Farm Bureau saves Halloween

If ever Kari Egger, co-owner of The Pumpkin Patch in Sauvie Island, was grateful for being a Farm Bureau member, it was in early October, just days before the farm’s big opening weekend.

That was when Egger was told by an Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OR-OSHA) inspector that pumpkin patches were not allowed in Phase 1 counties, like Multnomah County where The Pumpkin Patch is located, per the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

The problem was this information conflicted with guidance released by the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA) last spring for u-picks and pumpkin patches, which farmers like Egger were following closely in order to safely operate their fall festivals.

Luckily, Egger was a member of OFB’s Farm Employer Education & Legal Defense Service (FEELDS). She reached out to FEELDS for help, along with Senator Betsy Johnson, both of whom connected with OFB’s Government Affairs team.

“Senator Betsy Johnson and the Farm Bureau saved our hineys, and they saved Halloween.”

After 48 hours of rapid communication between OFB, ODA, OHA, and OR-OSHA, the agencies agreed upon new, clear rules for pumpkin patches that allowed Egger and other farmers to continue to operate. (See that guidance at OregonFB.org/covid19.)

“Sen. Betsy Johnson and Farm Bureau saved our hineys, and they saved Halloween,” Egger told the Capital Press.

This is just one of countless stories where a Farm Bureau member was faced with a major challenge, turned to OFB for help, and got results.

In another recent example, OFB’s advocacy with OR-OSHA helped a Marion County Farm Bureau member be able to simply plant his crop.

Last month, the nursery grower contacted FEELDS for clarification on using the farm’s eight-person planting machine in light of OR-OSHA’s temporary rules for COVID-19. Because the employees are seated in close proximity on the machine, the farmer wanted to double-check that wearing masks was sufficient for compliance.

After FEELDS contacted OR-OSHA on behalf of the grower, the agency responded with the determination that masks were not sufficient and that six seats had to be removed from the machine, allowing only two people to ride at once, thus enforcing social distancing of at least 6 feet.

“OR-OSHA said, yes, it will take the farm more time, yes, it will be more expensive, but it’s technically ‘possible’ to do. Therefore, that was how they needed to comply, which did not match our understanding of the rules. This was hugely problematic,” said OFB Public Policy Counsel Samantha Bayer.

In fact, there was no way the farmer could only use two employees and still plant the thousands of seedlings within the tight seasonal timeframe. It also would’ve required the farmer to repeatedly drive over the same ground, causing damage to what had already been planted.

“So OFB got involved. We were able to successfully argue that it was probably not OR-OSHA’s intention to remove jobs for people. Because that was essentially what was happening with this interpretation of the temporary rules,” said Bayer.

Ultimately, thanks to OFB’s advocacy, the farmer was

In both of the cases mentioned in this article, OFB was alerted about government agency over-reach through the FEELDS Program (Farm Employer & Legal Defense Service). Learn more about FEELDS at OregonFB.org or contact program Director Roberta Gruber at roberta@oregonfb.org, 503.510.6458.
allowed to go forward with the job as planned, with eight employees wearing masks on the planter.

“This was a really good example of an agency having no idea what farming is and that disconnect having a very real impact on a farming operation. Through FEELDS, Farm Bureau was able to step in and get results on behalf of not only that individual member, but the many others with similar equipment,” said Bayer.

Century farms honored

OFB’s Century Farm & Ranch Program, one of the oldest ag heritage programs in the nation, is proud to announce the honorees for 2020. The following families bring the number of official Century Farms and Ranches, which have been operational and in the same family for at least 100 years, to a total of 1,235, and the number of Sesquicentennial Farms and Ranches, which have reached the 150-year milestone, to a total of 47.

> Century Farm/Ranch honorees


Marx Farm: Founded in Polk County in 1920 by Julius and Luise Marx. Applicant is Merle Marx.

Paysinger Family Farm: Founded in Yamhill County in 1920 by George & Lizzie Shelburne. Applicant is David and Theresa Paysinger.

Starvation Farms: Founded in Morrow County in 1918 by Chris Moehnke. Applicant is Chris and Kathy Rauch.


JW Ranch: Founded in Marion County in 1920 by John Calahan. Applicant is John W. Wells.

Fir Villa Farm: Founded in Polk County in 1911 by Solomon S. and Susan Ediger. Applicants are Melvin and Esther Ediger.

