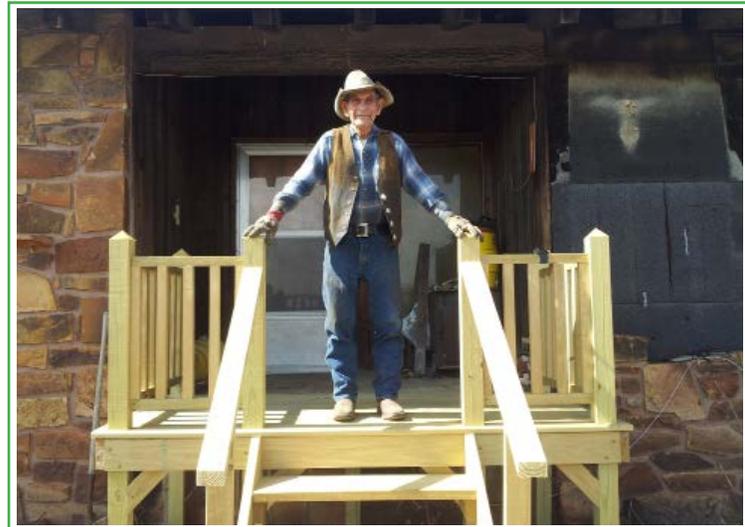


Farmer SUCCESS Spotlight Focuses on: Tally

Tally enjoys the simple things of a rural life. Tally, at over 86 years of age, has lived on his family's century-old 160 acres in northeast Oklahoma his entire life. Since he was four years old, he has been riding horses. Tally still loves horses. He now owns and cares for eight horses—some Spanish Mustang, American Indian, and Spanish Barb—all with pedigrees dating back to 1865.

Tally wishes to continue taking care of his horses, running his cattle, and cultivating his produce, but he experiences day-to-day challenges with obstacles to his health. Tally has been diagnosed with cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and arthritis/rheumatic disease. Tally is also completely deaf in his left ear, and he lives with 90% hearing loss in his right ear, making balancing often difficult—especially when attempting to navigate the unmodified areas around his home. Also a member of the Northern Cherokee of Northern Arkansas Group, Tally enjoys spending time in his rustic home—which he still heats with a wood stove—where he takes time to appreciate the routines of rural life.



But Tally experienced significant difficulty even when attempting to enter and exit his home—as he fashioned his own steps out of unstable cinder blocks for the front and back porches of the home. The steps were dangerous, but Tally was determined to access the area beyond his front door.

Tally needed assistive technology to improve his safety and mobility when entering and exiting his home, so we at AgrAbility helped Tally find the Oklahoma Assistive Technology Foundation and its grant for farmers and ranchers with disabling conditions. OkAT provided Tally with backdoor access hardware along with front porch steps, helping to reduce barriers to Tally's independence and safety.

With OkAT and its grant for farmers and ranchers with disabling conditions along with AgrAbility's help, Tally was able to receive the assistive technology that he needed to increase his safety and remain self-reliant in his rural way of life.



About Oklahoma AgrAbility

Oklahoma AgrAbility educates and connects agricultural families who are living with a disability to resources to secure assistive technologies for continued independence and success in their operation and daily life activities.





Oklahoma Extension Helping You Age in Place

Oklahoma Extension Services has an office in each of our state's 77 counties. Extension offices are a locally reliable source of information to Oklahomans who are choosing to age in place, many on family farms and ranches.

As the "front door" to Oklahoma State University, Extension Educators deliver evidence-based programming to a variety of audiences, including these aging families. Contact your local Family & Consumer Science Educator today.

OkAT Financial Tips from OkAT

A disability can often be expensive. That's why OkAT and Oklahoma ABLE Tech are continually offering assistance with applying for low-interest bank loans. One of the most common challenges is not being aware of your credit report. Many times agencies will send an unpaid balance to collections without your knowing it, or there may be incorrect items on your credit report altogether. There are three credit reporting agencies that you should check annually: Experian, Trans Union, and Equifax. You can check all three by going to freecreditreport.com or by calling at 877-322-8228.



Oklahoma ABLE Tech and FPP Join Together to Keep Oklahomans Safe

FEMA recently announced that OkAT has been awarded a grant for two separate programs, carried out by Oklahoma ABLE Tech and Fire Protection Publications. The first goal is to install specialized smoke alarms in 250 Oklahoma households in the Tulsa and Oklahoma City metro areas for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The second goal is to develop curriculum and train approximately 200 Oklahoma firefighters and EMTs how to provide quality fire prevention services to individuals with disabilities in their local communities.



