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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

Perspective

March 29, 2019

OKFB announces new member discount on Ford, Lincoln vehicles

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members now can save on purchases of select new Ford and Lincoln vehicles through the organization's new member benefit partnership with Ford Motor Company.

The new benefit gives OKFB members \$500 in Farm Bureau Bonus Cash off the purchase or lease of an eligible new Ford vehicle and \$750 in Farm Bureau Bonus Cash off the purchase or lease of an eligible new Lincoln vehicle.

To take advantage of the savings, OKFB members can print a savings certificate at FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com or visit their authorized Ford or Lincoln dealer for qualifications and complete details. You must be an OKFB member at least 30 days prior to using the Farm Bureau Bonus Cash.

"Ford Motor Company remains dedicated to expanding our Farm Bureau association and we are extremely pleased to now include the Oklahoma Farm Bureau,"

said Kevin Cour, U.S. retail operations director. "Ford continues to support the ever-important sector of agriculture and farming for what it means to those wholly committed to feeding the nation – and the world – in regularly challenged economic and environmental conditions. If we can help this vital group of hard-working Americans to own an F-150, the nation's best-selling truck for 42 years, our nation's farmers get equipment that can work as hard as they do."

The Ford and Lincoln member benefit adds to OKFB's portfolio of more than 40 discounts and benefits available to the members of Oklahoma's largest general farm organization. To learn more about the Ford and Lincoln benefit and to view all of OKFB's benefits, visit okfarmbureau.org/benefits.

Legislative Update: Massive cuts to legislation in last two weeks

It was the middle of March in the year 44 B.C. that Julius Caesar was killed during a meeting of the Roman Senate. Around 200 pieces of legislation met the same fate during that time period in the year 2019 at the Oklahoma State Capitol. The total number of bills left active for this session is down again since our last *Perspective* report and now stands at approximately 800.

Many Farm Bureau priority issues remain eligible and are advancing through the process. House Bill 1048 by Representative Danny Sterling and Senator Julie Daniels would protect private property rights by assuring water rights could not be taken through any eminent domain proceedings.

House Bill 2051 by Representative Mike Sanders and Senator Casey Murdock would remove a loophole in state law that currently prohibits retired municipal firefighters from serving as a volunteers in rural fire departments.

Senate Bill 392 by Senator Michael Bergstrom and Representative Toni Hasenbeck tackles the growing issue of "fake meat" and would prohibit the labeling of a product as meat if it is not derived from harvested livestock or poultry.

As always, please contact the Public Policy team if you have questions or if you would like to schedule a visit to the Capitol.



OKFB supports ag youth at 2019 OYE premium sale

Oklahoma Farm Bureau was proud to once again purchase and partner on purchasing premiums at the 2019 Oklahoma Youth Expo Sale of Champions on Friday, March 22 in Oklahoma City.

OKFB purchased premiums on 26 animals, including steers, barrows, lambs and goats. OKFB also added on money to 35 exhibitors' premiums in addition to purchasing the chalice for grand-champion steer shown by Cierra Collins of Tillman County 4-H.

Before the sale started, OKFB was recognized as the 2018 volume buyer for purchasing the most animals at last year's sale.



Kate Jackson, a Mountain View-Gotebo FFA member, exhibits her barrow during the sale.



Connor Anthony, Bethel 4-H, braces his lamb during the Sale of Champions.



Mooreland FFA member Tate Vanderwork sells his steer at the Sale of Champions.



OKFB was proud to purchase the chalice for the grand-champion steer at OYE exhibited by Cierra Collins with Tillman County 4-H.

WLC and YF&R meet fellow members from across the nation at FUSION

Almost 40 Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee and Young Farmers and Ranchers members attended the 2019 American Farm Bureau FUSION conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, March 15-18.

WLC and YF&R members attended numerous sessions and heard from a variety of presenters and speakers who

shared thoughts and ideas about growing in agriculture. Members also had the opportunity to embark upon local tours in the Milwaukee area and enjoy evening events with Farm Bureau members from around the nation.

A highlight of the conference for OKFB was Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Collegiate Farm Bureau member Nathania

McKenzie representing Oklahoma in the AFBF collegiate discussion meet, making it to the sweet 16 round of competition.

The AFBF FUSION conference brings together Farm Bureau leaders from across the country representing state Women's Leadership, Young Farmers & Ranchers and Promotion & Education programs.



Above: Nathania McKenzie of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Collegiate Farm Bureau speaks during the AFBF collegiate discussion meet at FUSION. McKenzie made it to the sweet 16 round of the competition.



Above: WLC Chair Mignon Bolay, fellow OKFB council members and other women's committee members from across the country packaged roughly 10,000 meals to be distributed in the Milwaukee area.

Foundation for Agriculture accepting donations for storm relief

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture is accepting donations to help farmers and ranchers affected by late winter storms that brought high amounts of snow and rainfall, causing widespread flooding in Nebraska and other neighboring states.

“Our hearts go out to our northern neighbors who have had their lives upended and their livelihoods threatened

by these incredible storms and disastrous flooding,” said David VonTungeln, OKFB Foundation for Agriculture president.

“Even in these times of tragedy, we have witnessed farmers and ranchers going to extreme lengths to care for their animals and help their communities, and we at the foundation want to do our part to help provide relief on their long road to recovery.”

All storm relief donations collected by

the foundation will be used to assist those who have been impacted by the springtime storms and floods.

To donate, mail checks to the OKFB Foundation for Agriculture, 2501 N. Stiles, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. The foundation also can accept donations via PayPal on the foundation’s website at OKFBFoundationForAgriculture.org/donate. Please designate donations are for springtime storm relief.

Applications now being accepted for youth leadership conference

Are you wanting to explore what potential career opportunities are available in the agricultural industry? Or maybe you’d like to learn more about how policy moves through the state Capitol? Then the Oklahoma Youth Leading Agriculture program sounds like the place for you!

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee is now accepting applications for its OYLA program to be held June 25-28, 2019 in Oklahoma City.

This unique four-day summer leadership conference is designed specifically for high school students completing their junior year in 2019.

The conference will include special leadership classes, exciting speakers, team building, fellowship and visits to agriculture-related industries. Selected students should be among the top, well rounded students in their class, and should have an interest in furthering their education at the post-secondary level.

OYLA participants will stay in OKC with

conference activities located at the OKFB home office and around the metro area.

The cost to attend the conference is \$100 to be paid by the county Farm Bureau.

Applications for the conference are available at county Farm Bureau offices or may be downloaded on the OKFB website. To be considered, applications must be postmarked by May 9, 2019. Only one student per school will be accepted.

For more information, contact OKFB YF&R Coordinator Zac Swartz at zac.swartz@okfb.org or 405-523-2406.



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New legislation provides economic boost to 4-H, FFA students

A recently introduced U.S. House bill would give an economic boost to young people in agriculture by allowing 4-H and FFA students ages 21 and younger to keep more of the modest income they earn. The students can turn around and put the money toward higher education or future agricultural projects.

The Student Agriculture Protection Act of 2019, or H.R. 1770, would create a

tax exemption for the first \$5,000 of income students earn from projects completed through 4-H or FFA.

“The long-term sustainability of agriculture depends on talented young people pursuing careers in farming and ranching, as well as related fields and food-chain professions,” said American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall. “Student agricultural projects

encourage interest in fields of study that will provide the next generation of farmers, ranchers, food scientists, agricultural engineers, agronomists, horticulturalists and soil scientists.”

The Farm Bureau-supported measure was introduced by Rep. Michael McCaul (R-Texas).