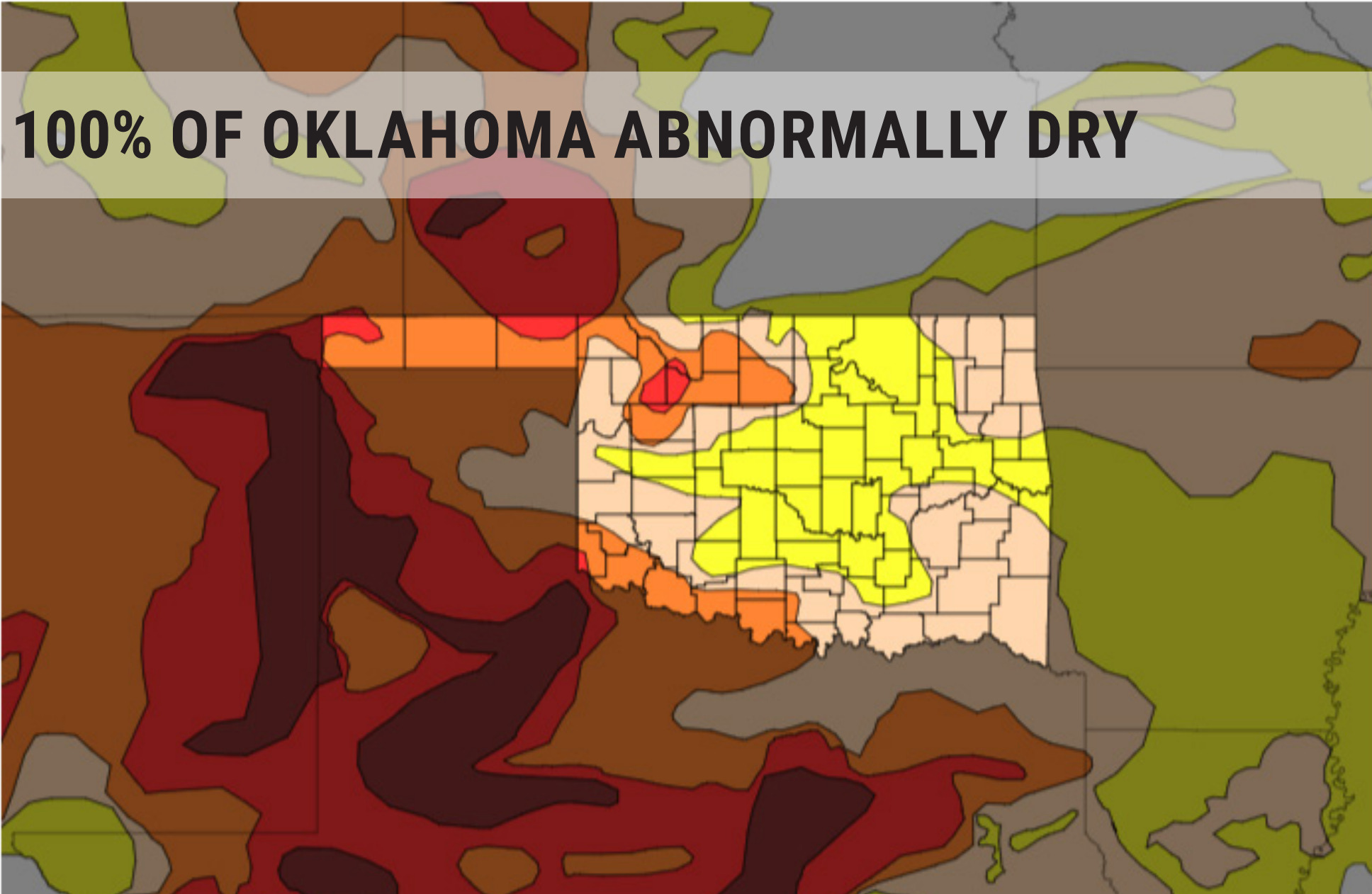


THE PUBLICATION OF AFR INSURANCE  
AN AFFILIATE OF OKLAHOMA FARMERS UNION  
VOL. 103, NO. 3 | SUMMER 2022

## 100% OF OKLAHOMA ABNORMALLY DRY



Current U.S. Drought Monitor Conditions for Oklahoma:  
Current



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**STATE SCHOLARSHIP  
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RETURN ADDRESS:  
American Farmers & Ranchers  
P.O. Box 24000  
Oklahoma City, OK 73124



# USDA, DOJ Portal Allows Farmers, Ranchers to Report Anticompetitive Practices

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Farmers and ranchers can now anonymously report potentially unfair and anticompetitive practices in the livestock and poultry sectors using an online tool launched by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) and Dept. of Justice (DOJ). The new tool, located at [farmerfairness.gov](http://farmerfairness.gov), is intended to help foster more competitive agricultural markets that are fairer to producers and consumers. The meatpacking industry has consolidated rapidly in recent decades. Meanwhile, farmers’ share of the value of their agricultural products has decreased, and poultry farmers, hog farmers, cattle ranchers and other agricultural workers may struggle to retain autonomy and to make sustainable incomes. For example, ranchers received more than 60 cents of every dollar a consumer spent on beef 50 years ago, compared to approximately 39 cents today. Hog farmers fared worse over the past 50 years, as their share of the consumer dollar fell from between 40 to 60 cents 50 years ago to approximately 19 cents today. “This new online tool will help USDA and the Justice Department address anticompetitive actions and create livestock and poultry

markets that are fairer to our nation’s producers,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. “I encourage producers who are aware of potential violations of competition laws to submit information to the portal so we can take appropriate action to create more competitive markets in the agricultural sector.” “When we talk about protecting competition in the agricultural sector, we are talking about whether a farmer or a rancher will be paid a fair and competitive price for their goods and labor. When we talk about protecting consumers in this context, we are talking about whether food will be affordable for everyone in America,” said Attorney General Merrick Garland. “Today’s launch of [farmerfairness.gov](http://farmerfairness.gov) – a one-stop shop to report potential violations of our competitions laws – will allow the Justice Department and USDA to collaborate early, enforce the law vigorously, and ensure economic opportunity and fairness for all.” Complaints or tips will go through a preliminary review by USDA Packers and Stockyards Division staff and DOJ staff. If a complaint raises sufficient concern under the Packers and Stockyards Act or antitrust laws, it will

be selected for further investigation by the appropriate agency. This action may lead to the opening of a formal investigation. Users can submit information under their names or anonymously. If a complainant provides personal information, DOJ or USDA staff will only contact them if additional information is needed. To submit an anonymous complaint, users can provide information about the potential violation without including their names or contact information. For any information provided, DOJ and USDA will follow their respective privacy and confidentiality policies. Packers and Stockyards confidentiality regulations also apply. DOJ and USDA commit to supporting relevant whistleblower protections, including newly applicable protections for criminal antitrust complainants against unlawful retaliation. Producers who choose not to use the [farmerfairness.gov](http://farmerfairness.gov) portal can submit complaints or tips about potentially anticompetitive practices by emailing [PSDComplaints@usda.gov](mailto:PSDComplaints@usda.gov); calling 833-342-5773; or mailing Stop 3601, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-3601. *Story adapted from USDA.gov.*

[www.farmerfairness.gov](http://www.farmerfairness.gov)



<p><b>VOL. 103, NO. 3 SUMMER 2022</b> <b><a href="http://www.afrcoop.org">www.afrcoop.org</a></b> <b>First Published in 1920</b></p> <p><i>AFR Today</i> is published by AFR Insurance Oklahoma Farmers Union 4400 Will Rogers Parkway Oklahoma City, OK 73108 (405) 218-5400   (800) 324-7771 Fax: (405) 218-5593</p> <p><b>MANAGING EDITOR WRITING &amp; DESIGN</b></p> <p>Laici Wedel Neumann AFR Cooperative Press Secretary</p> <p><b>DESIGN ASSISTANCE</b> Karli Fuss AFR Communications Specialist</p> <p><b>Oklahoma State Union of the Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America</b> <b>OUR PRIVACY POLICY:</b> We do not sell membership information. We do not provide members’ personal information to persons or organizations outside of affiliate companies. We afford prospective and former members the same protections as existing members with respect to personal information. <b>INFORMATION WE MAY COLLECT:</b> We only collect the member’s name, physical address, e-mail address and phone number. <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE:</b> We do not share members’ personal information with outside entities. Your personal information is used to mail our quarterly publication or advise you of information pertinent to your membership in the organization. It may be used to offer you membership benefits. If you are a policyholder of an affiliate insurance company, your information may be shared to verify correct contact information.</p>	<p><b>AFR COOPERATIVE</b></p> <p><b>President</b> Scott Blubaugh, Tonkawa</p> <p><b>Vice President</b> Ryan Plemmons, Broken Bow</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Paul Jackson, Ringling</p> <p><b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b></p> <p><b>Independent Director District 1</b> VACANT</p> <p><b>Independent Director District 2</b> Brett Morris, Ninnekah</p> <p><b>Independent Director District 3</b> Jim Shelton, Vinita</p> <p><b>Independent Director District 4</b> Mike Goodwin, Roberta</p> <p><b>Agent Director District 1</b> John Porter, Edmond</p> <p><b>Agent Director District 2</b> Dustin Tackett, Ft. Cobb</p> <p><b>Agent Director District 3</b> John Ogden, Oktaha</p> <p><b>Agent Director District 4</b> Landon Jestis, Bokchito</p> <p><b>Independent Statewide Director</b> Mason Mungle, Norman</p>	<p><b>AFR INSURANCE</b></p> <p><b>President/CEO</b> Jon Srna</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Paul Jackson</p> <p><b>CFO</b> Bernadette Autrey</p> <p><b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b></p> <p><b>Independent Director District 1</b> VACANT</p> <p><b>Independent Director District 2</b> Brett Morris, Ninnekah</p> <p><b>Independent Director District 3</b> Jim Shelton, Vinita</p> <p><b>Independent Director District 4</b> Mike Goodwin, Roberta</p> <p><b>Agent Director District 1</b> John Porter, Edmond</p> <p><b>Agent Director District 2</b> Dustin Tackett, Ft. Cobb</p> <p><b>Agent Director District 3</b> John Ogden, Oktaha</p> <p><b>Agent Director District 4</b> Landon Jestis, Bokchito</p> <p><b>Independent Statewide Director</b> Mason Mungle, Norman</p>
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**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AFR Cooperative, P.O. Box 24000, Oklahoma City, OK 73124**





