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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

Perspective

May 11, 2018

Texas County Farm Bureau member Joe Mayer appointed to State Board of Agriculture by Gov. Mary Fallin

Texas County Farm Bureau member Joe Mayer of Guymon, Oklahoma, has been appointed by Gov. Mary Fallin and confirmed by the Oklahoma Senate to serve a four-year term as a member of the State Board of Agriculture.

The State Board of Agriculture both promotes and regulates agriculture in Oklahoma. The board has regulatory authority over areas such as animal health, food safety and consumer protection including fertilizer and pesticides, forestry and wildfire management and environmental issues.

"Joe is a leader in the agriculture community whose knowledge and experience will prove valuable in his role on the State Board of Agriculture," said Rodd Moesel, Oklahoma Farm Bureau president. "We're proud to see our longtime member and friend chosen to serve our state's farmers and ranchers."

Mayer grew up on the cattle ranch his great-grandfather established in the Oklahoma Panhandle in 1883. The ranch has grown into a large beef and small-grain operation, which has received national and international recognition for innovation and

willingness to embrace new technologies.

A second-generation Farm Bureau member, Mayer has been actively involved in the farm organization for more than four decades. He represented District One on the OKFB board of directors from 1993 until 2002, and has served on the Texas County Farm Bureau board of directors.

The Texas County member also served on the OKAgFund board of directors, OKFB's political action committee.

Mayer was honored with the Governor's Outstanding Achievement in Agriculture award and inducted into the Oklahoma Agriculture Hall of Fame in 2007.

"Joe Mayer brings a great knowledge of the grain and cattle business to the State Board of Agriculture," Fallin said. "He is at the forefront in the beef industry, and he will use what he has learned from using and adapting the latest technologies to improve ranchers and farmers across our state."

Mayer and his wife, Mary Anne, have three children, Paul, Katie and Margie, who all still work for the family farm and ranch business.



Texas County Farm Bureau member Joe Mayer of Guymon, Okla., will serve a four-year term on the State Board of Agriculture after being appointed by Gov. Mary Fallin and confirmed by the state Senate.



OKFB recognized as platinum-level sponsors of state FFA convention and career show

OKFB President Rodd Moesel (center) receives OKFB's recognition for its platinum-level sponsorship of the 92nd Annual State FFA Convention and Career Show on May 2. He is flanked by Truitt Taylor (left), state FFA secretary, and Beecher Owens (right), northeast area vice president. During remarks on stage, Moesel congratulated FFA members for their outstanding achievements, encouraged students to pursue careers in agriculture, and highlighted OKFB's partnership with FFA to aid in wildfire relief efforts. More than 10,000 FFA members attended the convention held May 1-2 at the Cox Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City.

Logan County Farm Bureau members help celebrate Certified Angus Beef brand's 40th anniversary with barn painting

Logan County Farm Bureau members John and Gaye Pfeiffer hosted ranchers, community leaders, state agricultural organizations, family and friends at the family's ranch near Mulhall, Oklahoma, on April 27 to commemorate a barn painting celebrating the Certified Angus Beef® brand's 40th anniversary.

The Pfeiffers' barn was chosen as one of 40 barns across the country to be painted with the brand's logo as a part of its anniversary celebration.

John Pfeiffer – Logan County Farm Bureau president, vice president and vice chairman of the American Angus

Association and former president of the Certified Angus Beef board of directors – is the fourth generation to raise cattle in Logan County on land originally homesteaded the day after the historic land run.

The day also was commemorated with a proclamation from Gov. Mary Fallin, who declared April 27, 2018 "Pfeiffer Family 'Brand the Barn' and Certified Angus Beef® Celebration Day."

