



WWW.OKFARBUREAU.ORG

OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU *Perspective*



May 13, 2016

Oklahoma Farm Bureau
Women's Leadership Committee
presents their annual

Safety Day

Friday, June 3
Oklahoma City

Rollover Prevention

Fire Safety

and much more!

Tractor Safety




ATV Safety

OKFB women to hold annual safety day June 3; applications due May 24

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee will hold their annual Youth Safety Day on Friday, June 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the OKFB home office in Oklahoma City.

The 2016 Youth Safety Day will host students grades five through nine from across the state of Oklahoma and offer an array of safety lessons related to everyday life, whether they are on the farm or off.

Safety day will begin with registration

at 9 a.m. and safety lessons will start at 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided for participants.

Morning lessons will include fire safety featuring OKFB Safety Service's fire safety house; ATV safety; and electricity safety with professionals from OG&E. After lunch, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol will share a vehicle rollover prevention lesson with its rollover cage, and safety day will conclude with a tractor safety lesson with a tractor provided by P&K Equipment. Throughout

the day, OKFB's Safety Services personnel and others will demonstrate safe practices and habits that students can use in their daily lives.

Applications must be received by Tuesday, May 24, and are available on our applications center web page at www.okfarmbureau.org/applications. For questions or more information, contact Marcia Irvin, OKFB director of women's leadership, at 405-523-2405.

Legislative wrap-up: Agendas are short and debates are long

By John Collison • OKFB Vice President of Public Policy

With just two weeks before sine die, legislative agendas are getting shorter and debates are getting longer. Obviously, the budget is still the main concern at the state Capitol. The governor, the House



and the Senate have been working each day to come up with solutions to the state's \$1.3 billion budget shortfall. Although some are not so optimistic, we do look for a budget to emerge before sine die.

Last week brought us another legislative victory, as Sen. Nathan Dahm and the Senate approved House amendments to SB 1142, which eliminates all restrictions on the removal of feral hogs in Oklahoma. Our members have been very vocal in calling

for the complete eradication of feral hogs. We believe this legislation is one more step toward that goal, and look forward to Gov. Mary Fallin's signature on the bill.

As the end of session nears, our focus remains on State Question 777. Our goal until Nov. 8 is to educate all voters about the importance of protecting agriculture. We urge you to help us spread the message. Please let us know if we can help in any way, and remember to vote yes on 777!



Comanche County Farm Bureau hosts Meet-the-Candidate forum in Lawton

Left: OKFB President Tom Buchanan addresses the 15 candidates for statewide office in attendance at the Comanche County Farm Bureau Meet-the-Candidate forum held April 25 in Lawton. At the forum, candidates were given the opportunity to introduce themselves and share their opinions on various statewide issues affecting agriculture and rural Oklahoma.

Candidates also were educated about OKFB policy including the upcoming State Question 777 and its importance to Oklahoma agriculture.

YF&R announce 2016 scholarship winners

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers selected ten Oklahoma high school students to receive \$1,000 scholarships to study agriculture in Oklahoma.

“We are always excited to see great young student leaders who want to make an impact in agriculture,” said Josh Emerson, OKFB YF&R state chairman. “As fellow young agriculturalists, the YF&R state committee is proud to support these students as they take the next step in their agricultural education journey.”

The ten students receiving 2016 YF&R scholarships are:

- Logan Holt, Shattuck, OKFB district one

- Kade Horton, Hollis, OKFB district two
- Jaryn Frey, Kingfisher, OKFB district three
- Victoria Chapman, Manville, OKFB district four
- Riley Mussett, Idabel, OKFB district five
- Dustin Kunzel, Bluejacket, OKFB district six
- Colton Budy, Alva, OKFB district seven
- Blake Kennedy, Tecumseh, OKFB district eight
- Ethan Smith, Chandler, OKFB district nine
- Layne Kisling, Enid, at-large scholarship recipient

The ten students receiving scholarships

have a wide variety of agricultural career interests and are choosing degrees spanning the agriculture spectrum, including agribusiness, agricultural education, biosystems engineering, agriculture pre-law and agricultural communications.

Students plan to study at a variety of Oklahoma higher-education institutions, including Conners State College, Oklahoma State University, Seminole State College, and Western Oklahoma State College.

The OKFB YF&R award \$1,000 scholarships each year to graduating high school seniors who plan to study agriculture at an Oklahoma institution of higher learning. An applicant’s family must be a voting member of Oklahoma Farm Bureau.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



Commodity tour photos

Our photos from the 2016 OKFB commodity tour are posted to our flickr account. View the photos at flickr.com/okfarmbureau, and check out the next *Perspective* for full coverage of the three-day tour to Red Carpet Country.



LeeAnna McNally on In the Field

OKFB’s LeeAnna McNally appeared on In the Field with Ron Hays on News9 Saturday, April 30. Check out LeeAnna’s thoughts on the final legislative work yet to do in the 2016 session. Check out the full video at <http://bit.ly/1W8ruSD>.



facebook



twitter



pinterest



instagram



flickr



wordpress



soundcloud



youtube



website

www.okfarmbureau.org

OKFB at Oklahoma FFA Convention



OKFB Executive Director Monica Wilke presents OKFB's platinum-level title sponsorship check to Oklahoma FFA state officers during a general session of the Oklahoma State FFA Convention on April 27.



