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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

# Perspective

July 7, 2017

## OKFB announces August Area Meetings schedule

Oklahoma Farm Bureau has announced the details for its upcoming August Area Meetings, which serve as the kickoff for the organization's grassroots policy development process. "August is one of the most exciting times of the year because it signals the beginning of another year of fighting for

agriculture and rural Oklahoma," said Tom Buchanan, OKFB president. "I look forward to hearing from our members as they cultivate ideas to lead agriculture into the future." All OKFB members are encouraged to attend their area meeting, which provides an opportunity to discuss organizational

policy with fellow members and OKFB leaders. Members also will learn about the state of the organization and hear a review of the year's legislative and regulatory victories. Below, find a schedule of meetings.

### August Area Meeting Tentative Schedule

#### District 1

August 21 at 6 p.m.  
Hunny's Barbecue –  
Guymon  
103 N. Main St.

August 22 at 12 p.m.  
Big Dan's – Woodward  
3113 Williams Ave.

#### District 2

August 24 at 12 p.m.  
Backdoor  
Steakhouse – Blair  
400 US-283

#### District 3

August 15 at 12 p.m.  
Eischen's – Okarche  
109 2<sup>nd</sup> St.

#### District 4

August 24 at 6 p.m.  
Duncan Golf Club –  
Duncan  
1800 Country Club Rd.

#### District 5

August 14 at 12 p.m.  
Pete's Place – Krebs  
120 S. West 8<sup>th</sup> St.

#### District 6

August 17 at 12 p.m.  
Moore Farms Event  
Barn – Pryor  
9353 W. 500 Rd.

#### District 7

August 15 at 6 p.m.  
Central National  
Bank Center – Enid  
302 S. Grand Ave.

#### District 8

August 14 at 6 p.m.  
McClain County Ag  
Services – Purcell  
1721 Hardcastle Blvd.

#### District 9

August 18 at 6 p.m.  
Michael V's – Tulsa  
8222 E. 103<sup>rd</sup> St.

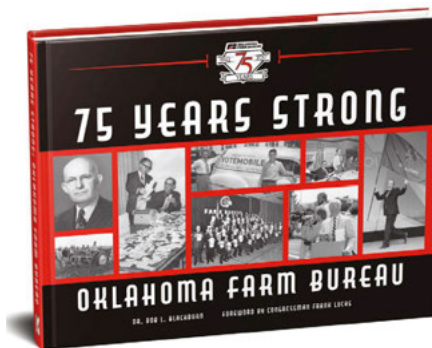
## OKFB 75<sup>th</sup>-anniversary history book now available to order

Oklahoma Farm Bureau's 75<sup>th</sup>-anniversary history book is now available for purchase through county Farm Bureau offices.

OKFB is proud to present our organization's history through photos and stories gleaned from our archives. This hardcover volume by Dr. Bob L. Blackburn spans 140 pages and includes more than 170 photos chronicling Oklahoma agriculture and Oklahoma Farm Bureau through the years.

To reserve your copy of the book, contact your main county Farm Bureau office through August 15. Once the order period has passed, we will distribute the books to the county Farm Bureau offices, where you can pick up your copy.

The cost of the book is \$18.45 + \$1.55 tax, for a total cost of \$20 per book. Because copies will be distributed through county Farm Bureau offices, there will be no charge



for shipping.

We hope you are as excited as we are to celebrate OKFB's diamond anniversary through photos and stories of our organization's past.

Be sure to call your main county Farm Bureau office and order your copy today. For a list of county Farm Bureau office phone numbers and more information, visit [okfarmbureau.org](http://okfarmbureau.org).



# State legislators honored with 2017 OKFB 100 Percent Club

**M**ore than 80 members of the Oklahoma Legislature have been named members of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau 100 Percent Club for a 100-percent voting record with the organization during the 2017 legislative session.

“Oklahoma Farm Bureau is thankful to have excellent representation as we continue to fight for our members at the state Capitol,” said Tom Buchanan, OKFB president. “We applaud these lawmakers for their efforts to protect agriculture and rural Oklahoma.”

Legislators were scored on three measures including SB 147, SB 326 and SB 593. Authored by Senate Pro Tem Mike Schulz and Rep. Casey Murdock, SB 147 allows municipalities to waive the three-mile setback for concentrated animal feeding operations. SB 326 by Sen. Eddie Fields and Rep. John Pfeiffer prohibits the importation and possession of exotic swine in Oklahoma. Legislators too were

scored on SB 593, which encourages wind energy development by removing a loophole allowing individuals to register for construction of a private airport to prevent the development of wind turbines.