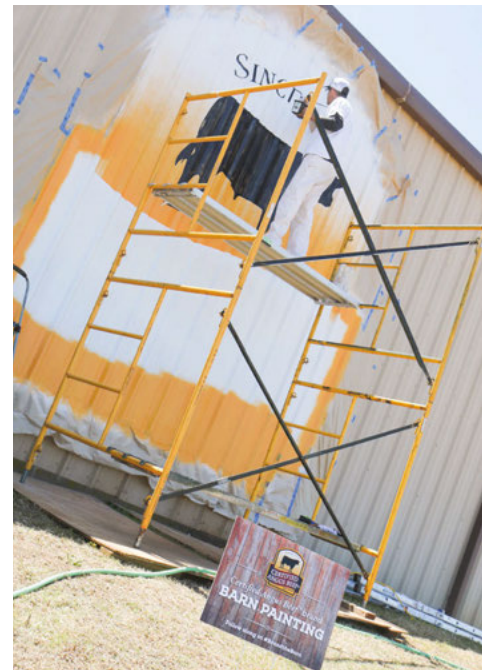
The Pfeiffer family produces Certified Angus Beef® brand beef, which is required to meet 10 quality standards.

"On the average, we can expect about an increase of \$30 per calf for those that

meet the Certified Angus Beef® brand specifications," John Pfeiffer said. "It's been very instrumental in providing extra margins for cattlemen that try to breed and produce for the brand."

Pfeiffer said Oklahoma consumers can find Certified Angus Beef® products at licensed retailers across the state including Crest Foods and Reasor's stores.

The Certified Angus Beef® brand was established in 1978 by the American Angus Association with a mission of supporting Angus farming families by driving demand for their cattle via a brand of consistently premium beef.



John and Gaye Pfeiffer, Logan County Farm Bureau members, celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Certified Angus Beef brand with a painting of the brand's logo on their barn near Mulhall April 27. The Pfeiffers' barn was chosen as one of 40 barns across the country to be painted.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



Browse pictures from the 2018 Congressional Action Tour on the OKFB Flickr page

More than 30 OKFB members advocated for agriculture and rural Oklahoma in our nation's capital during the 2018 Congressional Action Tour April 16-20. Find pictures of the weeklong trip on the OKFB Flickr page at [flickr.com/okfarmbureau](https://www.flickr.com/okfarmbureau).



Read the Spring 2018 issue of *Oklahoma Country* online now

The latest issue of OKFB's membership magazine, *Oklahoma Country*, hit mailboxes just a few weeks ago. Make sure to read it online and share it with your friends! Find the digital edition by clicking "Publications" under the "News" tab on the OKFB website.



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Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation announces fund matching program and donation distribution plans for wildfire relief

The Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation has created a matching program and selected two additional worthy causes to begin distributing fire relief donations the organization has collected to help victims of the 2018 springtime Oklahoma wildfires.

The foundation will match donations up to \$1,000 from each 4-H club and FFA chapter that raises funds to be donated to Oklahoma rural volunteer fire departments located in areas affected by recent wildfires in Oklahoma. The foundation board of directors is also issuing a challenge to County Farm Bureaus to contribute their own matching funds to Oklahoma 4-H and FFA members' efforts.

In addition to the matching program, the foundation will contribute \$500 to families of 4-H and FFA members who lost homes to wildfires. The foundation will work with the Oklahoma 4-H Foundation, Oklahoma State University Extension and the Oklahoma FFA Foundation to identify and distribute funds to affected families.

The foundation will also partner with the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association by donating \$40,000 to the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Foundation to provide fencing and other farm and ranch supplies to agriculture producers affected by the wildfires.

"The Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation board wanted to find a variety of ways to help with immediate fire relief needs," foundation President David VonTungeln said. "While our

matching program allows us to partner with our state's agriculture youth to maximize assistance to rural volunteer fire departments, our donation to 4-H and FFA families as well as the Cattlemen's Foundation allows us to help our rural neighbors with getting back on their feet as soon as possible."

Information and applications for the rural volunteer fire department donation matching program with 4-H clubs and FFA chapters can be found on the foundation's website at OKFarmingAndRanchingFoundation.org/WildfireMatchingProgram.

