

Oklahoma



The Magazine of the
Oklahoma Farm Bureau
© Winter 2018 • Vol. 71 No. 1

Country

Upholding our *best* traditions

Recognizing nine **Oklahoma Farm & Ranch Families** whose determination and commitment make rural Oklahoma strong.

Planting seeds for the future

Catching up with OKFB's new president

75 years strong

OKFB's 2017 convention recognizes progress

Securing our food supply

Looking forward to the 2018 farm bill



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Oklahoma Country

Volume 71 No. 1
Winter 2018
(ISSN 1544-6476)

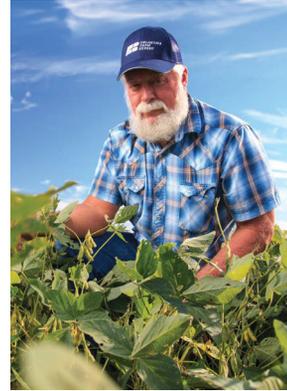
EDITORIAL TEAM

Dustin Mielke

Senior Director of Corporate Communications

Hannah Davis

Senior Director of Policy Communications



ON THE COVER

Jonathan Scheffel of Mayes County inspects a soybean crop on his family's northeastern Oklahoma farm. The Scheffels were named the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee District Six Farm and Ranch Family at the organization's annual meeting in November.

HIDDEN NUMBER WORTH \$50

One member family's Oklahoma Farm Bureau membership number is hidden somewhere in this issue of *Oklahoma Country* and could earn that member family \$50. To claim the cash prize, the member family must find its own hidden membership number and contact Hannah Davis before the last day of the month, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (405) 523-2346.

The OKFB membership number hidden somewhere in *Oklahoma Country* must match the number on the face of your individual OKFB membership card for you to claim the cash prize. The membership number that appears on your magazine's mailing label is not the hidden number, but also must match the hidden number for you to claim the cash prize.

Oklahoma Country is published four times per year in January, April, July and October by Oklahoma Farm Bureau, 2501 N. Stiles, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3126, Telephone: (405) 523-2300.

Postmaster: Send address corrections to:
Oklahoma Country, P.O.B. 53332, Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3332.

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Stronger. Together.

In rural Oklahoma, a neighbor is not just a person next door or down the road. A neighbor shows up in a time of need to offer help, whether they come from across the street or across the state. Oklahoma Farm Bureau's farm and ranch families come together to provide a strong voice for agriculture and rural Oklahoma, ensuring our state's best traditions are passed down to the next generation. Because growing food, fiber and fuel for a growing world is just one way Farm Bureau members help their neighbors



www.okfarmbureau.org   

We are rural Oklahoma.

Featured: Oklahoma Farm Bureau's Farm & Ranch Family Recognition Recipients

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2017 OKFB Annual Meeting Review

A recap of the 2017 Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual Meeting held Nov. 10-12 in Norman, Oklahoma, including new leaders, updated grassroots policy, award results and more.



PRESIDENTIALLY SPEAKING

Growing together

By Rodd Moesel

President, Oklahoma Farm Bureau & Affiliated Companies

Growing things has always been part of my life. My wife, Dona, and I commit ourselves daily to growing vibrant plants in our Oklahoma City greenhouse as well as helping people in our local community reach their fullest potential.

It is a blessing to now bring that passion for growing to Oklahoma Farm Bureau as president of our state's largest and most impactful farm organization.

To continue the growth of the organization that we all have poured so much love, care and effort into, we have some exciting opportunities to bolster OKFB's position in our agriculture community and our state as we provide bright ideas and visionary leadership.

One area that we look to grow this year is our staff who work daily on Farm Bureau's behalf all around our state. While we have a great team of dedicated people who have a love for agriculture, we need to grow our staff to ensure we have the right individuals with the right talents to support our organization. The charge we have as an organization is great, and we need additional staff members in Oklahoma City and around our state to ensure our voice is heard and our policy and organizational goals are brought to fruition.

Achievements are not won in a vacuum, and in agriculture we need to band together to speak with a strong, unified voice. In Oklahoma, we have a wide variety of farm organizations that represent all facets of our industry; many of our members belong not only to Farm Bureau, but also to other farm and agriculture groups. Working together with these groups, we can present a unified, consistent voice for our industry from

the state Capitol to our local communities. Just as we all need help and cooperation from our neighbors, these working relationships with our fellow agriculture groups are vital.

Most importantly, Farm Bureau is a member-based farm organization. Our staff and our agriculture coalitions are

important, but the work our members do each and every day in their local communities is vital for building and growing our organization. From sharing the true story of Oklahoma agriculture with our neighbors and friends at church to being visible and active throughout our counties, our organization will grow when our members are leading the way.

We have an important story to tell in Farm Bureau. It is the story of the vibrant rural communities that uphold our state's best traditions. It is the story of how food, fiber and fuel is produced for consumers around our state, our nation and our world. It is the story of how we care for our land, our livestock and our families. It is our story, and we

need to come together to tell it.

We all have a passion for growing things. From wheat crops to chicken houses, from tomato plants on the back patio to corn in the back quarter, and from farmers markets to the Oklahoma City Stockyards, Farm Bureau members are focused on growing. As the farm organization our state needs, we can help build Farm Bureau by stepping up, speaking out and cultivating relationships that will allow us to grow together. **FB**

“As the farm organization our state needs, we can help build Farm Bureau by stepping up, speaking out and cultivating relationships that will allow us to grow together

— Rodd Moesel



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INSURANCE MATTERS

Weathering storms

By Gary Buckner

Executive Vice President and General Manager

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company

As we turn the page of the past year and look to 2018, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank our policyholders for allowing us to continue to service and protect your homes, livelihoods and those dearest to you. This year proved to be one of the most challenging years not only for Oklahoma Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company but also for the insurance industry as a whole. According to the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America, this year proved to be the third-worst storm season for the world as a whole. This year included earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, hail, tornadoes and wildfires. In the United States alone, this storm season was the worst since 2011.

This year reminded us of the important things and the fragility of life. As not only representatives of OFBMIC but also policyholders that include mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters, we watched helplessly as families and individuals lost homes, possession and even lives to natural disasters. We

also witnessed the generous spirit of so many who jumped in to aid in the relief efforts of the various events throughout the country. In our own state, we refer to this spirit as the “Oklahoma Standard.”

My wish for you in 2018 is as the cacophony of life quietly fades that

“My wish for you in 2018 is as the cacophony of life quietly fades that peace and joy may abound, and we welcome a new year full of opportunity and happiness no matter the circumstances.”

— Gary Buckner

peace and joy may abound, and we welcome a new year full of opportunity and happiness no matter the circumstances.

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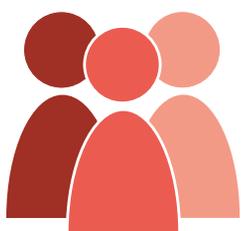
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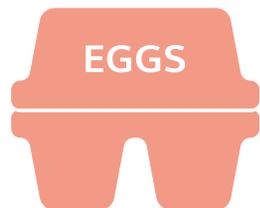
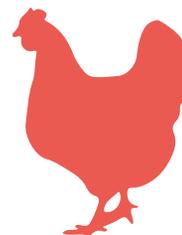
POULTRY IN OKLAHOMA

Primarily located in eastern Oklahoma, the state's poultry industry consists primarily of broilers and egg-laying hens with a production value of \$731 million in 2016.



THE POULTRY INDUSTRY CREATES AND SUPPORTS MORE THAN
27,000 JOBS
 FOR OKLAHOMANS.

IN 2016, OKLAHOMA CHICKEN FARMERS RAISED
210 MILLION BROILERS
 OR CHICKEN RAISED FOR MEAT.



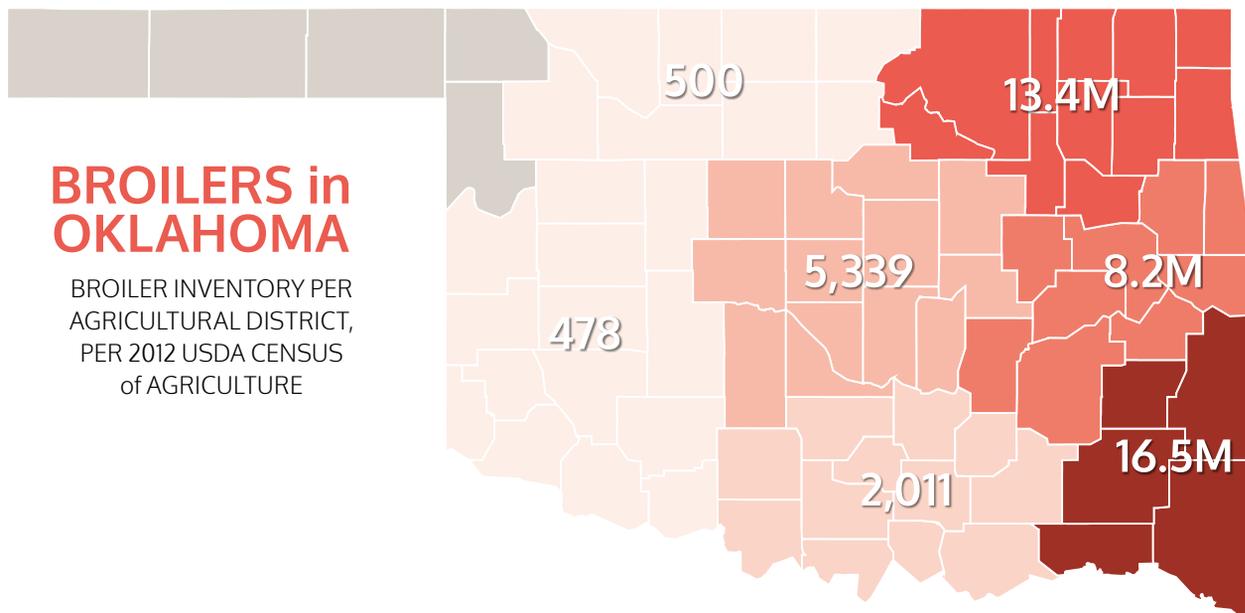
692 MILLION
 OKLAHOMA EGGS WERE PRODUCED IN 2016, BY
2.7 MILLION LAYING HENS.



BROILERS ARE THE
NO. 3
 LEADING COMMODITY IN OKLAHOMA.

BROILERS in OKLAHOMA

BROILER INVENTORY PER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT, PER 2012 USDA CENSUS of AGRICULTURE



SOURCES: USDA NASS, THE POULTRY FEDERATION.



YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS

2018 AFBF YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS

Competition Awards



The YF&R program helps young members shape their future and American agriculture through leadership development and personal growth opportunities. Three competitions enable members to showcase their leadership experience, communication skills and successful business plans as they compete against the best of the best from each state Farm Bureau.

As part of the YF&R competitions, the top four competitors in the Achievement Award, Discussion Meet and Excellence in Ag areas will receive:

1ST PLACE

WINNER: A new Ford truck and paid registration to the AFBF YF&R Leadership Conference in Reno, Nevada courtesy of:

- Achievement Award: Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance
- Discussion Meet: Farm Bureau Financial Services
- Excellence in Ag: Country Financial

2ND PLACE

RUNNER-UP: Case IH Farmall 50A, courtesy of Case IH.