Langston University

LANGSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Hands-On Learning with AgrAbility

July 22–26 of this year, the Oklahoma AgrAbility Project collaborated with the class of 2014 with the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Langston University to provide a unique teaching and learning opportunity for its students. The students learned to develop a plan of care for a farmer or rancher who has suffered an injury. As part of their learning experience, the students had the opportunity to visit farms or ranches to explore the terrain, witness daily farm chores, observe livestock management, and experiment with farm equipment/assistive technology, allowing them real-world, firsthand experience with AgrAbility.

OKLAHOMA FFA FOUNDATION



FFA had a busy summer. FFA chapters of Indiana partnered with Indiana AgrAbility among others to sponsor the Bridging Horizons Community Service Contest, giving the participants an opportunity to engage with and benefit their communities through service learning. This project also allowed participants to provide public modification solutions for members of the community living with disabilities.

WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE & SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE



This summer Oklahoma's State-wide Women in Agriculture and Small Business Conference took place at the Moore-Norman Technology Center, where women of agriculture attended sessions, focusing on a wide variety

of current topics which included alternative enterprise along with agriculture and finance. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, and a number of others sponsored this event to help keep costs low to participants. Together, they worked for "Empowering the Women of Rural America."





CONNECTING YOUTH, AGRICULTURE,
 and ACCOMMODATIONS

This July at the 2013 Oklahoma 4-H Roundup workshop, 21 participants of all ages discovered and experienced balance, flexibility, strength, and endurance through the summer's workshop activities, teaching them skills that can benefit them and their older relatives. The local 4-H teamed up with AgrAbility to produce the workshop and help spread skills, knowledge—and even a little fun.

Assistive Technology **TIP SHARE**

When it comes to modifying your home, many things can be done—it seems everything but the kitchen sink. Well, now, thanks to Delta, modifications are now available with the faucet.

Delta has recently introduced its Touch 20 Technology®, a faucet for the kitchen or bathroom which only requires a touch, not a grip. You can turn on this faucet by making contact with any part of your hand or arm to any surface of the faucet. No gripping, squeezing, twisting, pulling, or straining. Does your kitchen or bath need a Delta touch of technology? Visit delta-faucet.com for more information.



AMBUCS

A diverse group of women and men make up the non-profit service organization, AMBUCS, funded solely through donations. They have dedicated their efforts to helping create mobility and independence solutions for those living with disabilities.

One of the ways AMBUCS fulfills its mission is by conducting a variety of community service projects through its AmBility program. AmBility dedicates itself to finding mobility and independence solutions for those living with disabilities by focusing on equipment and process. The AmBility program also sponsors a ramp-building project to help spread accessibility to homes and businesses. A guide for building your own ramp is available at ambucs.org.

People of AgrAbility: Michael Oakley



After graduating from Connors State College with a degree in mechanical drafting, Michael Oakley got right into farming. Being a farmer, Michael discovered AgrAbility when he attended Langston University's Small Farmer's Conference four years ago. At the conference, he met our Program Manager and was soon asked to become a board member. Ever since, Mr. Oakley has been an important advocate and referent for us at Oklahoma AgrAbility. Not only an important player with our program, he has also been working as a board member for OkAT for three and a half years, helping those in need receive low-interest bank loans. Michael is the right man for the job, serving as a board member at AgrAbility, as he has actually benefited from AgrAbility's services as a farmer himself. Michael does a lot of important ground work, connecting individuals who may benefit with us. AgrAbility appreciates Michael. How does Michael feel about AgrAbility? "It's a good program," he says. "I have benefited. I've enjoyed working with and getting to know the people associated with AgrAbility."





On the Horizon: AgrAbility Events

Arthritis Foundation Land Exercise Instructor Training

October 31, 2013

Hugo, OK

Arthritis Foundation Land Exercise Instructor Training

November 13, 2013

Anadarko, OK

72nd Annual Convention for the Oklahoma Farm Bureau

November 15–17, 2013

Norman, OK

Arthritis Foundation Land Exercise Instructor Training

December 3, 2013

Enid, OK

Arthritis Foundation Land Exercise Instructor Training

December 6, 2013

Kellyville, OK



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