive, really! You should always unplug sensitive electronics during severe ice or wind to protect them from sudden voltage spikes.
- Store a flashlight in a predictable spot**
Phones die fast during outages — keep real light ready.
- Reduce device battery drain**
Turn on Low Power Mode, dim the screen, close apps, and switch to offline content.

The internet is full of tools that can make life easier, but most people don't know they exist. From saving money on prescriptions to shipping packages for a fraction of the cost, these websites are the ones you'll be glad to have bookmarked. They're simple, practical, and genuinely useful—no tech expertise required. These are some of the best digital “life hacks” to take with you into 2026.

1 PIRATESHIP.COM

One of the best-kept secrets for shipping. Whether you sell handmade items, run a small business, or just send a lot of packages around the holidays, *PirateShip.com* is a major money-saver.

It gives you access to the same discounted USPS and UPS rates big companies use — without paying subscription fees or signing contracts. It's just cheaper labels, period.

I've used Pirate Ship for everything from tiny packages to massive oversized boxes. One time, a shipping store told me a box needed to go freight and quoted me over \$120. Pirate Ship got it out through UPS for \$35. I've also sent packages that would've cost \$25–\$35 anywhere else for as little as \$7.98.

The savings add up fast once you start using it. And all you need is a measuring tape, a cheap home scale, and a printer. It's one of those tools you use once and immediately ask yourself why you didn't start sooner.

WEBSITES YOU *NEED TO KNOW* FOR

2026!

2 TEMP MAIL

This one is for when you just want to look at something without committing to a lifetime of spam. Have you ever tried to get a coupon code, unlock a PDF guide, or check out a free trial, only to end up with dozens of new emails you never asked for? *TempMail.org* solves that in seconds.

It gives you a disposable email address you can use for newsletters, discounts, or websites you don't fully trust yet. I use this constantly — especially when websites say, "Give us your email and we'll give you 15% off." I also use it sometimes to get a second 'trial' on websites!

It keeps your real inbox clean, protects your identity, and makes testing new online tools so much easier. And the best part? You don't have to create an account. You literally just open the site, copy the temporary email, paste it wherever you need it, and you're done.

3 HAVE I BEEN PWNED?

This is one of the most important tools people don't know about. *HaveIBeenPwned.com* lets you type in your email or phone number to see if it's ever been part of a data breach.

It won't fix the problem for you, but it gives you the knowledge you need to update passwords and secure accounts before issues snowball. If you find your info on the list (and most people do), the site will show which breach it came from and what steps you should take next.

4 JUSTWATCH

This is the "where can I watch this?" website. With so many streaming platforms out there, searching every app one by one is exhausting. JustWatch lets you type the name of a movie or show, and it instantly tells you where it's available to stream, rent, or purchase.

It saves time, frustration, and accidental purchases when you didn't realize something was already on a service you subscribe to.

5 ID.ME

Many people don't realize they qualify for discounts until they check this website. ID.me verifies teachers, students, nurses, first responders, veterans, and more — and unlocks exclusive pricing across hundreds of stores and services.

It's secure, widely trusted, and takes a lot of guesswork out of "Do I qualify for this?"

6 COST PLUS DRUGS

If you've ever picked up a prescription and felt your soul leave your body when you saw the price, this site is worth visting. *CostPlusDrugs.com* — created by Mark Cuban — sells medications at cost plus a small, transparent markup. No tricks, no hidden subscriptions, no "call for price." Everything is listed clearly.

When my insurance suddenly changed what medications they'd cover, the cost of ONE of my prescriptions jumped to about \$90 for a 30-day supply. And that was with insurance. Combined with another medication, my total was about \$175 for 30 days — and 30 days was the maximum they'd let me get at once.

I switched to Cost Plus Drugs, added medications over time, and now I get a full 90-day supply of all my prescriptions delivered to my door for around \$68 total.

You don't even have to create an account to check your savings — you can type in the medication name and compare prices instantly. A lot of people save 70–90%, especially on generic prescriptions.