## Senate Ag Advances Cattle Markets Bill

*Legislation Would Require Minimum Levels of Negotiated Cash Trade for Cattle*

In the last few years, disfunctional cattle markets have become the battle ground in the fight to increase competition in agriculture and give America's farmers and ranchers better market access and leverage against corporate interests like the Big 4 meatpackers. AFR Cooperative has been an active player in the push for cattle market reform, including lobbying for a mandate that large meatpackers purchase a pre-determined percentage of their cattle supply through negotiated cash trade. The 2021-2022 AFR Policy Committee emphatically supported minimum cash trade requirements in their policy and the AFR Cooperative staff is pleased to work carry that message to Washington, D.C.

After roughly two years of political wrangling, the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee on June 22 advanced a bill that would require major meatpackers to buy a certain percentage of their cattle through negotiated cash trade sales.

The main legislation, the Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act (S4030), would require USDA to establish minimum levels of negotiated cash trade for fed cattle by dividing up five to seven regions of the country. The cash trade volumes would depend on the number of packers in a region, availability of fed cattle, and the number of contractual arrangements—alternative marketing agreements (AMAs)—in each region. The mandate for cash trade would fall to packers that on average handle at least 5% of daily fed cattle slaughter.

Packers would also be required to report the number of cattle to be delivered for slaughter each day for the next 14 days.

The legislation was sparked by a string of incidents over the past three years that caused live cattle prices to fall while boxed beef prices soared. Those include a fire at a Tyson packing plant in 2019 and the COVID-19 pandemic that shut down packers temporarily in spring 2020.

The bill also would create a library at USDA of AMA contracts that would allow cattle producers to see the premiums others are receiving as well as mandate reporting of boxed beef prices.

The bill was led by Sens. Deb Fischer, R-Neb.; Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa; Jon Tester, D-Mont.; and Ron Wyden, D-Ore. Fischer's bill has 19 co-sponsors, including 12 members of the Senate Ag Committee.

Sen. John Boozman, R-Ark., ranking member of the committee, cited support for provisions to improve price reporting by packers and the establishment of a cattle contract library. But, Boozman said he could not support the key provision of the bill that establishes regional mandatory minimums for negotiated cash trade. Boozman said it would roll back years of investment in the cattle industry to improve the quality of beef.

Fischer, a Nebraska cattle producer, praised the bipartisan backing she got for the bill, particularly given she was the lead sponsor of a bill coming out of a committee led by Democrats.

"The goal of the legislation is to ensure every segment of the beef supply chain can succeed by ensuring robust price discovery and market transparency," Fischer said.

"We know negotiated transactions involve a bid and an ask. They facilitate price discovery to establish the going rate for cattle. We also know that negotiated transactions have drastically declined over the past 20 years." Fischer said she understands the value of AMAs, but those contracts rely on the cash trade to set base prices. She noted there have been voluntary efforts by cattle organizations to try to boost cash trade, but they have largely failed because packers did not participate. "Producer groups almost uniformly acknowledged concerns about cash price information becoming too thin."

### SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR

The committee also advanced another bill led by Tester and Grassley, the Meat and Poultry Special Investigator Act (S3870), which would create a new USDA office with subpoena power to investigate and prosecute violations of the Packers and Stockyards Act. The bill gives the office authority to bring civil actions against packers and poultry dealers. The office also would serve as a liaison to the Dept. of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission on competition issues in the food and agricultural sectors. The House of Representatives has also passed a bill that included the special investigator provisions.

### CASH TRADE NUMBERS

In previous hearings, producers supporting the cattle markets bill lamented they often cannot get bids for their cattle from packers.

Countering those arguments were cattle feeders who have built their business through AMAs with specific packers.

Sen. Michael Bennet, D-Colo., noted that cattle producers were divided in his state but largely oppose a mandate on negotiated cash trade because Colorado packers rarely if ever rely on negotiated sales.

According to USDA's national weekly cattle and beef summary,

negotiated cash trade in the first quarter of 2022 was 19.1% of all cattle slaughter nationally. Formula contracts were 62.4% of purchases, and the rest were forward contract or negotiated grid prices. Formula sales made up 81.6% of all sales in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico, 68.8% of sales in Kansas, and 60.8% in Nebraska. In the five-area region, formula sales accounted for 66.5% of sales, and negotiated sales were 18.5%.

### AG GROUPS SPLIT

The cattle markets bill is opposed by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF), though state affiliates for both organizations are split on the legislation depending on their region of the country. Other organizations such as the U.S. Cattlemen's Association (USCA) and National Farmers Union (NFU) support the bill.

Not surprisingly, the North American Meat Institute (NAMI), whose members are the meatpackers targeted by both pieces of legislation, criticized the bills as "heavy-handed government interference."

*This story was authored by DTN Ag Policy Editor Chris Clayton and originally appeared on DTNPF.com and has been reduced from its original form. To view it in full length, visit DTNPF.com.*



In a series of videos shot for National Farmers Union's Fairness for Farmers campaign, AFR members Brad Brainard (left), Carrier, and Dillon Travis, Maramec, told their story of how consolidation in the agriculture industry has impacted their farming operations.



# OKLAHOMA LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

# 2022 Highlights

By Bray Haven  
AFR Cooperative Lobbyist

The Oklahoma House of Representatives adjourned in May, following a session in which Republicans enacted historic “pro-growth” investments for the future of Oklahoma. The Legislature sent 434 measures to the governor this session, including bills to stop illegal marijuana grows, deliver broadband statewide, protect life, uphold “traditional” values and enhance public safety. The Legislature also enacted a balanced budget featuring historic state savings account deposits, law enforcement pay raises and, for the first time, elimination of the waiting list for services for Oklahomans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Criticizing tax relief measures in the \$9.8 billion proposed state budget package as insignificant for Oklahoma families, Gov. Kevin Stitt vetoed parts of the budget package approved by state lawmakers. Stitt also called lawmakers into a special legislative session on June 13 to eliminate the state’s grocery sales tax and cut individual income taxes. The Oklahoma Legislature sent Gov. Stitt a \$9.8 billion state budget that includes direct rebates for taxpayers, pay raises for some state employees and less than 1% in new funding for common education for the upcoming year. The Governor’s efforts on calling the special session proved unsuccessful as the Senate refused to take up any of the proposals sent over by the House at the request of the Governor.

The 2022 election cycle heated up for Republican primaries with many races decided and some heading to a runoff. Two of the more prominent runoff races are for Oklahoma’s congressional delegation. Avery Frix and Josh Brecheen are vying for a chance to fill Congressman Markwayne Mullin’s seat in Congressional District 2. Meanwhile, Congressman Mullin garnered a healthy number of votes in the primary and seeks to defeat T.W. Shannon for the Republican nomination to the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Sen. Jim Inhofe. In state level races, one of our recent AFR award recipients—Sen. Darcy Jech—takes on a tough primary going into the August runoff.

## 2023 BUDGET

### SAVINGS

Continuing a successful practice from recent years, the Oklahoma Legislature did not spend its full appropriations authority in an effort to avoid overspending and reserve more funds for savings. Thanks to this practice and record revenues, the state’s savings are projected to increase to \$2.6 billion next year—the highest level in state history.

### INFLATION RELIEF

To help Oklahomans offset historic inflation that’s making everyday life more expensive, the budget returns \$181 million to taxpayers in the form of one-time rebates of \$75 for individuals and \$150 for families. These rebates are to be paid in December. Beginning July 1, 2022, the budget also makes vehicle purchases more affordable by reinstating the 1.25% sales tax exemption on motor vehicle sales that was rescinded in 2017. The vehicle sales tax exemption is now expected to return an estimated \$188 million to taxpayers.