3RD PLACE

THIRD PLACE: Case IH 40" Combination Roll Cabinet & Top Chest and \$500 Case IH parts card, courtesy of Case IH plus \$2,000 of Stanley Black & Decker merchandise*
Courtesy of Stanley Black & Decker. * (PROTO, DeWalt, Stanley, Lenox & Irwin)

4TH PLACE

FOURTH PLACE: Case IH 40" Combination Roll Cabinet & Top Chest and a \$500 Case IH parts card, courtesy of Case IH.

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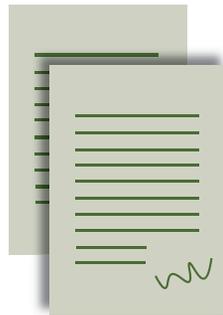
Thanks to strong agricultural policy like the farm bill, our nation enjoys the safest, highest-quality and most affordable food in the world.

Americans today enjoy unparalleled access to a variety of high-quality, nutritious and affordable food. Thanks to modern technology, the nation's farmers and ranchers produce more food than ever before—using less land and fewer inputs. But it did not happen without the help of strong and sound agricultural policy.

As Congress begins the extraordinary process of renewing the legislation throughout 2018, Oklahoma Farm Bureau will feature a series of informational articles on the farm bill and why it is absolutely vital to sustaining the quality of life Americans have come to enjoy.

THE FARM BILL BEGAN AS THE **AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1933**

IN RESPONSE TO THE GREAT DEPRESSION, HISTORIC DROUGHT AND LOW COMMODITY PRICES.



CONGRESS TYPICALLY RENEWS THE LEGISLATION **EVERY FIVE YEARS.**

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DEVELOP NEW TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.



STRENGTHEN RURAL COMMUNITIES.



BRING NUTRITIOUS FOOD TO AMERICANS.

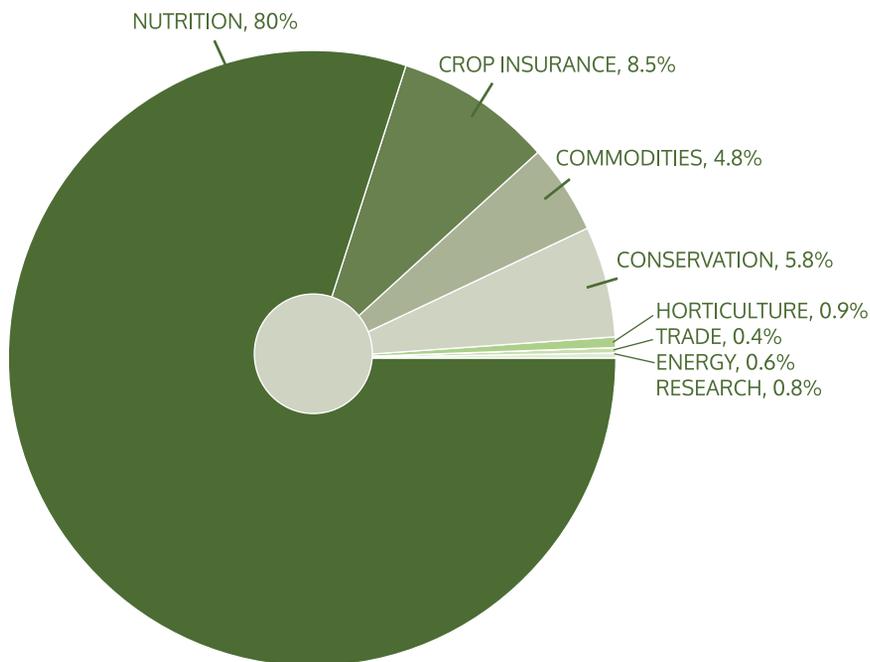


WHAT'S IN THE FARM BILL?

THE 2014 FARM BILL CONTAINED 12 TITLES, COVERING EVERYTHING FROM CONSERVATION TO NUTRITION, AND CROP INSURANCE TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT.



THE FARM BILL IS ON TARGET TO SAVE **\$100 BILLION**, MORE THAN FOUR TIMES WHAT WAS EXPECTED.



DID YOU KNOW?

THE FARM BILL CONTAINS...

- Support for farmers markets and local food
- Funding for agricultural research and extension at public and land-grant universities
- Programs for international food aid
- Grants for rural business development, healthcare and infrastructure
- Assistance for farmers, ranchers and rural business owners in integrating renewable and energy-efficient systems.

Sources: U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, U.S. House Committee on Agriculture, American Farm Bureau Federation and Congressional Research Service.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 2018 FARM BILL AT WWW.AGRICULTURE.HOUSE.GOV/FARMBILL.



UPH

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PORTRAITS AND STORIES
BY DUSTIN MIELKE





OLDING OUR BEST ADDITIONS

THE FARM AND RANCH FAMILIES OF OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU



THEY PRODUCE FOOD AND FIBER FOR THE WORLD. THEY CARE FOR THEIR LAND AND ANIMALS. THEY LOVE THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES. THEY ARE THE LIFEblood OF OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURE.

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women’s Leadership Committee this year honored nine such families with its District Farm and Ranch Family Recognition award at the organization’s annual meeting on Nov. 10.

The program recognizes a farm and ranch family in each of OKFB’s nine districts who uphold the best traditions of Oklahoma agriculture and rural Oklahoma as they raise food and fiber for our state and beyond.

“Our Women’s Leadership Committee is proud to honor these families who have dedicated themselves to growing food for our world,” said Kitty Beavers, OKFB WLC Chairman. “Farming and ranching is an important way of life for our state, and these families deserve recognition for contributing to rural Oklahoma as they instill in their children the values of hard work and dedication that is needed throughout our state.”

On the next few pages, OKFB has highlighted each of the nine farm and ranch families and the work they do to produce food and fiber for the world.

britt & k'dawn
HILTON

district one

Britt and K'Dawn Hilton and their young sons Jax, age 6, and Cal, age 4, raise cattle, wheat and milo on the family's farm in the Oklahoma panhandle.

"We consider it a privilege to raise our kids in agriculture," K'dawn said.

The couple each have family roots in agriculture in Beaver County as they farm and ranch alongside their families.

"My great-great granddad settled out here in the late 1800s and our family has been here ever since then," Britt said.

"We've been here a while, and we hope to continue on for years to come."

The family was greatly impacted by the spring 2017 wildfires that swept across the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles and southwestern Kansas. While the fires were devastating, Britt said recovery efforts have been helped by ample summer rains.

"Our ground has been able to start recovering," he said. "We're getting fences built. We're getting cattle put back in pastures that were burned.

"The fire itself was devastating, but everybody's getting through it and we look forward to continuing on."

With a long tradition of agriculture as their foundation and a passion for the future of agriculture, neither Britt nor K'Dawn would choose any other lifestyle.

"We love it out here and we wouldn't want to live anywhere else," Britt said. "We were given the opportunity by our family before us to come out here and make a living off the land, and we'd like to continue that and give our boys a chance to do that in the future."

"I think I'll feel like it's been a success if looking back years and years from now we've been able to stay in agriculture

successfully and have this opportunity to pass this on to our children," K'Dawn said.

The Hiltons are members of the Fairview United Methodist Church in Slapout, Oklahoma, and Britt Hilton serves on the Gate/Knowles volunteer fire department.



dale & lori
KENNEMER

district two

Dale and Lori Kennemer, along with their children Bailey Kennemer and Derek and Levi Parker, raise cattle and grow wheat, grain sorghum and alfalfa in a no-till production system on their diversified Beckham County farm and ranch.

Both Dale and Lori are fourth-generation agriculturalists. Dale grew up near the family's current farm and Lori grew up on a dairy farm in northeastern Oklahoma. There's no other way of life the couple would want for themselves and for their children.

"This is what I feel like I was meant to do," Dale said. "There's not a value I can place on growing up on a farm and learning the sense of family and the work ethic that you learn on the farm. The sense of family that we get working together is not replaceable to me."

He said the family focuses on conservation and improving the land using no-till practices and beneficial cover crops to increase soil health and the environment.

"We're trying to find a balance between profitability and conservation and preserving the land and making it better than we found it," Dale said. "Through the cover crops we feel like we're rebuilding and providing a better future for the soil and a

better profit center."

"I would just like to instill the values that Dale's parents and my parents gave to us to our children as well," Lori said. "I just have fond memories of growing up on the farm and I would like our kids to have the same thing."

Lori works off the farm as Sayre Public Schools' Director of Special Education and speech pathologist. Dale serves on the Beckham County Farm Bureau board of directors and the family are active members of the First Baptist Church of Elk City.



bruce & mary
WILSON

district three

Bruce and Mary Wilson raise wheat, cattle, alfalfa and grass hay on land that has been passed down for generations through both families.

“Both these farms have been in the Wilson family for 50-60 years, and the tradition of being the Wilson Farms west of Luther is very important to me,” Bruce said.

The Wilsons raised two sons on the family farm and now have seven grandchildren who come to help on the family’s land from time to time. Even away from the farm, the Wilsons love the rural lifestyle that allows them to be close to all their family.

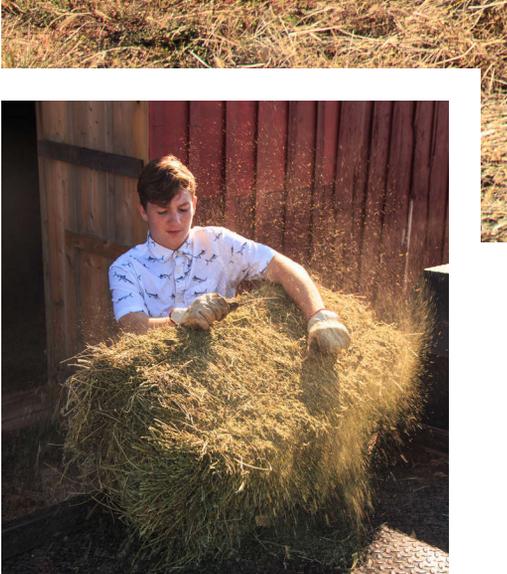
“Our oldest grandson, Jace, he has gotten out on the tractor and he’s helped haul hay as well as the other boys who have helped as well,” Mary said. “It’s good to see them doing what their dads did when they were growing up.”

“We’re living the dream,” Bruce said. “It’s great to be able to watch our grandkids play football every week.”

In addition to the farm, both Bruce and Mary have had long careers in education. Bruce worked more than 38 years in education, including time as superintendent of Luther schools. Mary has worked more than 40 years in education and still works two days a week. With so much going on, Bruce remembers advice from a family member when he thinks about all the family’s efforts.

“My uncle Charlie told me never to not have something to do,” Bruce said. “I think the most rewarding thing about farming is actually seeing something growing in the soil. It gives you a purpose in life trying to feed the world.”

Bruce serves on the Oklahoma County Farm Bureau board of directors and the Wilsons are active members of Luther United Methodist Church.





clarence & betty
VACHE

district four

Clarence and Betty Vache have dedicated their lives to constantly improving the land upon which they raise cattle and grow wheat.

The couple raised three children on the farm, all of whom have helped throughout the years. Today, the Vache's son, Mike, farms alongside Clarence, carrying on the tradition of innovating and improving the family operation.

Clarence was one of the early proponents of planting Bermudagrass in the early 1950s for cattle forage in an effort to produce better beef for consumers.

