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OREGON FARM BUREAU Rural Oregon must vote

When voting, please refer to OFB's 2016 Election Guide at oregonfb.org.

From candidates to ballot measures, this election will have a direct impact on your ability to farm or ranch. Voter turnout is crucial this November. No matter how you feel about the presidential race or other choices you have on the Nov. 8 ballot, we urge you to vote.

To determine who will best represent agriculture and rural communities in the legislature, Oregon Farm Bureau's grassroots leaders combed through the candidates to create the 2016 Election Guide, available at oregonfb.org.

"The candidates who earned OFB's endorsement will stand up for Oregon's farm and ranch families at the capitol," said OFB Director of Public Policy Jenny Dresler.

"These are people who will have an open door to Farm Bureau in policy discussions and can make a major difference for agriculture in coming legislative sessions," said Dresler.

The Oregon House is only one seat away from becoming a "super majority," which means that one party can raise taxes

Vote like your future depends on it



From Measure 97, the tax on sales, to determining whether the legislature will be able to pass tax increases without any minority party votes, your farm or ranch has a lot at stake. PLEASE VOTE IN THIS ELECTION.

If you are mailing your ballot from inside Oregon, post it by Nov. 3. If you are delivering your ballot to a drop-off location in person, do so before 8 p.m. on Nov. 8.

Help get out the rural vote by joining the I Farm, I Vote effort! Visit oregonfb.org/ifarmivote.

without the vote of a representative from across the aisle. Good turnout from rural Oregonians can help restore balance to the state capitol.

Alternatively, if rural Oregonians don't vote, farmers and ranchers can expect to see more costly regulations, more red tape, and more pitting of one type of farming against another. These impacts are cumulative and can devastate



Oregon history. Taxed businesses would pass along the costs to farming and ranching families, raising the price of feed, fertilizer, crop protection, fuel, electricity, transportation, equipment, and insurance. This would further burden Oregon farm-

ers and ranchers already trying to absorb the costs of increased regulations — and would put them at a competitive disadvantage in national and global markets.

It is vital that farmers and ranchers of all operation sizes, commodity types, and production methods unite to make our voices heard.

EVERY VOTE MATTERS in today's political climate. Help us support candidates who are committed to fighting for agriculture and defeat a ballot measure that will harm farm families and consumers.

Make agriculture's voice heard on Election Day!

Put your ballot in the mail by Nov. 3 — or deliver it to a drop-off box by 8 p.m. on Nov. 8.

multigenerational family operations.

Help us defeat Measure 97, the tax on gross receipts, not profits.

If passed, this would be the largest tax increase in

2016 OFB Annual Meeting

If you're a voting or supporting Farm Bureau member and you've never attended an OFB Annual Meeting before, this is the year to go.

The 84th OFB Annual Meeting, Dec. 6-8 at the Salem Convention Center in Salem, will offer something for everyone: an ag management conference, informative workshops, issue updates, entertainment, food, fellowship — and the opportunity to experience Farm Bureau's grassroots policymaking process first-hand.

Members can start the annual meeting with the OFB Ag Management



Clackamas County Farm Bureau member Matt Bunch (left) and county president Jon Iverson at the OFB Annual Meeting.

Conference on Dec. 6, presented by the OFB Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee (see story on right and learn more at oregonfb.org/yfrconference).

The morning of Dec. 7 will begin with a series of workshops from leading experts. Topics will include:

- Update on the Port of Portland crisis
- Important fill-and-removal information
- Public policy forecast for 2017
- Public perceptions of modern agriculture
- How to maximize county Farm Bureau grassroots effectiveness

Other highlights will be an address by American Farm Bureau Executive Julie Anna Potts and entertainment by Tennessee farmer and recording artist Brandon Whitt, known for his engaging songs about the realities of farm life.

Starting the afternoon of Dec. 7 and continuing

through Dec. 8, the OFB House of Delegates will convene. This is when Farm Bureau leaders gather to do the democratic, grassroots work of reviewing, updating, and voting on OFB Policy, which guides our organization in legislative efforts. Voting delegates are comprised of representatives from all county Farm Bureaus across the state.

The OFB Annual Banquet will be held the evening of Dec 8. Besides a lively night of fun, the banquet offers a chance for members to honor exemplary Farm Bureau leaders for their dedication, passion, and hard work.

The last time OFB held our annual meeting in Salem, there was a record turnout. We hope to surpass that attendance count this year. Please join us in December. Register today!

Find the full OFB Annual Meeting agenda, registration form, and hotel information at oregonfb.org.



Members of OFB's Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee: from left, Mary Brady, Catherine Kiyokawa, and Crystal Trout

Event deadlines

- Make hotel reservations for the Salem Convention Center by Nov. 4.
- Register for the OFB Annual Meeting by Nov. 14.
- Register for OFB Ag Management Conference by Nov. 14.

Get information at oregonfb.org.

Ag Management Conference

Farm Bureau members and non-members of all ages are invited to attend the OFB Ag Management Conference, presented by the OFB Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee (YF&R), set for Dec. 6 at the Salem Convention Center in Salem.

"We designed the conference to be worthwhile for people who know how to farm, but who want to learn more about the management side," said YF&R Chair Jason Flowers.

Presentations at the day-long conference include:

- Up-to-date information on how to stay compliant with constantly changing rules and regulations

- Tips for taking out a farm loan
- How to motivate farm employees
- Safety practices to avoid workers' comp claims
- Smart farm management strategies

The cost is \$30 for Farm Bureau voting and supporting members, and \$50 for non-members and Farm Bureau associate members. Lunch is included.

Farm Bureau voting and supporting members have the option to make this conference the start of their full OFB Annual Meeting experience.

Find the agenda and registration form at oregonfb.org/yfrconference. Please register by Nov. 14.

Free Farm Bureau lunch at Ag Expo

Farm Bureau members are invited to a free lunch and ag issue presentation by OFB staff on Tuesday, Nov. 15 during the Willamette Valley Ag Expo in Albany.

Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis to those who RSVP and seats are limited. To register, contact Tiffany Niño, tiffany@oregonfb.org, 503.399.1701.

Note: The lunch does not include entry to the Willamette Valley Ag Expo.