> Sesquicentennial Farm honorees

Cooper Family Orchards: Founded in Wasco County in 1870 by Robert and Mary Cooper. Applicant is David Cooper.

Farm & Ag Safety Training for youth

The American Farm Bureau has launched a new online youth safety course, Think F.A.S.T. (Farm & Ag Safety Training) at fb.org/programs/safety-health/thinkfast.

The program was developed to help youth aged 14 to 17 think through and learn about avoiding common safety hazards on the farm and ranch. Topics include work with ATVs, tractors, livestock, and electricity.

The F.A.S.T. program and related materials focus on general safety, leadership, and critical-thinking skills applied to technical and agriculture-specific contexts.

The program includes 10 modules that each take 10 minutes to complete and follow-up competency quizzes. A curriculum guide for classroom and workshop settings is available for download from the website.
2020 Legal and Regulatory Year in Review
**Legal Engagement**

OFB worked hard to advance the policies of Oregon’s farmers and ranchers in the courts in 2020, engaging in a number of high-profile state and federal cases, including a challenge to the Governor’s Executive Order on Carbon, intervening in a lawsuit regarding the fate of water in the Willamette System, and an amicus brief on government takings of water rights in front of the United States Supreme Court. With two in-house attorneys, OFB was also able to draft and file numerous amicus briefs for LUBA, which weighed in on key policy issues impacting growers statewide.

- **Carbon Executive Order** — OFB joined several other business groups to challenge the legal basis for the Governor’s Executive Order on Carbon. We have filed a motion for summary judgment and are awaiting a response from the state.

- **Willamette Reallocation** — OFB intervened on behalf of all farmers and ranchers in the Willamette Basin in WaterWatch’s Lawsuit on Willamette Reallocation, which sought to dedicate nearly all the water in the Willamette System to fish. The case is currently stayed due to Congressional action.

- **Pacific Power Rate Case** — OFB joined forces with the Klamath Water Users Association to intervene in the PacificPower rate case in front of the Public Utility Commission that would have raised power rates for irrigators. We are hopeful a favorable settlement in the case is forthcoming.

- **Klamath Takings Case** — OFB joined other Western State Farm Bureaus and American Farm Bureau Federation to file a brief in front of the United States Supreme Court regarding whether federal agencies have to compensate irrigators for failures to deliver water due to operation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

- **Yamhill Rails to Trails Amicus Brief** — OFB submitted an amicus brief to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) opposing Yamhill County’s decision to site a rails to trails project across farmland without adequate mitigation for the impacted farmers.

**Regulatory Engagement**

In 2020, OFB staff worked to protect the interests of Oregon’s farmers and ranchers in a time of complex and ever-increasing state and federal regulations.

At a glance, OFB submitted over 40 substantive comment letters to state and federal agencies, sat on numerous rulemaking advisory committees, lead coalitions, worked cooperatively with agencies, and effectively advanced the position of Oregon agriculture across nearly every area of public policy.

**Ongoing Rulemakings**

- **Executive Order on Carbon** — In addition to our lawsuit, OFB is closely monitoring and participating in the workshops to implement the Governor’s Executive Order on Carbon, ensuring that the DEQ is aware of the impacts the Order would have on farmers and ranchers.

- **Paid Family Medical Leave Workgroup** — OFB sits on the rules advisory committee and its subcommittees for paid family medical leave. These groups are currently meeting and OFB is advocating for sideboards to protect farmers and ranchers.

Unfamiliar with some of the acronyms in this guide? Find our “alphabet soup” glossary at OregonFB.org/glossary.
• **Essential Salmonid Habitat** — OFB is participating in a rules advisory committee for the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife and Department of State Lands (DSL) as they update their essential salmonid habitat maps, which can have a significant impact on whether farmers can complete ditch maintenance.

• **Mining in Willamette Valley** — OFB is participating in a rules advisory committee for the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries to implement a bill that OFB helped pass, which required permitted mining sites be fully mined prior to opening new mining sites on farmland.

**Federal Comments**

• **SHL Recovery Plan Comments** — OFB submitted comments to ensure farm uses were protected in the United States Fish and Wildlife Services recovery plan for the Streaked Horned Lark, and was successful in protecting farmlands from designation.

• **NEPA Comments** — OFB submitted comments outlining a number of critical changes needed to the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and many of those changes were included in the final rule.

