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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

Perspective

Sept. 1, 2017

Oklahoma Farm Bureau policy development process begins with statewide August Area Meetings



District 5 – Krebs



District 2 – Blair



District 7 – Enid



District 4 – Duncan



District 6 – Pryor



District 3 – Okarche

Hundreds of Oklahoma Farm Bureau members across the state recently began the organization's grassroots policy development process with its annual August Area Meetings.

Meetings were held in each of OKFB's nine districts to begin discussions on potential additions or revisions to organization policy.

As the state continues to grapple with budget shortfalls, many Farm Bureau members voiced concern over the potential for various tax increases. The state Legislature's consideration of a fuel tax increase, along with its willingness to evaluate tax exemptions and credits, are both causes of worry for farm and ranch members.

A measure granting Oklahoma municipalities access to property taxes hit a snag in the state Legislature this year, but still remains active for consideration in next year's session. Current OKFB policy strongly opposes any increase in property taxes.

Concern over the state of rural healthcare also was a common concern among members, as many rural Oklahomans continue to face a shortage of healthcare providers.

see "August Area Meetings" on the next page

August Area Meetings *continued from the first page*

Farm Bureau members now will gather at county annual meetings to draft and submit resolutions to the state resolutions committee. After reviewing all county resolutions, the state committee will send approved resolutions to the delegate body for adoption at the OKFB annual meeting in November.

Find the full county annual meeting schedule on the OKFB website.



District 1 – Woodward



District 8 – Purcell



District 1 – Guymon



District 9 – Tulsa

YF&R to host annual livestock judging contest

Oklahoma Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers committee will host students from across the state at the group's annual Oklahoma State Fair Livestock Judging Contest on Sept. 14 at the state fairgrounds in Oklahoma City.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. on Sept. 14 in Barn 3. The contest will begin at 10 a.m. in Barn 8. Contestants may compete on a team or as individuals. The entry fee will be \$5 per person or \$20 per team.

The contest will include market and

breeding classes of beef cattle, sheep and swine. Awards will be presented in the two divisions with prizes of money, plaques for high individuals and teams, and jackets for the top teams.

Both the 4-H and FFA Divisions include junior and senior levels. Students in 8th, 9th and 10th grades will be in the junior division and students in 11th and 12th grades will be in the senior division.

To receive complementary gate admission, counties or chapters must send

a request with names of the contestants and instructors, teachers or leaders that will be participating by Sept. 11 to agclerk@okstatefair.com or to the following address:

Founda Dutton
Oklahoma State Fair
P.O. Box 74943
Oklahoma City, OK 73147

View full details and information on the OKFB website at okfarmbureau.org. For additional questions, contact Zac Swartz at (405) 523-2406 or Zac.Swartz@okfb.org.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



County annual meeting schedule online

County Farm Bureaus across the state will gather for their annual county meetings over the next few months, continuing the organization's grassroots policy development process. View the full list of each county's meeting date, time, location and special guests at okfarmbureau.org.



OKFB WLC and Stephens County Farm Bureau serve lunch to teachers

The OKFB Women's Leadership Committee and Stephens County Farm Bureau served lunch last week to 50 teachers at Plainview Elementary in Ardmore in appreciation after the school sent the most teachers to this summer's Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom conference. Read more and view photos from the event on the OKFB Facebook page.



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www.okfarmbureau.org

2017 OKFB WLC Nurse's Scholarship winners announced

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee selected three students to receive \$500 scholarships to study nursing.

The annual scholarship program awards three \$500 scholarships to students studying nursing at an accredited college, university, vo-tech or trade school. Applicants must be Oklahoma Farm Bureau members or a member of a Farm Bureau member family.

The three students receiving 2017 OKFB WLC Nurse's Scholarships are:

- Mary K. Bell, Creek County
- Jordan Lingo, Canadian County
- Justine Redcay, Haskell County

The WLC understands the important role nurses and healthcare professionals play in ensuring a high quality of life for all residents across our state, especially rural residents. With the cost of education increasing yearly, the committee is proud to

provide three students with scholarships to help pursue their dreams in nursing.