"Agriculture is such a tight-knit community, and we appreciate the efforts everyone across the nation has made to helping people affected by the wildfires," VonTungeln said. "These immediate programs are important, but we also recognize the long-term effects wildfire has, and the foundation will continue accepting donations and looking for more ways to help fire victims."

Donations can be made by mailing checks to the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation, 2501 N. Stiles, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. The foundation also can accept donations via PayPal on the foundation's website at OKFarmingAndRanchingFoundation.org. When donating, please designate that the funds are for wildfire relief.

Learn more about foundation programs at OKFarmingAndRanchingFoundation.org.

Businesses affected by wildfires offered low-interest federal disaster loans

Oklahoma businesses and homeowners affected by wildfires in Blaine, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Major, Roger Mills and Woodward counties now are eligible to receive low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, following a request by Gov. Mary Fallin.

Businesses of all sizes may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets. The SBA also can lend additional funds to help with the cost of improvements to protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage in the future.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Interest loans can be as low as 3.58 percent for businesses, 2.5 percent for private nonprofit organizations and 1.813 percent of homeowners and renters with terms up to 30 years.

Two Disaster Loan Outreach Centers will be set up through May 24 to answer questions about the disaster loan program, explain the application process, and help individuals fill out applications. No appointment is necessary. Visit disasterloan.sba.gov to learn more.

Dewey County

Taloga Christian Church
307 E. Ruble Ave. • Taloga

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Closes May 23 at 6:30 p.m.*

Woodward County

High Plains Technology Center
3921 34th St. • Woodward

Thursdays and Fridays
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Closes May 24 at 6 p.m.*



The OKFB YF&R donate more than \$6,000 to wildfire relief efforts and the OKFB Legal Foundation following its annual golf tournament held May 4 at the Cedar Valley Golf Club in Guthrie.



YF&R raise more than \$6,000 at annual golf tournament

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers raised more than \$6,000 at their annual golf tournament to help fire relief efforts for rural Oklahomans and support the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation.

The tournament was held Friday, May 4, at Cedar Valley Golf Club in Guthrie. Fifteen teams competed in the scramble-style tournament, which is coordinated by the OKFB YF&R state committee.

The Cleveland County Farm Bureau team won first place with Kent Washburn, Marty Fuller, Jim Packer and Freddy Wisdom. Oklahoma AgCredit came in second with team members Kyle Fir, Butch McComas,

Steven Davenport and Marty Meyor. The third-place team was the Alfalfa County Farm Bureau team with Terry Ryel, Curtis McMahan, Chad Kisling and Eric Smith. The top three teams had their choice of gift cards and tickets to both University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University football games. The prize for longest drive was awarded to Amy Wilson.

“Our young farmers and ranchers are proud to help our state’s agriculture industry through this tournament,” OKFB YF&R State Chairman Brent Howard said. “With the help of our great sponsors, we are honored to help raise funds to assist our rural neighbors who were affected by

wildfires. We also appreciate the work the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation does to support farmers and ranchers in their legal battles, so it was important to our committee to donate tournament proceeds to the foundation as well.”

Title sponsors for the tournament were BancFirst, Caddy County Farm Bureau, John Vance Auto Group, McAfee & Taft, Oklahoma Farm Bureau Insurance, Oklahoma Youth Expo, Pottawatomie County Farm Bureau, Rachel Pickens Realtor, Servicemaster of Stillwater, The Oklahoma Pork Council and Woodward County Farm Bureau.



Oklahoma County Farm Bureau member honored with 2017 OACD Outstanding District Cooperator Award

Oklahoma County Farm Bureau member Curt Roberts (center) is presented with the Oklahoma Association of Conservation District’s 2017 Outstanding District Cooperator Award during a ceremony on April 12. The award is presented annually to an individual who does an outstanding job implementing conservation practices and using creative approaches to land management.

Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation, OKFB partner with Oklahoma FFA to provide more than 1 million protein sticks to feed hungry Oklahoma children

Oklahoma FFA members celebrated achieving their FFA Hunger Challenge goal at the Oklahoma FFA Convention May 2, as chapters were recognized for donating enough animals and money to the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation's Beef for Backpacks and Pork for Packs programs to make 1,066,437 protein sticks for Oklahoma children facing food insecurity.

Between May 1, 2017, and April 1, 2018, FFA members donated 388 animals and \$5,337 in cash to the foundation's Beef for Backpacks and Pork for Packs programs for the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma Food for Kids program.

The Food for Kids program provides food for weekends and school holidays to 34,000 chronically hungry elementary school children in the state through the backpack programs. Each backpack contains a beef or pork protein stick.

"As farmers and ranchers, we believe feeding the hungry is our greatest responsibility," said Thad Doye, Oklahoma Farm Bureau executive director. "No child should go hungry in a state with such deep roots in agriculture."

Hollis FFA chapter in southwest Oklahoma donated 34 animals, the most from any chapter. Merritt chapter donated 19, Yukon, 18, Altus, Porter and Thomas-Fay-Custer donated 11 each, and the Elk City chapter donated 10 animals.

According to the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and the Community Food Bank



A Merritt FFA member (center) is recognized for the chapter's contribution to the 2018 Oklahoma FFA Hunger Challenge alongside OKFB Executive Director Thad Doye (right) and Nikki Snider of the Oklahoma Pork Council during the Oklahoma FFA Convention May 2.

of Eastern Oklahoma, the protein sticks from each donated animal are given to children in the county of the donating FFA chapter.

"The results on the April 1, 2018, deadline were a huge success by any measure," said Jack Staats, state FFA advisor and state agricultural education program administrator at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education. "Oklahoma FFA chapters provided more than enough pork and beef protein sticks to supply every hungry child's

backpack for well over a year."

The money used to process the pigs and calves came from chapters that sold donated lambs and goats at auction. Also, in lieu of an animal, some FFA chapters donate cash through the Cents Makes Sense program by contributing one dollar from each fundraising item sold.

Also partnering with the Oklahoma FFA Association in the Hunger Challenge were the Oklahoma Pork Council, Wes and Lou Watkins, Tulsa State Fair, Oklahoma Youth Expo and Ag Youth Magazine.

Member Benefits

Beltone Hearing Aid Centers

Beltone Hearing Aid Centers offer members a free, no-obligation hearing evaluation, plus a 15 percent discount on hearing aid purchases at all Oklahoma locations.

For the Beltone Center locations, call 800-BELTONE. Find more OKFB member benefits at www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits.

www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits

Calendar

On the Road with Ag in the Classroom

June 12-14 • Oklahoma

Contact: Marcia Irvin 405-523-2405

National Ag in the Classroom conference

June 26-29 • Portland, Maine

Contact: Marcia Irvin 405-523-2405

Nurse's Scholarship Application Deadline

July 1

Contact: Marcia Irvin 405-523-2405

Published by Oklahoma Farm Bureau
Postmaster: Send address corrections to:
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Carter County Farm Bureau hosts Bike Safety Days for local elementary students

More than 1,500 students attended the Carter County Farm Bureau Bike Safety Days April 16-20 at elementary schools across the county. First- and second-grade students learned how to keep themselves and others safe while riding their bikes during the classes hosted by OKFB's Safety Services team. The Carter County Farm Bureau also awarded two students at each school with a free bike. To learn how to host a safety event, visit okfarmbureau.org/safety.

Members and community enjoy free lunch during Grant County Farm Bureau hamburger feed in Medford



Grant County Farm Bureau fed more than 100 people at its hamburger feed April 25 in Medford. Agent Marcie Lusk, Agency Manager Jimmy Harmon and Grant County Conservation District's Doug Fitch served the burgers for county members and the community.