



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wiebes of Coos County Earn Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award

January 27, 2017, SALEM, OREGON: Fred and Marilou Wiebe, cattle ranchers from Myrtle Point and leaders in Coos-Curry County Farm Bureau, were honored with an Oregon Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award during the 84th Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) Annual Meeting in Salem.

“The Distinguished Service Award recognizes outstanding service to Farm Bureau and to Oregon agriculture,” said OFB President Barry Bushue. “I can think of few people more deserving of this award than Fred and Marilou Wiebe, who have been active Farm Bureau members for over 25 years. They assist with all county activities and are always the first volunteers to arrive for events. As a grassroots organization, Farm Bureau’s effectiveness depends upon engaged, passionate volunteer leaders like Fred and Marilou.”

After moving from Texas to Alaska, the Wiebes made the journey to Oregon in 1986 and established roots. As soon as they joined Farm Bureau, they became active, essential members.

Fred served as county president from 1993 to 2002, and again from 2008 to 2009, his wife always side by his side in all Farm Bureau activities. He has served for decades on the county board of directors.

Marilou served as Coos-Curry County Farm Bureau’s secretary/treasurer from 1995 to 2015. During this tenure, she earned an OFB Outstanding County Secretary of the Year Award. She has also served as the county women’s representative and on the OFB Women’s Advisory Council.

At the 2014 American Farm Bureau Federation Convention in San Antonio, the Wiebes helped coordinate a booth for Coos-Curry County Farm Bureau when it was honored by AFBF with a national County Activity of Excellence Award for work protecting local farmland from being converted into wetlands.

Beyond Farm Bureau, the couple has been active in the Coos County Livestock Association and local Grange. Fred has served on the Coos Soil & Water Conservation District Board. The Wiebes are also involved with food banks in their community.

PHOTO: Marilou and Fred Wiebe (middle) of Coos-Curry County Farm Bureau were honored with an Oregon Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award by OFB 1st Vice President Peggy Browne and OFB Executive Vice President Dave Dillon during the 84th OFB Annual Meeting in Salem.

- See full list of awards given at the 84th OFB Annual Meeting: <http://oregonfb.org/media/press-releases/>

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* Note to Editors: “Farm Bureau” is a registered trademark; please capitalize in all cases

Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) is a grassroots, nonpartisan, nonprofit, general farm organization representing the interests of farming and ranching families in the public and policymaking arenas. First established in Oregon in 1919, Farm Bureau is organized in all 36 counties and has 7,000 farm and ranch family members.

Oregon Farm Bureau President Barry Bushue is a third-generation farmer raising a variety of vegetables and berries at a nearly century-old farm near Boring, Oregon. He is OFB’s 15th president.

