

OKAgFund successful in state races heading into November election

By Lori Kromer Peterson,
OFB Vice President of Public Policy

Primary election season is over and the focus now moves to the November General Election. The OKAgFund, the political action committee of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau, was extremely successful in support for candidates seeking their party's nomination in the primary election. The OKAgFund supported a winning candidate in 88 percent of the primary elections in which it participated. With input from county Farm Bureau members, the OKAgFund will again support candidates with a record of supporting agricultural issues and other issues of importance to Oklahoma Farm Bureau.

The governor's race in Oklahoma will be one of historic significance. For the first time, both nominees for governor are women. Lieutenant Governor Jari Askins(D) will face 5th District Congresswoman Mary Fallin(R) to determine who will be the next governor. In the lieutenant governor's race, State Sens. Todd Lamb(R) and Kenneth Corn(D) will each be seeking their first statewide elected office. Steve Burrage(D) and Gary Jones(R) are both seeking the office of State Auditor and Inspector. Candidates for the office of Attorney General are Jim Priest(D) and Scott Pruitt(R). Ken Miller(R) will face Stephen Covert(D) for State Treasurer and Susan Paddock(D) will face Janet Barresi(R) and Richard Cooper(I) for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Candidates for Labor Commissioner are Lloyd Fields(D) and Mark Costello(R). In the race for insurance commissioner, current Commissioner Kim Holland(D) will face opposition from John Doak(R). Dana Murphy(R) won re-election to the Corporation Commission in the primary.

Some members of the State Senate were elected **(See OKAgFund, page 4)**

Trade Show space available at convention

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is expanding the OFB Trade Show during the 2010 OFB Annual Meeting, which will be held Nov. 19-21 in Oklahoma City.

This year's trade show is moving to the first floor of the Cox Convention Center, and the extra space will allow for more than double the booth space from previous years.

Approximately 800 farm and ranch leaders attend the convention each year.

"This is an excellent opportunity for companies to reach a large number of farmers and ranchers, all in one setting," Doye said.

The dates and times for the OFB Trade Show are Friday, November 19 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, November 20 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

A single booth space is \$200, or a double space is \$250. Spaces will be reserved on a first come, first serve basis.

If you are interested in reserving a booth space, or know of anyone who might be, please contact OFB's Thad Doye at 405-523-2307 or Thad.Doye@okfb.org.

Sen. Inhofe has message for farm, ranch leaders



United States Sen. Jim Inhofe stopped by Oklahoma Farm Bureau's home office in Oklahoma City during the congressional recess to give farm and ranch leaders a message: keep working on estate tax reform and overregulation of the agriculture industry by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The ranking minority member on the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee stated his willingness to fight unnecessary EPA regulations, such as the agency's move to regulate dust as a particulate matter under the Clean Air Act.

MEMBER BENEFITS

• **Grainger** – Offers 10 percent off catalog prices as well as other special pricing.
www.grainger.com

• **Atwoods** – Atwoods home, farm and auto stores have in-store specials for OFB members. See their ad in each issue of *Oklahoma Country* for your coupon.

OFB will highlight a few benefits in each issue of *Perspective* as a reminder of the savings available to OFB members. Find a complete list of savings online at www.okfarmbureau.org.

OFB sponsoring cattle sale at Tulsa Farm Show

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is sponsoring the Herd Builder Private Treaty Sale during the annual Tulsa Farm Show, which is presented by Midwest Shows, Inc.

The sale is set for Dec. 9-11 at the Tulsa State Fairgrounds in Tulsa.

An expansion of the popular bull sale, this private treaty sale is open to all breeds. It will include heifers, bred heifers, cow-calf pairs and more offerings.

The sale is open to everyone attending the farm show for all three days of the event.

“Oklahoma Farm Bureau is excited to offer producers the opportunity to showcase all breeds of beef animals,” said Thad Doye, Field Services vice president. “Producers can choose to bring a group of animals or just one individual. This sale is a unique and great marketing tool for all producers.”

Cattlemen interested in offering animals should call Doye at 405-523-2307.

Health certification by a licensed veterinarian must be provided for all animals. Owners should be present throughout the sale, and will be responsible for the feeding, watering (water tub and water source will be provided) and stall upkeep.

More information about the sale will be posted on the OFB website as it becomes available.

OFB CALENDAR

YF&R Livestock Judging Contest
September 17 • State Fairgrounds
Contact: Marcia Irvin, 405-523-2405

YF&R International Student Tour
October 15-16 • Northeastern OK
Contact: Marcia Irvin, 405-523-2405

State Resolutions Meeting
October 26-27 • Oklahoma City
Contact: Lori Peterson, 405-523-2539



Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



Monitor the latest Farm Bureau and agricultural news and information online at www.okfarmbureau.org.