• **CRSO EIS Comments** — OFB submitted comments urging federal agencies to not breech the lower Snake River dams and to manage the Columbia River system to protect needed barging, hydropower, and irrigation needs of farmers.

• **ESA Definition of Habitat Comments** — OFB joined forces with a coalition of natural resources groups to comment on a new definition of “habitat” under the Endangered Species Act.

• **ESA Critical Habitat Comments** — OFB joined a coalition of natural resources groups to comment on updates to the definition of “critical habitat” under the Endangered Species Act.

• **Spotted Owl Critical Habitat** — OFB submitted comments seeking to limit the extent of critical habitat for the Spotted Owl under the Endangered Species Act.

• **NFIP BiOp Comments** — OFB joined a number of other groups to comment on proposed approaches to implementing the Biological Opinion (BiOp) on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which could result in counties having to permit and regulate farming activities in the floodplain.

• **Oregon Coast Spring-Run Chinook Comments** — OFB submitted comments with our forestry partners pushing back on the need for additional ESA protections for certain populations of Chinook salmon.

• **Ochoco Irrigation District Modernization** — OFB submitted comments supporting the NEPA analysis associated with Ochoco Irrigation District’s modernization project.

• **Federal Hemp Regulations Comments** — OFB submitted comments outlining the state’s needs as USDA worked to allow states to grow hemp.

• **WPS AEZ Comments** — OFB submitted comments with other natural resources groups to support needed changes to the federal Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Application Exclusion Zone (AEZ).

• **Atrazine Comments** — OFB submitted comments with other natural resources groups on a number of technical issues associated with the registration review for atrazine.

• **Pyrethroid Comments** — OFB submitted comments with Oregonians for Food & Shelter on a number of technical issues associated with the registration review of pyrethroid.

• **Traceability** — OFB submitted comments on USDA’s proposal to require electronic eartags for cattle.
State Comments

- **Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Administration Proposals** - OFB has led the charge in 2020 pushing back on new proposals advanced by Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OR-OSHA) and others stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic that require burdensome new practices from employers without a clear nexus to any public health benefits for workers. OFB has been successful in holding back the worst of OR-OSHA’s proposals, and will continue to work to ensure that Oregon farm employers are not subject to questionable new requirements that will make having employees cost-prohibitive.
  - **OR-OSHA COVID-19 Petition Comments** — OFB submitted comments individually and led coalition comments outlining significant concerns with a rulemaking that requires costly new measures from employers in response to COVID-19.
  - **OR-OSHA Infectious Disease Standard Comments** — OFB submitted comments individually and led coalition comments pushing back on OR-OSHA’s plans to implement a new infectious disease standard.
  - **OR-OSHA Emphasis Program Comments** — OFB submitted comments individually and led coalition comments questioning OR-OSHA’s decision to create an agriculture and food processing emphasis program stemming from COVID-19.
  - **OR-OSHA Employer Knowledge Rulemaking** — OFB submitted comments individually and led coalition comments pushing back on OR-OSHA’s plans to change employer responsibilities in a way that would streamline assessing violations against employers.
  - **OR-OSHA Maximum Penalties Rulemaking** — OFB submitted comments individually and led coalition comments pushing back on OR-OSHA’s plans to increase minimum and maximum penalties against employers.

- **OFLA Comments** — OFB submitted comments urging Bureau of Labor & Industries (BOLI) to not make rushed changes to existing family leave benefits that could have caused unintended consequences for small businesses during COVID-19.

- **Chlorpyrifos** — OFB was part of a rules advisory committee where ODA is seeking to limit the use of the pesticide chlorpyrifos due to pressure from activists. OFB has pushed back on the new regulations in the committee, and submitted comments on the rulemaking.

- **Water Vision Comments** — OFB submitted comments urging consideration of agricultural needs in the state’s approach to developing a 100-year water vision.

- **Dam Safety Rule Comments** — OFB submitted comments on behalf of members who operate dams on the state’s new proposed dam safety rules ensuring that the new requirements would be implemented in a manner that’s not burdensome to dam owners.

- **Deschutes Basin Mitigation Comments** — OFB submitted comments urging the state to reevaluate the Deschutes Basin Groundwater Mitigation Program, which has resulted in a decrease in irrigated agriculture in the Deschutes Basin.

