

PERSPECTIVE

October 6, 2023



OKFB YF&R hosts annual state fair livestock judging contest

Nearly 1,600 4-H and FFA students put their skills to the test at the 2023 Oklahoma State Fair Livestock Judging Contest, hosted by the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers committee, on Thursday, Sept. 21 in Oklahoma City.

Students in third grade through 12th grade evaluated market and breeding classes of cattle, sheep, goats and hogs. Participants also answered a set of questions about one class of cattle and one class of goats.

Junior 4-H

The top three individuals in the junior 4-H division were Sage Baird, Waynoka 4-H; Spencer Lewis, Silo 4-H; and Kaisley Onan, Stillwater 4-H. The top three teams were Stillwater 4-H, Valliant 4-H and Silo 4-H.

Junior FFA

The top three individuals in the junior FFA division were Jaci McGowen, Maysville FFA; Dally Pederson, Cashion

FFA; and Maddie Bishop, Stillwater FFA. The top three junior FFA teams were Purcell FFA (White), Checotah FFA and Fort Gibson FFA.

Senior 4-H

The top three individuals in the senior 4-H division were Bodie Jeffries, Blackwell OK Okies; Justin Fast, Kay County 4-H; and Kole Campbell, Alfalfa County 4-H. The top three teams were the Blackwell OK Okies, Kay County 4-H and Keys 4-H.

Senior FFA

The top three individuals in the senior FFA division were Hagen Cundiff, Perkins-Tryon FFA; Kyriana Beard, Stillwater FFA; and Aubrie McEndoo, Stillwater FFA. Both Stillwater FFA teams took the top two senior team spots, and Thomas Fay Custer FFA took third place.

View the full contest results online at okfb.news/sflj23

Meet our convention opening session speaker lineup

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members will hear from a full slate of engaging speakers during the first general session of OKFB's 2023 annual meeting Friday, Nov. 10, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Meet each of our speakers below, and be sure to join us for our 2023 annual meeting Nov. 10-12 at the Omni Hotel in Oklahoma City.



Zippy Duvall

American Farm Bureau president



David Holt

Oklahoma City mayor



Dr. Jayson Lusk

Oklahoma State University Agriculture Dean and Vice President



Tobin Redwine

Vivayic, Cultivating Healthy Minds speaker

OKFB Foundation for Agriculture awards 10 mini grants for agriculture literacy projects

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture has awarded ten organizations around the state with grants through the foundation's mini grant program.

The \$500 grants are awarded to county Farm Bureaus, 4-H clubs, FFA chapters and classroom teachers to fund projects that enhance agricultural literacy in Oklahoma.

The grants are awarded through an application process, in which interested groups, organizations and individuals list their educational project, goals and objectives.

The foundation's mini grants are awarded in two cycles, with the first cycle grants issued in March and the second cycle issued in September.

For more information on the foundation's grant programs, visit okfb.news/foundgrants23.

OKFB Foundation for Ag 2023 mini grant recipients

Red Oak FFA

Preparing different sausage recipes with consumer testing and outreach

Navajo FFA

Tower garden grow center

Holdenville 4-H

Sheep learning lab project

Silo FFA

Ag literacy library box

Oklahoma Union Schools STEM class

Created a unit on salsa production from plant to product

Strother FFA

Bee hotels

Logan County robotics club

Lego spike sets simulation of farm challenges and robotics

Central High FFA

Incubator and chicken coop for meat judging and processing

Cimarron FFA

Greenhouse revitalization and renovation

Milburn FFA

Incubator and chickens for egg production

OSU offering last private applicators CEU opportunities of 2023

Oklahoma State University Extension has two last continuing education classes left in 2023 for private applicators looking to earn CEUs for their license renewal.

The first class will be held Tuesday, Oct. 10, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the McClain County extension office in Purcell. A second in-person class will be held Tuesday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Garvin County courthouse in Pauls Valley.

Two Zoom-based three-hour CEU opportunities are also available Tuesday, Oct. 10 from 1 – 4 p.m., and Tuesday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Each of these events provide CEUs in category 1A and 10.

To register for any of these events, or for more information, visit our special link to OSU's private applicator training page, which includes a calendar of all CEU opportunities at the bottom of the page, at okfb.news/ApplicatorCEU.

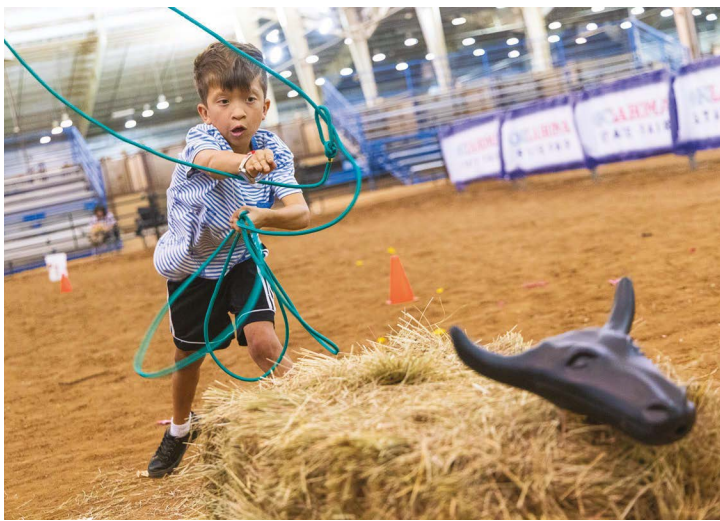
OKFB sponsors OYE shotgun sports event with cookout

Oklahoma Farm Bureau teamed up with the Oklahoma Youth Expo to sponsor OYE's Shotgun Sports Contest finals with a burger and hotdog cookout.

OKFB served hundreds of hungry contestants and supporters on Wednesday, Sept. 27, at Silverleaf Shotgun Sports near Guthrie.

The OYE shotgun sports event is open to Oklahoma 4-H and FFA members in grades 7 to 12. The contest features both sporting clays and trap shooting. The preliminary rounds for both sporting clays and trap divisions were held earlier in September before the contest finals.





OKFB hosts free farmhand Olympics event at Oklahoma State Fair in Oklahoma City

Families, students and friends all tried their hand at a variety of agriculture-themed activities as part of Oklahoma Farm Bureau's inaugural farmhand Olympics event at the Oklahoma State Fair Saturday, Sept. 16 from 6 - 8 p.m.

OKFB sponsored the evening of free fun for fairgoers with a relay-style competition in which teams of four competed against fellow teams for the quickest run through four activities.

The four relay stations were finding a penny in a pile of hay, escorting a balloon around a course simulating working with a show pig, roping a calf dummy and simulated cow milking.

Every team that participated received either a Farm Bureau lanyard or an OKFB backpack bag.

OKFB also provided a hay-tossing station where contestants tried their hand at throwing a small square bale over a pole at various heights. While

a few bales were broken, many laughs were shared as fairgoers tried a variety of methods to launch the bale.

OKFB also held the farmhand Olympics relay event for students participating in the OKFB Young Farmers & Ranchers State Fair Livestock Judging Contest on Thursday, Sept. 21. Winning teams in both junior and senior divisions won a \$500 cash prize for their FFA chapter or 4-H club.

Drummond creates organized crime task force to combat illegal marijuana grow operations

Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond has created an Organized Crime Task Force to combat the rise of illegal marijuana grow operations across Oklahoma and added a resource for citizens to report suspicious activity related to unlicensed operations.

"Illegal marijuana grows are responsible for an alarming influx of organized crime into our communities, particularly from Mexican drug cartels and Chinese crime syndicates," Drummond said. "I have made it a priority to wipe out these illicit operators, and this task force is a crucial component to driving out criminals and ensuring public safety."

The task force is working closely with the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and

Dangerous Drugs Control, the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority and other state agencies to investigate all crimes related to illegal grow operations, including human trafficking and the distribution of deadly drugs such as fentanyl.

Citizens with information about suspected illegal grow operations are encouraged to submit a tip to the Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General. A complaint form is available at oag.ok.gov by clicking on the "Illegal Marijuana Tipline" tab. Tips also can be sent to illegalgrow@oag.ok.gov and reporters can remain anonymous.

House Bill 2095, signed into law in May, gives the Organized Crime Task Force, in conjunction with OBN and the

Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, full enforcement authority over medical marijuana laws. Authored by Rep. Jon Echols and Sen. Lonnie Paxton, the measure allows the Office of the Attorney General to subpoena business documents, conduct unannounced on-site inspections, seize and destroy illegal products and enter into agreements with other state agencies to combat illegal operations.

You can report an illegal marijuana grow operation to the Oklahoma Attorney General's office online at oag.ok.gov under the Illegal Marijuana Tipline tab or by email at illegalgrow@oag.ok.gov

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Carroll recognized with Ag Woman of the Year award



Oklahoma Farm Bureau Director of Membership and OKFB Foundation for Agriculture Holly Carroll was named Ag Woman of the Year by the Oklahoma Diamond Hats.

Carroll was recognized at the organization's annual gala Saturday, Sept. 23, in Oklahoma City.

Carroll was chosen for the award due her dedication to agriculture youth in the state of Oklahoma and our state's agriculture industry.



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