### FIGHTING FEDERAL OVERREACH

The budget sends another \$10 million, on top of the \$10 million appropriated last session, to the Office of the Attorney General. These funds will be used to fight federal overreach by overturning or blocking unconstitutional federal policies, thereby asserting Oklahoma’s powers as a state under the U.S. Constitution.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The budget reserves nearly \$1 billion for economic development contingent upon Oklahoma being awarded Project Ocean, which would receive nearly \$700 million under the Large-Scale Economic Activity Development Act (LEAD Act). Another \$250 million would retrofit areas in Oklahoma such as industrial parks to help recruit similar economic development megaprojects in the future.

### FUNDING THE POLICE

The budget grants 30% pay raises to Oklahoma Highway Patrol troopers, valued at \$14.2 million, and Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation agents, valued at \$5.3 million. The budget also increases funding for law enforcement training and academies, fighting crimes against children, and officer mental health support.

### DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED WAITING LIST

For the first time in state history, sufficient funding is contained in the budget to eliminate the developmentally disabled waiting list at the Department of Human Services. The \$32.5 million increase for the waiting list—the largest single-year increase in state history—will provide critical services to more than 5,000 developmentally disabled Oklahomans who have requested, but are not yet receiving, state services.





# PRIORITY BILLS



**50+ BILLS DEFEATED**

**12 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY BILLS PASSED**

**HB 1512**

Declares all structures and equipment used in the state to be subject only to the regulations by the Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

**HB 2983**

Aligns poultry feeding operation Nutrient Management Plan standards with federal Dept. of Agriculture Waste Utilization Standards unless the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Forestry approves other standards; EMERGENCY.  
Earliest Effective Date: May 5, 2022

**HB 3430**

Requires swine that will be presented at an exhibition to have federal and state identification, along with proof of certain disease testing.  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

**HB 3439**

Allows farmers to produce multiple cash crops related to the state industrial hemp program; EMERGENCY.  
Earliest effective date: May 16, 2022

**HB 3811**

Directs the Secretary of State to make certain financial documents available for download online and exempts online access of such documents from related fees.  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

**HB 3835**

Creates the Facilitating Internet Broadband Rural Expansion Act, which relates to rates and standards for pole attachments for broadband infrastructure on poles operated by rural electric cooperatives  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

**HB 4085**

Creates the Oklahoma Rural Jobs Act which provides a system for rural funds seeking investment to be certified and qualify for tax credits.  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

**SB 192**

Removes requirements that certain unmanufactured farm products be assessed and valued on May 31 of each year for the purposes of ad valorem taxation.  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

**SB 942**

Establishes a system for persons engaged in agriculture to receive seasonal, limited commercial driver's licenses; EMERGENCY.  
Earliest effective date: July 1, 2022

**SB 1325**

Transfers the authority to regulate and promulgate rules related to the Oklahoma Water Quality Standards from the Water Resources Board to the Dept. of Environmental Quality.  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

**SB 1374**

Allows political subdivisions and other entities subject to disciplinary action by the State Fire Marshal to request a hearing and receive a final order and judgement related to their purported violation of fire codes.  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

**SB 1737**

Requires commercial medical marijuana growers to register with the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Forestry and to post certain signage at the site of the commercial grow operation.  
Earliest effective date: November 1, 2022

*If you'd like regular legislative and industry updates from the AFR Cooperative, like our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/AmericanFarmersandRanchers](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanFarmersandRanchers). For more in-depth coverage, email Bray Haven at [bray.l.haven@gmail.com](mailto:bray.l.haven@gmail.com).*

## Upcoming 2022 Events

July 19-21	OSU Big 3 Field Days, Stillwater	Nov 6-8	NFU Women's Conference, Nashville
July 21-23	Oklahoma Cattlemen's Convention, Norman	Nov 7	AFR Central District Speech Contest, Tecumseh
July 24-26	AFR Teen Leadership Summit, Midwest City	Nov 8	AFR Northeast District Speech Contest, Sapulpa
July 27-30	AFR Senior Leadership Summit, Midwest City	Nov 10	AFR Southeast Dist. Speech Contest, Wilburton
Aug 1-2	CareerTech Summit, Tulsa	Nov 14	AFR Southwest District Speech Contest, Cache
Aug 4-5	OSU Women in Agriculture Conference, OKC	Nov 17	AFR Northwest District Speech Contest, Enid
Sept 5	Labor Day, AFR Home Office Closed	Nov 24-25	Thanksgiving Day, AFR Home Office Closed
Sept 11-14	NFU Fly-In, Washington D.C.	Dec 3	AFR State Speech Contest, Stillwater
Sept 15-25	Oklahoma State Fair, OKC Fairgrounds	Dec 8-10	Tulsa Farm Show, Tulsa
Sept 29-Oct 9	Tulsa State Fair, Tulsa Fairgrounds		



# Well Represented

## AFR Cooperative Names 2022 Legislative Advocates

AFR Cooperative has named two state legislators as 2022 AFR Legislative Advocates. This year's AFR Legislative Advocate Awards recognize Senator Casey Murdock, R-Felt, and Rep. Kenton Patzkowsky, R-Balko. The AFR Legislative Advocate Award is presented to state leaders who advocate for AFR Cooperative policies and work hard on issues which are important to the AFR membership during each state legislative session. Murdock and Patzkowsky were recognized for their work during the 2022 legislative session. "Both of these legislators ran successful bills that not only aligned with AFR policy in general, but implemented specific requests from our 2021-2022 AFR Policy Committee," said AFR Cooperative President Scott Blubaugh. "We applaud the leadership of all our legislators and their service to Oklahoma. Casey Murdock and Kenton Patzkowsky are two legislators who went above and beyond



Committee and serves as a member of the A&B Natural Resources and Regulatory Services Committee, the Transportation Committee, and the Utilities Committee. Patzkowsky authored HB4432, which requires medical marijuana commercial grower licenses

for rural Oklahoma in 2022 and we're pleased to honor them with this award." Murdock represents Oklahoma Senate District 27. He chairs the Senate Agriculture and Wildlife Committee and serves as a member of the Natural Resources and Regulatory Services Committee, the Energy Committee, and the Transportation Committee. Murdock authored SB942, which establishes a system for those engaged in agriculture to receive seasonal, limited commercial driver's licenses. Patzkowsky represents Oklahoma House District 61. He serves as vice chair of the House Agriculture and Rural Development

to display outdoor signage to identify grow facilities. AFR Cooperative is a membership services organization established in 1905 as Oklahoma Farmers Union. AFR provides educational, legislative and cooperative programs across the state and serves as a watchdog for Oklahoma's family farmers and ranchers and rural communities. The organization is actively supportive of the state's agricultural industry and rural population with membership consisting of farmers actively involved in production agriculture and non-farmers adding their voice in support of AFR principles.

## Foundation Contributes to Rush Springs Family's Recovery



The AFR Foundation recently donated \$1,000 to Todd and Michelle Miller of Rush Springs. The Millers are AFR members who faced back-to-back tragedies this spring, including the loss of their produce stand to fire. The Millers have been growing produce for many years and the Miller Farms produce stand on Highway 81 is a mainstay of the Rush Springs Community. The AFR Foundation was pleased to help the Millers bounce back and rebuild such an important part of a rural community. Pictured with Michelle Miller are Foundation board members Brett Morris (left) and Mike Goodwin (right).










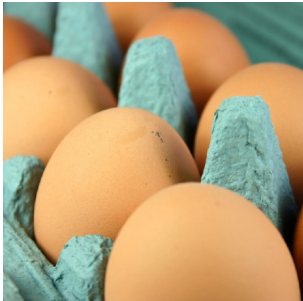







Visit [afrcoop.org](http://afrcoop.org) to learn more

The

THE VOICE OF FAMILY AGRICULTURE

Farmer's Share

Did you know that farmers and ranchers receive only 14.3\* cents of every food dollar that consumers spend? According to the USDA, off farm costs including marketing, processing, wholesaling, distribution and retailing account for more than 80 cents of every food dollar spent in the United States.

<div><div>Bacon</div><div>1 lb.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$6.99</div><div>Farmer: \$1.03</div></div>	<div><div>Top Sirloin Steak</div><div>1 lb.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$10.49</div><div>Farmer: \$2.27</div></div>	<div><div>Bread</div><div>2 lbs.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$3.99</div><div>Farmer: \$0.26</div></div>	<div><div>Fresh Carrots</div><div>5 lbs.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$3.99</div><div>Farmer: \$2.51</div></div>	<div><div>Beer</div><div>6-pack cans</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$10.99</div><div>Farmer: \$0.06</div></div>
<div><div>Corn Cereal</div><div>18 oz. box</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$2.99</div><div>Farmer: \$0.10</div></div>	<div><div>Tomatoes</div><div>1 lb.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$3.99</div><div>Farmer: \$0.69</div></div>	<div><div>Eggs</div><div>1 dozen</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$4.39</div><div>Farmer: \$2.01</div></div>	<div><div>Flour</div><div>King Arthur, 5 lbs.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$4.49</div><div>Farmer: \$0.91</div></div>	<div><div>Boneless Ham</div><div>1 lb.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$11.98</div><div>Farmer: \$1.03</div></div>
<div><div>Lettuce</div><div>1 lb.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$2.49</div><div>Farmer: \$0.22</div></div>	<div><div>Milk</div><div>1 gallon, fat free</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$4.39</div><div>Farmer: \$2.35</div></div>	<div><div>Fresh Apples</div><div>1 lb.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$2.49</div><div>Farmer: \$0.74</div></div>	<div><div>Fresh Potatos</div><div>Russet, 5 lbs.</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$6.99</div><div>Farmer: \$1.63</div></div>	<div><div>Soda</div><div>2 liters</div><div></div><div>Retail: \$1.19</div><div>Farmer: \$0.10</div></div>

Farmer's share derived from USDA, NASS "Agricultural Prices," 2021. | Prices based on May 2022 data.  
Retail prices based on Safeway (SE) brand except where noted. | \*Figure according to U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service

July 13, 2022



# Women's Council

## Women's Retreat: Broken Bow

By Hannah Jenkins  
AFR Women's Coordinator

The 2022 AFR Women's Retreat was once again a huge hit. Held June 17-19, the annual event hosted 20 AFR members from across the state for a weekend full of fun, food and friendship in Southeast Oklahoma.

