



KFB's Member-Elected PAC Identifies Friends of Farm Bureau

Your farm organization has taken a giant step toward building and enhancing vital relationships with elected public officeholders. The Voters Organized To Elect Farm Bureau Friends (VOTE FBF) recently wrapped up a year-long process of gathering input from county Farm Bureau organizations and building consensus. The result is a slate of candidates for state and federal office who have earned the endorsement of Kansas Farm Bureau.

The VOTE FBF board is a 10-member farmer/rancher panel, one from each of Kansas Farm Bureau's

10 geographic districts, elected by their peers at district caucuses.

Like everything in Farm Bureau, this political advocacy component starts at the county FB level, as county boards identify and recommend candidates for public office who share Farm Bureau positions on policy issues impacting agriculture and rural communities.

The County Farm Bureau candidate recommendations are forwarded to the VOTE FBF board, which makes consensus-driven decisions on candidate endorsements. Given the urban/suburban majority in the state legislature and in Congress, this political advocacy component of your farm organization has never been more important.

2006 KFB Endorsed Candidates

Kansas House	38 Anthony Brown	75 John Grange	109 Clay Aurand
1 Doug Gatewood	42 Kenny Wilk	76 Peggy Mast	110 Dan Johnson
2 Bob Grant	43 Mike Kiegerl	77 David Crum	113 Bob Bethell
4 Lynne Oharah	44 Barbara Ballard	78 Ryan Rising	114 Mitch Holmes
5 Bill Feuerborn	45 Tom Sloan	79 Kasha Kelley	115 Melvin Neufeld
6 Jene Vickrey	47 Lee Tafanelli	80 Bill McCreary	116 Dennis McKinney
7 Richard Proehl	48 Jeff Colyer	82 Don Myers	117 Larry Powell
8 Jerry Williams	50 Rocky Fund	83 JoAnn Pottorff	118 Virginia Beamer
9 Bill Otto	51 Mike Burgess	85 Steve Brunk	119 Pat George
10 Tom Holland	52 Lana Gordon	86 Jan Beemer	120 John Faber
11 Virgil Peck	53 Ann Mah	87 Bonnie Huy	121 Jim Morrison
12 Jeff King	54 Joe Patton	90 Steve Huebert	122 Gary Hayzlett
13 Forrest Knox	59 Joe Humerickhouse	91 Brenda Landwehr	124 Bill Light
14 Lance Kinzer	60 Don Hill	93 Dick Kelsey	125 Carl Holmes
15 Arlen Siegfried	61 Richard Carlson	94 Joe McLeland	
17 Stephanie Sharp	62 Roy Claycamp	95 Tom Sawyer	Governor
18 Mary Pilcher-Cook	63 Jerry Henry	96 Willa DeCastro	Kathleen Sebelius
19 Tim Owens	65 Barbara Craft	99 Ty Masterson	
20 Kevin Yoder	66 Bob Strawn	100 Mario Goico	Attorney General
23 Judy Morrison	67 Dick Miller	101 James Schlickau	Phill Kline
24 Ed O'Malley	68 Tom Moxley	102 Janice Pauls	
25 Terrie Huntington	69 Deena Horst	104 Mike O'Neal	U.S. House
26 Rob Olson	70 Don Dahl	105 Jason Watkins	1 Jerry Moran
27 Ray Merrick	71 Charles Roth	106 Sharon Schwartz	2 Jim Ryun
31 Domingo Soto	73 Clark Shultz	107 Elaine Bowers	3 Dennis Moore
36 Margaret Long	74 Don Schroeder	108 Josh Svaty	4 Todd Tiarht

Vote FBF Board

1st DISTRICT

Wayne Lukert, Shawnee County

2nd DISTRICT

Mike Martin, Miami County

3rd DISTRICT

Darrell Monfort, Allen County

4th DISTRICT

Dale Weishaar, Sumner County

5th DISTRICT

Bob Mertz, Riley County

6th DISTRICT

Lance Russell, Ellis County

7th DISTRICT

Arland Stephens, Kingman County

8th DISTRICT

Mark Flax, Ness County

9th DISTRICT

Rusty Sherwood, Haskell County

10th DISTRICT

Quintin Flanagin, Thomas County

KFB Political Advocacy System Works

It seems like only yesterday but 2006 marks the seventh election cycle that your farm organization has endorsed a slate of candidates who have earned the right to be called "Friends of Farm Bureau."

