MEDIA ALERT: Farm Bureau, lawmakers to mark National Ag Week at Portland Ronald McDonald House on March 19

To recognize National Ag Week, March 18-24, and the invaluable service provided by Oregon's Ronald McDonald Houses, Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) members and elected officials will gather at the Ronald McDonald House on the Campus of Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland on Monday, March 19.

Farm Bureau members will donate $3,400 worth of groceries to fill the pantries of the two Ronald McDonald Houses based in Portland. Portland's Ronald McDonald Houses shelter and feed 50 families every night, offering a home-away-from-home for families who have to travel to Portland because their children are seriously ill and require hospitalization or specialized care.

State Representative Janelle Bynum, who serves on the Board of Trustees of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington, and Multnomah County Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson will be at the East Portland Ronald McDonald House to welcome the Farm Bureau members when the groceries are delivered.

MEDIA COVERAGE OPPORTUNITY

What: To recognize National Ag Week and the invaluable service provided by Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington, Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) members and elected officials will gather at East Portland's Ronald McDonald House.

When: 11:30 a.m., Monday, March 19.

Where: East Portland Ronald McDonald House, 2620 N. Commercial Avenue, Portland, OR

Event contact: Anne Marie Moss, 503.551.4799, annemarie@oregonfb.org

“For the last 30 years Oregon Farm Bureau Women's Advisory Council has made an annual donation to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington. Oregonians from rural communities utilize Ronald McDonald House services more their urban counterparts because they have to travel farther distances to receive medical care,” said Anne Rigor, member of the Oregon Farm Bureau Women’s Advisory Council.

“We scheduled this event during National Ag Week to highlight how much Oregon farmers and ranchers contribute to society. Agriculture is a top economic driver for the state, ensures our food security, preserves our rural landscape, and enhances our quality of life. Farmers and ranchers are also very involved in their communities. We are honored to celebrate National Ag Week by making a large donation of food to families staying at Portland’s Ronald McDonald Houses,” said Rigor.
Over the past 30 years, Farm Bureau has donated over $80,000 worth of groceries to Oregon’s three Ronald McDonald Houses, purchased and delivered by family farmers and ranchers. The donation to the Bend Ronald McDonald House will take place in June. This annual event is organized by the OFB Women’s Advisory Council.

**About Oregon agriculture:** Oregon agriculture boasts over 225 different commodities, including tree fruits, berries, vegetables, cattle, dairy, wheat, hazelnuts, and grass seed. Despite the fact that less than 1 percent of Oregonians are farmers or ranchers, Oregon agriculture is a top economic driver for the state, with a production value of $5.7 billion. Nearly 97 percent of Oregon’s farms and ranches are family owned and operated. Visit [http://oregonfb.org/](http://oregonfb.org/) for more fast facts about Oregon agriculture.

**About Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington:** Ronald McDonald Houses provide a “home-away-from-home” for the families of seriously ill children who must travel for specialized care or hospitalization. The food will be used to feed the 50 families who stay at Portland’s Ronald McDonald Houses each night. Farm Bureau has made annual donations to Oregon’s three Ronald McDonald Houses in Portland and Bend for more than 25 years. Visit [https://rmhcoregon.org/](https://rmhcoregon.org/) to learn more.

**About Oregon Farm Bureau:** 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 nearly 7,000 farm and ranch family members. Visit [http://oregonfb.org/](http://oregonfb.org/) to learn more.

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