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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

Perspective

Aug. 18, 2017

Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation helps fight childhood hunger statewide with donation to food banks

The Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation donated \$27,395.55 to fight childhood hunger statewide. The donation benefits the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma's Food for Kids Program, which includes the Backpack Program.

Earlier this year, Oklahoma FFA members were encouraged to donate livestock shown at the Oklahoma Youth Expo to the Beef for Backpacks and Pork for Packs program. This program provides protein sticks for the Food for Kids Backpack Program statewide. FFA chapter members were also asked to add 25 cents to each fundraising package they sold for their chapter and contribute that 25 cents to fight childhood hunger in Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation collected the proceeds and also facilitated the donation of livestock to the Oklahoma Food Banks.

"I love this program because it encourages kids to help other kids," said Katie Fitzgerald, chief executive officer of the Regional Food Bank. "The Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation helps these young leaders by providing the resources they need to give back to help others. We are honored to be a part of this program."

In total, \$22,464.35 benefited the Regional Food Bank's Food for Kids program and was matched to help even more chronically hungry kids, thanks to the Food for Kids Match. As a result, children will be supported through the Food for



Chris Kidd, director of fundraising and public relations of the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation (third from right), presents a check for \$27,395.55 to benefit the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma's Food for Kids Program, which includes the Backpack Program.

Kids program for an entire school year in central and western Oklahoma. The other \$4,931.20 of the donation benefits the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma's Food for Kids program.

"To know that the efforts of so many FFA members across the state is helping other children is very rewarding," said Chris Kidd, director of fundraising and public relations of the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation. "To know that this donation

will be matched just makes it better. There isn't a better youth organization in our state than the FFA."

Through Sept. 30, donations made to Food for Kids will be matched – up to \$150,000. Make a donation online at foodforkids.us or call (405) 600-3136. This generous match is sponsored by the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma, Benvenuti's Ristorante, David Gorham and two anonymous donors.

Remaining August Area Meetings:

District 1:

August 21 at 6 p.m.

Guymon
Hunny's Barbecue
103 N. Main St.

August 22 at noon

Woodward
Big Dan's
3113 Williams Ave.

District 2:

August 24 at noon

Blair
Backdoor Steakhouse
400 US-283

District 4:

August 24 at 6 p.m.

Duncan
Duncan Golf Club
1800 Country Club Rd.

Woodward County Farm Bureau awards \$1,500 scholarships

The Woodward County Farm Bureau scholarship committee recently awarded \$1,500 college scholarships to three 2017 graduating seniors: Mattie Lewis (Mooreland High School), Cale Steadman (Sharon-Mutual High School) and Luke Vanderwork (Woodward High School). All three scholarship recipients plan to attend Oklahoma State University to pursue an agriculture degree. Congratulations and good luck to these three students!

OKFB WLC to host fall conference Sept. 15-16

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee will host its annual fall conference Sept. 15-16 at the Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City.

The two-day conference will feature a variety of speakers, informative sessions and fun activities.

Attendees are encouraged to bring any historical Farm Bureau memorabilia to display in celebration of OKFB's 75th anniversary. Conference attendees are also asked to come dressed in 1942 attire. Judges will award the best-dressed individual with an award at dinner on Friday, Sept. 15.

This year, the OKFB WLC's silent auction will benefit the OKFB WLC Nurse's Scholarship Fund, which offers three \$500 scholarships every year to qualifying students. Attendees may bring items to donate to the silent auction, which will be

held Friday morning.

To register for the conference, download the registration form found on the OKFB's website in the Application Center. After completing the form, please send a copy to Marcia Irvin, 2501 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105, by **Aug. 23**.

You will need to make your own room reservation no later than **Aug. 23** at the Embassy Suites OKC by calling (405) 239-3900.

If you would like to reserve a booth at the trade show featured at the event, contact Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2405 before August 23. There will be no charge for booth space, which includes one table.

All OKFB women are invited to attend. The most recent schedule for the event can be found on the OKFB website at okfarmbureau.org. For more information, contact Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2405.

OKLAHOMA FARMING AND RANCHING FOUNDATION & OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU LEGAL FOUNDATION'S



PLEASE CONTACT LEEANNA AT
LEEANNA.MCNALLY@OKFB.ORG OR CALL 405.530.2681

X AUGUST 25TH X

QUAIL RIDGE 2401 S MCLLOUD RD
MCLLOUD, OK

REGISTRATION BEGINS
LUNCH AT 11:30 AT 8:30 A.M.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online

The OKFB 75th anniversary website is now live! Interested in looking back at 75 years of Oklahoma Farm Bureau history? Visit the newly-launched OKFB 75th anniversary website at 75.okfarmbureau.org! You can browse through our photo galleries, read through Farm Bureau history and check out the blog for unique moments in OKFB history. Have a story to share? Make sure to submit it through the "Share Your Story" section of the website.

Watch as Sen. Roland Pederson tells about his first legislative session

While we were out in the field for wheat harvest with family farmer and state Sen. Roland Pederson, we rode in the combine and visited with him about his first session in the Oklahoma Senate. You can watch the full-length video on the OKFB Facebook page. Read more about Sen. Pederson and two other OKFB leaders in the latest *Oklahoma Country*.