"First of all, before we grow beef, it takes nutrition," he said of his farming philosophy. "In order to gain pounds, you've got to have protein. Of course, native grass is very low in protein, and some of our varieties, though the right management, have enough protein that we found the gain has far surpassed that we could do (with native grasses)."

Clarence prides himself on improving land and ensuring it is well-cared-for and productive.

His innovations on the family's farm have spread to son Mike who has incorporated precision agriculture systems into the family's equipment and implemented new cattle marketing programs to help the family farm grow well into the future.

The couple recently commemorated their 70th wedding anniversary, celebrating a partnership that has served the



Cotton-County natives well.

"We've always been partners in everything we do," Betty said. "We have a lot behind us that we can be proud of. And we're looking for some more good years."

Clarence has served on the Cotton County Farm Bureau board for decades, and Betty served on the Oklahoma Farm Bureau State Women's Committee. Through their time in Farm Bureau, Clarence and Betty have attended numerous state and national conventions as well as legislative trips to Oklahoma City and Washington, D.C. The Vaches also are active members in their local Baptist church.

terry

CALDWELL

district five

Terry Caldwell raises cattle on a Choctaw County ranch he first purchased through a Farm Service Agency loan program in the 1980s. He prides himself on the improvements he has made to his property, including cleaning up pastures, replacing and improving fences and increasing productivity.

“When I bought it, it was a total wreck,” Caldwell said. “Nobody had used it for six to seven years, at least. It’s taken many years to get it to the point where it is today.”

Caldwell raised his three children on the farm, a way of life he is proud to continue as he now has grandchildren who come to visit the farm.

“When they come visit, guess where they want to go – they want to come to my place,” Caldwell said. “Guess what they want to do – they want to go run around in the pasture. They want to come see the baby calves.

“You’ve got to keep your agricultural roots because living in the big city – there’s some glamor there. But you know what? You just don’t have enough room.”

Caldwell also runs a real estate business in nearby Hugo, which allows him to connect young people who want to get a start in agriculture with properties and programs that can help them achieve their dreams of farming and ranching.

“I have worked with quite a few young people in the area,” Caldwell said. “Any time I get a young person, I try to help them as much as I can.”

Caldwell said he helps provide expertise to help young agriculturalists navigate FSA loan programs and find properties that will work for them.

“I try to steer them to something that will pay out, they’ll be happy with, and it’s something FSA can loan money on,” he said.

It all is part of his passion for agriculture and seeing the way of life he loves passed along to others.

“Agriculture’s really the backbone of this country,” he said.

Caldwell has served as Choctaw County Farm Bureau president for the past eight years. He also serves as Choctaw County Republican Party vice president, on the Hugo Pro Rodeo board and in his local church.





jonathan & bessie
SCHEFFEL

district six

Jonathan and Bessie Scheffel have a cow-calf herd and raise wheat and soybeans in Mayes County. The fourth generation to farm in the area, the couple is proud to have raised their three children – Jacob, Jeremy and Jessica – on the farm.

“There’s no better place to raise a family than in the country and on the farm,” Jonathan said. “I told our kids that they don’t have to be farmers, but I want them to know what it takes to produce food, where it comes from and to have that appreciation for agriculture.”

“Family has always been really, really, really important to us,” Bessie said. “Of course, God’s first and family is second.”

Education has long been a priority for the Scheffel family as they always are looking for new ways to improve their farming practices and produce the highest-quality products possible.

Their love for education even extended into their local community for years as they previously hosted school groups on their farm to share their story in agriculture.

The Scheffels’ oldest son, Jacob, has focused his own life-



long love of agriculture into a cow herd of his own, and he is very involved in the family’s farming operation. Jacob shared his passion for agriculture through a one-year mission trip to Senegal, Africa, where he helped teach local residents how to better grow food.

Off the farm, Bessie provides in-home care for elderly residents of her community, a job that she takes on as a calling.

“It’s an honor to be able to do what I do,” she said. “I feel like it’s the gift that God gave me.”

Jonathan has been a Farm Bureau member most of his life, and he currently serves as Mayes County Farm Bureau president. Previously, he served on the county’s Farm Service Agency committee for 28 years, and the couple was chosen as American Soybean Association DuPont Young Leaders. Bessie is involved with community quilting and sewing groups, through which she donates finished projects to community groups. The Scheffels are actively involved in their local churches in a variety of ways.

wayne & carla

HAFNER

district seven

Wayne and Carla Hafner grow wheat, corn, soybeans and cotton and raise cattle on their farm near Orlando in Noble County. Wayne grew up on the family farm, but his personal agricultural enterprise got a jumpstart early on when he took over a neighbor's rent land.

"When I was in high school, I started working for a neighbor," he said. "When he decided to retire, he worked it out that I could take over all the land he was renting. In one year, I went from about 50 acres of ground to about 1,600."

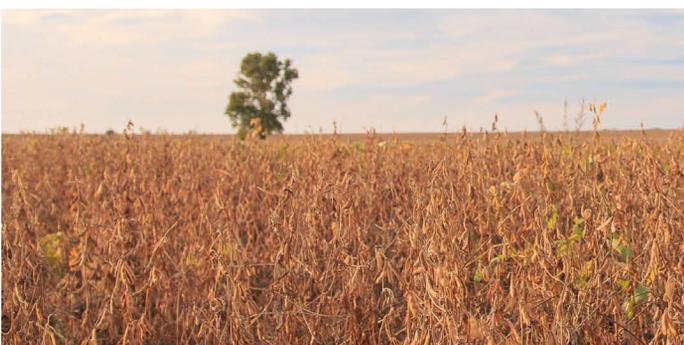
Through the years, the Hafners have looked for opportunities to grow and expand their farm while taking care of the land they love. The family moved to no-till farming in the late 1990s, providing improved production and soil health.

"We've been doing it now since about 1998," Wayne said of adopting no-till. "It's been good - you learn something every year. The change in the soil has been tremendous."

The opportunity to raise two children on the family farm - and now to have their grandchildren work alongside them from time-to-time - is the fulfillment of a goal Carla had in her childhood. Coming from a military family, she had a dream of a slower-paced lifestyle in the country.

"At a young age, I said, 'When I grow up, I'm going to be in the country,'" she said. "I did it, and I can't think of a better place to be, a better place to raise kids, grandkids, and work the ground and be dirt-rich."

The Hafners are active members of their local church. Wayne serves on the Noble County Farm Bureau board, on his rural water district board, and as a volunteer firefighter. Carla is a member of the Noble County Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee, and works off the farm as a dental assistant.



john & janice
STOTTS

district eight



John and Janice Stotts, along with their two adult sons, John Carl and Jimmy, raise cattle, wheat, soybeans, alfalfa hay and corn on their Pottawatomie-County farm.

The family integrates precision agriculture practices into their farm, using satellite imagery and variable-rate seed and fertilizer application to best steward their natural resources.

“We check the biomass and then we’re able to decide what ground needs a little extra fertilizer and what doesn’t,” John said. “That way we can put our efforts where they need to be instead of a blanket application.”

“We can plant heavier seed in the better ground and fewer seeds in the drier ground and get a more consistent yield.”

The couple both grew up around agriculture in Major County and took the first opportunity they had to start their own operation with the goal of raising their family in agriculture. Their sons are actively involved in the family farm, bringing new knowledge and ideas to help improve the land that the couple hopes will be the family’s lasting legacy.

“The biggest thing I raised the farm is my two boys,” John said. “That was our big goal: to move out of Oklahoma City and raise them in the country.”

“It was farming that brought us together,” Janice said. “Agriculture has always been our background and our family’s legacy. We hope it will continue to be the Stotts family legacy.”

The couple each have held off-farm jobs through the years, including Janice’s time as an English teacher in McCloud and her later career working for a state legislator at the state Capitol in Oklahoma City. While John held off-farm jobs in the construction equipment business for years, agriculture has always been his passion.

“It’s the thrill going and finding that new baby calf in the pasture, working all night in the hay field and seeing the sun rise over a bunch of square bales that you need to get hauled in,” John said. “It’s very fulfilling.”

John has served on the Pottawatomie County Farm Bureau board of directors for more than 30 years as well as serving on various state Farm Bureau committees. The family also proudly supports local education programs and community efforts.





kenneth & debby
FISHER

district nine

Kenneth and Debby Fisher have a diversified farm in Creek County where they raise cattle, wheat, corn and soybeans, and operate a feed mill on their farm. The feed mill provides custom mixes to area farmers and provides the Fishers with an opportunity to add value to the crops they raise.

The couple's six children play a large role on the farm. Sons Luke and Andrew have agricultural enterprises of their own, including vegetable production and a hair sheep herd. Daughters Elisa and Emily return to the farm to help with various aspects of the operation, and younger daughters Anna and Madalyn help in the feed store and around the farm in addition to managing their own flock of 25 wool sheep.

With a family farm history dating back to 1905, the Fishers are proud to carry on the tradition of agriculture.

"Each generation does it in their own way," Kenneth said of farming. "Times change, and we learn and improve each generation."

While the Fishers are always ready for new opportunities, they believe old-fashioned principles are the keys to success.

"We couldn't do it without the rain, the sunshine and the ability to work together," Andrew said. "All farmers that are successful know that they put in long hours and the work never ends – nor do we expect it to."

"When you've planted a field of wheat or corn, it really has a good feeling that's all done right and it's planted well," Kenneth said. "We love the rural living. Working with animals and crops is a joy to do every day."

Kenneth serves as Creek County Farm Bureau treasurer, and the family is heavily involved in their local church. **FB**





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FARM BUREAU**

CONGRESSIONAL *Action Tour*

APRIL 17–22, 2018 | WASHINGTON, D.C.

Travel to the nation's Capitol with Oklahoma Farm Bureau to advocate for farmers and ranchers on Capitol Hill.

For more information, contact the OKFB Public Policy Department at (405) 530-2681.

Foundation, OKFB Women's Leadership Committee donate agriculture books to teachers across the state

Six Oklahoma teachers were presented with baskets of agriculture books during the OKFB Annual Meeting Nov. 11 in Norman, Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee partnered with the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation to sponsor this year's Bushels for Books program, which donates bushel baskets of accurate agriculture books to teachers and schools across the state.

"The Foundation is dedicated to educating others about our state's farming and ranching community," said Jeremy Rich, president of the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation. "We're proud to support teachers across the state in educating the future of Oklahoma."

Applications were accepted from teachers across the state, and winners were chosen by the WLC state board.

"As farmers and ranchers, we long for today's students to be informed and excited about agriculture," said Kitty Beavers, OKFB WLC chairman. "We hope that providing these books to teachers and students will play a small part in fulfilling that goal."

A library media specialist at Lone Star Public Schools, Kala Butler will supply the books in her elementary library which serves students from preschool through fourth grade. Teachers at the school also will use the books to supplement curriculum covering science, geography, nutrition and more. Butler hopes that by understanding how food is produced, her students will appreciate their food.

Though many students in her school live on a farm or have parents involved in agriculture, Vanessa Champion, an early childhood teacher at Big Pasture Public Schools, hopes the accurate agriculture books will inspire students to one day pursue a career in agriculture. She plans to use the books to teach students about food production from seed to store.

Cheyenne Dickerson, a second-grade teacher at Waurika Elementary School, hopes the agriculture books from the OKFB WLC and the Foundation will diversify her students' learning experiences and deepen their understanding of agriculture. She anticipates the books will help her students learn about the farmers and ranchers in their community.

