



YOUNG LEADERS HOST “RURAL ROUTE SAFETY DAY”

On April 14th, the Marion County Farm Bureau’s Young Leaders proudly hosted their inaugural “Rural Route Safety Day”, welcoming local Marion County Driver’s Education students for an engaging and educational experience focused on road safety.

The event centered on the importance of safely sharing rural roads with farmers and agricultural equipment. Students were introduced to eight key safety practices designed to protect both drivers and farmers. A central message resonated throughout the day: farmers are not trying to inconvenience motorists, and a few extra seconds of patience can make a life-changing difference.

Following the presentation, students participated in a hands-on learning experience that brought the lessons to life. They explored a semi-truck, combine, and tractor with a baler up close. Many students had the unique opportunity to climb inside the semi and tractor cabs, gaining a better understanding of visibility limitations and what the road looks

like from a farmer’s perspective. Members of the Young Leaders committee also demonstrated why semi-trucks require additional space to complete wide turns, emphasizing how passenger vehicles can play a critical role in ensuring those maneuvers are completed safely.

The event was made possible through the support and contributions of several individuals and groups. Special thanks were extended to Virgil Bumgarner for providing the combine, Blake Hayes for the tractor and baler, and Brad Hayes for supplying the semi-truck. Appreciation was also given to students from Patoka High School, Sandoval High School, and South Central High School for their participation and enthusiasm.

Through events like Rural Route Safety Day, the Marion CFB Young Leaders continue to foster safer roadways and strengthen understanding between drivers and the agricultural community.



Sandoval, South Central, and Patoka drivers ed students attended the Young Leaders “Rural Route Safety Day”.



YL Chairman Brad Hayes assists Sandoval High School students as they climb in the semi to see what a farmer can and cannot see while driving.

ABOUT 40 ATTEND MARKET OUTLOOK DINNER



Terry Probst from TGM/South Central FS provided market updates and predictions for 2026 at Marion CFB’s annual Market Outlook Ribeye Dinner on April 1st.



The Young Leader Committee presented buckets filled with safety items to three winners drawn at the Market Outlook meeting. (L to R) Win Headley, Knox Purcell, & Greg Maxey.

The Marion County Farm Bureau hosted their annual Market Outlook dinner at the office in Salem on Wednesday, April 1st. Terry Probst from TGM/South Central FS provided updates on the current market environment and his predictions for 2026.

Terry reported that USDA’s March Prospective Plantings and Stocks reports aligned closely with expectations, highlighting a shift toward more soybean acres and fewer corn acres in 2026. While the acreage mix did not significantly surprise the market, it reflects ongoing pressure from high input costs, particularly fertilizer, favoring soybeans over corn. Current outlooks suggest generally adequate grain supplies and continued tight profit margins, with corn prices expected to remain near breakeven levels despite solid demand. Although a weather-

driven rally remains possible, larger global supplies and increased export competition, especially from South America, may limit upside potential. At the same time, soybean markets continue to face uncertainty tied to global trade dynamics, even as strong domestic crush demand provides some underlying support.

In addition to the market information, several Young Leader Committee members were in attendance and offered a drawing to win one of three buckets filled with safety-themed products. Win Headley, Knox Purcell, and Greg Maxey were drawn as the winners for the buckets that included safety items like goggles, chemical gloves, an SMV emblem, respirator, and more. A portion of funds used for the safety-themed buckets were provided through an IFB & COUNTRY Financial Safety Grant.

Marion CFB’s

BACKYARD BASH

Member Appreciation Event

Join us for an evening of summer fun!

Giveaways, dunk tank, bounce houses, burgers, ice cream, floats and more!

July 21st 5-7 p.m.

Marion County Fairgrounds

Marion County Farm Bureau

Marion County Farm Bureau Young Leaders

COUNTRY FINANCIAL

GIVEAWAY

MARION CFB TO HOST “BACKYARD BASH”

The Marion County Farm Bureau (CFB) is inviting its members to come together for an evening of appreciation, community, and summer fun at its upcoming “Backyard Bash”. The event will take place at the Marion County Fairgrounds on July 21st from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and is open to all Marion County Farm Bureau members.

Hosted by the Marion CFB Board of Directors, Young Leaders, and COUNTRY Financial representatives, the “Backyard Bash” is designed to celebrate the members who play a vital role in the organization’s continued success. Their support and involvement have helped Marion CFB grow and thrive, making this event a meaningful way to say thank you.

Attendees can look forward to a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere with a variety of activities and refreshments. The evening will feature bounce houses, dunk tanks, giveaways, and classic summer favorites like burgers, ice cream, and ice cream floats.

The “Backyard Bash” offers a great opportunity for members to connect, unwind, and enjoy a festive summer evening in celebration of the strong community that makes Marion County Farm Bureau what it is today.