The concept of a Political Action Committee was approved by forward-thinking voting delegates to the 1993 Kansas Farm Bureau annual meeting. Since its inception, your farm

organization can boast a 90-percent plus success rate of electing KFB-endorsed candidates. We'll stack that track record up against any trade group or advocacy organization in Kansas.

Office holders appreciate the system, too. They see FB's grassroots political and policy development process and understand that by its very nature – the end result is consensus driven, which is the essence of democracy.



Kansas Fence Laws: Problems and Solutions

What is a legal fence? The definition has changed over time but was clarified in 1986 by the Kansas Legislature. A legal fence can be constructed and composed of a number of different kinds of materials from post and rails to stone or even a hedge. The more common fences in our state are barbed wire and electrical.

The minimum legal barbed wire fence is:

- Not less than three wires
- The third wire from the ground not less than 44 inches nor more than 48 inches
- The bottom wire not more than 24 nor less than 18 inches from the ground
- The center wire equi-distant, or nearly so, between upper and lower wires
- The wires are to be well-stretched and barbed
- The barbed wire shall be composed of two wires not smaller than #13 or one wire not smaller than #9 or wires having not less than 950 pounds breaking strength
- All wires to be securely fastened to post
- Posts are not more than two rods apart
- Posts are not less than 20 inches in the ground and set in a workmanlike manner
- The posts may be not more than 48 feet apart, with slats placed perpendicularly, not more than 12 feet apart between the posts and fastened to the wires

For an electric fence to be a legal fence, the fence must meet the following qualifications:

- An electrically-charged wire
- At least one 14-gauge wire or its equivalent
- The wire not more than 48 inches from the ground

The Kansas Legislature provides that a county commission may enact a more stringent set of requirements

KFB Mourns for Hodgeman County Farm Bureau Member Steve King

FB members across the state are mourning the loss of one of their own. Hodgeman County FB member and Sprint-car driver Steve King was injured in a crash during the 46th Knoxville Nationals on Aug. 9 in Des Moines, Iowa. He passed on the following day at 3:32 p.m.

Steve had two passions in life: racing and farming. As a fourth generation farmer, he valued the importance ethanol-based fuels bring to the security and prosperity of our country. King used his passions for racing and agriculture to support and promote the use of ethanol. His car was designed and painted to help the industry build a consistent brand for the very commodity he raised in Hodgeman County.



Kansas Farm Bureau had planned to feature King's accomplishments as a farmer and race-car driver in an upcoming television commercial. KFB has sponsored Steve's racing seasons for the past three years.

"We are shocked and saddened at this tragic loss," said Steve Baccus, an Ottawa County farmer who serves as president of Kansas Farm Bureau. "The thoughts and prayers of the entire FB family are with Steve's loved ones. Steve King was a farmer, a racer and a true leader. We will miss him tremendously."

For information or to offer thoughts and prayers, go to Steve's Web site, www.88king.com.

FB Members: Remember Hay/Pasture Exchange

Areas of the state are experiencing serious drought and KFB is offering a resource for concerned producers. The Hay and Pasture Exchange, a joint effort of Kansas Farm Bureau and K-State Research and Extension, was developed to connect those who have hay and pasture with those in need. Located at www.kfb.org/hayandpasture, producers can list available hay or pasture or view a listing of resources needed. The Hay and Pasture Exchange is not a broker. It is up to the individual parties to make contact and negotiate acceptable hay prices or pasture rentals.

for a legal fence in their respective counties. Therefore, you should check with local county commissioners to determine whether the legal fence standards in your county are different from those listed above. Keep in mind, the commissioners may determine an electrically-charged wire fence is not a legal fence in their respective counties.