Eager to help her students fall in love with reading, Lana Farney of Muldrow Public Schools will use the agriculture books to teach reading skills. The books will serve as a tool to increase vocabulary and listening skills and foster good conversations.

A reading specialist at Asher Public Schools, Kim Holman is excited to welcome new agricultural books to the small, rural school's library. She aims to create educational agricultural activities to supplement the books like planting a garden or touring a local farm.

Debbie Shelton, Ponca City High School's head librarian, will use the books to provide accurate and up-to-date information for students to use in research projects. The donated books will be available in the school library for ninth-through 12th-grade students interested in agriculture.

The Bushels for Books program takes donated bushels of any commodity crop as well as monetary donations from Oklahoma farmers and provides accurate agriculture books to elementary schools across the state. **FF**



Left: OKFB WLC Chair Kitty Beavers presents books to Debbie Shelton of Ponca City alongside Darlene Engelking of Kay County. Right: Beavers and the Foundation's Chris Kidd present books to Jefferson County members for Waurika Public Schools.



Top: OKFB WLC Chair Kitty Beavers (left) presents a bushel basket of books for an Oklahoma teacher. Bottom: OKFB WLC Chair Kitty Beavers (far left) helps present a bushel basket of books to Lana Farney, a librarian at Muldrow Public Schools. Farney plans to use the books to provide accurate and up-to-date information for ninth through 12th grade students to use in research projects.

BUSHEL FOR BOOKS RECIPIENTS

The following educators received a bushel basket of accurate agriculture books for their students from the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee and the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation.

Kala Butler

Library Media Specialist
Lone Star Public Schools

Vanessa Champion

Early Childhood Teacher
Big Pasture Public Schools

Cheyenne Dickerson

Second-grade Teacher
Waurika Public Schools

Lana Farney

Librarian
Muldrow Public Schools

Kim Holman

Reading Specialist
Asher Public Schools

Debbie Shelton

Head Librarian
Ponca City Public Schools

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FOUNDATION AND THE OKFB WLC BUSHEL FOR BOOKS PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT WWW.OKFARMINGANDRANCHINGFOUNDATION.ORG.

CONSIDER THE BENEFITS

Sales, service and soap since 1973

Hotsy of Oklahoma partners with Oklahoma Farm Bureau to offer all members a discount on power washers and other products.



Above: An attendee to a Hotsy of Oklahoma open house in Enid poses for a photo with the Hotsy Raminator. Hotsy's newest location in Tulsa will host an open house event on Thursday, May 3 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Family-owned and operated since 1973, Hotsy of Oklahoma has made its mark throughout Oklahoma as the trusted source for farm-tough products and unparalleled service by providing cleaning and heating equipment solutions for a variety of professionals and industries including agricultural institutions, farmers and ranchers.

Hotsy of Oklahoma is the No. 1 provider in the state for Hotsy pressure washers, products and services. In addition, Hotsy of Oklahoma is recognized as a Hotsy Certified All Star Dealer – a true testament of exceptional standards.

“The Hotsy of Oklahoma team is committed to providing our customers with the best possible solutions catered to their specific needs, making jobs easier, safer and more efficient,” said Billy Menasco, vice president of Hotsy of Oklahoma.

When heavy-duty cleaning is needed, Hotsy delivers the most rugged and durable line of pressure washers on the market, backed by excellent warranties. In addition to pressure washers, Hotsy of Oklahoma proudly carries Clean Burn used oil furnaces and boilers, Cuda and JRI Aqueous parts washers, and WaterMaze water treatment recycling and oily water separators. They also carry heavy-duty detergents, parts and accessories, custom products, used equipment, dairy hygiene and sanitation products, a manure treatment program, and chemical dispensing and application equipment.

Hotsy of Oklahoma recently began offering a line of manure treatment chemicals for both hog and dairy operations. Hotsy's manure treatment program chemically influences the aerobic digestion process of manure, minimizing the release of nitrogen and hydrogen. This process dramatically reduces odors both inside and outside of buildings, resulting in calmer, healthier animals while positively impacting feed conversion rates.

This year, Hotsy of Oklahoma has partnered with Oklahoma Farm Bureau to provide all members a 15-percent discount on select Hotsy pressure washers and Clean Burn products.

“Hotsy is proud to be the official pressure washer of Oklahoma Farm Bureau and to offer these exclusive savings to members,” Menasco said. “We look forward to strengthening our



bond with the agriculture industry through this partnership.”

With sales representatives and factory-certified service technicians located throughout the state, Hotsy of Oklahoma provides support, maintenance and service at their facilities in Enid and Tulsa as well as at customer locations. In addition, the Hotsy of Oklahoma team will travel to customer locations for free product demonstrations with no obligation.

Hotsy of Oklahoma’s newest location at 4158 S. 70th E. Ave. in Tulsa recently opened to better serve clientele across the region. A special open-house event featuring the Hotsy Raminator Monster Truck, exclusive offers and refreshments will be held Thursday, May 3 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“Everyone is invited to join us for our Tulsa Open House to experience what our family-owned business is all about,” Menasco said. “Families will love getting up-close-and-personal with the Hotsy Raminator and the drivers, plus there will be plenty of pulled pork barbecue and great deals you won’t want to miss.” 



Above: Dennis Voth of the Hotsy of Oklahoma team stands with several Hotsy models. Hotsy is the No. 1 industrial pressure washer brand in North America. OKFB members can save 15 percent on pressure washers and Clean Burn products.

VISIT HOTSY OF OKLAHOMA'S NEWEST LOCATION IN TULSA!

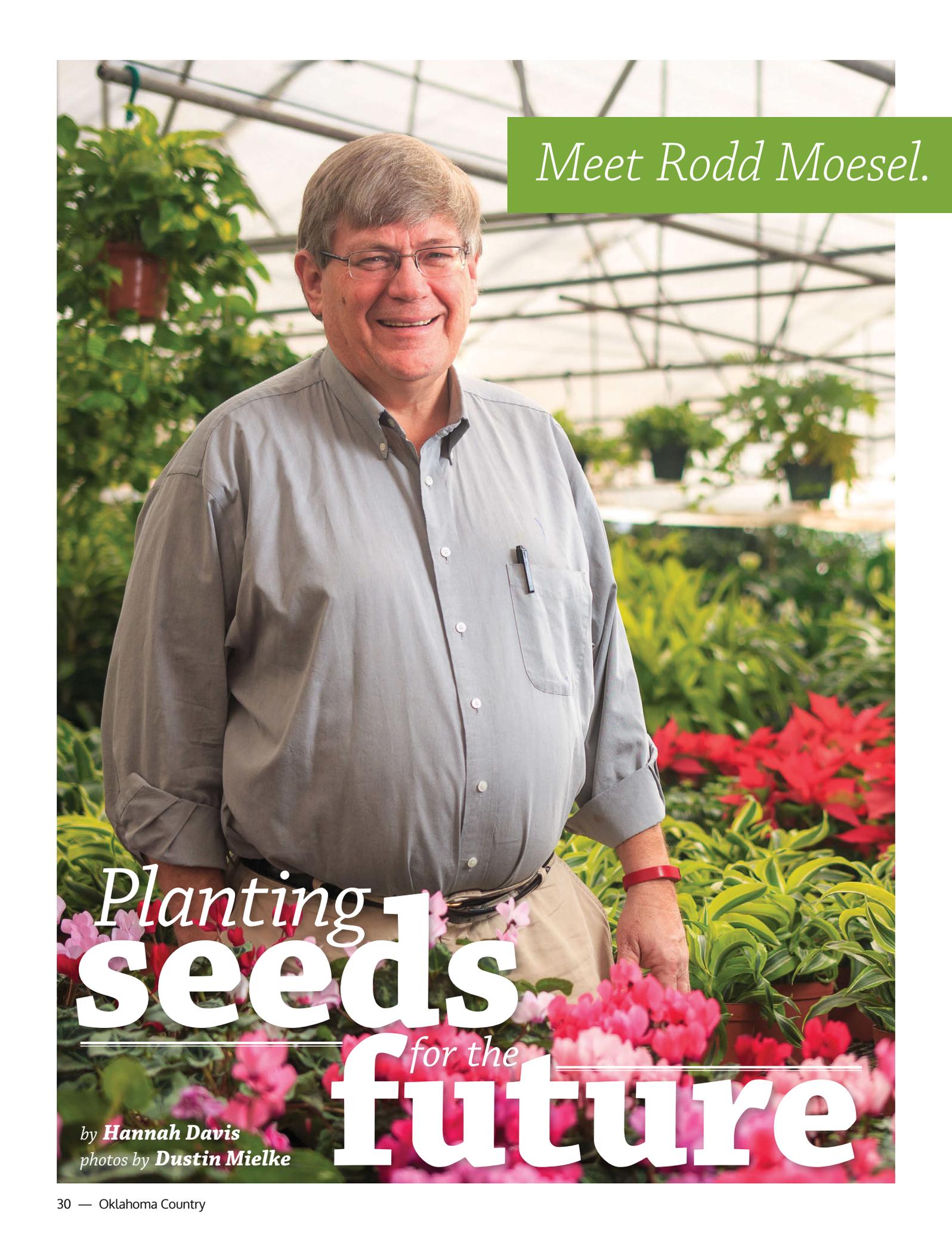
Open House Event
4158 S. 70th E. Ave.
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Thursday, May 3
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bring the whole family to enjoy the Hotsy Raminator, pulled pork barbecue and great deals!

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

To learn more about Hotsy of Oklahoma, call 800-375-WASH or visit HotsyOK.com or Facebook.com/HotsyOK.



Meet Rodd Moesel.

Planting
seeds
for the
future

by **Hannah Davis**
photos by **Dustin Mielke**

Elected by members to his first two-year term as president of Oklahoma Farm Bureau, Moesel will lead the organization into its next 75 years. We sat down with him at his central Oklahoma wholesale plant and greenhouse business to learn more about him and his vision for the state's leading agriculture organization.

Q Describe your family and background.

I was blessed with an amazing mother and father, Richard and Marjorie Moesel, and grew up in the horticulture business. Dad was a horticulture graduate from Oklahoma A&M. He went to work for Oklahoma Floral in Enid before earning his master's at Ohio State University, and then his doctorate at Rutgers University.

Deciding to return to Oklahoma, we moved to Pauls Valley where my parents started a truck-cropping operation, raising vegetables. Gradually, as they raised enough funds, they started building greenhouses. At some point, they had the chance to take over an operation in Oklahoma City and turned it into Moesel's Hort Haven. That's where I grew up.

You were raised around horticulture. When did you decide that's what you wanted to do?

There's never really been any question that I'd be doing something around horticulture. I always enjoyed it, that's what I grew up around. I've always mixed in lots of other civic and community and political activities with it, but horticulture's always been at the center of everything.

I studied horticulture and political science at Oklahoma State University. While still in school, I started my own wholesale business. The company began by creating terrariums given to people opening bank accounts or buying cars. Over the years, it has grown into producing foliage plants and house plants, designing and building greenhouses, and providing horticultural supplies.

Along the way, I met my wife, Dona. Not long after I started American Plant Products, she took a job with Mom and Dad's business and soon we ended up married. She has been my life partner at American Plant Products; everything that's happened here has been a combination of both of us.

