

FARM GRAM

A publication of the Marion County Farm Bureau

*Promoting, Protecting & Advancing
Farm Interests in Marion County*



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Hello Marion County Farm Bureau Members,

The farming season for many of us has kicked into high gear! While also farming, your board has been working diligently to make sure they are representing you well. I want to use this message to highlight what has been going on at your Marion County Farm Bureau Board of Directors Meetings.

Over the last few months, the board has been working on some small exercises to gather information with the intention of putting together a plan of action for the next five years. Your board is wanting to be sure that we are being proactive vs reactive on issues and requests that are made.

In March, the board did a Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat analysis of the Marion County Farm Bureau. Two strengths that the board came up with are: The diversity in crop and farming experiences within our board members *and* our membership. The board identified having a strong relationship with our elected officials in Marion County as our other top strength. The top two weakness identified are getting our membership engaged and the struggle of having too many issues happening and knowing how to prioritize them. The board recognized threats to MCFB as being the political environment and the gap in rural and urban understanding in Marion County. There were many more areas of each category that have been identified in the March minutes. It was exciting to see all these thoughts and ideas come together.

In the May meeting, we did a goal brainstorming activity. The board came up with 10 different goals that we would like to refine and for which we would like to establish a plan of action. One of the big goals was to try and get our membership more involved. The board would love your suggestions. Please send your feedback on what direction you would like to see the MCFB take to: Info@MarionCoFarm.com. We will be doing other activities throughout this year and hope to get together this fall for a planning session to put your suggestions to action in the upcoming years.

I cannot thank your board enough for their dogged commitment to representing all our members and the time they are putting into making this organization the best it can be! They have been doing much more than stated here, as you will see in this edition of the Marion County FarmGram.

I hope all is well on the farm!

Dylan Wells
President



MARION COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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New membership benefit: Pacific Building Systems and Earthlight Technologies



Oregon Farm Bureau is pleased to announce a new member benefit partnership with Pacific Building Systems and Earthlight Technologies. Members will receive up to \$1,000 combined discount on a new building & solar package or \$500 discount on a new building or new solar project. PBS will implement a \$250 Referral Award program towards the OFB Foundation for Education every time an OFB member is referred to PBS to buy a building. This same referral award program applies to Earthlight.



In addition, members can save thousands with an Energy Trust of Oregon Rebate, Federal Tax Credit and equipment Depreciation. When solar is added to a new building, the incentives and 30% federal tax credit may be applied to both investments resulting in significant savings. The location and program requirements are subject to eligibility. To learn more about these special incentives before they expire, contact Jordan Sinn for details about the program.

Look for more information on the website or call Sandy Trahan of Pacific Building Systems at 503-981-9581 and Jordan Sinn of Earthlight Technologies at 503-874-4142. Be sure to tell them you are Farm Bureau members!

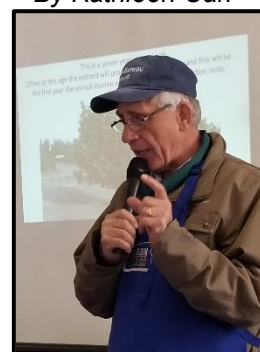
Ag Fest 2019

By Kathleen Carl

On April 25, Marion County Farm Bureau board members, Bruce Chapin and Dana Estensen, presented on hazelnut production to school children from 13 elementary schools. Schools attending were chosen by essays submitted by a class.

This year's class winners included fourth grade students from Victor Point School, St Paul Parochial School, Pratum School, and the dual language schools, Harriett Elementary and Grant Community School in Salem. Topics of the essays submitted by the students included: blackberries, filberts, dairy, grass seed, marionberries, wheat and more.

Oregon Farm Bureau Women's Advisory Council arranged for the school presentations.



On April 26 and 27, Ag Fest opened and Oregon Farm Bureau, through the hard work of the Women's Advisory Council and Farm Bureau members, once again helped thousands of people make "Dirt Babies." This was the largest organizational display at the event and included farming literature, written activities and even a photo area.

Pictured: Upper right hand: Bruce Chapin giving his presentation, Lower right: Grant Community School 4th grade essay winning class; to the left: Kathleen and Bobbi Carl attending Ag Fest



2020 Oregon's Bounty Calendar Contest

Photo submissions due by Sept. 15, 2019

OFB invites the public to submit photos for the Oregon's Bounty Calendar Contest!

Visit www.oregonfb.org/calendar for more information.

Get involved!

Join Farm Bureau's grassroots network — and do your part to protect Oregon agriculture!

Take action online with Farm Bureau:

[OFB Advocacy www.oregonfb.com/advocacy](http://www.oregonfb.com/advocacy)

Get informed: Sign up for OFB emails (includes Action Alerts, OFB Legislative Bulletin, and OFB News).

OFB Creates Webpage with Helpful Hemp Links

After receiving many questions about hemp in recent days, OFB created a webpage with links to basic information about this new crop.

Visit OregonFB.org/hemp for:

- An info sheet geared toward new farmers about how farms can be good neighbors.
- Links to the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture and Oregon Liquor Control Commission regarding hemp production.
- Information on ODA's conflict mediation services and where to find legal advice.



Marion County Farm Bureau Awards \$8,500 in Scholarships for the 2019-2020 Academic Year!

The Marion County Farm Bureau Scholarship Committee received numerous outstanding scholarship applications again this year! Award selection has become increasingly competitive. While this is a challenge for the committee, the board is also very excited to be able to support our next generation in their academic pursuits. The committee would like to thank each applicant for their time and consideration of Marion County Farm Bureau sponsored scholarships and wish all applicants the very best in their future endeavors.