KFB Names Farm Families of the Year

The annual award program to recognize outstanding farm families across Kansas has been completed. Families will be formally recognized at the Kansas State Fair Recognition Luncheon on Sept. 15, as well as the KFB annual meeting in November.

Congratulations to these Farm Family winners:

- ✓ Dist. 1, Steve and Diana Tuttle
- ✓ Dist. 2, Karl and Twilla Eisele
- ✓ Dist. 3, Phillip and Anita Clubine
- ✓ Dist. 4, Tom and Carolyn Perrier
- ✓ Dist. 5, David and Stacey Forshee
- ✓ Dist. 6, Scott and Nadine Sigle
- ✓ Dist. 7, Derek and Michelle Zongker
- ✓ Dist. 8, Randy and Cindy Scheuerman
- ✓ Dist. 9, Jim and Kelly Sipes
- ✓ Dist. 10, Greg and Amy Sederstrom

In the next issue, we will explore partition fences. For more information, please contact Mike Irvin, Director of the KFB Legal Foundation at (785) 587-6621 or Terry Arthur, General Counsel. Please visit the KFB Legal Foundation Web site, kfb.org/kfblegalfoundation. For specific situations be sure to consult a lawyer.

FARM FLASHES . . .

Water Issues Make Legislative Tour in Chautauqua County

■ Chautauqua County Farm Bureau and Water District No. 4 co-hosted a tour and barbeque dinner this month for legislative, community and Farm Bureau leaders. The tour highlighted the need for potable water to 310 customers in the water district, following a recent application to USDA Rural Development for financial assistance to develop and construct a rural water district in the eastern half of Chautauqua County. Rep. Tiahr's Legislative Agriculture Assistant Sam Sackett, board members for Rural Water District No. 4, County Extension Agent Ben Allen and KFB Women's Chair Helen Norris were in attendance.

Farmers and ranchers who opened their operations for the tour include Frank Adcock, Edwin and Jan Bowman, Steve Clark and Libby and Mike Long. Tour stops included a water treatment plant, Adcock's native grass cattle operation, Bowman's row crops and Long's tame grass and preconditioning techniques. Pictured (l-r) are: Sam Sackett, Libby and Mike Long and Alan Soelter.



CRP Field Tours Planned Across Kansas

■ Kansas Farm Service Agency invites the public to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Those interested in learning how Kansas's are restoring and enhancing our natural resources should attend one of these CRP Field Tours:

August 29, Tour Native Grasses, Upland Bird Habitat Buffers, Contour Grass Strip Terraces, Rare and Declining Habitat and Farmable Wetlands in Thomas County. RSVP to kimberly.jones@ks.usda.gov, (785) 642-7671, ext.204.

Sept. 20, Tour Native Grass Establishment, Filter Strips and Buffers, Upland Bird Habitat Buffers, and Wetland Restoration in Marion County. RSVP to william.harmon@ks.usda.gov, (620) 382-3714.

KFB's Ag Central Debuts at 2006 Kansas State Fair

■ Kansas Farm Bureau will debut a new focus with their space at this year's Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson, September 8-17. Attendees will travel through a hands-on and interactive exhibit called *Ag Central* to learn about commodities produced in Kansas and how they relate to their everyday lives.

Fairgoers can enjoy *The House That Ag Built*, the *Farmer's Tool Chest of Jobs* and a booth called *What Is This?* Teachers will be provided with classroom curriculum for students and each student will take home a book mark that when planted produces a flower.

FB members should bring their membership card on Farm Bureau Day, Sept. 15, for a special member prize. As a free health service, the State Women's Committee will present the Glow-Essence Skin Analyzer to help identify various skin conditions.