What does your day-to-day look like here at American Plant Products?

Everything from checking on plants in the greenhouses, to getting the to-do list of what we're doing on the crops for the day, to making sure we're getting the orders pulled and dispatched out. We essentially deliver from Wichita, Kansas, to Denton, Texas, and from Amarillo, Texas, to Fort Smith, Arkansas. There's a lot of logistics involved in getting everything loaded every night to get out on the road early the next morning. We also do a lot of greenhouse design projects. Just a variety of things, but also sneaking in time for a

variety of activities like Oklahoma Farm Bureau.

I've always believed in the importance of folks being involved in their community and being interested in public policy. Every day is a little different, so you never know what each day is going to be.

With American Plant Products, it's easy to look around and say 'You guys sell plants in Oklahoma City,' but what you do is so much more extensive. Can you give us an idea of the scope, scale and breadth at which you operate?

On the plant side, we produce house plants or foliage plants and a few holiday crops for customers within our delivery radius. We also do greenhouses within that area, but we do kind of high-tech or research greenhouses on a bigger scale.

For research greenhouses, we'll do everything from Arizona to Florida and North Dakota to Texas. We've been blessed to be involved in the design of some really sophisticated and interesting projects like the Noble Research Institute research greenhouses. It's probably one of the two most sophisticated greenhouses in the country.

We also provide supplies for greenhouses, nurseries, vineyards and truck farmers or vegetable growers.

When did you first become involved in Farm Bureau?

I first got involved in Farm Bureau back in my 4-H days. I remember getting awards at the county Farm Bureau, and them also having us over to speak to the county Farm Bureau. That was probably my earliest connection. My mom and dad had been involved in Farm Bureau, so I also had been to a few annual meetings in Garvin County and in Oklahoma County.

What got you involved?

My first big policy thing involved property taxes. We had been involved with a small-business group that was interested in limiting property taxes, and Farm Bureau heard about our efforts. Of course, limiting property taxes is a fundamental issue for Farm Bureau. The tax has such a disproportionate impact on landowners, and our farms require large amounts of land.

Farm Bureau actually became a leading part of the state question to put a cap on property tax increases. Working



Fast facts about Rodd

together with Farm Bureau, Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association and the small business groups, we raised more than \$1 million and ran quite a race. We ended up getting beat on the state question, but it caused enough interest that the Legislature put an additional question on the ballot almost two years later. We helped co-chair that race with Farm Bureau's help and ultimately won that. That led to the 5 percent cap on property tax increases.

Soon after that, we were deeply involved in some estate tax efforts that Farm Bureau was also one of the key leaders on. I became an active Farm Bureau member through that work on property tax and the estate tax efforts.

You chose to be involved in Farm Bureau when you could have been involved in a lot of other organizations. Why Farm Bureau? What about Farm Bureau keeps you involved?

Though I haven't lived there since third grade, Pauls Valley made a tremendous impact on me because of how the community rallied when my family was facing real challenges after Dad had a serious tractor accident. They actually raised and harvested our crops, and gave us the most special Christmas we'd ever had. My appreciation for rural Oklahoma and the family values of the farming community remain strong from those experiences.

With my interest in advocacy for agriculture and those values, Farm Bureau is just a natural fit. Since working on the property tax issues, I've been deeply involved. It's been quite a ride and it's just a group I love.

Why is it important to be involved in Farm Bureau? Why have you remained active?

Over the years, especially during the eight years of Obama, the amount of rules and regulations on businesses continuously increased. Government at the federal, state and local levels has continually gotten deeper and deeper into our businesses. We've lost so many small businesses and farms because you get to a point where you spend so much of your time dealing with rules and regulations instead of producing crops.

For example, I recently spent a great deal of time

researching the new rule requiring agriculture and livestock haulers to install electronic logging devices on their vehicles. It's going to change our life completely on all the trucks we run. The amount of time and money it takes to deal with these continuing intrusions into our businesses is an important reason why all of us need to be involved.

Now that fewer and fewer people live on the farm—or even live in a rural community—it is important for all of us to be involved to help tell the story of agriculture. All of us have to be ambassadors for agriculture in order to protect the important process of producing our food here in America.

You were elected president of OKFB in November. What made you want to serve OKFB as president?

We have amazing building blocks at Farm Bureau with incredible people and great staff. We have faced challenges lately with a declining membership.

We need to figure out ways to reach out and get more people involved, to re-energize our county organizations, to get more people on the Farm Bureau team telling that story and advocating. Working with our tremendous state board, we're going to have a chance to build on the great staff we have and add some more great building blocks. Hopefully, we can use this as a chance to really step forward and grow on our strengths.

We're wrapping up a year of celebrating Farm Bureau's 75th anniversary. What's your vision for the next 75 years of Farm Bureau?

I've been worrying about the next year and the next five years (laughs). When I think back to my first involvement back in high school probably, I've been there for over half of that, which is kind of shocking. We've had so many good people who have gone before us to build the organization we enjoy today.

We still have the important causes. Ultimately, I think many of us are committed to keeping a strong food production system here in our state and in our country. Farm Bureau needs to be at the forefront of leading that argument over the next 75 years.

1 Worked at the White House during the Nixon administration. Also served on Nixon's reelection committee.

2 Living near Lake Overholser in Oklahoma City, Rodd is famous for his sunset pictures on Facebook.

3 Has helped build greenhouses for insect production for human consumption.

4 Served the Oklahoma State University Foundation by raising funds for scholarships and professorships in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

5 Writes a gardening article for *The Oklahoman*.

Organizations he's involved in:

- Oklahoma 4-H Foundation board president
- Leadership Oklahoma City
- Leadership Oklahoma
- Oklahoma Ag Leadership Program
- Oklahoma Council on Science and Technology, Plant Science committee chair
- Oklahoma State University Foundation
- OSU Division of Agriculture Science and Natural Resources Dean's Advisory Committee
- National Federation of Independent Business
- Greater Oklahoma City Chamber
- State Chamber of Oklahoma
- Oklahoma Business Council
- Council on Ag Research, Extension and Teaching – Southern Region president

We have such a wonderful story to tell. I live near Route 66, where there's a diner where Dona and I will often eat. I'm always amazed at the amount of European tourists vacationing along Route 66. In talking to many of them, they're so impressed by the farms and agriculture they get to see along the way and the chance to stop in our grocery stores. We have something really special the rest of the world envies and we need to make sure we take good care of that and help it to grow and flourish.

What are some of your top priorities or goals during your tenure as president?

There's lots of them. On the federation side, the first and most important is to rebuild our county support teams, the field services team. We've had some vacancies in that department, so we need to get new people aboard with a heart for Farm Bureau to really help rebuild and assist our county organizations.

As the leading farm group in the state with the most members and activity in all 77 counties, we've had opportunities to bring all the other ag groups to the table. We want to build on that and really work with our fellow agriculture community. With fewer of us involved in agriculture, it's important for all of us to work together to tell that story.

We're also going to strengthen our public policy team. We're blessed to have good leadership there already, but we'll be growing that public policy team as we grow the field services team. Then, telling our story. We have several vehicles to help tell our stories to voting members and to the active farm community, but we also have to reach out to the members that aren't involved in agriculture. They may remember their parents or their grandparents working on the farm and still having a heart for rural America or for agriculture.

You're not a traditional wheat farmer or cattle rancher. How does that give you an advantage in relating agriculture to consumers?

I actually think it's a big advantage. When you produce a minor crop, you have to learn to communicate with the other folks. I've grown up around other types of production

agriculture, as my grandparents were active dairy and crop farmers, and other family members that were beef cattle producers. I have good friends that produce virtually every other crop from soybeans to corn to canola.

When you're talking with the public, I think gardening or horticulture is the best way to tell our story to an urban consumer. Most of them have tried raising their own tomatoes or peppers or flowers, so they understand the challenges of weather, drought, insects and diseases. By playing on those experiences, we can relate the experience of the farmer. For the farmer who's growing a whole field of canola, if it freezes too early, he or she isn't just losing a pot of peppers on the patio – they're losing their whole income. That certainly is a good way for us to tell our story in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, and even to the folks that live in town in Enid, Pauls Valley or Gotebo.

The average age of the farmer continues to increase, while more and more people are removed from the farm. How can Farm Bureau grow, adapt and evolve as agriculture does?

I just was looking at some USDA numbers early this week, and last year only two age groups of farmers grew in percentages from the year before. We actually saw a 2 or 3 percent increase in the number of farmers ages 25 to 35. We also had an increase of the older farmers over 65 years old.

We have to figure out ways to involve new folks. We're seeing growth in new farms across our country, but most of them are small farms in suburban or urban areas aimed at local food production. But those folks still produce crops. We've got to figure out a way to involve them in Farm Bureau.

We know the vast majority of food production occurs on the large farms across the rural parts of our state, but there's few enough of us that we've got to include everybody that is involved in the production of food and fiber – and pretty flowers. Most of us have the same interests. How do we get more young people interested in Farm Bureau? How do we expand our numbers and our definition of farming to do a better job of telling our story? We're going to be wrestling with how to do that. **FB**

Drones on the farm

Unmanned aerial vehicles and the sensors associated with them have potential as a tool for farmers and ranchers. We're testing them out.

By: Mike Komp, Noble Research Institute spatial technology services manager



There's plenty of buzz around drones and sensors in agriculture today. Farmers and ranchers hear about the technology but may have questions about if they should adopt it or how, especially considering how many companies and

products are out there. At the Noble Research Institute, we're working to incorporate drones and sensors into our research and farming/ranching operations so we can better understand the potential of these devices.

[What are drones and drone-based sensors?](#)

Drones, more formally known as unmanned aerial vehicles, are flying



machines that someone on the ground can use to collect images from the air. These images range from simple – similar to those you could take from an airplane – to extremely complex and data-rich. These complex images are generally gained through the use of sensors that are attached to the UAVs. Sensors can capture various information, such as forage quality and rainfall amounts.

Why would a farmer or rancher want to use this technology?

There are many potential applications of drone technology. Simple UAV cameras can help a producer locate and count equipment, animals or hay bales. They also can assist in controlling prescribed burns, checking fences and water sources, inspecting fields, or identifying trees from other vegetation. More complex sensors could allow producers to estimate the amount of water in a pond and estimate the quantity and quality of forage plants available for grazing livestock.

How are drones and drone-based sensors used at the Noble Research Institute?

We started using drones in 2014 as part of our cotton root rot research. The large-scale images and data we were able to collect allowed researchers, like Carolyn Young, Ph.D., and Chakradhar Mattupalli, Ph.D., of the Noble Research Institute's mycology lab, to better study the spread of cotton root rot disease in alfalfa fields.

We also measure plant health using sensors that measure the normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI). One device we've been pleased with for this purpose is Sentera's Standard NDVI Single Sensor. This sensor is small in size and relatively inexpensive compared to other sensors used for similar measurements. We've successfully used this sensor to identify bare ground in pasture and range, monitor plant growth in alfalfa trials, and identify areas of cotton root rot. As you see, the applications of this technology are broad and can impact research across many disciplines within agriculture at the Noble Research Institute.

What is the state of this technology today and potential for the future?

Interest is growing and there are producers using this technology, but it is not commonly used right now. It can be expensive to buy a drone and the additional sensors, and there are additional fees associated with storing data. Anyone who flies a drone for business purposes must be certified with the Federal Aviation Administration as a remote pilot and must comply with restrictions on when, where and how the drone is operated.