DON'T GET SCAMMED



Your Guide to buying used electronics

Every winter, online marketplaces explode with used electronics—phones, tablets, game consoles, laptops, you name it. People start clearing out old devices, selling things they don't need anymore, or rehoming gifts they didn't end up wanting. Sometimes you'll find a genuinely great deal from someone just trying to declutter... and sometimes you'll run into someone who, let's be honest, isn't being totally truthful.

Used electronics can be an amazing way to save money and keep perfectly good tech out of landfills. But you do have to know what to look out for. Consider this page your quick guide to asking the right questions before you buy something you'll regret.

Make sure they're Reputable

Try to avoid buying from anyone who looks sketchy. If their profile is brand new, their name looks auto-generated, or all their past activity suddenly appeared within a few days, they may not be as reliable as they claim.

If something doesn't feel right, you don't owe anyone a sale. It's always better to be safe than sorry—especially when money and electronics are involved.

A cool tip for Facebook Marketplace: most sellers will have a rating. Double check their seller-reviews. Sometimes, other buyers will warn you if they had a bad experience!

Does It Boot?

It might seem like the most obvious thing in the world, but you'd be surprised how many people skip this. Before buying anything, look for photos or—better—videos of the device actually turning on. If the seller doesn't have any and “can't get one,” or tells you, “Oh, it just needs a new battery,” that's usually your cue to move on.

As an extra precaution, I like to drop the photos into Google Image Search. You'd be shocked how often sellers grab pictures from another listing.

And **trust your instincts**. If a seller seems in a hurry, won't let you look at the device closely, or brushes you off with something like, “It'll work once you charge it,” it's time to walk away.

What's The Condition?

Even honest sellers can miss or forget about damage, so it's up to you to check the details. While scratches and dings might not matter, here are a few things to look out for:

Power cord: Make sure the cord is not frayed, the outlet prongs are straight, and the power brick (if one exists) is intact.

Ports: Check all the ports (HDMI, USB, Ethernet, etc.) to make sure they're not broken, bent, burnt or otherwise harmed.

Cooling: If the device has active cooling, such as case fans, make sure they're working. Hold your hand over the intake and exhaust to see if air flows.

Battery: Make sure that the battery isn't bulging, cracked or misshaped. A damaged battery can be a serious fire hazard.

Wireless: WiFi and Bluetooth are usually integrated and not easy to replace. If possible, bring a Bluetooth compatible device like your headphones and try to pair it. You should also try to connect it to WiFi, if possible, or the hotspot on your phone!

Is It Authentic?

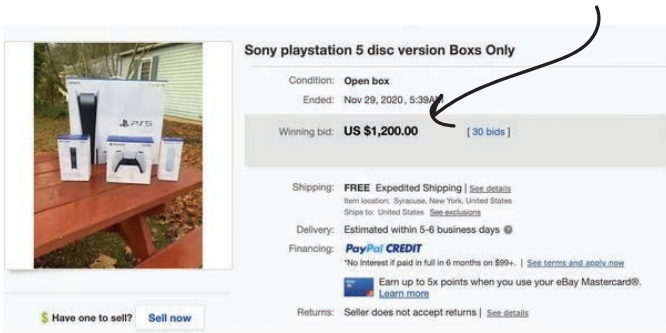
If you're buying a name-brand device, you want to make sure it's not a counterfeit (and yes, knockoff versions exist for almost everything now). One of the simplest ways to check is to ask for the serial number or IMEI. Legit sellers usually don't mind.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. Someone selling a real device won't panic when you want details... but scammers often will.

Read Carefully

Buying online can feel like deciphering a puzzle sometimes. Listings aren't always straightforward, and sellers know how to word things to sound better than they are.

For example, in 2020, at the height of the pandemic, many people were desperately trying to get their hands on Sony's PlayStation 5. Price gougers took advantage of people's desperation and began upselling the \$499 product by hundreds of dollars. Most notably, though, five people were noted to have purchased PS5 boxes...for over a thousand dollars each. You read that right, \$1000 for just the boxes. Luckily, eBay made sure these bidders didn't actually have to pay the money once they realized their mistake but had the company not stepped in, the customers would be in quite the pickle.



Try and buy in person

Meeting a seller in person can feel intimidating, but it's worth it. You get to see the device, test it, and make sure everything matches the photos. You also avoid the classic "it must have happened during shipping!" excuse.

Buying in person helps ensure you're getting the promised product, and the product's condition can't be blamed on the shipping company used. You might not be comfortable meeting them at their house (I wouldn't be!), so make sure to meet somewhere public with people around!

Beware of "Activation Locks"

Phones, tablets, and smartwatches can be locked to:

- Apple ID
- Google Account
- Samsung Account

If it's locked, you cannot use it.

Always ask the seller to show the device fully wiped and going through initial setup—not stuck on someone else's login screen. Be wary if they say they'll have it wiped by the time you pick up and be sure that it's truly done before handing over any cash!

Ask to Test It for More Than 10 Seconds

Scammers rely on quick meetups where the buyer feels rushed.

Take your time:

- Scroll
- Tap around
- Connect to WiFi
- Open apps
- Adjust brightness and volume
- Play a short video to test audio and display
- Wiggle the charging cord gently while it's plugged in

If the seller hovers or pressures you to hurry, that's a sign in itself.

Our biggest tip?

TRUST YOUR GUT

You're buying from them, not the other way around. There's always deals on electronics, so don't be afraid to say 'No thank you.' if you're suspicious

Keeping the Movie Magic Local

A young, local couple continues the 89er Theatre's legacy

For generations, the 89er Theatre has been woven into the rhythm of life in Kingfisher — a place where families gathered, teenagers spent Friday nights, and the community experienced stories together on the big screen. The original downtown theatre dates back to the 1930s or 40s, but in 2004, everything changed when lightning struck the building and burned it to the ground.

“After that, a group of investors banded together and bought two buildings,” co-owner Jaryn explained. “They transformed them into one, added the concession stand, the lobby — everything you see now. They really rebuilt it into what it is today.”

For 20 years, that ownership group kept the theatre locally run and locally loved. But eventually, they began considering selling — if they could find the right people. After months of quiet conversations and careful decision-making, they found them.

On May 8, 2025, Jaryn and her husband Zach officially purchased the 89er Theatre.

“They deemed us the right people,” Jaryn said. “That meant everything.”

Keeping a Community Legacy Alive

The heart behind their decision wasn't business ambition — it was love for the town and the people in it.

“We both love this town,” Zach said. “And there's nothing like this anywhere

around. People from Guthrie, Piedmont — even farther north — they all come here. It's really the only theatre in the area.”

Jaryn grew up in Kingfisher, and Zach moved from Iowa six years ago. They started dating in March 2021, got engaged in 2023, and married in April 2024. Now, they're building a life — and a business — grounded in community.

Keeping the theatre locally owned was a huge factor for both them and the previous owners.

“They knew we weren't going to come in and price everything sky-high or try to turn it into something it's not,” Jaryn said. “They wanted it to stay accessible for families. And so did we.”



That commitment shows. Tickets at the 89er Theatre remain among the most affordable in Oklahoma — \$7.50 for evening tickets and \$5.50 for kids — and concession pricing stays intentionally family-friendly.

“You can come in, get your tickets and concessions, for about what you'd pay just for a movie ticket in the city,” Jaryn said.

Beyond affordability, the couple sees



at a glance

Q+A

What is your favorite thing about being a business owner?

Unlimited Dr Pepper. —Jaryn

Being able to screen the movies before they come out — watching them before anyone else. —Zach

When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to raise cattle. Like every little girl, I wanted to be a teacher. Then I took Mrs. Nault's accounting class in high school and loved it. —Jaryn

I wanted to be a professional athlete — probably baseball. When I realized that wasn't happening, I wanted to be in the front office of pro sports. —Zach

What is something you've never been good at doing?

Whistling. —Jaryn

Accepting defeat gracefully, whether playing or watching sports. I hate to lose more than I like to win. —Zach



FOCUS ON.

89er Theatre



Jaryn and Zach in front of the 89er Theatre concessions stand. They kindly request you don't throw popcorn in the lobby like they did.

with Jaryn & Zach

Are you superstitious about anything?

No, not at all. Not at all. Never. When I played softball, I'd like try to find one, and they would always just get like busted. I'm like, well, that's not it. —*Jaryn*

I'm not superstitious, just a little stitious. If OSU football turns the ball over, goes three-and-out, or the opposition scores, I need to move seats and/or change shirts until I find the right combination for success.. Nothing ever seemed to work for the past couple seasons. —*Zach*

What moment in your life are you most proud of?

I'm gonna say swiping right. —*Jaryn*
I'm gonna say the right answer and say getting married. —*Zach*

Do you have any fun family traditions or traditions you've started together?

Every time we get a Christmas tree, it has to be real. We cut off the bottom chunk of the trunk and write the year on it. Like 2021, started dating. 2023 we got engaged. 2024 was our first married. It's always something like that. —*Zach*

the theatre as a platform for community impact. Just recently, a coalition of churches and businesses sponsored tickets for a showing of *Soul on Fire*, opening the doors for anyone to attend for free. People traveled from out of town — the first two guests through the door were from Enid — and the event turned into an impromptu fundraiser for burn camp donations.

“That’s what makes having a local theatre special,” Jaryn said. “We can invest in our community the same way they invest in us.”

Learning the Industry, Serving the Community

Buying a movie theatre comes with a steep learning curve — especially when it comes to selecting films, negotiating studio contracts, and understanding the economics behind the scenes.

“Getting used to everything — how to get movies, how long we’re required to keep them, how ticket percentages work — it’s a lot,” Zach admitted. “Luckily we have a fantastic manager and assistant manager who guide us through the process.”

Studios often require theatres to hold movies anywhere from one week to three weeks. Disney films, for example, require a three-week commitment. Whether a theatre can drop a movie depends on ticket sales thresholds set by the studios — and those thresholds are strict.

And the rumors are true: most movie theatre revenue doesn’t come from movie tickets.

“Concessions are where the money is made,” Jaryn said. “Some movies give us 30% of ticket sales, some give us up to 70%. It just depends.”

Despite the challenges, the couple is fully committed to building a place where both customers and employees feel at home.

Their staff — a mix of high schoolers, college students, and adults — often become a small family of their own.

“Some of them came in super shy,” Jaryn said. “But working here really pulls you out of your shell. They’ve all become friends. They go out to dinner together. They watch free movies. It’s become a fun place to work.”

And that small-town closeness extends to customer experiences, too.

“In a big theatre, you’re just another ticket,” Zach said. “Here, people actually know you. You run into someone you haven’t seen in forever in the lobby. That

doesn’t happen in the city.”

Looking Ahead: Building the Next 20 Years

Owning a theatre wasn’t a childhood dream for either of them — but now it has become a calling.

“We plan to be here for many years,” Jaryn said. “The group before us had it for 20. We want to do that, and more.”

Some upgrades are already underway: new menu boards, refreshed pre-movie advertising, and posters highlighting movies filmed in Oklahoma. Others are behind-the-scenes but essential — improving equipment, updating systems, and making long-term structural investments.

“It’s not glamorous, but it’s necessary to keep the experience great,” Zach said.

And above all, they want the theatre to continue being a hub for the region.

“Our mission is to provide a family-friendly atmosphere for Kingfisher and the surrounding counties,” Jaryn said. “Somewhere people can make memories at an affordable price — and a place that keeps giving back to the community.”

A Small Theatre With a Big Heart

The 89er Theatre stands today because Kingfisher stands together. Through fire, rebuilding, a pandemic, ownership transitions, and every challenge in between, the community has kept its theatre alive.

And now, that legacy is in the hands of two people who understand its meaning.

“People here care about each other,” Zach said. “They’ll give you the shirt off their back. That’s what makes this town special.”

As long as studios keep releasing movies — and as long as the community supports their local theatre — Jaryn and Zach plan to be here, welcoming guests with affordable tickets, hot popcorn, cold Dr Pepper, and a warm hometown smile.

For more information about 89er theatre visit: 89erTheatre.com or just stop on by during business hours!

