

FARM GRAM

Promoting, Protecting & Advancing Farm Interests in Marion County



A publication of the Marion County Farm Bureau

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2023 Marion County Farm Bureau Scholarship Recipients Announced

Marion County Farm Bureau is pleased to introduce the winners of the Scott Miller, the Mary Petzel, and the Roger De Jager Memorial Scholarships for 2023. All the applications were very impressive - it's always a challenging decision to select the recipients.

Our future is in good hands based on the group of bright, thoughtful, creative, and hardworking young people who were our scholarship applicants in 2023. Congratulations to all of them!

Roger De Jager Memorial Scholarship

- Ainsley Goughnour, *St. Paul*
- Marissa Johnston, *Silverton*

Scott Miller Memorial Scholarship

- Mary Davidson, *St. Paul*
- Michael Hiller, *St. Paul*
- Samuel Schuster, *Gervais*
- Leah Twede, *Salem*
- Ryan Redman-Brown, *Scotts Mills*

Mary Petzel Memorial Scholarship

- Turner Lear, *Gervais*
- Rebecca Noordam, *Mt. Angel*
- Henry Schmitz, *Scotts Mills*
- Kathryn Schurter, *Silverton*
- Denali Bosco, *Hubbard*
- Blake Gilmore, *Jefferson*

You can read more about these impressive students and their academic careers on our website: marioncofarm.com/scholarships.

Do you know any high school seniors or undergrads? Stay tuned for more information about applying to next year's scholarships this fall.

Join us for our
Annual Meeting
Wednesday, November 8, 2023
6:00 p.m.
B-17 Restoration Hangar

Our Annual Meeting is Wednesday, Nov. 8, at the B-17 Alliance Museum & Restoration Hangar at the Salem Airport.

The evening will begin at 6pm with a chance to visit with friends and colleagues. You'll also get a chance to see the restoration of the "Lacey Lady," a WWII B-17G Flying Fortress and get a tour of the museum. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm and our annual business meeting will start at 7pm.

The dinner cost \$35 per person payable at the door by check or cash. Register by Tuesday, Oct. 31 to save your seat! You can register online at www.marioncofarm.com/events, by email at office@marioncofarm.com, or by calling our office at 503.877.1999.

Scan to Register



November 8
from 6-8pm

B-17 Museum
Salem Airport
3278 25th St SE

Learn more and register online: www.marioncofarm.com

County Transportation Safety Action Plan Needs You

Marion County Public Works is creating a Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP) to create strategies for improvements to reduce the amount of serious and fatal crashes that occur on our rural roadways.

Over the next year and a half, Public Works will be having a variety of Public Open House Meetings and Stakeholder Meetings to gather information on "the what and where" safety concerns exist within the county to all who use our roadways.

Public Works is inviting farm bureau

members to be part of a Stakeholders group to provide invaluable information through the lense of farm equipment operators to help form the development of the TSAP.

The first Stakeholders Meeting will likely be early September to introduce the project and discuss ideas. The date is still being determined.

Please contact Janelle Shanahan at jshanahan@co.marion.or.us or 503.566.4147 and let her know if you wish to participate in the Stakeholders group.

Find us online anytime at: www.marioncofarm.com





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FARM BUREAU**

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A Message from the President

Hello! Dana Estensen here, your Marion County Farm Bureau president. I hope your summer has been good and you are all looking forward to Fall and your harvests are bountiful.

We often get asked the question “What is the value of my Farm Bureau membership?”

There are the obvious responses, a major one being our various Marion County Farm Bureau classes and workshops. In 2023, Voting and Supporting MCFB members were eligible for 2 free spots at our annual 1st Aid/CPR classes and also invited, at no cost, to our “Succession Planning for Producers” workshop held with other local organizations. If you took advantage of those opportunities, your membership paid for itself! If you have any suggestions for future workshops/classes, that you think would benefit our agricultural community, please let us know.

There are also many membership benefits through Oregon Farm Bureau. Did you know that when you join MCFB, you are also joining Oregon Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau? What a bargain! OFB members can save money, get rebates, and work with companies they are already doing business with such as Country Financial, Ford, Grainger, John Deere, and Case IH just to name a few. For more information on all of the OFB benefits, please take a look at the full list at oregonfb.org/member-discounts-2/. The more products and services that you use, the greater the return on your membership benefit.

But the biggest value of your membership is having a unified voice for agriculture. Among our over 6,600 Oregon Farm Bureau members, collectively we raise Oregon’s 225+ agricultural commodities. All farm and ranch sizes - from 10 acres to 10,000 acres - are welcome and invited to join, as are all the various farming practices including organic, sustainable, and conventional. Public policy has a huge impact on our ability to do our jobs and remain profitable and sustainable. OFB has a professional staff that works tirelessly to advocate for Farm Bureau members in the political, regulatory, legal, and public arenas. As a grassroots organization, the input and participation of our members is integral to our success. Thank you to our members who take the time to engage – it does make a difference.