Members of the House of Representatives also were scored on HB 1374, a bill allowing municipalities to increase ad valorem taxes to fund public safety districts, upon voter approval. Although it included an exemption for agriculture land, OKFB opposed the bill as defenders of low ad valorem taxes in Oklahoma. Senators were not scored on the bill, as it did not receive a floor vote.

Senators with a 100-percent voting record with OKFB include Mark Allen, Randy Bass, Stephanie Bice, Larry Boggs, Josh Brecheen, Bill Brown, Julie Daniels, Kim David, Tom Dugger, Eddie Fields, Kay Floyd, Jack Fry, AJ Griffin, David Holt, Darcy Jech, Chris Kidd, James Leewright, Bryce Marlatt, Kevin Matthews, Greg McCortney, Dan Newberry, Lonnie Paxton,

Roland Pederson, Anastasia Pittman, Adam Pugh, Dave Rader, Mike Schulz, Ron Sharp, Wayne Shaw, Frank Simpson, Jason Smalley, John Sparks, Rob Standridge, Gary Stanislawski, Anthony Sykes, Roger Thompson, Greg Treat and Ervin Yen.

Representative receiving the award include Greg Babinec, Rhonda Baker, Scott Biggs, Kevin Calvey, Dennis Casey, Bobby Cleveland, Josh Cockroft, Jeff Coody, Tim Downing, Travis Dunlap, Jon Echols, George Faught, Scott Fetgatter, Avery Frix, Tom Gann, Kyle Hilbert, Justin Humphrey, Dell Kerbs, Ben Loring, Jason Lowe, Kevin McDugle, Lewis Moore, Casey Murdock, Jason Murphey, Carl Newton, Terry O'Donnell, Charles Ortega, Scooter Park, John Pfeiffer, Mike Ritze, Sean Roberts, Michael Rogers, Todd Russ, Mike Sanders, Earl Sears, Chuck Strohm, Tess Teague, Steve Vaughan, Kevin Wallace, Josh West, Rick West, Rande Worthen, and Harold Wright.

## OKFB Women's Leadership Committee's Nurse's Scholarship July 15 deadline approaching

**T**he deadline for the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee's Nurse's Scholarship is July 15.

The annual scholarship program awards three \$500 scholarships to students studying nursing at an accredited college, university, vo-tech or trade school. Applicants must be Oklahoma Farm Bureau members or a member of a Farm Bureau member family. Applicants must also furnish a copy of their high school

or college transcript.

The OKFB WLC understands the important role nurses and healthcare professionals play in ensuring a high quality of life for all residents across our state, and especially rural residents. With the cost of education increasing yearly, the committee is proud to provide three students with scholarship funds to help pursue their dreams in nursing.

Full details are available in the

application, which is available as a PDF file on the OKFB Applications Center page on the OKFB website at [okfarmbureau.org](http://okfarmbureau.org). Complete the application and send with proof of enrollment and transcript to OKFB Women's Leadership Committee, Nurse's Scholarship, ATTN: Marcia Irvin, 2501 N. Stiles, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

For more information, contact Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2405.

## Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online

### High School Discussion Meet deadline extended until July 12

Miss the deadline for the YF&R High School Discussion Meet? Great news! The deadline has been extended until July 12. Make sure to let your FFA and 4-H students know about this great opportunity to practice their public speaking skills at this year's Big Three Field Days on July 18! Visit OKFB Application Center page to complete your registration.

### Wheat harvest photos posted on Flickr

Did you enjoy seeing our photos of this year's Oklahoma wheat harvest on social media? You can now view the entire collection of our favorite shots in our Flickr album! Visit [flickr.com/photos/okfarmbureau/](http://flickr.com/photos/okfarmbureau/) albums to start browsing today!



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[www.okfarmbureau.org](http://www.okfarmbureau.org)

## OKFB hails EPA WOTUS repeal

Oklahoma Farm Bureau President Tom Buchanan issued the following statement in response to the Environmental Protection Agency's announcement to repeal the Waters of the U.S. rule.



"After years of battling the Environmental Protection Agency's Waters of the U.S. rule, Oklahoma farmers and ranchers today applaud the agency's decision to rescind the rule.

"Clean water is crucial to farmers and ranchers because our very livelihoods depend on it. The WOTUS rule had nothing to do with clean water, but instead was an enormous land grab that created great confusion for farmers and ranchers.

"Where the previous EPA blatantly ignored the concerns of farmers and ranchers, President Donald Trump and EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt are now working to aid farmers and ranchers in producing high-quality and affordable food for the world.

"As Pruitt and his team at the EPA take the first steps in repealing this disastrous rule, we look forward to joining forces in creating common sense regulations to protect our water, our land, and our environment."