Keeping an Eye on What Matters Most:

The Everyday Benefits of Indoor Cameras

Technology has changed the way we stay connected to our homes—and the people who make them feel like home. Indoor cameras have become one of the most helpful tools for families, giving them peace of mind whether they're at work, traveling, or simply in another room. And while "home security" is the feature everyone thinks of first, the everyday uses of indoor cameras go far beyond watching for intruders.

Today's indoor cameras help you look in on your household in a way that's convenient, comforting, and—thanks to new privacy features—completely in your control.

Keeping an Eye on Pets

Our furry family members can't text us updates, but they can certainly get into trouble. Indoor cameras give you a simple way to check whether your dog is pacing, your cat is climbing, or your puppy might be chewing on something they shouldn't. Plus, being able to peek in throughout the day offers comfort when you're away from home.

Checking in on kids

Whether your children are home after school, playing in the next room, or staying with a babysitter, an indoor camera makes it easy to make sure everything is okay. Parents use them to get quick peace of mind during a late meeting or to see that homework time actually looks like homework time.

Supporting Aging Loved Ones

For families caring for an elderly parent or grandparent, indoor cameras can be a gentle way to ensure safety without being intrusive. Whether someone is recovering from a surgery, dealing with mobility issues, or living alone, the ability to confirm they're safe—without having to constantly call—can relieve stress for everyone.



License #0027

Privacy, Control & Our Arlo Indoor Cameras

One of the biggest concerns people have about indoor cameras is privacy—and rightfully so. That's why our indoor cameras, including the Arlo Essential Indoor Camera, come with built-in privacy shields that give you full control over when the camera is watching and when it isn't.

What Is a Privacy Shield?

A privacy shield is a physical cover that automatically slides over the camera lens when the camera is disarmed. You can see when the camera is active and when it's not, giving you confidence that nothing is being recorded when you don't want it to.

How the Privacy Shield Works

You control it from the Arlo Secure App. Arm the camera to monitor your home, disarm it to instantly cover the lens.

The shield is visible. Unlike software-only privacy modes, this physical barrier lets you know at a glance the camera can't record.

It's automatic. Set schedules so the camera is only active when you want—like during work hours or overnight.

Why This Matters

Indoor cameras should feel like your tool—not a trade-off. The privacy shield helps families feel comfortable placing cameras in bedrooms, living spaces, nurseries, or anywhere else they want extra peace of mind without feeling watched.



Why Choose the Arlo Indoor Camera Through Pioneer?

Our cooperative offers customers access to high-quality indoor cameras like Arlo that integrate easily with your home's Wi-Fi and offer:

- High-definition video quality
- Two-way audio (talk to kids, pets, or caregivers)
- Night vision
- Motion detection with alerts
- Easy installation
- Local support from a local company

And because you're purchasing through Pioneer, you get the support of a team that understands your home network, your Wi-Fi, and your needs—making setup and troubleshooting easier.



For more information, visit GoPioneer.com/Arlo
or visit your local office!

Meet Our PIONEER SCHOLARS



Elizabeth Prince • District 12 • Newcastle

Elizabeth is majoring in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Oklahoma and plans to graduate in May 2026.

"I participated in robotics all throughout middle and high school, which pushed me to pursue engineering," Elizabeth said. "I've always had a passion for space and thought aerospace seemed interesting!"

After graduation, Elizabeth hopes to work for an aerospace company in Oklahoma, "either designing new aircraft or helping to maintain existing ones."

She's drawn to the innovation and responsibility the field requires.

"Aerospace is an evolving field requiring constant innovation. As an engineer, I can play a role in developing new designs and technologies that will improve the defense industry as well as commercial airfare," Elizabeth said.

She's excited for what comes next. "I am excited to gain experience in the workforce and start a life for myself... I can't wait to see where it leads."

Outside the classroom, Elizabeth runs her own small business selling handmade crochet plushies.

"I vend at local markets as well as online through Etsy. I meet so many amazing people and it always makes my day seeing people love my work!" In her spare time, she enjoys crocheting, drawing, painting, and spending time outdoors hiking and camping.

