

PERSPECTIVE

December 3, 2021



People • Purpose • Possibilities

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION

JANUARY 7-12, 2022 • ATLANTA, GA

Growing Tomorrow. Together

Join OKFB for the 2022 AFBF Convention in Atlanta

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members are invited to attend the 2022 American Farm Bureau Convention Jan. 7-12, 2022, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Farm Bureau members will have the chance to hear from powerful speakers, explore the trade show, attend educational workshops and explore Georgia agriculture.

A virtual option will be available to those who cannot travel to Atlanta. The cost of virtual registration is \$25 per person and can be found on the AFBF convention website.

To register to attend the AFBF Convention in person, contact Melisa Neal by **Dec. 6** at (405) 523-2475.

SPEAKERS

JEFF ALLEN

Comedian

Centering his shows on marriage and family, comedian Jeff Allen is a hit with all ages, even appearing on Dry Bar Comedy, Netflix, Amazon, Huckabee, Pureflix, Showtime, Comedy Central, VH1, and more.

JIM “MURPH” MURPHY

Founder and Chairman
of Afterburn

Flying missions to Central America, Asia, Central Europe and the Middle East while serving as a flight leader in the U.S. Air Force, Jim “Murph” Murphy offers a unique perspective to the world of leadership and business.

ZIPPY DUVALL

President, American Farm
Bureau Federation

Serving as the president of the American Farm Bureau Federation since 2016, Zippy Duvall is a third-generation farmer from Georgia where he raises beef cows, broiler chickens and hay, while restoring the land he inherited.

OKFB Annual Meeting photos now available on Flickr

While Oklahoma Farm Bureau's largest gathering of members may be behind us, photos captured throughout the weekend are now available in our online photo gallery.

Below are just a few of the photos available. To access all of them, visit okfb.news/ConventionPhotos21.



Havens joins OKFB communications department

Oklahoma Farm Bureau recently named Rachel Havens as the organization's assistant director of media relations and advocacy communications.

Havens will work in the communications and public relations department to develop and grow relationships with news media statewide to expand the organization's reach in promoting the interest and work of OKFB members and Oklahoma agriculture. She will also promote the organization's advocacy efforts for OKFB's grassroots members.

"Although I didn't grow up in production agriculture, this industry is largely responsible for shaping me into the person I am today," Havens said. "Serving in this role is an incredible

opportunity to give back to Oklahoma agriculture and – most importantly – the families and individuals who center their livelihoods around it."

Havens will work closely with OKFB's public policy team to coordinate communications and disseminate information to OKFB members, the media and the public.

Havens previously served as a marketing coordinator for the Oklahoma State University Student Union. Hailing from Stillwater, Oklahoma, she received her bachelor's degree in animal science and her master's degree in agricultural communications from OSU. Havens currently resides in Oklahoma City with her husband Brandon.



Rachel Havens

OKFB gives back to service members through All American Beef Battalion

Oklahoma Farm Bureau was proud to donate \$2,500 to the All American Beef Battalion fundraiser Nov. 22 at the Oklahoma National Stockyards.

In cooperation with fellow agriculture leaders, the money raised through the event will go on to purchase a steak dinner for countless service men and women.

The All American Beef Battalion is a non-profit organization that works to promote the beef industry while supporting service members and their families. To learn more about the program, visit steaksfortroops.com.



Statewide agriculture leaders gathered to raise money for the All American Beef Battalion Nov. 22.



The funds raised through the event will go on to purchase steak dinners for service members.



Lt. Gov. Matt Pinnell stopped by the All American Beef Battalion fundraiser to thank donors for their contributions.

OKFB's Legal Foundation supports AFBF and NPPC's Supreme Court petition regarding California's prop. 12

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation has joined forces with agriculture groups and business organizations from around the country to submit a group amicus curiae – or “friend of the court” – brief supporting the American Farm Bureau Federation and National Pork Producers Council’s Supreme Court petition to hear their appeal relating to California’s Proposition 12.

Proposition 12 sets housing requirements for farm animals raised for food products sold in California. Agriculture groups across the nation argue that the requirements are more costly, less efficient, not scientifically based and do not consider best animal husbandry practices.

The ballot initiative was passed by California voters in 2018, and is being implemented in two phases, with the first phase implemented in 2020 and the second phase taking effect in 2022.

The OKFB Legal Foundation and other friends of the court discuss two primary reasons for the Supreme Court to hear the petition: economic consequences and the violation of interstate commerce.

Economic Consequences

Few pork producers in the United States currently meet California’s standards. Compliance with this law would require any producer selling their products in California to abide by these regulations, regardless of their

operation’s geographical location.

The brief expresses the potential this has to create enormous economic consequences felt by both producers and consumers. Consumers purchasing pork products would see an increase in prices on grocery store shelves due to the producer-incurred cost of changing their operation’s infrastructure, while failure to comply with the set regulations would deny producers access to California’s market entirely.

Interstate Commerce

Partners in the brief argue requiring out-of-state producers to comply with a California law in order to conduct business within the state imposes extraterritorial requirements that impede interstate commerce and go against the idea of horizontal federalism, or the freedom to move goods from state to state.

About the OKFB Legal Foundation

The OKFB Legal Foundation exists to protect Oklahoma farmers and ranchers and their ability to raise crops and livestock in the best manner they know. The foundation is proud to stand with the North Carolina Pork Council, the North Carolina Chamber Legal Institute, the North Carolina, Arizona, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Tennessee and Texas Farm Bureaus and other organizations on this important issue.



28th Annual
TULSA
Farm Show

Sponsored by
 **OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU**

December 9-11



Thursday and Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Saturday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Build Back Better Act would hurt rural America

After reviewing the Build Back Better Act, American Farm Bureau shared their concerns with legislators about the effects it could have on rural America. While appreciative of the efforts to protect farmers and ranchers, the proposed tax provisions are very concerning. President Zippy Duvall commented on the Build Back Better Act.

"After watching months of contentious, partisan debate surrounding the Build Back Better Act, AFBF stands in opposition to the legislation.

"While some elements of the reconciliation package would benefit agriculture, the massive amount of spending and tax increases required to pay for the plan outweigh the gains we would see in rural America. We appreciate House efforts to protect farmers and ranchers by leaving key tax provisions untouched. Thousands of small businesses, however, would still be affected by tax increases, forcing them to pass increased costs to families across the nation.

"The economy is still recovering from the pandemic, supply chains are stressed, and inflation is putting pressure on America's pocketbooks. Now is not the time to put an additional burden on families struggling to make ends meet. We urge lawmakers to find common ground and work in a bipartisan manner to address the challenges facing our nation."

To read the full statement from AFBF President Zippy Duvall, visit okfb.news/3CqKhjM.

Apply to receive a
\$1,000
scholarship



OKFB YF&R scholarship applications now available

Do you know someone who could benefit from a \$1,000 scholarship towards their education? Applications for the 2022 Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers high school and Collegiate Farm Bureau scholarships are officially open.

Nine high school seniors and one Collegiate Farm Bureau member will be selected to receive a scholarship toward their studies in an agriculture program.

For more details about the YF&R scholarship, visit okfb.news/applications.