

# PERSPECTIVE

October 4, 2024



## **OKFB YF&R hosts more than 2,000 4-H and FFA members at 2024 state fair livestock judging contest**

**O**klahoma Farm Bureau hosted 64 schools, totaling 2,023 4-H and FFA members, at the annual Young Farmers and Ranchers State Fair Livestock Judging Contest Thursday, Sept. 19, at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds. Students rotated through eight breeding classes of cattle, sheep, goats and hogs while evaluating for breeding and market quality. Participants answered two sets of questions about one class of Angus bulls and one class of Hampshire breeding gilts.

The top three individuals in the junior

4-H division were Bennett Landreth; Omega 4-H: 462; Dax Inman, Mulhall-Orlando 4-H: 455; and Hayes Anderson, Purcell 4-H: 449. The top three teams were Fort Gibson 4-H: 1298; Alfalfa County 4-H: 1275; and Silo 4-H: 1274.

The top three individuals in the junior FFA division were Kendra Dillingham, Drummond FFA: 466; Raygen Greathouse; Fort Gibson FFA: 464; and Gracie Gis; Fort Gibson FFA: 463. The top three teams were Fort Gibson FFA: 1385; Checotah FFA: 1346; and Fairland FFA: 1317.

The top three individuals in the senior 4-H division were Madison Hood, Keys 4-H: 476; Kolton Kohler, Grady County 4-H: 468; and Berkley McKaye, Mullhall-Orlando 4-H: 464. The top three teams were the Keys 4-H: 1374; Kay County 4-H: 1352; and Dibble 4-H: 1348.

The top three individuals in the senior FFA division were Oakley Gross, Stillwater FFA: 480; Major Langley, Adair FFA: 478; and Dade Delozier, Adair FFA: 477. The top three teams were Adair FFA: 1412; Stillwater FFA: 1402; and Cushing FFA: 1389.

## OKFB names Westwood head of public policy, Milliman joins department

Oklahoma Farm Bureau has selected Kinsey Westwood to lead the organization's public policy department as senior director of public policy, and has tapped Gage Milliman to join the policy department as a director of public policy.

Westwood has served as OKFB's Senior Public Policy Consultant since 2023 in addition to a previous stint with the organization from 2011-2012. In her new role, Westwood will oversee the advocacy efforts of Oklahoma's largest general farm organization at the state legislature and through the rulemaking and regulatory processes. Westwood will also work with Oklahoma's congressional delegation and federal agencies to advance OKFB's grassroots policies at the federal level.

"I am excited to help Oklahoma's family farmers and ranchers by amplifying their voices and grassroots policy through Farm Bureau's advocacy efforts," Westwood said. "I am proud to help make a difference for Oklahoma agriculture through OKFB's public

policy initiations across the state and in Washington, D.C."

Milliman will advocate for OKFB's grassroots member-developed policies at the state Capitol as director of public policy. Milliman will also work to connect Farm Bureau members from around the state with the legislative process.

Milliman previously served as the northeastern field representative for the organization since 2015 where he worked as a liaison between 14 northeastern county Farm Bureaus and the state organization. Milliman's agriculture background includes raising registered Charolais cattle with his wife, Trista, and son, Henry, in Nowata County.

"After nine years of working with our members and the agricultural community as a member of the OKFB field staff, I feel like I can continue to be an asset to Oklahoma Farm Bureau in our Public Policy Department," Milliman said. "I'm looking forward to getting started in my new role."



## OKFB members invited to share potential impact of Tax Cuts and Jobs act expiration

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members are invited to share their stories of how the expiration of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will impact their operations ahead of a tax roundtable hosted by Congressman Kevin Hern on Tuesday, Oct. 29, in Oklahoma City.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 sunsets at the end of 2025, meaning the end to many beneficial provisions for farmers and ranchers. The result will be increased taxes for most farm households, with the impact varying based on the type of farm.

OKFB anticipates the act's expiration will have major effects on total tax liabilities of farm households, with moderate-sales households experiencing

the largest percentage increase.

Primary changes expected with the expiration of the TCJA include:

**Income tax provisions** (estimated increase of \$4.5 billion)

- Expiration of lower-income tax rates
- Increased standard deduction
- Cap on the deduction for state and local taxes
- Elimination of the personal exemption

**Business tax provisions**

- Elimination of the qualified business income deduction (estimated increase of \$2.2 billion)
- Phasing out of accelerated

depreciation options for farm equipment

**Federal estate and gift tax**

- The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 doubled how much property could be transferred without paying federal estate tax
- Expiration of the TCJA will lower this amount back to 2018 amounts, adjusted for inflation
- Those owing estate taxes will see an increase from 0.3% to 1%. Federal estate taxes are expected to double – from \$572 million to \$1.2 billion. Farm estates required to file an estate tax return will increase from 1.1% to 3.9%

Farm Bureau members or agriculture small business owners with concerns about the effects of these eliminations are invited to submit their concerns or examples of potential impacts to OKFB's Kinsey Westwood at [kinsey.westwood@okfb.org](mailto:kinsey.westwood@okfb.org) before Oct. 28.

## YF&R Charles L. Roff Award applications open through Oct. 25

Applications for the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers Charles L. Roff Award is now open through Friday, Oct. 25.

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau YF&R Charles L. Roff award recognizes the top county YF&R committee that works to improve their local committees while strengthening the Farm Bureau organization. Each county YF&R committee is encouraged to participate by describing the activities hosted or sponsored throughout the year, no matter how large or small the scope.

