

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Clackamas County Farm Bureau supports 4-H at County Fair

Clackamas County Farm Bureau supported the next generation of farmers and ranchers directly this year by donating \$10,000 to the Clackamas County Fair 4-H livestock awards, which took place Aug. 16-21 at the Clackamas County Fair & Rodeo in Canby.

"This was very exciting for our 4-H students," said Jan Williams, 4-H's OSU Extension Agent for Clackamas County. "Our 4-H livestock and small animal committees were short on budgets for prizes this year, and Farm Bureau's support was much appreciated."

Williams explained how Oregon Farm Bureau 3rd Vice President Barb Iverson of Clackamas County Farm Bureau, who also serves on a 4-H committee, heard about the situation at a 4-H meeting. Iverson invited Williams to submit a proposal to Clackamas County Farm Bureau. Shortly after, 4-H students received a \$10,000 donation used to purchase prizes -- including the coveted "best in show" belt buckles, ribbons, and other awards -- in all categories for all show levels of the livestock awards.

"Farm Bureau was the talk of the County Fair this year!" said Clackamas County Farm Bureau Board member Matt Bunch. Bunch volunteered as a Farm Bureau representative and served as an official auction manager during the entire event. "There wasn't a person who didn't hear the word 'Farm Bureau' over the loudspeaker five to six times a day," he said.

"As the state's largest general farm organization, Farm Bureau is a grassroots, nonprofit organization representing the interests of the state's farmers and ranchers in the public and policymaking arenas," said OFB Communications Director Anne Marie Moss. "Our OFB Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee offers leadership opportunities for young ag producers, many of who were former 4-H students themselves. The partnership between Farm Bureau and 4-H has existed for generations." (Learn about YR&R at oregonfb.org.)

Added Williams, "I enjoyed seeing some Farm Bureau members in the crowd interact with 4-H students about agricultural opportunities beyond the classroom. It is very gratifying to see how far students can take their animals over the year."

- Photo caption 1: (bunch_baumhardt) Clackamas County Farm Bureau supported local 4-H students at its livestock awards during the recent Clackamas County Fair & Rodeo in Canby. The Farm Bureau gave \$10,000 to help 4-H purchase prizes for winners. Left is Matt Bunch of Clackamas County Farm Bureau, and right is junior Megan Baumhardt, with her award for the Swine Showmanship Champion.
- Photo caption 2: (4-H students) Winners at the 4-H livestock awards during the Clackamas County Fair & Rodeo in Canby took home awards donated by Clackamas County Farm Bureau. From left to right are winners Dylan Erickson, Ethan Gallent, Zach Wetzler, Jeromy Lee, Natalie King, and Bernadette La Marsh.

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

The state's largest general farm organization, Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) is a voluntary, grassroots, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization representing the interests of the state's farmers and ranchers in the public and policymaking arenas.

First established in Oregon in 1919, Farm Bureau is organized in all 36 counties and has more than 8,000 member families that are professionally engaged in agriculture. Barry Bushue, an east Multnomah County berry and nursery stock producer, is OFB's 15th President.

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