OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

PERSPECTIVE

October 16, 2026

Ten rural entrepreneurs pitch innovative ideas at OKFB's annual Demo Day

Ten rural Oklahoma innovators pitched their business ideas to a group of investors and guests at Oklahoma Farm Bureau's Oklahoma Grassroots Rural and Ag Business Accelerators Demo Day on Thursday, Oct. 8, in Oklahoma City.

Demo Day serves as the capstone of the 2026 Activate Oklahoma and AgCelerate Oklahoma innovation pipeline cohorts, which featured innovators with business ideas to benefit both agriculture and rural Oklahoma.

Each participant had five minutes to present their business venture or innovation to Demo Day attendees. Each company also hosted a booth where they showcased their ideas and visited one-on-one with potential investors, guests and Farm Bureau members after presenting their pitches.

Activate Oklahoma rural innovation pipeline participants included Blank Slate Learning Group of Norman, an AI-enabled video platform that teaches kindergarten through eighth-grade students science; Industrial Marketing and Safety Solutions of Stroud, a platform to ensure food processing facilities operate with the highest safety standards; NicomaNet Technologies of Choctaw, which has developed AI-powered food safety and consumer protection platforms for manufacturers and consumers; NR Heart of Perkins, a digital platform designed to support daily blood pressure management outside of clinical care; Remote Ready OK of Jones, an AI-powered training program placing underemployed rural Oklahomans into remote startup careers; and TriPoint Innovations of Stillwater, which has developed a GPS-based location awareness and communication device for hunters and outdoor users.

AgCelerate Oklahoma agriculture innovation pipeline participants included EqTek of Jones, a suite of smart record-keeping and farm monitoring products for horses; JKS Farm Consultants of Oklahoma City, which has created an innovative bioactive seaweed product to improve row crop efficiency and maximize yield; MedX of Cordell, a unique medical dart used to treat cattle with a marking feature making it easy to identify treated cattle; and SuperBlend Organics of Elk City, a fertilizer that deploys concentrated beneficial microbes to improve soil fertility and increase nutrient efficiency.

The ten businesses will now be considered for possible capital investment by investment partners who attended Demo Day.

A graduation ceremony was held for the ten entrepreneurs at the conclusion of Demo Day, marking their completion of their participation in OKFB's intensive, hands-on curriculum.

"(This program) has helped me develop a better business plan and a better plan of attack, but also putting a lot of important people in front of me to see and to make this product work," said Kevin Sanchez of JKS Farm Consultants.

The Oklahoma Grassroots Rural and Ag Business Accelerators program is a rural development initiative from OKFB and program partners that provides a comprehensive business curriculum to rural Oklahoma innovators based in communities with a population of 50,000 or less. The program has two pipelines for rural innovators: Activate Oklahoma for businesses with innovations across a wide array of industries and AgCelerate Oklahoma for innovators with an agriculture-specific idea or product.

Make a plan to vote Nov. 3 with OKFB endorsed candidates, yes on SQ 847

Oklahoma voters will head to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 3, for the 2026 general election.

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Ag Fund, OKFB's member-led political action committee, has endorsed a full slate of candidates running for statewide office as well as candidates running for positions in the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma Senate. Candidates endorsed by the Ag Fund appear on the opposite page.

Voters will also vote on two state questions that look to make changes to property valuations for tax purposes and adjust requirements for Oklahoma's judicial nominating commission.

OKFB officially supports SQ 847, which changes the Oklahoma constitution by reducing the valuation assessment caps on real property, which is used to determine property tax. Read the full article below to learn more about SQ 847 and be sure to vote "yes" on the measure on Nov. 3.

SQ 845 would make changes to Oklahoma's judicial nominating commission, which is a 15-member commission that nominates candidates for state judges and justices for consideration by Oklahoma's governor when there is a vacancy. OKFB has no official position on SQ 845. More details about the measure is on OKFB's 2026 online voter guide, which can be found at **okfb.news/vote26**.

OKFB supports passage of SQ 847, reducing property valuation caps for taxes

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is urging Oklahomans to vote "yes" on SQ 847, which will appear on the Nov. 3, 2026, general election ballot.

SQ 847 aims to change the Oklahoma constitution by reducing the maximum amount that real property valuations can increase in a year. Real property valuations, or assessments, are used to determine the amount of property tax Oklahomans pay each year.

The measure would reduce the cap on annual valuation increases of most real property from 5% to 4% with homesteads and agricultural land having their annual growth cap reduced from 3% to 1.75%.

Simply put, if SQ 847 passes, the amount of property tax that Oklahomans pay will grow more slowly over time compared to current maximum allowed growth rates.

"Oklahoma's farmers and ranchers need real relief from skyrocketing input prices and the rising inflation we all face," said OKFB President Stacy Simunek. "SQ 847 helps keep our property tax valuation rates in check, and it does so without reducing any current funding for our local governments. Oklahoma Farm Bureau encourages Oklahomans to vote yes on SQ 847 to help keep our property valuations reasonable for all of our state's property owners."

SQ 847 would not change the current senior property valuation freeze available to Oklahomans ages 65 and older, but it would add additional tiers of valuation limits for seniors according to a sliding income scale based on the current senior freeze income limits. The result of this proposed change would be that some Oklahomans age 65 or older could potentially have their property valuation frozen for tax purposes if they are within the lowest specified income level. The sliding scale of income ranges would specify growth rates from 0.35% to 1.75% for Oklahomans ages 65 or older, depending on their income.

OKFB supports SQ 847 because it would further reduce the amount that property taxes could be increased each year on agricultural land. Property tax increases affect farmers and ranchers directly because taxes must be paid regardless of whether or not an agricultural producer earns any money from that land.