The award winner will be announced at the 2024 OKFB Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City in November.

The electronic application forms can be found on the applications center page of OKFB's website at [okfarmbureau.org/applications](http://okfarmbureau.org/applications).

For more information on OKFB's YF&R applications, contact Burton Harmon at (405) 523-2300.



## Ag Defense Fundraiser

## OKFB to host Ag Defense fundraiser Dec. 14 in OKC

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is set to host the second-annual Ag Defense Fundraiser Saturday, Dec. 14, at 6 p.m. at Castle Falls in Oklahoma City.

Tickets for the event are \$250 per person. Table sponsorships are available for \$2,500 and include eight seats and recognition at the event.

Funds raised during the evening will support involvement in the political sphere to defend production agriculture from threats that seek to limit the ability of Oklahoma's farm and ranch families to produce food, fiber and fuel in our state.

## OKFB to host annual meeting Nov. 8-10

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is set to host the organization's meeting in Oklahoma City November 8-10 at the Omni Hotel and Convention Center.

OKFB's members will gather to learn from a myriad of speakers, discuss issues and opportunities in agriculture, and set grassroots policy for the coming year.

Leaders will also be elected during the meeting, including OKFB directors for districts two, five and eight, along with Women's Leadership Committee and Young Farmers and Ranchers leaders.

Below is a schedule of events during convention. Please note that the schedule is subject to change:

### Thursday, November 7

4 p.m. .... WLC Committee Meeting  
 5 p.m. .... Collegiate Discussion Meet Orientation  
 5:15 p.m. .... Collegiate Discussion Meet Round One  
 6 p.m. .... Collegiate Discussion Meet Round Two  
 7 p.m. .... Collegiate Discussion Meet Finals

### Friday, November 8

8 a.m. .... State Board Breakfast Meeting  
 8 a.m. .... Credentials Committee Breakfast Meeting  
 8 a.m. .... YF&R Discussion Meet Orientation  
 9 a.m. .... Registration, Trade Show and Silent Auction Open  
 10 a.m. .... County Administrators Training  
 10 a.m. .... County Board Member Training  
 9 a.m. .... YF&R Discussion Meet Round One  
 10 a.m. .... YF&R Discussion Meet Round Two  
 11 a.m. .... Cultivating Healthy Minds Meeting & Luncheon  
 12:30 p.m. .... YF&R Discussion Meet Final Four  
**1:30 p.m. .... Opening General Session**  
 3:15 p.m. .... Breakout: Rural Economic Development  
 3:15 p.m. .... Breakout: Cultivating Healthy Minds  
 3:15 p.m. .... Breakout: Protecting Landowners' Rights in Wind and Solar Leases  
 4:30 p.m. .... WLC Business Meeting  
 4:30 p.m. .... YF&R Dinner & Caucus  
 5:30 p.m. .... WLC Dinner  
**7 p.m. .... OKFB Game Night & Entertainment**

### Saturday, November 9

7:30 a.m. .... OKFB Foundation for Agriculture Flapjack Breakfast  
 7:30 a.m. .... Credentials Committee Breakfast Meeting  
 7:30 a.m. .... Financial Committee Breakfast Meeting  
 7:30 a.m. .... Resolutions Committee Breakfast Meeting  
 8 a.m. .... Registration Opens  
 8:45 a.m. .... OKFBMIC Policyholders Meeting  
 9 a.m. .... Trade Show and Silent Auction Open  
**9:30 a.m. .... General Session**  
 11:45 a.m. .... WLC Advocacy Luncheon  
 12 p.m. .... Credentials Committee Luncheon Meeting  
 1 p.m. .... OKFB District Caucuses (Districts 2, 5 and 8)  
**1:30 p.m. .... General Session**  
 5 p.m. .... Farm Family Reception  
 5 p.m. .... County Presidents Reception  
 5:30 p.m. .... Ag Community Reception  
**7 p.m. .... Dinner & Awards Program**

### Sunday, November 10

7:30 a.m. .... County President Coffee Talk  
 7:30 a.m. .... WLC Coffee Talk  
 7:30 a.m. .... Public Policy Coffee Talk  
**8:45 a.m. .... Worship Service & Group Breakfast**

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## Anderson joins OKFB staff as new northeastern area field representative

**A**lisen Anderson of Fairland has joined Oklahoma Farm Bureau as northeastern field representative.

In her new position, Anderson will assist 14 county Farm Bureaus in northeastern Oklahoma with programs, activities and operations as she serves as a liaison between the county organizations and the statewide OKFB organization.

Anderson joins the OKFB staff after years of involvement in the organization as an active Farm Bureau member. Anderson has served as Ottawa County Farm Bureau president; OKFB Young Farmers and Ranchers Chair with her husband, Jared, from 2022-2023; and on the national level as a member of the American Farm Bureau YF&R committee from 2022-2024.

Anderson also fostered the growth of the Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter at

Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in Miami when she worked as an instructor at the school and served as chapter adviser.

“For years, my Farm Bureau family has pushed and guided me to pursue so many opportunities in agriculture to better our industry,” Anderson said. “Now, I get to give back every day to those same people. I am finally home, right where I belong, working for the farmers and ranchers who are feeding our world. I now get to work alongside of people who dedicate their life to telling the ag story, and I couldn’t be more grateful to be part of their family. I am home.”

Anderson, her husband and her three children own and operate a farm and ranch in Ottawa County where they grow wheat, corn, soybeans and other crops in addition to managing their cattle herd.