Currently online:

• **Publications** – Read the latest issue of OFB publications *Oklahoma Country* magazine and *Perspective* newsletter in OFB's online “News Center.” The latest Ag-First radio programs and OFB videos also can be accessed.

• **State Question 744** – OFB has serious concerns about State Question 744, which will be on the November ballot. Learn why OFB opposes State Question 744 and where you can find more information.

www.okfarmbureau.org



Ag Department launches Conservation Loan program

The Agriculture Department has launched a Conservation Loan program that will provide farm owners and farm-related business operators with access to credit to implement conservation techniques that will conserve natural resources.

CL funds can be used to implement conservation practices approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, such as the installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; and implementation of manure management; among others. Direct CLs can be obtained through local Farm Service Agency offices with loan limits up to \$300,000. Guaranteed CLs up to \$1,112,000 are available from lenders working with FSA.

For more information on the Conservation Loan program, contact a local FSA office or visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Tulsa Co. FBW Luncheon



The Tulsa County Farm Bureau Women's Committee recently held its annual Rural/Urban Luncheon at the Green Onion Restaurant in Tulsa. Guest Speaker Kathy Holder (top right), a teacher at Tulsa's Kendall-Whittier Elementary School, gave a presentation on the partnership between the school and the Tulsa County FBW Committee. Helping were OFB Director Phyllis Holcomb (left) and State FBW Committee Member Beverly Delmedico.

Institute warns against antibiotics ban

The Competitive Enterprise Institute recently submitted comments on a Food and Drug Administration proposal to limit the use of certain antibiotics in livestock, warning that a ban could unintentionally increase the threat of foodborne illness in the United States.

In its comments, CEI warned that "uses of these drugs for growth promotion reduces pathogen loads in animal-derived foods and have a positive impact on human safety, so such restrictions could do more harm than good."

The American Farm Bureau Federation submitted comments recently to FDA on the proposed ban. AFBF told FDA that developing strategies for reducing antimicrobial resistance is critically important for protecting both public and animal health. However, AFBF stressed that there are still no peer-reviewed scientific studies to support the theory that judicious use of antibiotics in livestock increases antibiotic resistance in people. In addition, there is no data to indicate limiting antibiotic use in livestock decreases human health problems with antibiotic resistance.

For more see <http://cei.org/news-releases/fda-warned-against-hazards-curtailling-antibiotic-use-livestock>.



Major County YF&R hold pig wrestling fundraiser



Approximately 300 people came out to cheer on competitors during the Major County Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers Pig Wrestling Contest Aug. 27. The annual fundraiser and membership drive, held in Fairview, drew participants and spectators of all ages. The local fire department also was on hand to hose off all contestants exiting the mud-filled ring.

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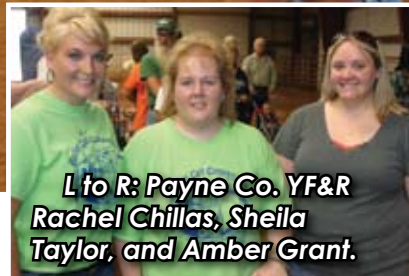
PAYNE COUNTY YF&R BUCKET CALF SHOW



OFB's Tyler Norvell judges exhibitors' bucket calves.



OFB's Lane Jeffrey interviews a contestant in the show ring.



L to R: Payne Co. YF&R Rachel Chillas, Sheila Taylor, and Amber Grant.

After months of caring for their bucket calves, exhibitors were ready to show off their animals during the Payne County Farm Bureau YF&R's Annual Bucket Calf Show Aug. 27 at the county fairgrounds.

OKAgFund successful...

(continued from page 1)

during the primary election and will not face opposition in the November general election. Rob Johnson(R) won election in Senate District 22 while Anthony Sykes(R) won re-election in Senate District 24.

Harry Coates(R) also won re-election to Senate District 28, while Senate District 30 elected David Holt(R) and Senate District 34 elected Rick Brinkley(R) to their first terms, respectively. Senate District 48 re-elected Connie Johnson(D). In the House of Representatives, District 16 re-elected Jerry Shoemaker(D) to another term in the House, and District 31 re-elected Jason Murphey(R). Both Jabar Shumate(D), representing District 73, and David Derby(R), representing District 74, were re-elected. District 100 elected first-time Representative Elise Hall(R).

In addition to candidates seeking state offices as discussed above, federal races as well as local elections will be on the November ballot. Also, voters will be asked to decide on 11 state questions. Please look for information on each of the state questions in upcoming issues of *Perspective*.



STOCKERS CONFERENCE

Oklahoma Farm Bureau's booth at the recent Oklahoma Stockers Conference included "Vote No on SQ 744" material. From left, are Loren Hayes, Elmer and Judy Anglin, Desdive Milacek, Todd Honer and Gary Johnson. The conference was held in Enid August 20.