The scholarship committee is pleased to announce the following scholarship recipients.

Scott Miller Memorial Scholarship

\$1,500 **Taysha Veeman**, from St. Paul, will be attending Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo as a freshman this Fall. She is majoring in Animal Science with plans to become a Veterinarian. She grew up in St. Paul on her family's dairy farm. (*St. Paul High School*)

\$1,500 **Sofia Zielinski**, from Salem, will be a freshman at Linfield College in the Fall. She will be enrolled in the Wine Studies/ Viticulture program and grew up on her family's farm in Salem. (*McNary High School*)

\$1,000 **Turner Lear**, from Gervais, will be entering his freshman year of college at Oregon State University this Fall. His major is Animal Science which will prepare him for his goal of being a Large and Small Animal Veterinarian. (*St. Paul High School*)

\$1,000 **Grace McCarthy**, from Mt. Angel, will be attending Blue Mountain Community College as a freshman in the Fall. She will be majoring in Animal Science. She plans to finish out her studies at a University to prepare for a career in Animal Nutrition or Reproduction. (*Silverton High School*)

Mary Petzel Memorial Scholarship

\$1,000 **Megan Walton**, from Aurora, will be a freshman at Tarleton State University, in Stephenville, Texas in the fall. Her major is Ag Services and Development. She is preparing to be an Ag Teacher and FFA Advisor. (*Central Catholic High School*)

\$1,000 **Abigail Berhorst**, from Yamhill, will be a junior at Eastern Oregon University in the fall. Her major is Ag Science and she is preparing to be a High School Ag Teacher.

\$1,000 **Kristina Telepenko**, from Salem, will be a freshman at Chemeketa Community College this fall. Her major is Science in preparation for a career as a Veterinary Physician. (*McKay High School*)

\$500 **Juniper Cosner**, from a sheep and cattle ranch in Weston, will be a senior at Oregon State University this fall. Her major is Agriculture Science – her goal is to be a rancher.

Vice President, Matt Schuster, Presents Scholarship Award at Salem-Keizer FFA Banquet

By Destinee Schuster



Above: 2019 McKay FFA class

To the right: Matt Schuster presenting scholarship award to Kristina Telepenko

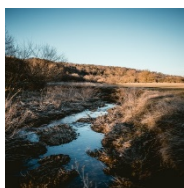
The Salem-Keizer FFA Banquet was held at McKay High School May 15th to recognize the accomplishments of FFA members over the past year. One highlight of the evening included 16 first year members receiving their Greenhand Degree. To receive a Greenhand FFA Degree, members must enroll in an agricultural education program and have satisfactory plans for a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE); learn and explain the FFA Creed, FFA Mission, and more! It will be exciting to see how these first year members grow over the years.

Another highlight of the evening included the presentation of 11 community services awards to FFA members who donated their time to serve the community- sharing their knowledge of agriculture at events such as Urban Ag Fest and Oregon Ag Fest.



Additionally, Twenty-five students were recognized for their participation in six different Career Development Events including; Creed Speaking, Beginning Parliamentary Procedure, Nursery Landscape, Food Science and Technology, Alumni Information Test, and Job Interview.

Many additional awards were presented including the Mary Petzel Memorial Scholarship Award presented by Matt Schuster, Vice-President of MCFB to award recipient Kristina Telepenko who plans to pursue Veterinary Medicine upon graduation.



Federal Court Strikes EPA's 2015 WOTUS Rule

This success is in large part to thousands of Farm Bureau members around the nation who took action against extreme government overreach!

Via American Farm Bureau

Read the full story here:

<https://www.fb.org/newsroom/court-strikes-2015-water-rule>

WASHINGTON, May 30, 2019 - A federal court on Tuesday invalidated the Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers' 2015 expansion of federal jurisdiction over small and isolated waters. After years of litigation in suits filed by dozens of state governments and trade groups, this is the first court to reach a final decision on the lawfulness of the 2015 Waters of the United States rule. Several court decisions have preliminarily blocked the rule in many states while the litigation progressed.



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MCFB Board Meetings

Information subject to change. Contact staff to confirm details.

June 12, 2019 6:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
1320 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR

August 14, 2019 6:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
1320 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR

Other Events

July 25 & 26

2nd Annual Agriculture Law
Seminar
Bend, OR

July 28

Volcanoes Baseball –
Tribute to Oregon Ag
Keizer, OR

Stay Tuned to our website
and Facebook Page for info on
upcoming events and calls to
action!

3rd Annual Tribute to Oregon Agriculture, an evening at the Volcanoes Baseball Stadium

OFB and COUNTRY Financial are happy to announce the 3rd Annual Tribute to Oregon Agriculture, an evening at the Volcanoes Baseball Stadium in Keizer (just north of Salem), which will take place on **Sunday, July 28 at 5 p.m.**

Voting and Supporting members can come to an evening of baseball at no cost to themselves: watch the game, have some food, and enjoy a beverage.

Last year we had over 200 farmers and supporting industry folks attend — about the same amount as the OFB Annual Meeting in December!

If you would like to attend please RSVP to the June and July OFB newsletters, [OFB email](#), Thursday mail, or through [social media](#).

OFB would like to thank Gold Sponsors, Northwest Hazelnut Company and COUNTRY Financial for their generous contribution. There are still sponsorship opportunities available.

Sincerely,
John Zielinski, OFB board member
Anne Marie Moss, OFB communications director, annemarie@oregonfb.org



Please remember to update our contact information!
Marion County Farm Bureau – PO Box 12216, Salem, OR 97309