This year's retreat began with dinner in downtown McAlester, followed by an evening of cards and campfires at the group's two large cabins in Hochatown, just minutes from Broken Bow. At these modern luxury cabins, retreat attendees were able to forge new friendships and reunite with old friends while relaxing on the spacious wooden decks under the pine trees.

On Saturday morning, the group traveled to Hurliman Forestry Products Tree Farm. Ed Hurliman led retreat attendees on a "lumber tour," where he explained the growing stages and thinning process he uses on his farm. The trees harvested from his property have a 27-year lifespan and make products like lumber, diapers and even McDonald's French fry containers. Hurliman also told stories about his career in the forestry industry and explained how he grew his tree farm from

“Best organized, fun for everyone, mini-vacation. I will go from now on!”

ANNETTE JORDAN, AFR MEMBER

nothing to now owning more than 40,000 acres in Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas. Following the lumber tour, retreat attendees enjoyed each other's company while visiting vintage markets and boutiques in Broken Bow. Participants also tasted locally-made wine at the Knotted Rope Winery in Hochatown.

On Saturday evening, attendees toured Broken Bow Lake by tiki boat and learned more about the history of Hochatown and Broken Bow. The tour was followed by a trivia night that tested the group's knowledge of AFR history, the timber industry and Broken Bow Lake. Winners received popular AFR-branded prizes. The evening was rounded out with s'mores, campfire and more fellowship.

This year's retreat attendees enjoyed their stay in Southeast Oklahoma and are looking forward to next year's adventure!



Ed Hurliman, Hurliman Forestry Products, talks on the forestry industry.



Top: (Left to Right) Regena Reeves, Brenda Johnson, Anglea Mainka, Diane Jackson and Ko Brooks.  
Middle: (Left to Right) Annette Jordan, Linda Schneberger, Sheila Thompson, Crystie Shebestor and Rhonda Stephenson.  
Bottom: (Left to Right) Tailor Atkinson, Li Brooks, Katherine Frazee, Elaine Drennan, Donna Biggs, Sarah Seymore and Hannah Jenkins.



Broken Bow Lake Tour.

..... AFR Cooperative presents .....

Women's Council

FEED TOMORROW'S FUTURE

Fund & Service Campaign

ONE in FOUR children in OKLAHOMA

.....

has inconsistent access to healthy food.

The Women's Council has partnered with the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma to help fight against childhood hunger in Oklahoma.

I WANT TO MAKE A DONATION

Mail to:

AFR Cooperative  
Attn: Hannah Seymore  
P.O. Box 24000  
Oklahoma City, OK 73124

Donations are tax deductible.

Make checks payable to:

Farmers Union Foundation

I WANT TO VOLUNTEER

The Women's Council will be hosting five service days at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. For more information, visit [afrcoop.org/womens-council/](http://afrcoop.org/womens-council/)



# AFR YOUTH

## AFR COOPERATIVE SPONSORS SKILL CONTESTS

AFR Cooperative sponsors many contests throughout the year, including the 2022 Tulsa Cattle Grading Contest held on June 21 at Tulsa Stockyards. AFR Youth Intern, Seth Jackson and AFR Field Rep. Jim Pilkington, attended on behalf of the AFR Cooperative and presented awards to the FFA High Individual Kelsey Peper, (left) Adair, Okla. and 4-H High Individual Tyann Stacy, (right) Oktaha, Okla.



AFR Cooperative sponsored the 2022 National Range Judging Contest held on May 5 at Redlands Community College. AFR Field Representative Jim Pilkington, Membership Coordinator Hannah Jenkins, Communication Specialist Karli Fuss, Youth Coordinator Tailor Atkinson, and AFR Cooperative President Scott Blubaugh served lunch to over 750 competitors from 35 different states. AFR Cooperative staff also attend the annual banquet and cheered on the winning teams.



### 77TH ANNUAL SPEECH CONTEST:

CENTRAL DISTRICT- NOV. 7

NORTHEAST DISTRICT- NOV. 8

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT- NOV. 10

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT- NOV. 14

NORTHWEST DISTRICT- NOV. 17

STATE CONTEST- DEC. 3



# AFR YOUTH



*Leadership Summit 2022!*

TEEN: JULY 24-26 | SENIOR: JULY 27-30  
MIDWEST CITY, OKC

## AFR COOPERATIVE SPONSORS STATE FFA CONVENTION

AFR Cooperative was proud to be a diamond-level sponsor of the 2022 Oklahoma FFA Convention. This year, student attendees from across the state visited the AFR Cooperative booth for a chance to win a free registration spot to AFR Leadership Summit.



## AFR Welcomes Summer AFR Youth Program Intern



Seth Jackson hails from south central Oklahoma, where he grew up showing hogs and other livestock. Jackson is no stranger to the AFR Cooperative. He was actively involved in the AFR Youth Program beginning at a young age. He served on the AFR Youth Advisory Council and the Oklahoma Junior Swine Association (OKJSA) Junior Board. Jackson is a senior at OSU, where he’s pursuing a bachelor’s in agricultural education. He serves as president of the OSU Alpha Gamma

Rho fraternity. After graduation, Jackson plans to teach high school agriculture, serve as an FFA advisor, and obtain his master’s degree in administration. He hopes to change the lives of Oklahoma’s agriculture youth by helping them grow to be better people. As the AFR Youth intern, Jackson is assisting the AFR Youth Coordinator with all youth program activities. His duties include managing social media accounts, scholarship organization, attending events, such as cattle grading contests, livestock shows and AFR Leadership Summit. In addition to his collegiate and work activities, Jackson enjoys working with Oklahoma’s youth, attending livestock shows, and sharing the Word of God.

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# 2022 STATE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Seth Jackson  
Oklahoma State University



Tala Gillenwaters  
Southwestern Okla. State University



Kristany Travis  
Murray State College



Larahmy Blakley  
Northeastern Okla. A&M



Sophie Varner  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Abby Bell  
Oklahoma State University



Katelyn Blevins  
Oklahoma State University



Keegan Carrera  
Oklahoma State University



Cassidy Baughman  
Oklahoma State University



Kinley Bratcher  
Eastern Okla. State College



Corbin Clark  
Fort Scott Community College



Jace James  
Oklahoma State University



Dax DeLozier  
Blinn Community College



Ellen Schneider  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Hailey Suntken  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Jordan Jones  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Paike McNeil  
Southwest Baptist University



Joseph McCullah  
College of the Ozarks



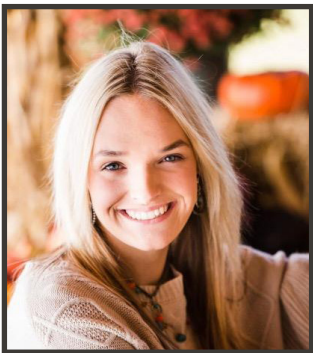
Elena Santiago  
Redlands Community College



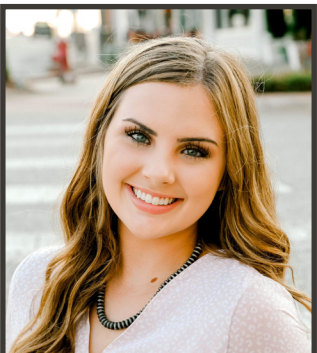
Taylor McConnell  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Kaden Brunker  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Kaylee White  
Western Okla. State Univeristy



Kelsey Wall  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Jentry Squires  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Kaylen Plemmons  
Northeastern State Univ.



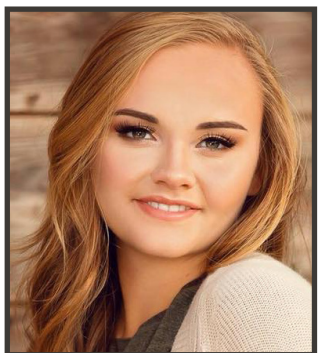
Kenton Jones  
University of Central Okla.



Kensington Kerbs  
Oklahoma State University



Reagan Detrick  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



Rylee Detrick  
Oklahoma State University



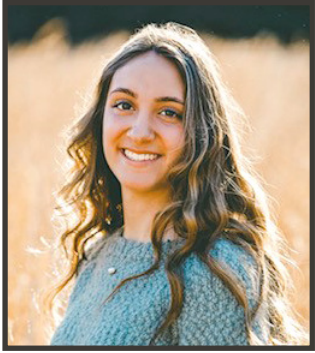
Cooper Shebester  
Oklahoma State Univeristy



# 2022 County Match Recipients



Cleopatra Tiner  
Cherokee Co.