The Pioneer Scholarship plays an important role in her journey.

"My parents have been very supportive, but it wouldn't be possible without scholarships. The Pioneer Scholarship is helping me achieve my dream!"

As a first-generation college student pursuing a challenging degree, she considers simply making it this far her biggest accomplishment, but her biggest challenge has been stepping out of her comfort zone.

"I'm a very introverted person... forcing myself to go to events and meet new people has been difficult."

When asked what advice she'd give to future students, Elizabeth wanted to be honest.

"It's okay to fail!... It's important to not let your past failures prevent you from succeeding in the future."



Megan Eischen • District 10 • Kingfisher

Megan is majoring in Kinesiology at Southwestern Christian University and plans to graduate in May 2027.

"I chose this major because I've always been fascinated by how the human body works, probably because sports have been such a big part of my life," Megan said.

After tearing her ACL in high school and watching teammates work through injuries with physical therapists, she was 'inspired to be that person for others'.

After graduation, Megan plans to attend physical therapy school and become a physical therapist.

"I want to help people get back to doing what they love... I want to be able to walk alongside someone during their recovery by encouraging them, supporting them, and celebrating their progress," Megan said.

She's especially excited about blending her love for sports, science, and helping others.

"I'm also excited to make a difference in others' lives the way my PT did for me and be a part of others'

journey towards healing."

Megan is a student-athlete, playing basketball for Southwestern Christian, and also works as a PT tech at Valir Physical Therapy in Piedmont. In her free time, she enjoys hanging out with friends, working out, and shopping.

The Pioneer Scholarship has been deeply meaningful.

"It helps ease the financial side of college, which allows me to focus more on my studies, basketball, and preparing for PT school," Megan said. "It's a blessing to know that people believe in my goals enough to support me."

She's proud of her growth in major-related classes and the hard work she puts into basketball, and she wants future students to know that the hard work is worth it.

"Stay consistent and believe in yourself, even when things get overwhelming," Megan said. "Manage your time, ask for help when you need it, and don't forget to enjoy the journey."

Fruit Cream Delight

ingredients

1/2 c.	Scalded milk
1/4 tsp.	Salt
Juice	one lemon
1/4 tsp.	Dry mustard
4	Egg yolks, well beaten
2 c.	Whipping cream
1/3 c.	Powdered sugar
1 bag	Mini marshmallows
1 c.	Chopped pecans
1 can	Royal Anne cherries, drained
1 c.	Pineapple tidbits (or crushed pineapple), drained

1. Add seasonings to milk.
2. Pour slowly into well beaten eggs.
3. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly until mixture coats spoon. Remove from heat immediately and cool.
4. Add lemon juice.

For Whipped Cream

1. Whip cream; beat in powdered sugar.
2. Fold in cooled custard.
3. Add marshmallows, nuts, cherries and pineapple.



A photo from Lori of her salad!

Where did you find this recipe?

“This is a salad my Mother made every Thanksgiving and Christmas because it was my Dads favorite. ”

What is your favorite thing about this recipe?

“My personal favorite thing about the salad is the memories.”

Do you have any tips and tricks for preparing this recipe?

“One tip is to be sure and whip the cream. Also, there is one thing that has to be done differently. Substitute some other cherries for the Royal Anne—sweet red cherries work great!

You can no longer get the Royal Anne's, I even called the company about them. My Dad would be upset about the cherries if he knew because he called this the white salad, now it's pink.”

- **Billing Representative**
Lori Crawford

Have a recipe or story idea to share?

Email GoPioneerOK@ptci.com OR visit for anonymous entry form at GoPioneer.com/community/gopioneer-magazine.





25+ YEARS ANNIVERSARIES

CD & Marlene Thayer - Frederick

Celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary August 16th. They have three children, and four grandchildren.

Gary & Becky Kluckner - Custer City

Celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary September 9th. They have three children and two grandchildren.

Jim & Susan Savage - Loyal

Celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary January 9th. They have two children, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Happy Anniversary from all of us at Pioneer!

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