

PERSPECTIVE

September 11, 2020

OKFB Foundation for Agriculture accepting donations for Louisiana producers impacted by hurricane

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture is accepting donations to help Louisiana farmers and ranchers affected by Hurricane Laura.

Hurricane Laura is the strongest tropical system on record to make landfall in Louisiana since 1856. Its track northward across the state brought hurricane-force winds through the state's prime cattle, rice, sugarcane, corn, soybean, nursery and poultry growing areas.

All storm relief donations collected by the OKFB foundation will be used to assist those who have been impacted by the hurricane. Donations will be added to the OKFB Foundation's pledge of \$2,500 and the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee's contribution of \$1,000.

If you would like to make a donation, mail checks to the OKFB Foundation for Agriculture, 2501 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105. The foundation also can accept donations via PayPal on the foundation's website at OKFBFoundationForAgriculture.org/donate.

For more information on how to donate, please contact Holly Carroll at (405) 523-2300.



Oklahoma Farm Bureau
Women's Leadership Committee
2020 FALL CONFERENCE
CANCELED

OKFB WLC fall conference canceled

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee has canceled its 2020 WLC Fall Conference.

With the health and safety of Farm Bureau women in mind, the conference

will not be held during its planned dates of Sept. 25-26, 2020.

For questions about your hotel reservations, please contact Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2300.

YF&R shotgun shoot raises more than \$22,000 for OKFB foundation

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee raised \$22,750 to benefit the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture during its second-annual shotgun shoot

held Saturday, Aug. 29.

More than 30 teams from around the state competed in the event held at Quail Ridge Sporting Clays in McCloud, Oklahoma. *Story continues on next page.*



OKFB WLC chair reads accurate ag book for Read an Accurate Ag Book Week

In celebration of Read an Accurate Ag Book Week held Sept. 8-11, 2020, Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee Chair Mignon Bolay read "Full of Beans: Henry Ford Grows a Car" while on her family's farm near Perry, Oklahoma.

Written by Peggy Thomas and published by Calkins Creek, the book inspires readers of all ages to think innovatively – even to build a car completely made of soybeans. The video is for educational purposes only.

The OKFB WLC has provided each county Farm Bureau office across the state with a copy of the book for educators, parents or families to read. Contact your county Farm Bureau for more information.

To view the video, visit okfb.news/fullofbeans20, which is available until Sept. 18, 2020.



Payne County hosts bucket calf competition for local youth

Payne County Farm Bureau hosted its 2020 Bucket Calf Competition recently at the Payne County Expo Center, giving 20 local children a chance to learn how to raise, feed, care for and

show an animal.

After caring for their animals all summer, the kids were able to show off their hard work at the competition. Great job, Payne County!



Continued: YF&R shotgun shoot raises more than \$22,000 for OKFB foundation

"From educating children across our state to caring for our rural communities in times of need, the OKFB Foundation for Agriculture does incredible work that benefits all Oklahomans," said Brittany Hukill, OKFB YF&R vice chair. "The state YF&R committee is proud to be able to provide a fun opportunity for Farm Bureau members and friends to support a great cause."

Shooters from the Navajo FFA chapter were named the top team for the red course, while the Chelsea FFA team – sponsored by Rogers County Farm Bureau – placed first in the green course. The top individual shooters were Brian Kelley and Bregan Barnett.

Title sponsors for the event included John Vance Auto Group, Manheim and Oklahoma Farm Bureau Insurance.

Platinum sponsors included BancFirst, Comanche County Farm Bureau, Farm Credit of Western Oklahoma, Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee, Pottawatomie County Farm Bureau, Rogers County Farm Bureau and Woodward County Farm Bureau.

Gold sponsors included American Ag Insurance Company, Clinton Livestock Auction, Jackson County Farm Bureau, Lincoln County Farm Bureau, Oklahoma Cotton Council, Oklahoma Youth Expo, Payne County Farm Bureau and Southwest Center Pivots.



AFBF discusses managing farm stress in farm country

Americans from all walks of life are struggling to cope with an array of issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fear and anxiety about this new disease and what could happen is sometimes overwhelming and can cause strong emotions in adults and children.

But long before the pandemic hit the U.S., farmers and ranchers were struggling. Years of falling commodity prices, natural disasters, declining farm income and trade disputes with China hit rural America hard, and not just financially. Farmers' mental health is at risk, too.

Fortunately, America's food producers have proven to be a resilient bunch. Across the country, they continue to adopt new ways to manage stress and cope with the difficult situations they're facing. A few examples are below.

In Oklahoma, Bryan Vincent and Gary Williams are part of an informal group that meets on a regular basis to share their burdens.

"It's way past farming," said Vincent, a local crop consultant. "It's a chance to meet with like-minded people. It's a chance for us to let some things out. We laugh, we may cry together, we may be disgusted together. We share our emotions, whether good, bad."

Gathering with trusted friends has given them the chance to talk about what's happening in their lives, both good and bad.

"I would encourage anybody – any group of farmers, friends, whatever – to form a group" to meet regularly, said Williams, a farmer. "Not just in bad times; I think you should do that regardless, even in good times. Share your victories and triumphs with one another, support one another."

RFD-TV special on farm stress and farmer mental health

As part of the American Farm Bureau Federation's ongoing effort to raise awareness, reduce stigma and share resources related to mental health, the organization partnered with RFD-TV to produce a one-hour episode of "Rural America Live" on farm stress and farmer mental health.

The episode features AFBF President Zippy Duvall, Farm Credit Council President Todd Van Hoose and National Farmers Union President Rob Larew, as well as two university Extension specialists, a rural pastor and the author of "Stress-Free You!"

To view the video, visit okfb.news/farmstress20.

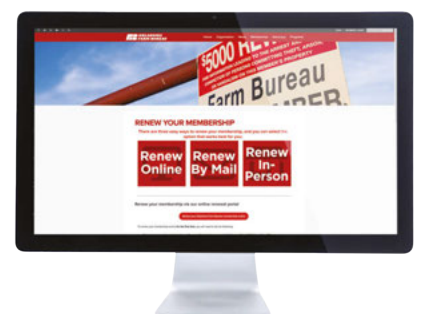
Renewing OKFB membership now easier than ever

It is almost fall, which means it's time to renew your Oklahoma Farm Bureau membership! This year, renewing will be easier than ever thanks to our new online renewal option. Members can renew their membership quickly and easily with a simple credit card payment.

When logging in to your online membership profile for the first time, an email address must already be on

file. If one is not, contact your county Farm Bureau office to add or verify the email associated with your membership. Please note that your membership profile login information is different than other login details for your OKFB Insurance My Insurance portal.

To renew your OKFB membership online today, visit okfarmbureau.org/renew.



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ODAFF announces grant recipients of \$10 million for meat processing in OK

The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry recently announced the 40 recipients of \$10 million in federal funds from the CARES Act to address supply chain disruptions within Oklahoma.

The Agriculture Enhancement and Diversification Board received 196 applicants vying the \$10 million in CARES Act grant funding. Of those 196, 40 locations will receive funding to improve and expand existing facilities and build new processing plants across the state.

Grant Recipients

- Oklahoma Panhandle State University
- Fort Cobb Locker Plant
- Freedom Processing
- Thompson Butcher Barn
- Mitch's Meat Market
- 3F's Poultry & Rabbit Processing
- Weaver Meat Processing
- Homestead Meats & Processing
- Kilgore Meat Processors
- M&M Custom Butchering
- Kay's Custom Company

- Enid Packing Company, LLC
- Schwab & Company
- O'Steen Meats
- Chisholm Trail Meats
- Rickman's Custom Meat Processing
- Scott Cattle Company
- The Fatted Calf, LLC
- South Canadian Meats, LLC
- Magnolia Meats
- Eastern Oklahoma State College
- Market 54
- H&L Custom Processing
- Keith's Butcher Shop, LLC
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- Stubbfield Meat Processing
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- Chickasha Meat Company
- Walke Brothers Meat Processing
- Green Country Premium Beef
- Cook's Processing, LLC
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- Ralph's Packing Company
- Mountain View Meats
- Route 66 Meat Processing, LLC
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