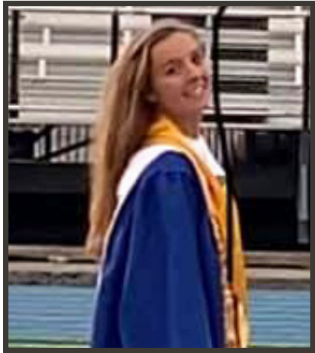
Ellee Davenport  
Cherokee Co.



Kobe Scott  
Cleveland Co.



Emily Lake  
Craig Co.



Jaqueline Bandy  
Craig Co.



Haylie Williams  
Craig Co.



Adrella Huff  
Delaware Co.



Kelsie McCratic  
Delaware Co.



Dylan Moss  
Dewey Co.



Kenna Silas  
Dewey Co.



Jadyln Watkins  
Dewey Co.



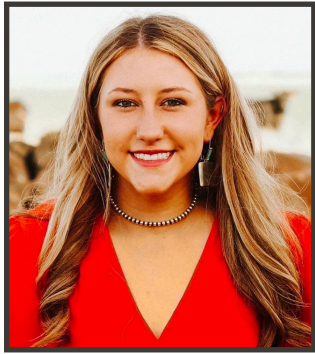
Collier Ladwig  
Grady Co.



Chase Byrne  
Grady Co.



Marlie Robinson  
Harmon Co.



Abigail Smith  
Harmon Co.



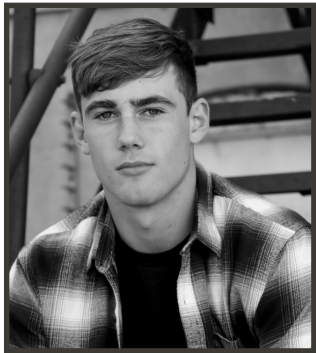
Jaylee Reid  
Haskell Co.



Claire Autry  
Haskell Co.



Kirby Van Haren  
Hughes Co.



Noah Campbell  
Kay Co.



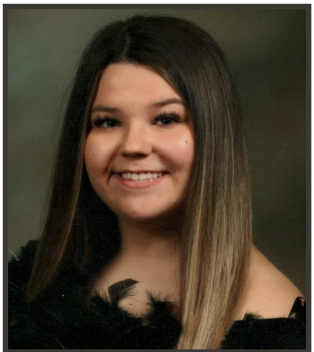
Mason Snider  
Kingfisher Co.



Emma Lukaseh  
Kingfisher Co.



Brett Hoffman  
LeFlore Co.



Amara Lucero  
Love Co.



Asa Robinson  
Marshall Co.



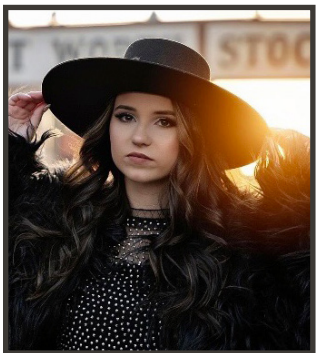
Blaine Plemmons  
McCurrian Co.



**This year, 55 students from 26 counties participated in the AFR Cooperative County and Local Match Scholarship program. Over \$22,000 will be awarded to students during the 2022-2023 school year at several different junior colleges, universities and tradeschools throughout the United States. To qualify for the county and local match scholarship program students immediate family member must be an AFR Insurance policyholder and maintain a 3.0 grade point average. AFR Cooperative is proud to help continue the education of our students through financial support.**



Corden Norman  
McCurtain Co.



Kaeleigh Brown  
McCurtain Co.



Morgan Pierce  
McCurtain Co.



Reagan Robinson  
McCurtain Co.



Colin Edwards  
Okfuskee Co.



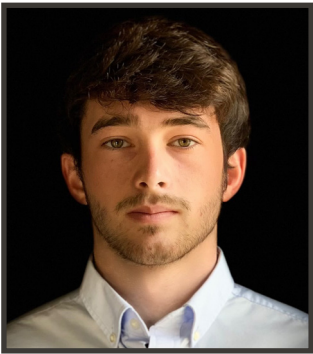
Connor Davis  
Okfuskee Co.



Mattie Rich  
Okfuskee Co.



Riley Young  
Okfuskee Co.



Ivan Long  
Osage Co.



Harli Cundiff  
Payne Co.



Landree Siebert  
Payne Co.



Weston Carter  
Seminole Co.



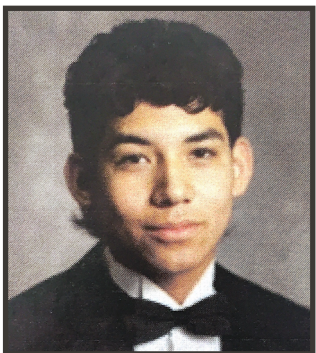
Morgan Maloney  
Texas Co.



Mya Fabbro  
Texas Co.



Nate Metcalf  
Texas Co.



Tomas Rodriguez  
Texas Co.



Destini Parrish  
Wagoner Co.



Elizabeth Sandiford  
Wagoner Co.



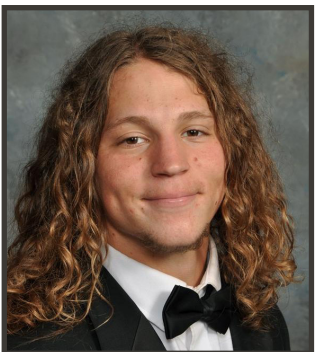
Kathleen Leeper  
Woods Co.



Mattie Pettus  
Woods Co.



Ko Brooks  
Woods Co.



Dakota Hewitt  
Marlow Local #70



Landry Freeman  
Marlow Local #70



# Oklahoma Certified!



## OCBA Producer Directory



**BARNHART ANGUS CATTLE RANCH**

JANET BARNHART  
CELL: 918-873-2511  
BILLINGS, OK

**BENEFIELD CATTLE**

CLARK BENEFIELD  
CELL: 918-629-0642  
CLAREMORE, OK

**BERATTO FARMS**

CHASE BERATTO  
CELL: 405-385-1082  
FACEBOOK: BERATTO FARMS  
MILL CREEK, OK

**BLUBAUGH ANGUS RANCH**

SCOTT & LISA BLUBAUGH  
OFFICE: 580-628-3660  
FACEBOOK: BLUBAUGH ANGUS  
RANCH BEEF  
RETAIL SPACE: 107 E GRAND AVE  
TONKAWA, OK

**BLUE LINE ANGUS BEEF**

ALEXANDER BLACK & JOSH KELLE  
CELL: 580-761-7290  
WEBSITE: WWW.  
BLUELINEANGUSBEEF.COM/  
STILLWATER, OK

**BRAINARD BEEF**

BRAD BRAINARD  
CELL: 580-761-7780  
ENID, OK

**BURNS' FAR AWAY RANCH**

TY BURNS  
CELL: 580-307-5970  
MORRISON, OK

**CEDAR TRAILS LONGHORNS**

LA VONDA LEWIS & ALLISON  
CARROLL  
LA VONDA: 580-678-0895  
FACEBOOK: CEDAR TRAILS  
LONGHORNS, LLC  
RUSH SPRINGS, OK

**CIRCLE R RANCH**

GEORGE ROBERTS  
CELL: 405-596-0348  
HOLDENVILLE, OK

**COUNTY LINE BEEF**

STEPHEN & ALEX MORCOM  
CELL: 405-626-7673  
MARLOW, OK

**COWAN FARMS**

SHADLEY COWAN  
CELL: 405-444-4089  
WAYNE, OK

**CRUISE CATTLE CO.**

ROBERT & TAMMY CRUISE  
CELL: 918-260-6074  
OKMULGEE, OK

**DUNAGAN-FARMS**

JACE & HEATHER DUNAGAN  
CELL: 405-821-0562  
WEBSITE: DUNAGAN-FARMS.COM  
RETAIL SPACE: 8747 E CR 74  
GUTHRIE, OK

**DESTINY RANCH**

WILLIAM & KAREN PAYNE  
CELL: 580-320-7073  
WEBSITE: DESTINYRANCH.ORG  
ST. LOUIS, OK

**FORD LAND & CATTLE**

GARRET FORD  
CELL: 918-773-2588  
FACEBOOK: FORD LAND AND CATTLE  
VIAN, OK

**GREGO FARMS**

JIM GREGO  
CELL: 918-232-5763  
LATIMER, OK

**HILLTOPRANCH 15**

MARSHALL HUDGINS  
CELL: 405-747-6449  
MORRISON, OK

**INHOFE LAND & CATTLE**

BILL INHOFE  
OFFICE (MUSKOGEE): 918-684-4000  
OFFICE (TULSA): 918-445-0895  
FACEBOOK: INHOFE LAND & CATTLE  
RETAIL SPACES: 3190 W 21ST ST S  
TULSA, OK  
2300 N 32ND ST W  
MUSKOGEE, OK