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Okmulgee County Farm Bureau hosts open house to celebrate OKFB's 75th anniversary

Okmulgee County Farm Bureau held an open house Friday, Aug. 4, to celebrate Oklahoma Farm Bureau's 75th anniversary.

The county had a live radio broadcast from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on 1240 The Brew radio and invited community members to the office for free pizza and prizes. A few special guests stopped by, including Okmulgee City Mayor Steven Baldrige, Sen. Roger Thompson and Rep. Scott Fetgatter, all of whom stopped by to greet the Okmulgee County Farm Bureau members hosting the event.

Above right: Okmulgee County members Lena Henson (left) and Helen Harvey look at a copy of OKFB's 75th anniversary book. Right: Okmulgee County Insurance agent Jim Hall tells a 1240 The Brew radio host about Farm Bureau as OKFB District 9 Director Jim Meek looks on.



WLC hosts booth at Women in Ag Conference



Left: Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee member Mignon Bolay (second from left) and WLC Coordinator Marcia Irvin (second from right) speak with attendees about becoming an OKFB member at the Women in Agriculture and Small Business Conference Aug. 3-4 in Oklahoma City. Right: Keynote speaker Lauren Nelson, co-host of Discover Oklahoma and Miss America 2007, tells attendees about her travels around Oklahoma.

Signatures needed: Help ditch the WOTUS rule

Tell the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency you support the repeal of its 2015 "Waters of the United States" rule! Visit your county Farm Bureau office to sign the petition, which will support step one of a two-step process to repeal and return the rule to its pre-2015 language.

Finalized in August 2015, the WOTUS rule granted regulatory control to the EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over virtually all waters, no matter how small or seemingly unconnected. The agencies could have regulated any low spot where rainwater collects, including common farm ditches, ephemeral drainages, agricultural ponds and isolated wetlands in and near farms and ranches. The rule would have given the agencies new authority to regulate land use.

A two-step process will rectify the 2015 WOTUS rule:

Step One. This proposed rule, which is the subject of the petition, follows a presidential executive order to return the WOTUS to its pre-2015 language. **Step Two.** In step two, the agencies will begin deliberations and outreach to citizens regarding a re-evaluation and revision of the definition of "Waters of the United States." Step two is not part of this rulemaking.

Your signature on the petition says you support step one, rescinding and returning the 2015 WOTUS rule to what it was prior to 2015. For additional information contact Marla Peek at (405) 523-2437 or marla.peek@okfb.org.

Member Benefits

Office Depot

Do you have kids who are headed back to school? Check out the OKFB discounts at Office Depot! As an OKFB member, you can receive savings of up to 80 percent on office and school supplies. Shop online or go to the nearest Office Depot location to take advantage of these special discounted prices on product and services. All online orders are delivered next day with free shipping on orders more than \$50. Visit the OKFB website to print your own Office Depot savings card.

www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits

Calendar

Shotgun Shoot Fundraiser

August 25 • McLoud, Oklahoma
Contact: LeeAnna McNally (405) 530-2681

YF&R State Fair Livestock Judging Contest

September 14 • Oklahoma City
Contact: Zac Swartz (405) 523-2406

OKFB Women's Leadership Committee Fall Conference

September 15-16 • Oklahoma City
Contact: Marcia Irvin (405) 523-2405

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STAFF DIRECTORY

Interim Executive Director

Thad Doye 405-523-2438

Senior Director of
Corporate Communications

Dustin Mielke 405-530-2640

Senior Director of
Policy Communications

Hannah Nemecek 405-523-2346

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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.

OKFB launches the Votemobile in May 1952

During the early years of Oklahoma Farm Bureau, the number of registered voters nationwide was a concern. OKFB reported that only 51 percent of eligible voters went to the polls in the 1948 presidential election. The American Farm Bureau Federation suggested the use of educational programs and contests to increase the number of voters, particularly in rural areas.

In June 1952, OKFB members implemented a new, creative plan to advocate for more voter awareness. OKFB's Votemobile, a truck with sound reinforcement equipment installed, toured the state, spotlighting registration dates and the importance of voting.

The Votemobile attracted nationwide attention after its official launch on the south steps of the state Capitol on May 26,

where approximately 500 people gathered to watch the ceremony. Gov. Johnston Murray closed the ceremony by calling on all Oklahomans to make themselves eligible to vote and to go to the polls in all elections.

"In the critical months before the fall of France, the people stayed away from the polls, thinking that in this way they would register their dislike of their government," Governor Murray said. "But the communist did not fail to vote and got a strong voice in government as a result. That must not happen in America."

After the ceremony had ended, Governor Murray officially launched the campaign by pushing the red, white and blue vehicle a few feet. The event received media attention from WKY-TV as well as most state radio stations and newspapers.



Buck Garvin (left), southeast district insurance fieldman, temporarily left his duties to pilot the Votemobile on its statewide tour. His helper on the tour was Leon Moore (right), a student at Northeastern State College in Tahlequah. The photo was taken at their first stop in Purcell.