- **Integrated Report 18-20 Comments** — OFB submitted comments pushing back on the Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) plan to map nearly all agricultural waterways in the state as water-quality impaired. OFB was successful in getting DEQ to move away from mapping that made water quality on agricultural lands look worse than what’s supported by the data.

- **Integrated Report 20-22 Comments** — OFB submitted comments outlining our priorities for the next round of water-quality-impaired listings.
• **EQC MOU Comments** — OFB submitted comments supporting the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) and the Department of Agriculture (ODA) to allow ODA to administer the state’s confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) program.

• **HB 2437 Rulemaking Comments** — OFB submitted comments to support the Department of Agriculture’s rules for administering HB 2437, OFB’s ditch-cleaning bill from the 2019 session.

• **Waldo/Crater Lake Outstanding Resource Water Comments** — OFB submitted comments opposing the designation of the Waldo and Crater Lake as outstanding resource water with definite criteria for listing waterways.

• **Tribal Water Quality** — OFB submitted comments opposing coastal Tribes seeking to assume water quality regulations from EPA in order to regulate upstream agriculture and forestry operations.

• **Indirect Source Petition Comments** — OFB submitted comments opposing environmental groups’ petition to require the EQC to directly regulate emissions from vehicles in the Portland area. The EQC opted not to move forward with this petition in response to comments from OFB and others.

• **PUC Power Rate Comments** — OFB submitted comments opposing Pacific Power’s proposed rate increase on farmers associated with the rate case in which OFB also intervened.

• **EBAC Comments** — OFB submitted comments on the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife’s proposed budget priorities for 2021.

• **SHPO Comments** — OFB submitted comments on Oregon Parks’ proposed changes to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) program, which has recently been used as a vehicle to stop agricultural practices.

• **Green Energy Corridor Comments** — OFB submitted comments outlining the considerations we want the state to take into account when siting green energy corridors.

• **NHMP Comments** — OFB submitted comments on the state’s natural hazards mitigation plan ensuring that natural hazards impacting agriculture were correctly described and identified.

• **DLCD’s Emergency Housing Rules** — OFB participated in a stakeholder group to help develop DLCD’s emergency rules assisting homeowners who lost homes during the wildfires.

**Local Comments**

• **Yamhill Rails to Trails Comments** — OFB has submitted several comments letters since 2016 regarding negative impacts to agriculture from the County’s proposed rails to trails project, including recent comments on the conditional use permit sought by the county and a proposed code change designed to make it easier for the County to site the trail.

• **City of Eugene Urban Reserves** — OFB submitted a letter to the City of Eugene urging it to take the most conservative approach to designating Urban Reserves, in order to protect valuable farmland near the City.

• **Yamhill County Flour Mill** — OFB submitted a letter to the Yamhill County Planning Department explaining OFB policy and general support of vertically integrated farming operations.

**OFB Contacts:**

OFB Vice President of Public Policy **Mary Anne Cooper**, maryanne@oregonfb.org

OFB Public Policy Counsel **Samantha Bayer**, samantha@oregonfb.org
The YF&R program helps young members shape their future and American agriculture through leadership development and personal growth opportunities. Three competitions enable members to showcase their leadership experience, communication skills and successful business plans as they compete against the best of the best from each state Farm Bureau.

As part of the YF&R competitions, the top four competitors in the Achievement Award, Discussion Meet and Excellence in Agriculture areas will receive:

**1st Place**
A New Ford Vehicle (up to a value of $35,000) and paid registration to the AFBF FUSION Conference in Portland, Oregon courtesy of Ford.

**2nd Place**
Case IH Farmall 50A Tractor courtesy of Case IH.

**3rd Place**
Case IH 40” Combination Roll Cabinet & Top Chest and $500 Case IH parts card, courtesy of Case IH, a **$2,500 Investing in Your Future cash prize**, courtesy of American Farm Bureau Insurance Services, Inc. plus **$1,850 of Stanley Black & Decker merchandise**, courtesy of Stanley Black & Decker.

**4th Place**
Case IH 40” Combination Roll Cabinet & Top Chest and a $500 Case IH parts card, courtesy of Case IH.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:
**MEMBER BENEFITS**

Get all of these instructions online immediately after creating an account at [members.oregonfb.org](http://members.oregonfb.org).