Fairgoers can enter drawings for a John Deere ATV and ethanol-powered miniature Plymouth Prowler. The county Farm Families of the Year, Century Farm Award recipients and district Natural Resources Award winners will also be honored on Sept. 15. Rounding out the State Fair activities, Kansas Farm Bureau and Kwik Shop will sponsor the Ethanol Classic on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 17.

Beverly Community Receives USDA Rural Development Grant

■ USDA Rural Development State Director Chuck Banks announced that Beverly Community Economic Development, Inc. has been approved to receive \$70,000 in grant funding to support local economic development. The approval represents part of \$6.5 million to fund rural economic development projects in 43 states.

Beverly Community Economic Development, Inc. will utilize funds to establish a revolving loan fund to assist start-up businesses and support existing business expansions. Agency funds will be complemented by an applicant contribution of \$20,000.



KFB Wins AFBF Communications Awards

■ Your KFB Communications staff received honors at the 2006 American Farm Bureau Public Relations Awards competition. Farm Bureau's weekly radio program, Voice of Agriculture, was named Best Radio News Program. In addition, Mike Matson, KFB Communications and Public Relations Director, also received first place for a television program on the issue of eminent domain entitled "Our Land, Our Lives." Matson won the Best Video News Story award.

Lastly, your internal newsletter, *Farm Leader Letter*, was named first place among other states in the Best Leader Newsletter division. This is the second first-place honor for *Farm Leader Letter*, which also won in 2003 and was honorable mention in 2004. KFB competes in the largest membership division of the AFBF competition, among states that have 70,000+ members.

Kansas Farm Bureau CALENDAR

August 27

State Committee of Farm Bureau Women Meeting, Beloit

August 28

Governor's Farm and Ranch Tour, Smith and Jewell Counties

September 8

AFBF Farmer Idea Exchange and County Awards for Excellence applications due

September 8-17

Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson

September 23

YF&R Exhibitor Thank-you Breakfast and Committee Meeting, Wichita

October 2

Awards for Excellence applications due

November 1

YF&R Contest Applications due (*Achievement Award, Discussion Meet, Excellence in Ag*)



MEMBER-DRIVEN policy was developed during the KFB Resolutions Committee meeting, Aug. 17. The state committee adopted language on policies including the 2007 Farm Bill, crop insurance, alternative energy policy and government organization.

Farm Bureau members will have the opportunity to discuss these and other tentative language at any of several district Listening Posts this fall. Members will soon receive an invitation to a listening post in their area. Suggested changes will be brought back to the Resolutions Committee in November for further review and approval. Pictured (left) is 8th District Resolutions Committee member Joe Jury.

Gov. Sebelius to Learn about Agriculture in North-Central KS

Farm Bureau's annual efforts to bring the state's chief executive officer to view agriculture first-hand will be held today in Jewell and Smith Counties.

The KFB Governor's Farm & Ranch Tour will begin at the Jewell Community Center for breakfast and a discussion of the relationship between rural communities and surrounding farms and ranches. Participants will then travel to the home of David and Sherrill Sasse to focus on transitioning the family farm to the next generation. Attendees will hear from Theron and Lori Haresnape on the challenges from their first years of operation in acquiring land and capital and providing health insurance for their growing family. Lunch will be provided at the Haresnapes/Mary Feine farm, with a young farmer and rancher panel discussion to follow.

The final stop will be recently-consolidated Rock Hills High School.



FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP were the highlights of the recent 7th District Hog Roast, hosted by KFB 7th District Board member Keith and Connie Miller. Nearly 80 members from Farm Bureau's 7th Dist, KFB President Steve Baccus, KFB Vice-President Edie Dahlsten and KFB Executive Director/CEO Dan Yunk as well as their spouses attended this social gathering at Cheri Miller's sale barn. Discussion was held regarding the topics of CRP, extension of the current farm bill, fuel prices, voting membership issues and Financial Services.



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