As with any decision, producers must decide if the benefits outweigh the costs before choosing to adopt the technology. Overall though, the future of drone-based sensors in agriculture is promising as data can be integrated into precision agricultural equipment more easily with clear expectations for increased return on investment. 

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Learn more about drones and other innovations in agriculture from the Noble Research Institute by visiting www.noble.org

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75 YEARS STRONG

2018 OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING



OKFB MEMBERS ELECT RODD MOESEL AS PRESIDENT

Horticulturalist Rodd Moesel was elected president of Oklahoma Farm Bureau by voting delegates at the organization's annual meeting Nov. 11 in Norman, Oklahoma.

The central Oklahoma small business owner has represented District Three on the OKFB board of directors for seven years. He was re-elected to serve his third term in 2016.

"It's very gratifying, and it's unusual because I am unconventional," Moesel said of his election. "I know I'm not the traditional farmer. Oklahoma's very much a cow-calf and grains state."

Moesel and his wife, Dona, own and operate American Plant Products and Services in western Oklahoma City. The grandson of dairy farmers and lifelong

Farm Bureau members, Moesel grew up on a vegetable farm and greenhouse operation. He first became involved in the farm organization as a 4-H member.

"I've always felt that horticulture is one of the best ways to relate to our urban friends," Moesel said. "The same issues you face in planting and harvesting a tomato crop when you're fighting bugs, weather and temperatures are the same issues farmers face with their whole crop. I think the garden and horticulture experience is a great way for people to relate to issues agriculture faces."

Moesel outlined several priorities as part of his vision for the organization including creating more cooperation with state agriculture groups, retaining relationships with state and federal

elected officials, and ensuring Farm Bureau has the right people in place to serve members.

Moesel has been a member of the Oklahoma State University Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Dean's Advisory Committee for more than 20 years, has served as Oklahoma 4-H Foundation president, and co-chairs the OSU Foundation agriculture fundraising committee.

He is a graduate of the Oklahoma Agriculture Leadership Program, Leadership Oklahoma City and Leadership Oklahoma. He also is one of two Oklahoma representatives on the National Council of Agricultural Research, Education and Teaching.

STATE BOARD, WLC, YF&R COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELECTED

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members elected state board members, along with state Women's Leadership Committee members and Young Farmers and Ranchers committee members at the organization's 2017 annual meeting Nov. 11 in Norman, Oklahoma.

David VonTungeln of Canadian County was elected to fulfill the remaining two years of Rodd Moesel's term as District Three Director. VonTungeln will represent Blaine, Caddo, Canadian, Grady, Kingfisher, Logan and Oklahoma Counties.

OKFB delegates re-elected three board members for Districts One, Four and Seven.

Alan Jett of Beaver County was re-elected to serve a three-year term on the OKFB board of directors representing

District One, which encompasses Beaver, Cimarron, Dewey, Ellis, Harper, Texas and Woodward Counties.

Jimmy Wayne Kinder of Cotton County was re-elected to represent District Four on the OKFB board of directors. District Four includes Carter, Comanche, Cotton, Jefferson, Johnston, Love, Marshall, Murray, and Stephens Counties.

OKFB members in District Seven re-elected Keith Kisling of Alfalfa County to serve another three-year term on the OKFB board of directors. District Seven includes Alfalfa, Garfield, Grant, Kay, Major, Noble and Woods Counties.

The OKFB Women's Leadership Committee re-elected two board members: Linda Fox of District One and Mignon Bolay of District Seven. Sandra Berry of Stephens County was elected

to serve a three-year term representing District Four, and Misty Dowell of Seminole County will represent District Eight.

The OKFB Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee elected Brent and Jennifer Howard of Jackson County to serve as chairmen for a one-year term. Brent and Jenny Haken of Payne County were elected as vice chairmen. Additional new committee members include: Brice Hicks, District One; Brittany Krehbiel and Logan Hukill, District Three; Josh Anderson, District Four; Hunter Shaufelberger, District Five; Steve and Mindi Clark, District Seven; Corey Holman, District Eight; and Baylie Cooper and Blake Rea, At-Large.

HOLCOMB HONORED WITH DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO OKFB AWARD

Phyllis Holcomb of Creek County was recognized with the Distinguished Service to Oklahoma Farm Bureau Award during the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting Nov. 10 in Norman, Oklahoma.

The award honors OKFB members who have made outstanding contributions to agriculture and the Farm Bureau organization.

"I have dedicated my life to the farming industry," Holcomb said. "It's just been in my heart and soul since I grew up."

A longtime Farm Bureau member, Holcomb has served on the Creek County Farm Bureau board of directors, the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee and the OKFB state board of directors.

"Farm Bureau does so much to help each farm family, legislatively and on their own farms and in their communities," Holcomb said. "It's just been a great organization since it was started in 1942. If you look back at the history, where would farmers be without each of us?"

Serving on numerous Farm Bureau committees and attending numerous conventions and conferences, Holcomb has advocated for agricultural policy on behalf of family farmers and ranchers on

both the state and national levels.

"I was blown away," Holcomb said of receiving the honor. "It's so much appreciated."

Holcomb has spent more than 30

years educating Oklahoma's youth on the importance of agriculture and rural Oklahoma. Holcomb has served as a 4-H leader and is an active supporter of FFA and 4-H programs throughout the state.



Phyllis Holcomb (second from right) receives the 2017 Distinguished Service to OKFB Award from AFBF President Zippy Duvall, OKFB President Tom Buchanan (left) and OKFB Interim Executive Director Thad Doye (right) along with members of her family during the awards program at the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting in Norman, Oklahoma.

SELMAN NAMED OKFB'S TOP YOUNG FARMER AND RANCHER

Chad Selman of Skiatook was named the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Achievement Award winner Nov. 10 at the 76th-annual OKFB Annual Meeting in Norman, Oklahoma.

Selman, along with his wife Katrina, won the award for their dedication to improving and growing their farm, which consists of pecan orchards and cattle in Tulsa County.

Together, the couple are raising a family the farm where Chad Selman grew up, continuing the family's legacy of agriculture and rural life.

The Selmans' passion as young farmers have spurred them to modernize the family's pecan farm, including the use of computer-controlled sorting machines.

"Most of the sorting is done by air, and there's also some technology that we use called an eye machine, and it uses color to differentiate between the good and the bad," Chad Selman said. "Any of the pecans still in the hulls or the husks it will kick out, and it will leave the good ones there."

Chad Selman also serves as an

alternate on the American Pecan Council, which oversees the national pecan marketing order, which seeks to improve the pecan industry through promotion, research and other programs.

The young Tulsa County farmer also build his cow herd from the ground up – starting with 12 cows and growing to more than 100 head today.

Chad Selman uses the grass that grows in the pecan orchards for pasture and hay to feed his herd. He is focused on improving his cattle by keeping his own heifers and selling the animals that don't meet his standards.

The growing northeastern Oklahoma farm is the achievement of Chad Selman's lifelong dream.

"Ever since I can remember, I knew what I wanted to do," Chad Selman said. "I followed that path, and I came back to work on the farm."

Chad Selman currently serves as vice president of the Tulsa County Farm Bureau, in addition to his service to the state OKFB YF&R committee. He also serves as president of the Tulsa and Rogers County Farm Service Agency



OKFB President Tom Buchanan (left) presents the 2017 OKFB YF&R Achievement Award to Chad and Katrina Selman at the organization's annual meeting Nov. 10. Board and is the vice president of the Oklahoma Pecan Growers Association.

As the Achievement Award winner, Selman received a John Deere XUV 560 courtesy of the OKFB YF&R state committee and a trip to Nashville, Tennessee, to compete at the 2017 American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting.

FARRIS WINS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN AG, FARM BUREAU

Dell Farris was named the winner of Oklahoma Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award on Nov. 10 at the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting in Norman, Oklahoma.

The award recognizes successful young adults ages 35 years or younger who are involved in farming, but whose primary occupations are not farming or owning an agricultural business. Winners are chosen based on their involvement in agriculture and participation in Oklahoma Farm Bureau and other community organizations.

"It's a real honor," Farris said of receiving the award. "I'm proud to be able to represent Oklahoma, my family and Stephens County."

A fourth-generation family farmer and rancher, Farris raises cattle and grows wheat and hay with his father and grandfather in Stephens County,

Oklahoma. Farris works off the farm as a banker where he specializes in production agriculture loans.

"Agriculture is ultimately where I want to be," he said. "My job allows me to be in agriculture, but being on the farm (full time) some day is the long-term goal."

Farris currently serves on the state YF&R committee and also on the Stephens County Farm Bureau board.

Active in his community, Farris serves on the Comanche Chamber of Commerce board and as the southwest county director on the Stephens County Livestock Growers Association. He also helps support local FFA chapters by participating in area livestock shows, banquets and fundraisers.

As the Excellence in Agriculture Award winner, Farris received a Polaris four-wheeler, courtesy of Farm Credit of Western Oklahoma and Oklahoma AgCredit, and a trip to the American

Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting Jan. 5-10 in Nashville, Tennessee, where he will compete for the AFBF Excellence in Agriculture Award.



John Grunewald, president of Farm Credit of Western Oklahoma (left) and OKFB President Tom Buchanan present the 2017 OKFB YF&R Excellence in Agriculture Award to Dell Farris during the organization's annual meeting Nov. 10 in Norman.



Greg Leonard, an Ottawa County Farm Bureau member and OKFB state resolutions committee member, speaks about a proposed policy during the delegate business session at the organization's 2017 annual meeting in Norman, Oklahoma.

OKFB MEMBERS SET GRASSROOTS POLICY FOR 2018

Taxes and rural healthcare were at the top of the list as Oklahoma Farm Bureau members finalized the organization's 2018 policy during its 2017 annual meeting Nov. 10-12 in Norman, Oklahoma.

OKFB's grassroots policy begins at the county level before being refined by a state resolutions committee and finalized by the full delegate body at state convention. OKFB staff uses the policy to advocate for its farm and ranch members at the state Capitol.

TAX POLICY

As the state of Oklahoma continues to grapple with budget shortfalls, state lawmakers have attempted to raise revenue by implementing various tax increases. OKFB members this year heavily considered the organization's stance on a number of tax issues including fuel tax, ad valorem tax, wind production tax incentives and the agricultural sales tax exemption.

Approved by an overwhelming majority of the delegate body, members voted to support a maximum 6-cent increase in gasoline and diesel taxes dedicated to roads and bridges. Members

also passed a resolution favoring fuel taxes or state sales taxes over any ad valorem tax increases.

Reversing the organization's policy on wind generation, members voted to support elimination of tax breaks for wind power and encouraged levying a competitive tax rate on wind production in Oklahoma.

After the state Legislature narrowly stalled a bill to allow municipalities access to ad valorem taxes, Farm Bureau members this year reinforced the organization's policy on property tax increases.

"We oppose any increase to rural ad valorem taxes by any municipality," the new policy states.

With this summer's Oklahoma Supreme Court ruling that elimination of existing sales tax exemptions require only a simple majority vote by the state Legislature, members also backed a policy to give agricultural inputs non-taxed status rather than only tax exempt.

RURAL HEALTH CARE

As rural Oklahoma continues to struggle with adequate medical care access, Farm Bureau members added several policy

positions to strengthen rural health care.