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**Ford:** Oregon Farm Bureau members can receive $500 Bonus Cash toward eligible 2019/2020/2021 Ford vehicles, and $750 Bonus Cash toward eligible 2019/2020/2021 Lincoln vehicles, including Hybrids and Final Pay Units. Must be Farm Bureau in Oregon for at least 30 consecutive days prior to purchase. Membership number is required. Limit one Bonus Cash offer per vehicle purchase or lease. Create the certificate with your Fb number at [FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com](http://FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com).

**COUNTRY Financial** offers insurance for auto, farm, home, life, crop, identity theft coverage, and more. COUNTRY’s insurance and other services are available exclusively to Farm Bureau members. Contact 866.268.6879 or visit [countryfinancial.com](http://countryfinancial.com).

**Wyndham Hotels:** This program offers up to 20% off the Best Available Rate at almost 8,000 participating hotels worldwide. Make your Advanced Reservation for any hotel listed above at [wyndhamhotels.com/farm-bureau](http://wyndhamhotels.com/farm-bureau) or 877.670.7088 with OFB code 1000009399.

**Choice Hotels:** Members can receive a 20% discount on rates at more than 7,000 hotels listed above. To access the discount, make an Advanced Reservation with Choice Hotels at 800.258.2847 or [choicehotels.com](http://choicehotels.com) and use the special rate ID 00209770.

**TripBeat:** Get a 7-night vacation rental at a resort/condo for only $399, or save 25% on Preferred Weekly and Short Stays. Search 2,400 locations in 90 countries at [tripbeat.com/oregonfb](http://tripbeat.com/oregonfb). Or call 844.367.6433.

**AVIS & Budget** Save up to 30% on car rentals with [AVIS](http://AVIS) and [Budget](http://Budget). Visit avis.com/orfb or call 800.331.1212 and use code A298837. Or visit budget.com/orfb or call 800.527.0700 and use code Y775737. Must use discount at time of rental.

**GRAINGER** Grainger: Farm Bureau members get special member prices on selected categories and brands from Grainger, PLUS get free standard parcel shipping on all standard Grainger products. Farm Bureau number at time of purchase: 855922175. Visit grainger.com/farmbureau or call 800.472.4643 to update an existing Grainger account with the Farm Bureau number.

**John Deere:** Farm Bureau members are eligible for a complimentary John Deere Rewards upgrade (Platinum 2 status) – which unlocks the best loyalty rewards including valuable equipment discounts. Register at [JohnDeere.com/farmbureau](http://JohnDeere.com/farmbureau). Must be a valid Farm Bureau member for 30 days. A valid member email address is required.

**Case IH:** Farm Bureau members get a $300 to $500 discount on Farmall® and Maxxum® tractors, hay tools, and Scout utility vehicles. There is no limit to the number of incentive discounts, as long as it is no more than one coupon per unit. The acquisition(s) must be for personal and/or business use. Print a discount certificate with your Farm Bureau number and zip code before purchase at [members.oregonfb.org](http://members.oregonfb.org).

**AmeriGas:** AmeriGas offers a 5¢-per-gallon discount on propane to all Farm Bureau members. 24/7 emergency service provided. Give your Farm Bureau membership number to your local AmeriGas office. Find local office at [amerigas.com](http://amerigas.com), 800.427.4968.

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**OregonFB.org | 800.334.6323**
Medical emergencies and accidents happen every day without warning, and venturing outside of a metropolitan area can jeopardize a patient’s chances of survival. **Life Flight Network** can quickly dispatch an emergency transport team, bringing the ICU to you. When you’re a member, there’s absolutely no cost for medically necessary emergent flights. The Life Flight Network membership discounted rate for Oregon Farm Bureau members is $59 a year. An application is required to sign up. Find it at members.oregonfb.org or contact membership@lifeflight.org, 800.982.9299.

**Life Flight Network**

**AirMedCare Network:** AirMedCare Network is America's largest air ambulance membership network. Farm Bureau members can join for $65 per year, with further savings in multi-year enrollments. Visit AMCNRep.com using coupon/group code 11393-OR-BUS or call 541.294.4868.

**OFB Prescription Discount Program:** Designed for members without existing prescription coverage, the OFB Prescription Discount Program gives an average savings of 30% to 75% on brand and generic prescription drugs at 551 pharmacies. There is no red tape and everyone is eligible. Make your own discount card at members.oregonfb.org or request a card from OFB at 800.334.6323, tiffany@oregonfb.org.