**JACKSON FARMS**

PAUL JACKSON  
CELL: 405-830-8060  
RINGLING, OK

**MYRICK FARMS**

LARRY MYRICK  
CELL: 918-223-6425  
CUSHING, OK

**LOCO FARMS**

BEN COFFIN  
CELL: 405-714-3015  
FACEBOOK: GRANNY HAD ONE  
EDMOND OUTDOOR FARMERS  
MARKET (APR-OCT)  
GUTHRIE, OK

**LUCKY 7 RANCH LLC**

COLTON RICHARDS  
CELL: 435-590-1979  
BROKEN BOW, OK

**MORRISLAND**

BRETT MORRIS & EARL MORRIS  
CELL: 405-274-5114  
NINNEKAH, OK

**NONAME RANCH ALL NATURAL  
BEEF LLC**

DAWN BUECHNER  
CELL: 580-768-1023  
FACEBOOK: NONAME RANCH LLC  
RETAIL SPACE: 46865 HWY 29  
WYNNEWOOD, OK

**PLEMMONS FARMS**

RYAN PLEMMONS  
CELL: 58-306-1024  
BROKEN BOW, OK

**RAFTER O CATTLE CO.**

CHAD & BONNIE OTTO  
CELL: 580-763-2893  
RETAIL SPACE: CAST IRON CO.  
PONCA CITY, OK

**RIVER BOTTOM CATTLE COMPANY**

JERRY & SUE CALVERT  
CELL: 405-650-7172  
NORMAN, OK



<b>ROUNDS CATTLE COMPANY</b> SHELDON AND CHESLIE ROUNDS CELL: 580-922-5238 FACEBOOK: R&R LIVESTOCK FEED LEEDEY, OK	<b>SHARP RANCH</b> SALEM & SAKINA SHARP CELL: 201-913-1923 WYNNEWOOD, OK	<b>4C AG SERVICE LLC</b> CHRIS & VICKI COOK CELL: 405-760-9050 JONES, OK
<b>SANDY CREEK BEEF</b> MELISSA KOESLER CELL: 405-238-0494 PAULS VALLEY, OK	<b>SHELTON FARM GRASS-FED BEEF</b> JIM & SARA SHELTON CELL: 918-244-1077 VINITA, OK	<b>4D CATTLE COMPANY</b> GAY DIXON OFFICE: 405-665-2591 CELL: 405-550-4368 WYNNEWOOD, OK
<b>SER RANCH</b> VICKIE ROOP CELL: 580-318-4508 OKARCHE, OK	<b>SILVERWOOD WAGYU</b> LINDA WOODRUFF CELL: 580-484-0352 ENID, OK	<b>4T RANCH BEEF</b> CONNIE TABOR CELL: 620-762-0275 WEBSITE: 4T-RANCH.COM AGRA, OK
<b>SHALLOW CREEK RANCH</b> JOHN OGDEN OFFICE: 918-687-1321 MUSKOGEE, OK	<b>UNCLE DAVE'S FARM</b> DAVID ZUMMALLEN CELL: 405-388-8874 OKARCHE, OK	<b>6R CATTLE COMPANY</b> LEVI & TAYLOR RANSOM CELL: 580-886-5077 FACEBOOK: 6R CATTLE COMPANY CANTON, OK
<b>SHARP CATTLE CO.</b> CHRIS & KERRY SHARP CELL: 580-320-5340 KONAWA, OK	<b>WATSON FARMS</b> DAMON WATSON OFFICE: 918-474-3267 RETAIL SPACE: 110 S BROADWAY COUNCIL HILL, OK	

## OCBA Ranch Feature: Destiny Ranch

*By Hannah Jenkins  
AFR OCBA Coordinator*

In 2006, William and Karen Payne packed their bags and moved from their home in Colorado to Oklahoma in hopes of realizing their dreams of owning a successful beef cattle operation. They found a 920-acre parcel of land in Seminole County, but multiple agriculture groups doubted they could turn their dreams into a reality due to the state of the property. It was overgrown with trees and little grass due to poor management of the land. Despite being told it was a bad idea, the Paynes purchased the land. They worked long hours, day after day, clearing trees, and removing unwanted brush. They also discovered several layers of barbed wire fence. After a year of hard work, the Paynes started their stocker operation with more than 250 steer calves. Over the next several years, trial and error showed they must change their feeding method in order to be profitable. A high intensity grazing system suited their operation best. In 2010, the Paynes began moving cattle to a different one-acre paddock every 24 hours. By the end of that summer, their land was flourishing. In 2011, the Paynes took their operation in a different direction to better take control of the quality and yield of their

herd. They bought 100 Angus and 100 Hereford heifers and slowly transitioned their herd into a cow-calf operation. Today, they have 60 cows and process 60 to 80 head per year. Destiny Ranch started selling halves and quarters, today they sell retail cuts online, off the farm, and out of their freezer trailer three days a week. They sell directly to customers on Thursdays in Shawnee, Friday in Moore, and Saturdays in Norman. The Paynes share their knowledge by hosting grazing seminars on their farm twice a year in April and September.

They hope to educate others about the importance and rewards of being good stewards of the land. The Paynes also opened their farm to the public for a customer appreciation day in 2021. More than 150 of their customers enjoyed Destiny Ranch steaks and saw first-hand where their beef came from. The Paynes are the definition of passion, dedication and hard work. They turned mis-managed farmland into a successful and well-known beef cattle operation through consistency and attention to detail.







# Tulip Time

ON THE

# RHINE

AFR Cooperative members enjoyed an agriculture-focused spring conference April 27-May 7, 2022. The “Tulip Time on Jewels of the Rhine” focused on agriculture in Switzerland, France, Germany and the Netherlands. Attendees explored the region via river cruise. Some of the highlights included:

**LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND**

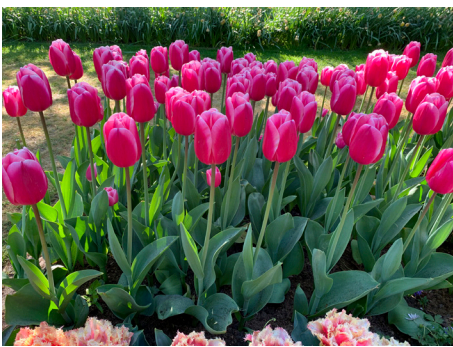
AFR members explored Lucerne, including the famous 14th-century Chapel Bridge that crosses the Reuss River. Lucerne boasts a 17th-century Renaissance Town Hall and town squares set amongst the beautiful backdrop of the Swiss Alps. To fully experience the mountainous region, several AFR members took a day excursion to Mt. Pilatus. The mountain overlooks Lucerne and provided a unique al-pine experience.

**BREISACH, GERMANY**

AFR members explored a traditional Black Forest Village, full of all the charm of the fairy-tale region, complete with cuckoo clocks and other German specialties. They saw demonstrations of various traditional handicrafts, each offering a glimpse into rural life in the forest. One of the most unique aspects of the village was the demonstration of how the famous local treat—Black Forest Cake—is made.

**STRASBOURG, FRANCE**

In Strasbourg, the capital city of the Alsace



known for its medieval black and white timber-framed buildings, picturesque le Petite France, old tanning houses, canals and river locks, the city's star attraction is its ornate cathedral, which dominates the main square.

**HEIDELBERG & KOBLENZ, GERMANY**

In Heidelberg, AFR members explored cobblestone streets of a medieval city and hiked through the agrarian countryside. In Koblenz, a 2000-year-old town situated at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers, AFR members took a walk through history including panoramic views from Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, which they reached by cable car.

**COLOGNE, GERMANY**

Founded by the Romans, Cologne is one of Germany's oldest cities and is famous for its magnificent UNESCO World Heritage-listed gothic cathedral. AFR members enjoyed a walking tour of the city that highlighted the Old Town and its Roman history.

**AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS**

AFR members explored Keukenhof Gardens, known worldwide as the “Garden of Europe.” With blooming tulips at center stage, the Gardens feature unique flower shops and colorful artistic displays. After some leisure time to soak in Amsterdam, AFR members bid “auf wiedersehen” to Europe!

*The Tulip Time on the Rhine adventure was just one of many memorable AFR Ag & Historic Conferences. The next conference locations will be announced at the 2023 AFR/OFU Convention. For more information, including future conference locations, contact Jamie Goodson (405-218-5665) or Paul Jackson (405)218-5559.*

Region in France, AFR members explored the Grande Île, the historical city center and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. While the city is

## American Farmers & Ranchers... In the Field!



AFR Cooperative served burgers at the annual For Teachers, By Teachers, an OSU summer professional development conference for agriculture teachers across Oklahoma. The annual event was held June 20 at the Payne County Fairgrounds in Stillwater. Pictured are AFR Cooperative Field Representative Jim Pilkington (left) and AFR Membership Coordinator Hannah Jenkins.



AFR Cooperative participated in the inaugural National Farmers Union Advocacy Training Workshop April 25-27 in Washington, D.C. AFR Policy Committee members Dillon Travis (left), Maramec, and Tim Bates (right), Mutual, attended the training, which included board training, Toastmasters workshops and congressional visits on Capitol Hill. AFR Cooperative Press Secretary Laici Neumann (center) also attended the event.