"Oklahoma should develop and enact legislation focused on sustaining quality levels of rural health care," the organization's new policy states.

To improve affordable and accessible health care in rural Oklahoma, members supported the easing of physician supervision requirements for nurse practitioners and certified registered nurse anesthetists, along with a student loan forgiveness program for medical professionals practicing in rural areas.

Members also encouraged the use of telemedicine to help sustain rural hospitals.

OTHER

As feral swine continue to wreak havoc on farms and ranches across the state, Farm Bureau members called for increased funding for the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry to finance USDA Wildlife Services efforts to control the state's feral swine population. 08150537

Members also reversed a key water policy by opposing any and all out-of-state water sales.



L to R: OKFB President Tom Buchanan and AFBF President Zippy Duvall present the Lewis Munn award to Alfalfa County Farm Bureau President Ryan Pjesky during the awards program at the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting Nov. 10 in Norman.

LOVE COUNTY'S NANCY MINYARD NAMED SECRETARY OF THE YEAR

Nancy Minyard of the Love County Farm Bureau office was honored as the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Secretary of the Year at the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting Nov. 10 in Norman, Oklahoma.

County secretaries serve as the face of the county Farm Bureau office with not only customers but also with potential new members.

Serving Love County members for more than 27 years, Minyard followed in the footsteps of her grandmother who also worked as the county secretary for more than two decades.

"It is an amazing accomplishment," Minyard said of receiving the award. "I love serving the members and being a part of an organization committed to improving agriculture and rural Oklahoma."

Finalists for the Secretary of the Year award included Joy Fitts, Beaver County; LaManda Bailey, Roger Mills County; Shirlene Joyce, Grady County; Debora Johnson, Haskell County; Marissa Haney, Cherokee County; Katie Perks, Woods County; Lisa Talley, Coal County; and Scarlett Strawn, Okfuskee County.

Minyard will receive a trip to the 2017 American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, for being selected as OKFB Secretary of the Year.



OKFB President Tom Buchanan (left) presents the 2017 OKFB Secretary of the Year Award to Nancy Minyard of Love County on Nov. 10 during the OKFB annual meeting.

ALFALFA COUNTY FARM BUREAU HONORED WITH LEWIS MUNN AWARD

Oklahoma Farm Bureau presented Alfalfa County with the Lewis H. Munn Farm Bureau Builders Award during the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting on Nov. 10 in Norman, Oklahoma.

The award is named after the second president of Oklahoma Farm Bureau, and presented to the county which best serves its members.

COMANCHE COUNTY HONORED AS OKFB'S TOP COUNTY YF&R COMMITTEE

The Comanche County Young Farmers and Ranchers committee was presented with the 2017 Charles L. Roff Award. The award was presented in Norman, Oklahoma, at the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting Nov. 10.

The Charles L. Roff Award encourages county YF&R groups to improve their local committees and activity participation while strengthening the Farm Bureau organization.

"It's a real honor," said John Morris, Comanche County Farm Bureau YF&R chairman. "We work really hard and communicating with area young farmers and ranchers to get us together to help improve each others farming operations."

Comanche County YF&R hosted its annual farmhand olympics, where students from around the county attend and compete in various agricultural events.



L to R: OKFB President Tom Buchanan and AFBF President Zippy Duvall present the Charles L. Roff award to Comanche County Farm Bureau YF&R Chair John Morris along with OKFB Interim Executive Director Thad Doye at the 2018 annual meeting Nov. 10.

Just beginning their careers in production agriculture, the young Farm Bureau members also spent time learning from experienced farmers and ranchers throughout Comanche County.

The county received a traveling plaque in recognition for their outstanding committee involvement.



Scott Eisenhauer, general manager of P&K Equipment (left) and OKFB President Tom Buchanan present the 2017 OKFB YF&R Discussion Meet award to Brent Howard of Altus along with YF&R Coordinator Zac Swartz at the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting Nov. 10.

HOWARD WINS YF&R DISCUSSION MEET

Brent Howard of Jackson County was named the 2017 Young Farmers and Ranchers Discussion Meet winner at the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Nov. 10 in Norman, Oklahoma.

Howard competed against four other participants in three rounds of debate-style discussion where performance was evaluated on the exchange of ideas and information on pre-determined topics.

“The discussion meet is just great in the aspect of it really gets you thinking about questions that are current events and currently major issues affecting

farming and a lot of times affecting the younger generation,” Howard said.

An attorney specializing in tax and estate planning, Howard also assists with his family farm near Altus, Oklahoma.

As the state discussion meet winner, Howard received a John Deere Z345R Lawn Mower, presented by P&K Equipment and the opportunity to compete in the national discussion meet contest at the American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting Jan. 5-10 in Nashville, Tennessee.

GARFIELD COUNTY FARM BUREAU PRESENTED WITH JOHN I. TAYLOR AWARD



L to R: OKFB President Tom Buchanan and AFBF President Zippy Duvall present the John I. Taylor award to Garfield County President Gary Johnson along with OKFB Interim Executive Director Thad Doye.

Garfield County Farm Bureau was named the John I. Taylor Award winner for 2017 during the 2017 OKFB Annual Meeting Nov. 10 in Norman, Oklahoma.

The award is named after OKFB’s first president and serves as the organization’s highest county honor.

County winners are required to earn the Four-Star Presidential Award and excel in at least six different program areas such as membership, program planning, policy development, political education, women’s activities and Young Farmers and Ranchers.

COUNTY STAR AWARDS

Each year, OKFB recognizes county Farm Bureaus that have excelled in program areas such as membership, program planning, policy development, policy execution, information and public affairs, political education, women’s activities and Young Farmers and Ranchers with a Presidential Star Award.

SIX STAR AWARD

Alfalfa
Comanche
Garfield
Major
Noble

FIVE STAR AWARD

Caddo
Okfuskee
Okmulgee
Payne
Seminole
Texas

FOUR STAR AWARD

Cherokee
Haskell
Leflore
Nowata
Pontotoc
Stephens
Tulsa
Washington
Woodward

THREE STAR AWARD

Beckham
Creek
Latimer
Lincoln
Love
Ottawa
Woods

ALL AROUND OKLAHOMA



Oklahoma Agriculture Secretary Jim Reese (far left) presents a 2017 Water for 2060 Excellence Award to Texas County Farm Bureau member Pat Long, along with his wife and two children, on Nov. 1 during the 2017 Governor's Water Conference in Norman, Okla.

Texas County member honored by OWRB for water conservation, innovative technology

Pat Long, a farmer and Texas County Farm Bureau member, was honored with a 2017 Water for 2060 Excellence Award for crop irrigation and agriculture by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board Nov. 1 during the Governor's Water Conference in Norman, Oklahoma.

Long was recognized for his work to conserve water in the Oklahoma Panhandle using innovative center pivot irrigation technology, drought-resistant genetically modified crops and no-till production methods.

"It's important that people across the state understand the lengths Panhandle producers are going to in order to preserve a valuable natural resource," Long said.

The Long family has farmed since

the late 1800s, producing corn, wheat, soybeans, sorghum and occasionally sunflowers near Optima, Oklahoma. Using the Ogallala aquifer to irrigate crops, the Longs have utilized technology to steward the water resources since they drilled their first well in 1953.

Because of the innovative irrigation technology, the Longs have reduced total water usage while doubling crop yields. Adapting to no-till and other new technologies has allowed the Long family to increase the number of acres relying on a well.

Long is an Oklahoma Panhandle Agriculture and Irrigation Association board member, which has worked with the Panhandle Regional Economic Development Coalition to prepare a

comprehensive study of water use and supplies in Beaver, Cimarron and Texas counties. The study revealed better farming techniques and conservation practices have decreased the amount of water usage from the Ogallala aquifer, while agricultural commodities sold in the Panhandle area increased more than 10 percent.

In support of the Oklahoma Water for 2060 Act and recommendations by a special advisory council to the Governor and Legislature, the Water for 2060 Excellence Award program was developed to recognize individuals and entities that make exceptional contributions to the promotion and implementation of water use efficiency and conservation of Oklahoma's water resources.



WLC hosts annual fall conference in Oklahoma City

More than 60 Farm Bureau women gathered for a weekend of fun and fellowship at the annual Women's Leadership Committee fall conference Sept. 15-16 in Oklahoma City.

The two-day conference incorporated much of the organization's rich history with a theme honoring OKFB's 75th anniversary.

"Our fall conference is a wonderful time for Farm Bureau women from around the state to gather for a time of learning and fellowship," said Kitty Beavers, OKFB WLC chair. "As we celebrate 75 years of Oklahoma Farm Bureau this year, we all enjoyed reminiscing on our beloved organization's history and accomplishments."

The women attended breakout sessions concerning diabetes and health by Logan County Farm Bureau member Kay Freudenberger, flag etiquette by OKFB WLC District Nine member Cindy Schoenecke, and personalities by OKFB Vice President of Human Resources Kim Escovedo.

A silent auction was held at the event, raising \$750 for the WLC Nurse's Scholarship Fund. Items for the auction were donated by conference attendees and leaders.

During the conference dinner, the women learned about the history of OKFB and the OKFB women's program from OKFB Senior Director of Corporate Communications Dustin Mielke. OKFB

District Nine State Director Jim Meek brought greetings from the state board, and winners of the 1940s costume contest were named. The winners were Charlene Thornbrough, Sandra Berry and Rozella Herrman.

The group kicked off their Saturday activities by making a take-home soup mix in a jar, complete with a packet of cornbread provided by Shawnee Milling.

A tour of the Oklahoma History Center was the final activity of the conference, which included a special presentation from History Center staff on the Women Airforce Service Pilot program. Attendees had the opportunity to tour the center and its various exhibits detailing Oklahoma history.



Top Left: A large group of Farm Bureau women visit the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City during the OKFB WLC fall conference held Sept. 15-16. Top Right: Charlene Thornbrough, Sandra Berry and Rozella Herrman pose for a picture after winning the fall conference 1940s costume conference in honor of the decade OKFB was established. Bottom Left: Linda Taggart of Caddo County Farm Bureau (left) and Margaret Ann Kinder of Cotton County Farm Bureau explore the OKFB 75th anniversary book, "75 Years Strong." Bottom Right: OKFB Vice President of Human Resources Kim Escovedo helps conference participants learn more about their personalities and how to work with others using the Myers-Briggs Test.

YF&R host annual State Fair livestock judging contest

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers hosted more than 1,000 agriculture students during their annual State Fair livestock judging contest Sept. 14 in Oklahoma City.

FFA and 4-H members in junior and senior categories judged eight categories of livestock with two classes of questions. “Our YF&R committee loves providing

this chance for our state’s agriculture students to hone their livestock judging skills,” said Travis Schnaithman, 2017 OKFB state YF&R Chairman. “Many of our committee members grew up judging livestock, and we know the decision-making and reasoning skills students learn through the contest.”



Top: OKFB YF&R Committee member Matt Oakes of Dewey County Farm Bureau assists with a class of cattle during the State Fair livestock judging contest for 4-H and FFA students held Sept. 14 in Oklahoma City. Bottom Left: A student analyzes his rankings during the livestock judging contest. Bottom right: OKFB YF&R Committee member Brent Howard of Jackson County Farm Bureau (left) passes out scorecards to 4-H and FFA students during the livestock judging contest.