## Irvin named OKFB senior director of membership and organization

Oklahoma Farm Bureau recently promoted Marcia Irvin to senior director of membership and organization. In her new position, she will guide membership and organizational programs including the Women's Leadership Committee, Young Farmers and Ranchers, safety services and commodities.

"Marcia has served Farm Bureau faithfully for more than 40 years," said Monica Wilke, OKFB executive director. "I know she will continue to improve our membership programs and offerings."

Irvin, who began her career with Farm Bureau in 1977, has served OKFB in a variety of capacities. She most recently worked as the interim director of membership and organizational programs and the Women's Leadership Committee coordinator.

"Farm Bureau's various programs provide an outlet for our members to help us in our mission of improving the lives of rural Oklahomans," Irvin said. "I'm excited about this new opportunity as our organization



Marcia Irvin

moves forward."

Irvin grew up in Spencer, Oklahoma, and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Central Oklahoma.



Keep an eye out for the next issue of Oklahoma Country, which will hit mailboxes in the next couple of weeks! This issue includes a story featuring newly-elected Oklahoma legislators with Farm Bureau ties, the third installment in the OKFB 75<sup>th</sup>-anniversary series highlighting the 1970s and 1980s, a wrap-up of the 56<sup>th</sup> Oklahoma legislature session and much more!

## Member Benefits

### Caterpillar

Looking for high-quality equipment to help you get your work finished more efficiently? The CAT equipment product line, consisting of more than 300 machines, boasts durability and reliability to keep customers satisfied and productive. And as an OKFB member, you can save up to \$2,500 on the purchase or lease of eligible CAT products, plus an additional \$250 credit on work tool attachments purchased with new CAT machines. Learn more at the OKFB website today!

[www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits](http://www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits)

## Calendar

### OKFB YF&R State Leadership Conference

July 13-15 • Ardmore

Contact: Zac Swartz (405) 523-2406

### Nurse's Scholarship Application Deadline

July 15

Contact: Marcia Irvin (405) 523-2405

### OKFB YF&R High School Discussion Meet

July 18 • Stillwater

Contact: Zac Swartz (405) 523-2406

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# CELEBRATING OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU'S 75 YEARS



Take a trip back in Oklahoma Farm Bureau's history to some of the key moments of the formation of state's largest agricultural organization.

## 30 reasons why a farmer should be a member

**W**hy should farmers join Farm Bureau? The first charter members of Oklahoma Farm Bureau were asked this question frequently when they visited neighbors and friends about signing up as a member. Just in case you're curious about their answers, here are 30 reasons why a farmer should be a member, submitted by an early member and published in the Oklahoma Farm Bureau News in the October 1945 issue:

1. In union there is strength.
2. Only through organized effort has parity been obtained.
3. It is doing more for Agriculture than any other organization.
4. Farmers must be organized to hold their own with other organized groups.
5. It has made the nation conscious that the farm problem is a matter of national concern.
6. It represents all agricultural interests; all sections; all commodities.
7. It works toward securing for farmers a fair share of the consumer's dollar.
8. It fights for Agriculture on all fronts – transportation, taxation, tariff, monetary matters, efficient production, co-operative effort, home and community interests.
9. It believes the programs for Agriculture should be made by farmers and administered by farmers.
10. It is the most effective way to register support of the Extension Service, College of Agriculture and the Agricultural Experiment Station.
11. It watches over the legislative interests of farmers.
12. It gives its members unbiased information.
13. Its programs are based on research and study.
14. It gives farmers a voice in state and national affairs.
15. It plays a vital part in securing REA, AAA, and FCA legislation.
16. It keeps in the forefront Agriculture's demand for farm-to-market roads.
17. It works effectively for better rural schools.
18. It stands on the principle that taxes should be levied on the basis of ability to pay.
19. It has done a fine job in securing sound farm credit legislation and low interest rates.
20. It has set up some of the most successful co-operatives in the country.
21. It has sound leadership.
22. It is farmer controlled.
23. It is a family organization.



*W.A. Cassell of Elmore City (left) signs up for his Garvin County Farm Bureau membership with A.J. Chapman, membership committee co-chairman. Cassell was the first new member to be added in the county during the organization's 1953 campaign.*

24. The leading farmers of county, state and nation are found in its membership.
25. It has a well rounded program.
26. It is always ready to swing into action.
27. It asks, "What can we do?" and not "What do we get?"
28. It strives to raise the standards of farm living.
29. It is non-partisan.
30. It is your opportunity to do your duty toward your industry by joining with a million farm families for their common interest.