**ClearValue Hearing:** Farm Bureau members can save up to 60% off MSRP on all Starkey Hearing Instruments (Audibel, Starkey, NuEar, AudioSync & MicroTech). Call ClearValue Hearing at 888.497.7447 or visit clearvaluehearing.com.

**Life Line:** Take advantage of mobile health screenings at a reduced price with Life Line Screening. Four types of quick, painless, non-invasive screenings seek out the potential for strokes, aneurysms, and other vascular diseases before they become life-threatening. Contact 866.672.8148 or lifelinescreening.com/oregonfb.

**Pacific Building Systems & Earthlight Technologies:** Receive up to $1,000 combined discount on a new building & solar package or $500 discount on a new building or new solar project. Call PBS at 503.981.9581 or Earthlight Technologies at 503.874.4142 and mention you’re a Farm Bureau member. PBS and Earthlight will donate $250 to the OFB Education Foundation when members are referred for purchases.

**TASC’s AgriPlanNOW**

**Farm Bureau Bank** has built its entire existence around the lifestyle and needs of farmers and ranchers. Here to help grow traditions, give back to ag communities, and offer financial convenience for your unique way of life. Farm Bureau Bank is committed to serving you. Visit Farmbureau.bank.

**BizPlan NOW AgriPlan NOW**

**$1,000 Reward Program:** When voting or supporting members have posted the OFB reward sign on their property, and a qualifying crime has occurred on the posted property, OFB and COUNTRY Financial may provide a reward totaling as much as $1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator. Contact Tiffany Niño, 800.334.6323, tiffany@oregonfb.org.

All Farm Bureau members get a copy of the award-winning **Oregon’s Bounty Calendar** ($20 value) and voting and supporting members can list their farm stands in the **Oregon’s Bounty Farm Stand Guide**.

**Joe Hobson, Attorney at Law:** Farm Bureau members enjoy a 15% discount from Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt. Attorney Joe Hobson, who specializes in agriculture, natural resource, and business law. Contact Hobson at 503.540.4269 or jhobson@schwabe.com.

**FEELDS:** Voting and supporting Farm Bureau members can join the Farm Employer Education & Legal Defense Service (FEELDS) for a monthly fee and keep current with frequently changing state and federal regulations impacting ag employers. Visit oregonfb.org, or contact OFB at 800.334.6323, roberta@oregonfb.org.

Your membership number is the nine-digit number starting with “3” located on your membership card and on the mailing label of the OFB Newsletter (for voting & supporting members) and the Oregon’s Bounty Farm Stand Guide and Calendar. Need your membership number or have questions about any benefit? Contact OFB at 800.334.6323, heather@oregonfb.org.

**Benefits are subject to change without notice. Last updated 08/2020.**
Clackamas: Nov. 5, 6 p.m., Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82177507282 Contact: clackamascountyfb@gmail.com.

Clatsop: Nov. 12, 7 p.m., Grace Community Baptist Church, 1195 Irving Ave. in Astoria. No cost. RSVP to Mike Seppa, 503.325.7240 or 503.741.0286, mike.seppa@gmail.com.

Crook-Wheeler: Nov. 12, 6 p.m., Grizzly Mt. Pavilion at the Crook County Fairgrounds, 1280 S Main St. in Prineville. Contact: Janice Flegel, janice.flegel@gmail.com. 541.408.7584.

Deschutes: Nov. 13, 5 p.m., Aspen Lakes Golf Course, 16900 Aspen Lakes Dr. in Sisters. RSVP to Sandy Dames, 541.279.1290, smdames@yahoo.com.

Douglas: Nov. 7, 1 p.m., Epps Barn, 9216 Lookingglass Rd. in Roseburg. Potluck style; county providing tri-rip, paper products, and non-alcoholic drinks. Contact: Mary Brady, dougcofb@gmail.com.

Hood River: Nov. 24, 5 p.m., China Gorge Restaurant, 2680 Old Columbia River Dr. in Hood River. Maximum 15 people for in-person meeting; Zoom option will also be available. One person per membership at restaurant. RSVP required to Catherine Kiyokawa, hoodriverfarm bureau@gmail.com, 541.490.7884.