YF&R State Fair Livestock Judging Contest Results

TEAMS

Senior FFA Division

1. El Reno FFA
2. Kingfisher FFA
3. Prague FFA Gold Team

Senior 4-H Division

1. Alex/Grady County
2. Kay County
3. Stephens County

Junior FFA Division

1. Cherokee FFA
2. Indianola FFA Team One
3. Moss FFA

Junior 4-H Division

1. Amber-Pocasset Team One
2. Indianola 4-H
3. Alex/Grady County 4-H

INDIVIDUALS

Senior FFA Division

1. Jacob Bedell, El Reno FFA
2. Gage Cantrell, Prague FFA
3. Rylyn Thompson, Adair FFA

Senior 4-H Division

1. Dustin Tolson, Alex/Grady County
2. Brycen Otey, Alex/Grady County
3. Riley Scott, Stephens County

Junior FFA Division

1. Braylon Spears, Hartshorne FFA
2. Allison Shropshire, Indianola FFA
3. Kynlee Dailey, Kingston FFA

Junior 4-H Division

1. Dax Delozier, Adair 4-H
2. Blake Janssen, Amber-Pocasset
3. Wyatt Jensen, Jackson County

OKFB visits with members, public at 2018 Tulsa Farm Show



Left: Mayes County Farm Bureau member Charlie Coblantz (left) visits with OKFB Northeast Field Services Director Gage Milliman in the Farm Bureau booth at the 2018 Tulsa Farm Show on Dec. 7.

Right: OKFB's Todd Honer (far right) shares the latest news and information about the grassroots organization with members in the Farm Bureau booth at the 2018 Tulsa Farm Show on Dec. 7.



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Overwintering pests can cause problems for gardeners

By Trisha Gedon
Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service

With the winter season upon us, many gardeners may be thinking it is time to kick up their feet and relax a little. No flowers to tend to, no vegetables to pick, so it must be a good time to sit back and chill out.

Before you get too comfy in that recliner by the fire, consider the need to control overwintering pests in your landscape and garden, said David Hillock, Oklahoma State University Cooperative

Extension consumer horticulturist.

“There are several methods gardeners can use to help control those pesky pests during the winter months, so they aren’t such a nuisance in the spring,” Hillock said.

The least expensive method is to simply till your garden plots. This breaks apart the soil and exposes pests such as corn borer, corn earworm, cucumber beetle, squash bug, slug eggs and vine borer to

the cold weather, which is something they cannot survive.

“If you choose to go this route, it’s also a great time to incorporate organic material such as compost, bark, leaves and manure,” he said. “This organic material will begin decomposing because the microbes are active and ready to start breaking everything down.”

While tilling the ground reaps great benefits for gardeners, there is a



Above: The bark on this crape myrtle is providing the perfect home for scale insects. If left untreated, these pests can cause damage to your trees and shrubs. Photo provided.



downside as well. If your area gets a lot of rain or big winds during the late fall and winter, soil erosion can be a problem. Consider the tradeoffs of losing good topsoil to waiting and doing your tilling in the spring.

Hillock said another option for controlling overwintering insects is to use dormant oils. Horticulture oils are petroleum-based products containing certain fatty acids that form layers on plant parts to smother insects or provide a mechanical barrier to prevent damage.

“There are two kinds of oils that are used. One is used during the growing season in the summer. Dormant oils are used during the winter months. Dormant refers to the time of year the application is made,” he said. “Keep in mind the oils control insects, not plant diseases. Also, the benefits of horticulture oils far outweigh the negatives. It’s fairly inexpensive, as well as less toxic than other sprays used to control pests. In addition, there is little toxicity to birds and mammals.”

Dormant oils control scale insects, aphids and mites that are overwintering on the trees. The oil must be applied with enough water to get thorough coverage (read label recommendations). Coverage is very important so that the spray can reach in between the cracks and crevices of the bark where many insects hide. The oil coats the insects and fills the spiracles. Insects use their spiracles to breathe, so when they are blocked, they smother. Dormant oils will suppress insects by killing overwintering adults and eggs which will slow the seasonal build up in the spring. This is well worth the extra time. Some insects controlled by dormant oils include aphids, scales and mites.

Applications should be made to apples,



Above: When applying dormant oils, make sure to make good application, especially in all the cracks and crevasses. These spots make great hiding spots for pests that can wreak havoc on your trees. Photo provided.

pear, pecan and crabapples. Peaches, nectarines, apricots and plums often do not require dormant oil sprays but if certain insect pests have been an issue in the past, it could be beneficial. Dormant oils also can be beneficial for shade trees and woody ornamentals. Consult your label before application to make sure the plant is listed. Some plants are sensitive to dormant oil applications.

“Gardeners should certainly avoid applying dormant oils near annuals as it can kill them,” Hillock said. “Also, don’t apply oil in combination with pesticides containing sulfur or captan because it may cause plant injury.”

Practicing good sanitation is an important step in reducing outbreaks of pest problems. A good example is the twigs that frequently fall from trees, such as pecan. It is very possible they are infected with the larvae of a twig girdler. Larvae overwinter in the dead twigs, eventually pupating in the twig and emerging as an adult next summer.

Another good example is the numerous foliar diseases that also overwinter on dead leaves and debris, only to spread to new growth the following spring. Removing these organisms from your garden will reduce the chances of them recurring the following year.

Hillock said it is a good idea to clean up around the yard by removing diseased wood, brush piles and debris and disposing of the waste immediately.

Controlling overwintering insects on deciduous trees or shrubs with dormant oil sprays should be done when the temperature is above 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Do not use dormant oils on evergreens.

“While landscaping and gardening chores may not take as much time as they do in the spring, summer and early fall months, the time gardeners invest in the winter will help ensure a fruitful gardening season next year,” he said. 

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1968 white truck, 335 Cummins diesel, 10 sp road ranger, twin screw rear. Needs work, but have many parts. \$1,000. 405-609-9242.

2008 Ford F350, King Ranch edition, 2WD dually, 17,400 miles, garage kept, excellent condition. Elk City. 580-243-7267. \$35,000.

2001 Mercury Marquis, \$1,650. 1988 Ford F-150 Bronco, \$6,500. 1972 International pickup. \$7,500. 2009 Harley 1200 trike, \$6,500. 405-386-4416.

1977 Mercury, two door, hardtop. Good, original condition. Never been smoked in, does well at car shows. 80,000 miles. 405-275-5673.

2007 Yamaha 650 star. 6,500 miles. Lots of extras. \$2,500. 918-559-9317.

1980 Kenworth W900A, Day cab, 400 BC Cummins - 15 speed, aluminum wheels, new virgin tires, new radiator. \$15,000 OBO. 918-429-4299.

2001 Ford F250 Super Duty 7.3 Diesel hyd-hay lift, o.d. transmission, good heat and air, new shocks, new mud tires. \$8,000. 918-759-1111. 44 years collection classic cars. Most need to be restored. Conv. Domestic imports. Buy one or all. Make a business. Restore or make parts cars. 405-250-8312.

1980 Kenworth W900A, day cab, 400 BC Cummins - 15 speed, alum. wheels, new virgin tires, new radiator, \$15,000 OBO. 918-429-4299.

FARM MACHINERY/EQUIPMENT

2-830 and 1-930 Case tractors. Also, 2003 F-350 supercab service truck (salvage). 479-806-1356. Leave message.

For sale: 6x12 stock trailer. Like new. Pulled four times. \$3,750 OBO. 580-745-4822.

For sale: structural pipe, sucker rods, fiberglass posts, guns, gold/silver coins. Also buying for collector silver dollars. 405-627-3920.

Two JD 8350 Drius 16X8 single disk hitch, \$1,200. Land Pride 15' mower RCM 5015, \$6,900. Apache 780 Sprayer, 60' Boom, \$16,500. 580-541-2326. Manchester.

Harleman tree saw model 870 for skid steer. Original blades plus extra set, spray attachment. \$5,000. Duncan, Okla. 580-465-5515.

Fence charger repair. All brands. Warranty service for woodstream and Parmak, Pioneer Electronics. 580-603-0063. Waukomis, Okla.

JD Gas, 1948, 'B', Roll-O-Matic front. Rebuilt starter. Cultivator sells with tractor. \$1,975. Also, I.H. 806, diesel tractor, 110 HP with cab.

Runs good. Ranch used, for hay feeding and brush cutting. \$4,150. Text/call 918-869-8855.

1938 JD, 50 JD with cultivator. Both in good condition. 918-482-3787.

For sale: IHC 1948 cab and 1949 Massey Pony tractors. Both refurbished, ready to work, show or parade. Also, rare 1970 John Deer 120 garden tractor. Restored to mint condition. 580-854-6549.

Centurian 5000 generator, never been used, excellent condition, \$500. 4/235-85R16 tabless tires, steel belt radial, 10% wear, \$40 each. 918-208-3585.

I.H. tractor 1967, 806 diesel, cab, pto, wide ft. 100 HP, runs good.

\$4,350. J.D. 1948 'B' with Roll-O-Matic front end #221648. Barn kept. \$2,100. Text or call 918-869-8855.

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

Registered Polled Hereford bulls. 10-12 months old. Also a few seedstock heifers. Remitall Online 122L and PW Victor Boomer P606. 580-332-2468.

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Genetic superior bulls. Add more profit from crossbreeding. Low birth weights, like Angus but more muscle and growth, and better dispositions. Kusel Limousins. 580-759-6038.

MISCELLANEOUS

Double wedding ring quilt, queen size. Three handmade, hand quilted pillows, 18-in. square. 918-762-3120.

Farm-raised Wagyu beef. Frozen, just harvested. Email wsltractor@gmail.com.

Trimming and removal cemetery maintenance. Free estimates. Firewood for sale. 580-471-9235.

Custom built smoker trailer excellent condition. \$1,650. 405-444-0900.

Memorial Park Cemetery plots in Tulsa, 5111 S. Memorial. Sect. 15, lot 66, spaces 1-6. \$2,000 for all. Normally over \$2,000 ea. 580-695-4949.

Six-piece set Plum Tiara dishes. Black Tiara hobnail pitcher with four glasses. Different colors Tiara glass baskets. 580-623-3013 or 580-623-2476.

Stanley Home Products. Fuller brush cleaning, personal, kitchen, brooms, combs, brushes, cleaners, germ killers, pots, pans. 580-497-2249.

Hundred dollars of new, uncirculated pennies. Years 2006, 2007 and 2008. \$300. 405-379-2378.

Houses full of stuff to go cheap! NIB to antiques. Make offer on part or all. 918-866-2464 or 918-968-5524. Leave message.

Do you have a nutritional plan for you and your family? Shaklee Food Supplements contain a nutritional balance in food-based supplements. For more information: bjstimecka@gmail.com.

Kelly's Monuments. Low prices. VW parts, old 35mm movies. Henryetta, Okla. 918-652-7248.

REAL ESTATE

Condo in Norman, Oklahoma. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. New carpet, appliances, newly painted. 405-990-9933.

WANTED

Wanted: Tractors, dead or alive. Any kind, any size, 2 or 4WD. Quick response. 405-641-7728.

Wanted: Railroad items from the (MV) Midland Valley, (KO&G) Kansas, Oklahoma & Gulf, the Frisco, and the (OC&AA) Oklahoma City, Ada and Atoka Railroads. Also, the Oklahoma Railway Company. Call 580-399-8866.

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