# COUNTY MEETING NOTICES

**GARFIELD COUNTY**

**Friday, October 14, 2022, 6 P.M.**

**Where:** Oakwood Christian Church  
401 N. Oakwood, Enid  
**RSVP:** By Oct. 1 @ 5 p.m. --  
Bolenbaugh Agency, 580-242-2818;  
Detrick Agency, 580-796-2100  
**Extra Info:** Door prizes and meal provided, catered by Klein's Catering. We will be collecting lotion, non-slip socks, hygiene product and small lap blankets for nursing home residents. Please bring any donations to the meeting. There will be a business meeting with election of officers and presentation of resolutions. Lahoma Local #152, Bolenbaugh Local #529 and Bolenbaugh Local #668 will meet immediately following the county meeting to conduct membership and policyholder business meetings and elect delegates and alternates for the annual state meeting for OFU and AFRMIC.

**GRADY CO. LOCAL #551**

**Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 5 P.M.**

**Where:** Community Insurance Agency  
309 W. Blakely, Rush Springs

**HARMON COUNTY**

**Thursday, October 24, 2022, Noon**

**Where:** Boomerang Restaurant, Hollis  
**RSVP:** By Oct. 19 to Robinson Agency, 580-688-9229  
**Extra Info:** There will be a short business meeting with election of officers for the coming year for the county and Local #15. A membership and policyholder business meeting will be held for each local to elect delegates and alternates for the annual state meeting for OFU and AFRMIC. There will be door prizes.

**LINCOLN COUNTY**

**Sunday, October 27, 2022, 5:30 P.M.**

**Where:** Agri-Center, Chandler  
**RSVP:** By Oct. 19 to your insurance agent, so that seating and food arrangements can be made.

Remember your membership entitles you to tickets for your immediate family only!  
**Extra Info:** Buffet served 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. There will be door prizes, limited to one per family. There will be donations taken for a food drive, so bring non-perishable food items or cash donations for the food bank. There will be a business meeting with election of officers for the coming year. A membership and policyholder business meeting will be held for each local to elect delegates and alternates for the annual state meeting for OFU and AFRMIC. Nominations for county officers will be conducted from the floor. If you or someone you know is interested, place their name in nomination at the meeting. Resolutions will also be presented for a vote of the membership.

**MCCURTAIN CO. LOCAL #045**

**Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 6:15 P.M.**

**Where:** Plemmons Agency, Broken Bow  
**Extra Info:** Refreshments will be served.

**MCCURTAIN CO. LOCAL #295**

**Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 5 P.M.**

**Where:** Plemmons Agency, Broken Bow

**MCCURTAIN CO. LOCAL #591**

**Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 5 P.M.**

**Where:** Sooner Agency, Idabel  
**Extra Info:** Refreshments will be served.

**OKLAHOMA COUNTY LOCAL #327**

**Saturday, November 5, 2022, 6 P.M.**

**Where:** Spencer Barbecue  
9900 NE 23rd, Oklahoma City  
**Extra Info:** Local #327 will meet immediately following the Oklahoma County meeting, which starts at 6 p.m.

**OTTAWA COUNTY**

**Monday, December 5, 2022, 6:30 P.M.**

**Where:** Ottawa Courthouse Annex Building  
123 E. Central Ave, Miami  
**Extra Info:** Local #060 and Local #079 will meet following the county meeting.

**STEPHENS COUNTY**

**Monday, October 3, 2022, 10 A.M.**

**Where:** Red River VoTech, Room 506  
**Extra Info:** Pastries, coffee, and juice will be provided.

**WAGONER COUNTY**

**Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 7:30 P.M.**

**Where:** Wagoner Civic Center  
**Extra Info:** Dinner will be served.

\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*

THE AFR TRADING POST IS NOW ONLINE!

ALL TRADING POST ADS ARE NOW HOSTED ONLINE AT WWW.AFRCOOP.ORG/TRADINGPOST.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 405-218-5561.



# In Memoriam

## Bill Kosanke



Bill Kent Kosanke passed away April 14, 2022. Services were held April 18, 2022, at the Lone Wolf School Auditorium. Bill was born May 10, 1935, to William and Emma Kosanke in a farmhouse two miles north of Lone Wolf. He graduated from Lone Wolf School in 1953. In 1957, Bill graduated from Oklahoma

A&M with a degree in agricultural economics. He was a member of the last class before the school's name was changed to Oklahoma State University. Following his time in Stillwater, Bill served three years of active duty as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed on the Canadian border in a radar station from 1958 to 1961. Bill returned to Lone Wolf and made his living in farming and ranching. He served on many boards and committees, including the Oklahoma Wheat Commission. He was also a state officer in the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Bill was an Oklahoma Farmers Union insurance agent for 18 years and served as president of the Kiowa County Farmers Union. Bill married Ann McConnell on Feb. 21, 1970, at the First United Methodist Church in Hobart. They made their home in Lone Wolf and had three children—Kristin, Suzanne and Brad.

Bill was a long-time member of the First Christian Church of Lone Wolf, where he served as an elder for more than 50 years. He loved his Lord, family, church, community, country, friends and OSU. He enjoyed listening to and singing Southern Gospel music with his fellow church quartet members. He also enjoyed attending ballgames, his kids' activities, and later in life, his grandkids. He was also known to tell and re-tell old-time stories with his coffee-drinking friends at C.J.'s. Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Ann. He is survived by three children: Kristin and her husband, Tim Fricker, of Edmond; Suzanne and her husband, Frank Hale, of Oklahoma City; and Brad and his wife, Tamara, of Oklahoma City. Bill is also survived by six grandchildren: Josh and Sam Fricker, and Kade, Grant, Ben and Grace Kosanke. He will be greatly missed by many other relatives and friends.

## Rita Detrick



Rita Quin Detrick, 75, passed away June 1, 2022. A memorial was held June 6, 2022, at Faith Center in Meno. Burial followed at Ames Cemetery. Rita was born Aug. 21, 1946, to Lloyd and Gayle (Olvey) Turner in Enid. She graduated from Drummond High School in 1964 and married Terry Detrick Oct. 16, 1964. They had three sons: Chad Garrett, Jason Bradley and Wade Evan. While Rita served her community for many years as an insurance agent for American Farmers & Ranchers/Oklahoma Farmers Union and as a member of Parker Chapel Christian Union Church, she is remembered best as a doting mother, grandmother and farm wife. Rita is survived by her husband, Terry, and her sons Chad and his wife, Jana, of Yukon; Brad and his wife, Amara, of Ames;

and Wade and his wife, Tina, of Ames. Rita is also survived by 11 grandchildren: Austin Detrick and his wife, Lindsey, of Meno; Jesse Detrick of Tulsa; Cortlyn Detrick of Meno; Ben Detrick and his wife, Makaila, of Edmond; Taylor Streck and her husband, Seth, of Hennessey; Emma Detrick of Weatherford; Rylee and her fiancé, Chisholm Kliever, of Thomas; Reagan Detrick of Stillwater; Eva Willis of Ames; Kylee Detrick of Yukon; and Truett Willis of Ames. Rita is survived by two great-grandchildren: Arabella and Jason Detrick of Edmond. She is also survived by her sister Sherry Goode and her husband,

Jerry, of Manhattan, Kan., as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of friends.

## Thanks to all my AFR Family

*I want to thank all of my AFR/OFU family for the many cards, condolences, flowers, memorials, prayers and expressions of kindness during the recent loss of my sweet wife, Rita.*

*You blessed me and my family so very much and with ALL of my heart I want to THANK YOU.*

*Terry Detrick*



# In Memoriam

## Billy Perrin



Billy Edward Perrin, 82, passed away July 12, 2022. Services were held July 16, 2022, at Antlers First Baptist Church. Billy was born Oct. 1, 1939, to O.T. “Bill” Perrin and Arenia Mae (Brown) Perrin in Miller. He married the love of his life, Ann Matthews, on Aug. 10, 1957, in Hugo. They raised their two daughters—Jackie Jo and Cindy Ann—in Antlers before moving to Hugo where they resided for more than 20 years. Billy and Ann lived in Durant the last several years of Billy’s life. Billy was a living legend and a life-long learner. He was self-educated and self-motivated. During his life, he operated a cow/calf and stocker cattle ranch and a cattle order buying service. Along with his wife, Ann, Billy also owned livestock auctions in Hugo, Idabel, Tulsa, Ada and Durant. Billy also owned the AFR Insurance office and a real estate agency in Antlers for more than 30 years until 2003. When Billy started his agency in the early 1970s, he used a Justin boot box for his filing cabinet because he couldn’t afford a real one and he only had eight policies. Billy later served on the AFR Board of Directors and lobbied in Washington, D.C., as a board and congressional action member. Billy was a man of integrity, intelligence, and determination. He loved to help young people and see them grow and do special things. He was a member of the Junior Chamber and served as president of the Antlers chapter. Billy served in leadership roles through much of his life. He was appointed twice (once by Governor Walters and then Governor Keating) to the Agriculture 2000 Task Force to recommend ways to improve and enhance Oklahoma agriculture by assisting family farmers and ranchers. Billy served the livestock marketing industry as president of the Livestock Marketing Association (LMA) for two years.