We have 13 directors on our MCFB board and over 600 voting and supporting members who are passionate about current issues and the long-term future of agriculture in Marion County. What do we talk about at meetings? Issues of importance at a local/county level that our board of directors, MCFB members and others bring to our attention. Issues that we think are also important at a statewide level are sent on to our OFB State Board and our OFB State Committees for further discussion and action.

At our recent August meeting we had a 2023 legislative update including information on HB 3379 (which would have removed the requirement that farm machinery and equipment be tangible personal property). We reviewed our ongoing Spray Drift meetings held in conjunction with ODA and Oregonians for Food and Shelter and discussed reaching out to the new Marion County Sheriff. We heard a report on protesters harassing family farmers and were updated on regulating pop-up roadside vendors on county right of ways. We also discussed the concerns of some farmers in Marion County who are struggling to make ends meet. This past year we’ve had guest speakers who provided information on rural internet, biosolids and specialty seed crops. Other guest speakers were looking for input on bridges and rural roads in Marion County and help in reaching out to our members with information to keep our 1st responders safe. It’s gratifying that we are the “go to” organization for information on agriculture in Marion County.

On a personal note, wine grape harvest is coming up quickly. The high temperatures and duration of the high temperatures caused some berry damage. Winemakers don’t want us to bring in fruit with a cooked fruit flavor so we’re dropping those clusters on the ground. A small crop always gets smaller (big crops seem to get bigger). But as we always say, the quality this year looks fabulous and the 2023 vintage will be a great one (we grape growers are always optimists!) Hope your harvests are fabulous as well! Cheers!



Dana Estensen
Marion County FB President

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Marion County Farm Bureau President



The OFB Monthly Member Briefings start again Sept. 22. These monthly zoom meetings feature members of the OFB Government Affairs team, and sometimes guest officials, giving need-to-know updates about the most pressing issues facing Farm Bureau members, with plenty of time for questions.

Meeting Dates:

- Sept. 22
 - Oct. 27
 - Nov. 17
 - Dec. 15
- all meetings are from 7-8 a.m.*

Get the zoom info online: oregonfb.org/events-2/

Leadership Conference for all Young Farmers & Ranchers Ages 16-35

The Young Farmers & Ranchers program (YF&R) is a great way to develop your leadership and communication skills, and put them to use to make a difference for Oregon agriculture!

You can also make friends and valuable professional contacts with peers who share the same interests from around the country. Get ideas for your farm, gain contacts, and learn about new ag resources.

You will meet and work with elected officials on issues that directly impact Oregon agriculture. Plus, get the opportunity to travel around Oregon and the US for meetings, conferences, tours, and other events.

In an ever-changing world, it's up to the next generation of farmers and ranchers to develop Oregon's Ag future. Learn more about the program online: oregonfb.org/programs/young-farmers-ranchers.



SAVE THE DATE

2023 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
NOV 10-12
OFB BUILDING SALEM

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
CURRENT EVENTS & POLICY
DISCUSSION MEET

YF&R Leadership Conference
Nov. 10-12 at the Oregon Farm Bureau Office
1320 Capitol St. NE, Salem
Contact Victoria Flowers
at victoria@oregonfb.org for more info



COVER CROP Assistance Grant



- ✓ Improve soil health and structure.
- ✓ Combat erosion and runoff.

APPLY ONLINE
8/1 - 10/31



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MCFB Board Meetings

Information subject to change.
Contact staff to confirm details.

Sept. 13, 6:30 p.m.
1320 Capital St NE
Salem, OR

Other Events

Trap Shoot & BBQ
Sept. 16, 3:00 p.m., Albany
oregonfb.org/events-2

Oregonians for Food &
Shelter Conference
Nov. 1, Salem
ofsonline.org

Willamette Valley Ag Expo
Nov. 14-16, Albany
wvaexpo.com

Marion County Farm Bureau at the Fair

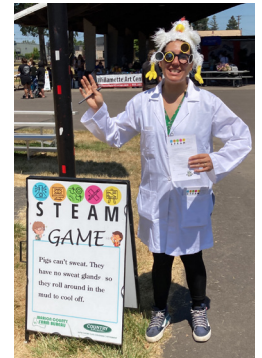
Each year, we are proud to be a sponsor of your Marion County Fair! We appreciate the opportunity to give back to our community and support youth in ag.

This year, we provided shirts for 4H and FFA students & leaders. Lime green shirts could be spotted all across fair!

We also sponsor the STEAM game. Kids and their families go on a scavenger hunt around the fair collecting STEAM trivia facts for a chance to win a prize.

(Fun fact for you: STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture/Arts, and Mathematics.)

We'll see you next summer at the fair!



Marion County Farm Bureau – PO Box 12216, Salem, OR 97309