This year, OKFB WLC members will hold a silent auction to benefit the OKFB WLC Nurse's Scholarship Fund during their annual Fall Conference Sept. 15-16. Conference attendees and leaders will donate items for the silent auction, which will be held the morning of Friday, Sept. 15. Learn more about the conference on the OKFB website.

OKFB Legal Foundation and Oklahoma Farming & Ranching Foundation host annual shotgun shoot

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation and the Oklahoma Farming & Ranching Foundation held their second-annual shotgun shoot fundraiser Friday, Aug. 25, at Quail Ridge Shooting Sports near McLoud.

Nine four-person teams turned out for the event as shooters tested their shooting skills on a 10-station course.

The first-place team included shooters Carson Miller, Hunter Pence, Jerimy Pence and Baylee Pence from the Altus area. The group won a four-person waterfowl hunt courtesy of Stuart Ranch of Waurika. Jerimy Pence and Hunter Pence also were recognized as high individuals of the event.

The second-place team included Dan Patton, Mike Maxwell, Victor Long and Steve Edwards. The third-place team included Travis Rider, David Massey, Todd DeSmet and Scott Langley.

A variety of Oklahoma businesses and organizations sponsored the event. The sponsors were: The Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, The Oklahoma Pork Council, BancFirst, American Agricultural Insurance



Four shooters from the Altus area are awarded first place at this year's shotgun shoot. Left to right are Carson Miller, Hunter Pence, Jerimy Pence and Baylee Pence.

Company, Wilshire Gun and the Oklahoma Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

Lunch was cooked by Love County Farm Bureau Insurance agent Sam Barrick, and the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee provided and served home-cooked desserts and ice cream.

The fundraising event will support the

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation's mission of protecting private property rights and production agriculture in the legal arena, as well as the mission of the Oklahoma Farming & Ranching Foundation to educate consumers about Oklahoma agriculture and the importance of the industry to our everyday lives.

Member Benefits

OKFB Safety Services

Did you know the OKFB Safety Services Division offers defensive driving courses throughout the year? Participants can receive a 5-percent savings on collision, liability and comprehensive insurance for 36 months. OKFB members pay only \$10 for course registration. For more information, visit okfarmbureau.org/safety or call the Safety Services Division at (405) 523-2300.

www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits

Calendar

YF&R State Fair Livestock Judging Contest

September 14 • Oklahoma City

Contact: Zac Swartz (405) 523-2406

OKFB Women's Leadership Committee Fall Conference

September 15-16 • Oklahoma City

Contact: Marcia Irvin (405) 523-2405

Resolutions Due

October 6 • OKFB Home Office

Contact: Tasha Duncan (405) 530-2681

Published by Oklahoma Farm Bureau
Postmaster: Send address corrections to:
Perspective, P.O. B. 53332,
Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3332

Oklahoma Farm Bureau
2501 N. Stiles
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3126

Non-Profit
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Permit No. 131
Okla. City, OK.

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CELEBRATING OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU'S 75 YEARS



Take a trip back in Oklahoma Farm Bureau's history to some of the key moments of the formation of state's largest agricultural organization.

OKFB launches 75th anniversary website

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is proud to announce the launch of the organization's 75th-anniversary website filled with fun and historical information about the people, places and programs that formed Oklahoma's largest farm organization.

This website showcases information gathered throughout 2017 as the staff pored through the OKFB archives of newsletters, photos and correspondence to unearth treasures of information on the organization's past.

Here are a few features of the new site:

- Photo gallery with more than 80 images
- Farm Bureau history articles documenting each decade
- Blog detailing unique moments in OKFB history



- Timelines of policy achievements, key moments and insurance history
- A preview of OKFB's 75th history book
- Features for each OKFB president
- News and upcoming events

This website is a constant work in progress, and it will be updated as additional information, stories and photos

are discovered. Please be sure to check back for updates and additions throughout the rest of the year.

Visit the 75th-anniversary website at 75.okfarmbureau.org. If you have questions, or if you would like to submit an OKFB story or memory, let us know by completing the form the Share Your Story page.