Jefferson: Nov. 21, business meeting only, 1-3 p.m., elections time certain at 2 p.m. Mazatlan Restaurant, 675 NE Highway 26 in Madras. Contact: Mickey Killingsworth, killingsworthmickey@gmail.com.

Klamath/Lake: Nov. 14, 5 p.m., Klamath County Fairgrounds. Cost: $15. Speaker: OFB President Barb Iverson. RSVP to John Moxley, moxhay2003@gmail.com or Jason Flowers, jayrat24@msn.com.

Linn: Nov. 12, 6 p.m., Teen Challenge, 31700 Fayetteville Dr. in Shedd. Contact: Anne Rigor, imageanne@juno.com, 541.754.9115.

Malheur: Nov. 17, 7 p.m. MST virtual meeting. For details on the virtual meeting, contact: Rita Piercy, piercy_rita@ymail.com, 541.889.2022.

Marion: Nov. 18, 6:30 p.m., in-person meeting for county board members at OFB office. Other voting members will have a video conferencing option. Contact: Marion CFB staff, office@marioncofarm.com.

Multnomah: Nov. 19, 7 p.m., annual meeting to be held over the phone. Voting and supporting members wishing to attend should contact Jay Udelhoven at 206.595.5078 or multnomahcfb@gmail.com.

Polk: Nov. 11, 6 p.m., Polk County Fairgrounds main building in Rickreall. Contact: Anne Rigor, imageanne@juno.com, 541.754.9115.

Tillamook: Nov. 16, 6 p.m., Officers’ Mess Hall, Port of Tillamook, 6825 Officers’ Row Road in Tillamook. Cost: $15. RSVP to Carol Marie Leuthold, 503.801.0961, leutholdddairy@hotmail.com.

Umatilla/Morrow: Nov. 12, 6 p.m., Sundown Grill & BBQ, 233 SE 4th St. in Pendleton. Contact: Julia Spratling, 541.457.6045, jj.spratling@gmail.com or Paul Goodwin, 541.276.2738.

Union: Nov. 18, 7 p.m., Urban Vine, 10701 W 1st St. in Island City. Contact: Curt Ricker: crickdeere@gmail.com.

Yamhill: The annual meeting has been postponed until next spring.
Marion CFB member grants the wish of a young John Deere fan
story by NW Farm Credit Services

Nine-year-old Steven McClenny has spent much of his childhood in and out of Randall’s Children’s Hospital in Portland with life-threatening medical conditions. Although he’s not from a farm family, his bedroom is full of John Deere toys, and he loves to play farming video games. He has always dreamed of riding in a real combine.

On Aug. 24, that dream was made possible by Marion County Farm Bureau member Greg Bennett and Northwest Farm Credit Services’ Salem branch.

Sporting his favorite John Deere t-shirt and well-worn Romeo boots, McClenny climbed into the cab of Bennett’s John Deere 9610 Maximizer combine and spent the afternoon harvesting a wheat crop.

McClenny said it was “the best day ever” and now wants to know when Bennett can officially hire him.

“This brought tears to my eyes,” said Bennett. “We had a great time riding in the combine for an hour. It’s a reminder that even little things can really be meaningful to someone else.”

OFB seeks officer nominations

The positions of OFB 1st Vice President and 3rd Vice President will be voted on by the House of Delegates on Dec. 10 during the 88th OFB Convention in Tigard.

Because of the pandemic, the 2020 convention will be a combination of virtual and in-person meetings and open only to voting delegates and alternates.

The following nominations have been received as of press time:

> 1st Vice President: incumbent Angi Bailey of Multnomah County
> 3rd Vice President: incumbent Shane Otley of Harney County

To make a nomination, contact any member of the OFB Nominating Committee listed below. Nominations may also be made from the floor of the OFB House of Delegates.

OFB Nominating Committee: Chair Kara Glass, karab0o@yahoo.com, 541-778-8463; Zach Christensen, zach@hazelwoodorchards.com; Denver Pugh, denverpugh@yahoo.com, 541-979-3435; Tiffany Monroe, tiffanycmonroe@gmail.com, 541-968-6695; Dan Andersen, Andersen_five@msn.com, 541-889-5061; OFB staff Dave Dillon, dave@oregonfb.org, 503.559.0326.

Sign up for emailed OFB Action Alerts at OregonFB.org/advocacy!