Wilke brought greetings on behalf of OKFB to FFA members, calling the students one of the organization's wisest investments.



OKFB's Young Farmer & Ranchers committee hosted a booth for FFA members during the two-day convention. Students lined up for a free caricature drawing of themselves and enter to win prizes.

FFA Hunger Challenge results announced at OK FFA convention

The official numbers for the FFA Hunger Challenge were announced in a special ceremony on the second day of the Oklahoma FFA Convention.

Livestock donations to the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation for the Pork for Packs and Beef for Backpacks programs totaled 515 animals. Those animals will be processed to produce over 760,000 protein sticks for chronically hungry students in Oklahoma.



Jeremy Rich, president of the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation and Lisa Perry, manager of regional giving for the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, presented each of the 205 participating FFA chapters with a commemorative coin to honor their contributions to fight childhood hunger in the state.

“One in four Oklahoma children struggles with hunger on a regular basis,” Rich said. “These are the kids we are serving through the backpack programs. We have been amazed by the generosity of Oklahoma’s FFA members and their desire to serve other students in their communities.”

Through the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma, the pork and beef protein sticks are distributed to more than 29,000 students each week in schools in all 77 Oklahoma counties.

The Pork for Packs and Beef for Backpacks programs supply protein sticks for chronically hungry children across our state. If you would like to donate livestock to the program, contact the foundation's Amanda Rosholt at 405-202-1463.



Member Benefits

Limited-time \$1,000 discount on Polaris Brutus UTV
If it's time for a new helping hand around the place, OKFB members receive \$1,000 off new Polaris Brutus UTVs for a limited amount of time. Verify your Farm Bureau membership and download your savings certificate at fbadvantage.com and then make your way to your local Polaris dealer.

www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits

Calendar

State Legislature Adjourns

May 27 • Oklahoma State Capitol, Oklahoma City
Contact: Tasha Duncan (405) 530-2681

Women's Leadership Committee Youth Safety Day Camp

June 3 • OKFB Home Office, OKC
Contact: Marcia Irvin (405) 523-2405

Oklahoma Youth Leading Agriculture Conference

June 15-17 • Oklahoma City
Contact: Holly Carroll (405) 523-2307

Published by Oklahoma Farm Bureau
Postmaster: Send address corrections to:
Perspective, P.O. B. 53332, OKC, OK 73152-3332

STAFF DIRECTORY

Executive Director

Monica Wilke 405-523-2303

VP of Strategic Corporate Communications

Becky Samples 405-523-2528

VP of Public Policy

John Collison 405-523-2539

Director of Corporate Communications

Dustin Mielke 405-530-2640

Director of Public Policy Communications

Hannah Nemecek 405-523-2346

Oklahoma Farm Bureau
2501 N. Stiles
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3126

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 131
Okla. City, OK.

OKFB President Buchanan's statement on feral hog control bill passage

Oklahoma Farm Bureau President Tom Buchanan issued the following statement in response to the passage of SB 1142 by the Oklahoma Senate. The bill eliminates all requirements and restrictions on the removal of feral hogs in Oklahoma.

"Oklahoma Farm Bureau is proud of the efforts of Sen. Nathan Dahm, Rep. Sean Roberts and the Oklahoma Senate in passing SB 1142. The measure eliminates

all previous restrictions on the removal of feral hogs, allowing landowners to remove the invasive species – without a permit – at any time, day or night, throughout the year.

"Feral hogs are costly and harmful to Oklahoma farms, ranches, private and public land, and ecosystems. SB 1142 gives our farmers, ranchers and landowners the ability to further protect their property from the species.

"Although hunting is responsible for eliminating less than 5 percent of Oklahoma's feral hog population, the invasive animals must be removed from the Oklahoma landscape. As the state's largest general farm organization, we support removing feral hogs through any means possible and look forward to implementing any additional measures to eliminate the species in our state."

State Question 777 corner

The latest news on Oklahoma's Right to Farm amendment, SQ 777, which will appear on the general election ballot on Nov. 8, 2016.

Feeding all Oklahomans: agriculture's priority

Food insecurity in Oklahoma is not a distant, far away problem affecting families in some far-off town or city; it is a fact of daily life for too many Oklahomans all across our state, from our urban cores to our rural roads.

State Question 777, the Right to Farm, would allow Oklahoma's farmers and ranchers to continue to produce high-quality, great-tasting, low-cost food that citizens all across our state can afford.

As we continue to share with our friends and neighbors the importance of the Right to Farm for our state, these hunger and food insecurity facts that help show why food needs to be produced efficiently and affordably for all Oklahomans.

Our state's farmers and ranchers want to grow a wide variety of food to provide quality food choices at the grocery store for consumers – whether those customers make their shopping decisions based on preference or price.

