

Oregon Farm Bureau Federation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Anne Marie Moss, (503) 399-1701, ext. 313, annemarie@oregonfb.org

Anne Rigor honored with the Farm Bureau Outstanding Secretary Award

At the 2006 Oregon Farm Bureau State Convention in Bend, Dec. 4-8, OFB President Barry Bushue honored Anne Rigor of Benton County Farm Bureau with the Outstanding County Farm Bureau Secretary Award for her years of invaluable service.

The award recognizes a member who exhibits dedication, drive, and productivity as a volunteer secretary for a county Farm Bureau. Candidates for the award must be nominated by their county Farm Bureau, and recipients are determined by the OFB Membership & Recognition Committee.

“Farm Bureau secretaries make sure the county president keeps on track and makes the entire county board look good,” said Bushue. “This year’s award winner has served as the Benton County Farm Bureau Secretary for about nine years — they say she is the ethanol that keeps the county running.”

Rigor is responsible for Benton County Farm Bureau meeting minutes, membership tracking, a newsletter, annual meeting arrangements, budget, policy submissions to the state office, and “Oh, can you get a Pepsi for the president, please?” said Bushue.

Rigor also serves as chair of the OFB Women’s Advisory Council and as a member of the OFB Board of Directors.

“You can always count on Anne to not only come through for Benton County, but to support Farm Bureau at the state level through her participation in myriad events and projects,” said Bushue. “She has definitely earned this award, and we sincerely thank her for her years of exceptional work.”

Editors: More high-resolution digital photos of the award presentation and honorees are available. Contact Anne Marie Moss, OFB Communication Director, annemarie@oregonfb.org, (503) 399-1701, ext. 313.

Note: In all instances, “Farm Bureau” must be capitalized.

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Other 2006 Farm Bureau members honored at the OFB state convention:

Katy Coba, Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, was honored with the **President’s Award**, in recognition of her outstanding advocacy and leadership toward the betterment of the Oregon agriculture industry.

Jim Johnson, Land Use and Water Planning Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Agriculture, received a **Distinguished Service Award** for his years of service, support, and dedication to Farm Bureau and the ag industry as a whole.

Paul Kovash of Benton County was honored with a **Top Hand Award** for his innovation, passion, and energy in Farm Bureau activities, particularly in ag education and health and safety projects.

Arlene Kovash of Benton County received a **Distinguished Service Award** for her decades of representing Oregon agriculture in the political arena and her volunteer service in Farm Bureau.

Dalton Straus of Jackson County received a **Top Hand Award** for his decades of work promoting the Oregon ag industry around the state, nation, and world.

Clifford Horning of Benton County was honored with a **Memorial Award** for having made a significant difference to the Farm Bureau organization and agriculture during his lifetime. The award was accepted by his brother Eric Horning.

Press releases on and photos of all honorees are available.

About Oregon Farm Bureau

Oregon Farm Bureau traces its roots to 1919 when the Umatilla County Farm Bureau was established in the heart of the state's wheat country. Oregon Farm Bureau was formally incorporated in 1932. In 2007, OFB will celebrate its 75th anniversary. The state headquarters remained in Pendleton until 1949, when it moved to Salem.

Farm Bureau is organized in all 36 Oregon counties. Today, OFB has over 53,000 total member families, making it the largest general agricultural organization in the state. About 8,800 member families are professionally engaged in agriculture. Barry Bushue, an east Multnomah County berry and nursery producer, is OFB's 15th president.

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