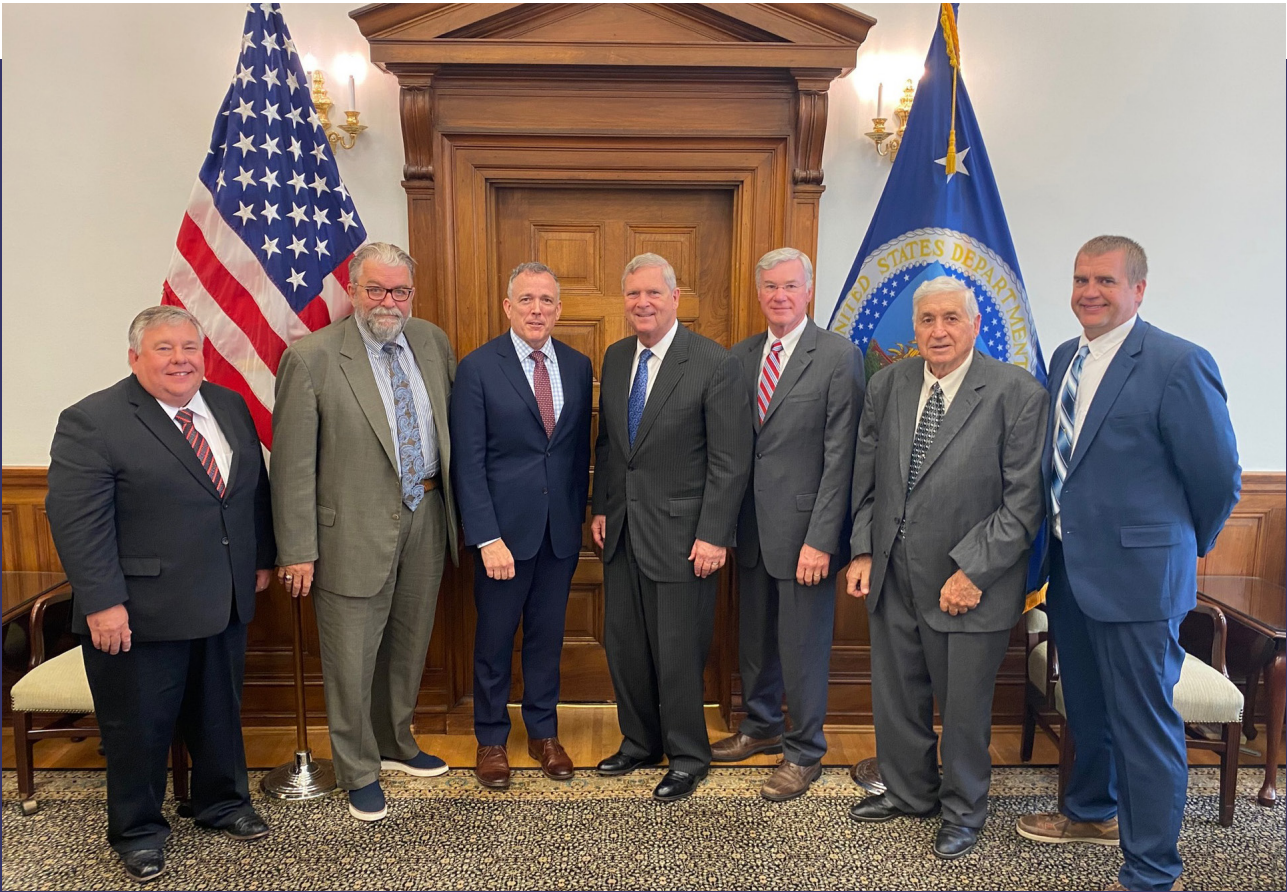
For LMA, he also served as chairman of the board, a director, and a board member of LMA’s livestock insurance company. He also served as a board member of the Oklahoma Livestock Marketing Association (OLMA) and represented AFR for six years as a member of the Oklahoma Beef Council (OBC), including serving as chairman for two terms. In 2015, Billy was honored to receive the Livestock Marketing Association’s (LMA) Industry Icon Award. Over the past 50 years, there have only been four recipients. It was a great accomplishment for Billy and his family. Billy is still known for his ability to train a great barrel horse. He trained several over his lifetime, but he had two favorites. “Boss” was his daughter Jackie Jo’s horse that won the 1977 World Championship at the National Finals Rodeo. “Ben” was his daughter Cindy’s horse. In 1978, both horses competed at the Finals. Boss won first and Ben won second. Billy truly was a barrel horse trainer extraordinaire. Billy loved his wife, Ann, with all his heart; together, they were a force of nature. The dynamic duo accomplished everything they set out to accomplish. Billy loved his family and loved spending time with them. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him. Billy was preceded in death by his parents and his daughter, Cynthia “Cindy”

Ann Perrin. He is survived by his wife, Ann, of the home and his daughter, Jackie Jo Perrin, of Durant. He is also survived by his sisters, Tommie Rodenberger and her husband, Robert, of Antlers; Patsy McClure of Oklahoma City; and JoAnn Perrin Matthews and her husband, Steve, of Impson Valley. He is survived by his grandchildren, Samantha Baker Scott and her husband, Joseph, of Durant; Lane Edward Perrin and Erica of Covington; and Jericho Holder and Morgan of Soper; and his great-grandchildren, Lainey Jo Perrin, Paisley Dawn, Selleck Holder, Kai Leo Baker Scott, Lincoln Rose Baker Scott, and Lux Baker Scott. He is survived by numerous other relatives and friends.

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AFR Cooperative President Scott Blubaugh (far left), along with NFU leadership and other Farmers Union state leaders, met with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack (center) on June 21 to discuss federal programs that may provide grant and guaranteed loan programs to develop local and regional food systems throughout rural America.





# Oklahoma STRONG

From the Desk of Scott Blubaugh

Summer has certainly heated up here in Oklahoma. Drought has settled over much of the lower southern plains states and Oklahoma is no exception. As we all hunker down to wait until rain comes or the heat breaks, I'm glad to have positive and productive activities to reflect on.

The AFR Cooperative staff have been busy planning our annual Leadership Summit, working on legislative advocacy projects, contributing to nationwide efforts to ease the burden family farmers and ranchers carry.

I was honored to participate directly in one of those efforts in June when I traveled to Washington, D.C., to work with National Farmers Union as they met with USDA on behalf of NFU family farmers and ranchers.

NFU senior leadership, as well as leadership from other Farmers Union states, met with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack in his office at USDA headquarters. Several USDA senior department leaders also attended the meeting.

We talked with Vilsack about the creation of new local food systems and how best to create circular economies in rural America. These circular economies will keep dollars where food is produced, rather than shipping all the wealth out of rural America to corporate coffers and entities overseas.

USDA has a lot of resources available to help make these local and regional circular systems a reality for farmers, ranchers and rural communities.

During the meeting, Vilsack and his staff reviewed more than 50 grant and guaranteed loan opportunities to help ensure the resiliency of the new

local and regional food systems. These opportunities include funding for meat processing, rural food distribution and other segments of the food system. Funding is also available to add value to crops and livestock production.

After a lot of questions and discussions on opportunities for added value growth in rural America, Vilsack ordered his senior team to put together a presentation for Farmers Union members and leadership to discuss in detail all the different opportunities USDA has available at this time to strengthen the food system. As a result, AFR Cooperative is currently discussing opportunities with a national grant writing expert to see how some of these programs could be used in Oklahoma. We may be applying for some of these grants very soon!

In addition to the visit with USDA, I was also fortunate to meet with Andy Green at the White House. Green is Senior Advisor for Fair and Competitive Market and is considered part of the Administration. Lack of competition was front and center. We discussed cattle market disfunction at length, including how it negatively impacts the farmers, ranchers and consumers of this nation. It's not every day you get to argue your members' policy positions with White House staff!

Another highlight of my D.C. trip was a dinner at the Japanese Embassy. The event was a "thank you" send-off to their agriculture counselor returning to Tokyo and a "welcome" to his replacement who just arrived in D.C. It was a great evening of Japanese Culture and hospitality. We talked about agriculture and farming, just like we always do, but through the lens of Japanese culture. It was a unique

experience and I feel fortunate to have been invited.

The final event in D.C. was a visit with Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Okla.) in his D.C. office. We talked about the upcoming farm bill, what it may include and, most importantly, the challenges to getting one passed. As usual, it's going to be a heavy lift and will take a bipartisan effort to make it happen. It will also need support of urban legislators who are worried about food security programs, as it always does to pass a new farm bill. We also talked over some of AFR's priorities and got a commitment from Lucas that he intends to return to the House Ag Committee in the next session of Congress.

In addition to my time in D.C., the AFR Cooperative officer team was invited to tour Farmers Union Industries' for-profit businesses in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. Those three states, plus Montana and Wisconsin, make up the five-state FUI that owns these businesses collectively. Each of the different FUI business units complement the others. FUI was established in the 1940s with a \$2,500 commitment from each FUI state. It's now a thriving, profitable business employing hundreds of people across rural areas of the northern U.S. It's truly inspirational what they've been able to accomplish over many years. We enjoyed learning about opportunities in other states and appreciated the invitation from our Farmers Union sister states.

Until next time, eat beef and pray for rain!

-Scott