

PERSPECTIVE

July 2, 2021

OKFB hosts 18 students for YF&R summer program

Some of Oklahoma's top agricultural youth participated in Oklahoma Farm Bureau's Oklahoma Youth Leading Agriculture conference June 14-18.

An educational and leadership opportunity sponsored by OKFB's Young Farmers and Ranchers, the 18 participants met with and learned from some of the top agricultural leaders in our state while touring area agricultural facilities and expanding their leadership skills.

Tour stops throughout the week included the Oklahoma National

Stockyards, American Plant Products and Krehbiel Farms.

Students also had the chance to participate in several team-building exercises at the University of Central Oklahoma ropes course, learned how to work as a team through DISC training, give back to those in need by volunteering at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and learn how to communicate about agriculture through a communications and media training opportunity.

The students also heard from a number of state agricultural leaders

including Kelli Payne, ONSY; Michael Kelsey, Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association; RJ Gray, Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council; Secretary of Agriculture Blayne Arthur; Kylee Deniz, Oklahoma Pork Council; Nikki Snider, Oklahoma Beef Council; Audrey Harmon, Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom; and Ginger Reimer, Oklahoma Soybean Board.

To conclude the week, participants toured the state Capitol with OKFB public policy staff and learned about the legislative process within the state.



OKFB YF&R to host shotgun shoot Aug. 28

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers is set to host their third annual shotgun shoot Aug. 28 at Quail Ridge Hunting and Sporting Clays in McCloud, Oklahoma.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, which strives to connect consumers of all ages with individuals who work daily to produce their food and fiber.

Check-in will begin at 8 a.m., followed by shooting at 9 a.m. Lunch will be provided to all event participants and will be served at 11:30 a.m. Prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the event.

Space is limited to 40 teams total with an adult and high school division. The cost to enter a team of four is \$375 and an individual entry is \$100. Pre-registration is required for the event and must be submitted no later than Aug. 13.

Those interested in becoming a sponsor must submit their logo and payment no later than Aug. 5.

For more information regarding registration and sponsorships, contact Zac Swartz at (405) 523-2300.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Platinum - \$750

Includes two four-person teams, logo on the event sign and station sponsorship

Gold - \$500

Includes one four-person team and station sponsorship



Registration now available for OKFB WLC Fall Conference Aug. 27-28

Women from across the state are encouraged to attend the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee Fall Conference Aug. 27-28 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Edmond.

Featuring speakers, breakout sessions, a trade show and a community service project, the two day event is free to all OKFB women and will be filled with fun and fellowship.

Attendees are encouraged to bring an item for the silent auction benefiting the OKFB Legal Foundation, which works to serve farmers and ranchers through engaging in public interest litigation and researching ag and rural legal issues.

To attend the conference, visit okfb.news/WLCCConf21 and complete the registration form by July 27. Hotel rooms are available at the Hilton Garden Inn Edmond for \$109 per night and may be reserved by contacting the hotel at (405) 285-0900. Hotel rooms must be booked before July 27 to receive the discounted rate.

For more information and details about the conference, contact Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2300.

The latest details on the event can be found online at okfarmbureau.org or by visiting us on social media.

Members of OKFB WLC attend OK Ag in the Classroom tour



Educators from across the state gathered in western Oklahoma recently for Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom's Ag on Route 66 summer conference. Throughout the trip, teachers had the opportunity to learn about a variety of different agricultural industries in the region and gain hands-on experience they can implement in their classrooms. During the trip, OKFB WLC committee members Karen Dodson and Sandi Berry each hosted attendees to share their involvement within agriculture and their family operations.

OKFB shares medical marijuana impacts on producers with DTN/Progressive Farmer

Oklahoma Farm Bureau President Rodd Moesel shared the concerns of farmers and ranchers with Oklahoma's rapidly expanding medical marijuana in a recent DTN/Progressive Farmer story.

Many producers are concerned about the impact the industry could have on private property rights, rural electric, water capacities and critical pesticide and fertilizer application, Moesel said.

"It's a challenge for us at Farm Bureau where we're big on private property rights and so forth," Moesel said. "A lot of the things people talk about as solutions can take away rights from the farm farmers. We're trying to be real careful. We don't want to take long-term actions for short-term problems."

OKFB joined a task force along with other state agriculture organizations to review and address issues facing farmers and ranchers.

To read the full DTN/Progressive Farmer story, visit okfb.news/3wNKM5k.

Donations being accepted for Bushels for Books program

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee has joined together with the OKFB Foundation for Agriculture to continue the Bushels for Books Program, ensuring accurate agriculture books make it into the hands of students across the state.

Books will be selected by the WLC from a comprehensive list of accurate agriculture books from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's book database.

As harvest continues throughout the state, producers have the chance to be involved in the process by donating a portion of their harvested crops.

For farmers

Agricultural producers wishing to donate harvested crops, please download, print, and complete a Bushels for Books form, and take a completed donation form to your

local coop or grain elevator to designate how many bushels you would like to donate to the program.

For co-ops and grain marketers

Market the donated grain immediately and deposit the funds into an account for the OKFB Foundation for Agriculture. Please collect the completed donation form the producer turns in and mail it to the foundation with the payment. We will send a tax receipt directly to the producer.

Donations can also be made by check and mailed to:

*Oklahoma Farm Bureau Foundation
for Agriculture
2501 N. Stiles
Oklahoma City, OK 73105*

To access the donation forms, visit okfb.news/bfb21.

For more information, contact Holly Carroll at (405) 523-2300.

OKFB Legal Foundation supports campaign against Colorado initiative


The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation recently donated \$5,000 to the Coloradans for Animal Care campaign against Colorado Initiative 16, a citizen-led proposal that would have far-reaching implications for livestock producers across the country.

The measure, which was struck down by the Colorado Supreme Court June 21, would have outlawed proven animal care practices including spaying and neutering, artificial insemination and pregnancy diagnosis, banned the slaughter of animals who have lived less than 25% of their estimated lifespan, and opened the door to animal cruelty prosecution for common activities including rodeos, livestock shows and trail rides.

"Colorado Initiative 16 isn't just concerning for our neighbors in Colorado; it's a threat to livestock producers everywhere, including in Oklahoma," said Rodd Moesel, OKFB president. "The proposed measure would devastate Colorado's beef, dairy, grain and forage sectors, causing widespread impacts on agricultural economies across the region. Farmers and ranchers lead the way in animal care, so it's important we stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow producers to protect the critical agriculture industry."

The initiative was struck down by the state's Supreme Court for violating the state's single-subject rule. If the authors of this initiative were interested in pursuing this at a later date, they would be forced to start again and resubmit another initiative for consideration.

Funded by OKFB members, the Legal Foundation serves farmers, ranchers and rural Oklahomans through engaging in public interest litigation and researching ag and rural legal issues.



Bushels for Books
Providing accurate agriculture books to educate today's youth

Oklahoma Farm Bureau
Women's Leadership Committee
FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURE

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