Factors like drought, input costs, fluctuating commodity and livestock prices and more can mean that farmers and ranchers could actually lose money on a given piece of land in a year while property taxes on that land continue to steadily climb.

OKFB asks Oklahomans to vote "yes" on SQ 847 on Nov. 3.

Statewide candidates endorsed by the OKFB Ag Fund

All candidates listed in this guide will appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot

Mike Mazzei
Governor

T.W. Shannon
Lieutenant Governor

Jon Echols
Attorney General

Cindy Byrd
State Treasurer

Kevin West
Labor Commissioner

Brad Boles
Corporation Commissioner

Bob Sullivan
Insurance Commissioner

Oklahoma House candidates

Rick West | HD 3
LeFlore

Bob Ed Culver | HD 4
Cherokee & Wagoner

Scotty Stokes | HD 9
Rogers & Tulsa

Judd Strom | HD 10
Nowata, Osage & Washington

Mark Chapman | HD 12
Wagoner

Chris Sneed | HD 14
Cherokee, Muskogee & Wagoner

David Nelson | HD 16
Muskogee, Okmulgee & Tulsa

Jonathan Wilk | HD 20
Cleveland & McClain

Derrick R. Hildebrant | HD 23
Rogers, Tulsa & Wagoner

Chris Banning | HD 24
Creek, Okmulgee & Tulsa

Leah Longest | HD 26
Pottawatomie

Danny Sterling | HD 27
Cleveland & Pottawatomie

Mark Lawson | HD 30
Creek & Tulsa

Trish Ranson | HD 34
Payne

John George | HD 36
Cleveland & Oklahoma

Madison Bolay | HD 38
Garfield, Grant, Kay, Logan & Noble

Denise Crosswhite Hader | HD 41
Canadian, Kingfisher, Logan & Oklahoma

Annie Menz | HD 45
Cleveland

Josh Cantrell | HD 49
Carter, Love & Marshall

Jason Blair | HD 53
Cleveland

Dick Lowe | HD 56
Caddo, Canadian & Grady

Carl Newton | HD 58
Alfalfa, Garfield, Major, Woods & Woodward

Mike Kelley | HD 60
Canadian

Daniel Pae | HD 62
Comanche

Trey Caldwell | HD 63
Comanche, Cotton, Kiowa & Tillman

Louis Jackson | HD 64
Comanche

Clay Staires | HD 66
Osage & Tulsa

Mike Lay | HD 68
Creek & Tulsa

Sheila Dills | HD 69
Tulsa

Kevin Norwood | HD 74
Rogers & Tulsa

TJ Marti | HD 75
Tulsa

Ross Ford | HD 76
Tulsa

Melissa Provenzano | HD 79
Tulsa

Stan May | HD 80
Tulsa

Nicole Miller | HD 82
Oklahoma

Eric Roberts | HD 83
Oklahoma

Tammy West | HD 84
Oklahoma

David Hardin | HD 86
Adair, Cherokee, Delaware & Mayes

Ellyn Hefner | HD 87
Oklahoma

Emily Gise | HD 90
Cleveland & Oklahoma

Max Wolfley | HD 95
Cleveland & Oklahoma

Preston Stinson | HD 96
Oklahoma

Gabe Woolley | HD 98
Tulsa & Wagoner

Marilyn Stark | HD 100
Oklahoma

Oklahoma Senate candidates

Ally Seifried | SD 2
Rogers & Tulsa

Tom Woods | SD 4
Adair, Cherokee, Delaware & Sequoyah

David Bullard | SD 6
Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, Johnston & Pushmataha

Bryan Logan | SD 8
Creek, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee & Okmulgee

Bill Coleman | SD 10
Kay, Osage & Tulsa

Todd Gollihare | SD 12
Creek & Tulsa

Justin Freeland-Wood | SD 17
Cleveland, Oklahoma & Pottawatomie

Tyler Herring | SD 18
Canadian & Oklahoma

Kristen Thompson | SD 22
Canadian & Oklahoma

Jon Painter | SD 24
Cleveland

Grant Green | SD 28
Lincoln, Logan, Oklahoma, Pottawatomie & Seminole

Curtis Erwin | SD 32
Comanche

John Haste | SD 36
Tulsa & Wagoner

Brenda Stanley | SD 42
Oklahoma

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Remembering two longtime Farm Bureau leaders, state board members

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is mourning the loss of two longtime grassroots Farm Bureau leaders and state board members who passed away in the last few months.

Jim Freudenberger died Aug. 16. Freudenberger was a longtime Logan County Farm Bureau leader and was elected to represent OKFB District 3 as a state director in 1986.

James Fuser died unexpectedly on Oct. 8. Fuser was an Ottawa County Farm Bureau member with decades of service to the county as a county board member in addition to serving as OKFB District 6 director from 2013-2022.

Both men were heavily active in their local communities beyond Farm Bureau, serving in numerous ways to improve agriculture, their local communities and all of rural Oklahoma.

Our sympathies go out to the Freudenberger family and the Fuser family as they both mourn the loss of these great rural leaders.

Jim Freudenberger

James Fuser

Check out the latest convention updates and schedule online

Oklahoma Farm Bureau 2026 Annual Meeting

Nov. 6–8

Omni Hotel and Convention Center, OKC

Oklahoma Farm Bureau's 2026 annual meeting is quickly approaching Nov. 6-8 in Oklahoma City for three days of grassroots fellowship, business meetings, competitive events and celebration.

For the latest convention details and information, check out our 2026 convention web page at **okfb.news/annual26mtg** for the most up-to-date schedule and program of events.

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