DO MORE with Salem Harvest: Opportunities Abound

Ever wonder how you can help Salem Harvest in more ways than harvesting food? Here is your chance! Four special events this spring offer opportunities for you to help. From simply sharing a favorite recipe, to joining us for a great party, we have something for everyone and we appreciate your support in whatever fashion you choose to participate. When pondering the fundraiser opportunities highlighted below, please keep in mind two key facts: funding is essential to keep Salem Harvest alive and harvesting; and we are one of the most efficient, if not the most efficient, organization of our kind in the country, spending less than $0.18 per pound to harvest food. This means that for every $25 earned, 167 pounds of fresh, healthy food is available for hungry families in our community.

ENJOY Bands & Brews to Fight Hunger

This is our second year offering this lively and entertaining fundraising event. Last year, proceeds enabled us to purchase our truck, Sunflower. This year the funds will be used to keep Sunflower in operation – maintenance of the truck and field trailer, insurance, registration, gas, and anything else needed to keep food moving from the fields to hungry families.

On Saturday, April 29th, Bands & Brews to Fight Hunger will be held at Vagabond Brewery, 2195 Hyacinth St. NE, Salem, from 6:00pm – 11:00pm. It is a 21+ event, with a suggested $5 donation at the door. Vagabond is donating a portion of the cost of every brew purchased, and JT’s will be providing amazing food options from their trucks, similarly donating some of the food sales to Salem Harvest. Vintage Salem Harvest T-shirts will be available for purchase at crazy low prices. The popular Mystery Growler wall will be back, offering growlers and matching fill cards from local breweries for only $25 each. And we mustn’t overlook the six exciting and substantial raffle prizes you could win:

- Steel Bridge Coffee package
- Wonderful Wine basket
- Excalibur 9-rack dehydrator
- Pool Party package
- Happy & Healthy Kids bundle
- Growing Green basket and
- 50/50 Raffle

Raffle tickets are $5 each or five for $20.

Entertainment comes from the blues and southern rock band Johnny Wheels & the Swamp Donkeys (a return-performer from last year’s successful event), who will start playing at 6:30. At 8:30, winning raffle tickets will be drawn. 9:00 brings our second band, Rock Candi, to the stage, providing an all-female take on everyone’s favorite classic rock songs. The 50/50 raffle drawing will be pulled at 9:45. For all raffles, the ticket holder must be present to win.
Two more things to mention about this event: First, if you or someone you know would like to sponsor this event – increasing the visibility of your organization and getting special benefits during the event – please send an email to elise@salemharvest.org. Second, if you bring with you three recipes for the Salem Harvest cookbook (see details below), you will receive one free raffle ticket. Please, only one free ticket per person.

**SAVOUR The Salem Harvest Cookbook**

This will be a cookbook like no other! Rather than being organized by type of dish (soup, salad, bread...), our cookbook will accompany you straight through our typical harvest season. It will begin with a section featuring recipes with strawberries and blueberries, then move on to summer squash, garlic, and onward through the ripening crops of the summer, supplying cooks with creative ideas of how to use the fresh, healthy food they harvest through participation with Salem Harvest. This amazing book can’t happen without you! Please email your favorite recipes -- featuring one or more of the crops listed below -- to cookbook@salemharvest.org by Sept. 15, 2017.

Our cookbook committee is working hard to make this book one that not only you will cherish but also one you will be proud to share with friends and family. Recipes from local area chefs and growers will be included, as well as OSU Extension recipes, tips and tricks for canning, freezing and preserving. Select harvest photos will grace the divider pages. The Salem Harvest mission of harvesting food to feed hungry people will permeate the book. Our target date for printing this hardback cookbook will be November 1, 2017. Books will be available for purchase at local area stores; pre-orders will be taken during the harvest season. More information to follow on price, locations and pre-order options!

**Crops to Feature in Your Recipes**

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<th>Apples</th>
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<th>Broccoli</th>
<th>Cauliflower</th>
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**SHOP at LifeSource on its 5% Earth Day Give Back!**

Earth Day is Saturday, April 22nd and I invite you to come celebrate and support Salem Harvest at LifeSource Natural Foods at 2649 Commercial St SE, Salem. Store hours are 8am -9pm. For the entire day, this local grocery store will be donating 5% of sales to Salem Harvest! We will have a table there and will share information with customers. If you are already a dedicated client of LifeSource, I encourage you to save up your shopping list and come down and stock your pantry on the 22nd. If you are a new shopper, I encourage you to come down and see what they offer, learn about their commitment to local growers, and lend your support to Salem Harvest on Earth Day.

Please share this opportunity with everyone you know. The more money spent in the store on this day, the more funds come to Salem Harvest to help us plan and run harvests, saving food from going to waste and making healthy produce an option at local area food pantries.

**CELEBRATE Harvest Leader and Committee Kickoff Evening**

Salem Harvest is looking for continuing and newly interested volunteers who want to do more than just harvest. Please join us for a season kickoff event at Marion-Polk Food Share on April 20th at 6:00pm. We will gather for food and friendship, sharing information on opportunities to get more involved, harvest leader training dates and times, and plans for the upcoming season. We will also discuss team member opportunities for the transportation team, events team, cookbook team and fundraising team, as well has harvest leader positions.

The transportation committee, new this year, will investigate how to transport people to harvests, in an effort to not only reduce emissions but also to help people without a vehicle to get to harvests. Ideas and community resources are available and we need committed folks willing to put in a bit of time to do the planning and manage this awesome opportunity for other volunteers.

If you are interested in attending this kickoff event, please RVSP to elise@salemharvest.org with your name and contact information.
OUR MISSION

To feed the hungry by harvesting food that would go to waste.

Salem Harvest connects farmers and backyard growers with volunteers who harvest produce that would be wasted. More than half of each harvest is donated to Marion-Polk Food Share or its affiliated food pantries. Since 2010, Salem Harvest has harvested and donated over 1.1 million pounds of fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables.