

FARM BUREAU NEWS

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Farm Bureau Mission Statement

Forging a partnership between farmers and consumers that meets consumers needs, addresses public expectations and ensures agricultural prosperity in a global marketplace.



Still have questions about Farm Service Agency
and the new Farm Bill programs?

Huron & Lorain County Farm Bureaus

Farm Bill Panel Discussion

2015 Membership Kickoff

Thursday, January 29 | 7 p.m.

FARM BILL PANEL DISCUSSION

Speakers:

Mike Gastier

extension educator,

Ohio State University–Huron County

Diana Strouse

county executive director,

USDA-Huron/Erie Farm Service Agency

Adam Sharp

vice president, public policy,

Ohio Farm Bureau

Camdem Township Complex

50679 St Rt 303, Oberlin

Corner of St Rts 511 & 303

MEMBER BENEFIT MINUTE

Did you know?

Farm Bureau primarily focuses on two goals: Legislative representation for members and promotion of agriculture. We work on issues important to you and strive to keep consumers connected to producers and local farmer's businesses.



Visit local orchards this year and meet the farmer that grows the food you enjoy.

For a listing of local orchards and other markets, visit www.ourohio.org and click on the Buying Local Directory

Huron County Farm Bureau Policy Process

Huron County Farm Bureau annually goes through the policy development process at the county level. They hold several meetings to assess the needs of the county where they determine if the problem is something that affects agriculture. Huron County Farm Bureau met with numerous elected officials on June 19, 2014. Both elected officials and Farm Bureau members were present for the meeting. Great discussion was had and everyone in attendance left a little more informed. This meeting serves as a vital part to the policy development committee.

The committee then takes the information that was presented and formulates proposed policies. The policies are categorized by county, state, and national policies. These policies are sent to the eligible members of the Huron County Farm Bureau prior to the annual meeting for them to review.

Ohio Farm Bureau's policy development process is a grassroots process. It starts on the county level in all 88 counties of Ohio and works its way up to the Ohio Farm Bureau and then the American Farm Bureau.

The policies that are passed at the county Farm Bureau annual meeting then become the 'marching orders' for the county Farm Bureau.

Huron County Farm Bureau members adopted the county policies that were voted on at their county annual meeting in September.

LOCAL

1. We request the removal of limited access signage from the U.S. Route 20 bypass thereby allowing farm machinery to avoid the serious safety risks of other routes through and around Norwalk.
2. We support local government and not regional government (ie. township trustees) with 2008 local government funding levels restored.
3. We support traffic lights and lighting at the

intersection of U.S. Route 250 and U.S. Route 20.

4. We support stiffer penalties for crop and property damage done by four-wheelers. We encourage four-wheeler owners to have written permission to be on property that is not their own.
5. We do not support unfunded mandates.
6. We recommend state capital improvement money and grants be divided more equally amongst the Ohio counties and communities.
7. We continue to support the funding for Ohio State University Extension.
8. We support an income tax base for school levies with a reduction in real estate taxes.
9. We support the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board and oppose animal rights groups such as HSUS, PETA, and MFA.
10. We support better vegetative control along roadways and encourage earlier mowing in the summer, to especially avoid safety risks of impaired vision at intersections and crossings.
11. We support keeping the title office and license bureau in the same building (on south side of Norwalk) located in a county owned building.
12. We encourage all livestock farmers to utilize BMP's (Best Management Practices) for animal waste.
13. We encourage the Huron County Commissioners, Summit Motorsports, and the FAA to cooperatively work together for the betterment of the county.
14. We support OFBF policies in regards to wind and solar energy.
15. We support the U.S. EPA's jurisdiction on navigable waters (only) of the U.S.
16. We support the investigations of amending the Ohio Revised Code (Section 5589-08) in regards to steel wheels on traction engines for township, county and state roads and the safety issues related with them/it.

Scholarships & Teacher's Grants Available

SCHOLARSHIPS: Huron County Farm Bureau offers scholarships for both high school seniors and continuing education students which include: an Agricultural \$500 Scholarship for graduating high school seniors and a Continuing Education \$500 Agricultural Scholarship. Applications are available by calling Huron County Farm Bureau at 888-292-6442 or visiting: www.northcoastfarmbureau.org and clicking on 'Scholarships & Grants'. Each guidance counselor and FFA advisor have applications. Multiple scholarships are awarded each year. **Scholarship applications are due by March 15, 2015.**

TEACHER'S AGRICULTURE GRANTS: Teacher's agriculture grants are available for the teaching of agriculturally related subjects. **Applications are on our website and are due by March 15, 2015.**

Mark Your Calendars!

January 29 | Farm Bill Panel Discussion & Membership Kick-off: 7 pm - Camden Twp. Complex- 50679 St Rt 303, Oberlin- Corner of St Rts 511 & 303

February 12 | Membership Check-in

7 pm - Green Emerald Restaurant - 137 E Main St, Bellevue

February 16 | President's Day Legislative Brunch with Lorain Co. Farm Bureau

9 am - Wellington Reservation, 535 Jones Rd, Wellington

February 26 | Membership Check-in

7 pm - North Fairfield Village, 3 E Main St, North Fairfield

February 28 | Huron County Chamber of Commerce Home & Business Show

10 am- 4 pm - Norwalk Middle School - 64 Christie Ave, Norwalk **free admission**

March 12 | Membership Check-In

7 pm - D&D Smith Winery, 401 W Main St, Norwalk

March 13 | Family Fun Night with Erie County Farm Bureau 5-10 pm - Rain Water Park/Cedar Lanes, 1935 Cleveland Rd, Sandusky- **Free admission with a new Farm Bureau membership**

March 16 | Worker's Compensation Safety Meeting

7 pm - EHOVE Bldg A Room 101, 316 W Mason Rd, Milan

March 31 | Membership Recognition Dinner

6:30 pm - Matus Winery *For all volunteers who sign one membership.*

Huron County Farm Tour

Huron County Farm Bureau planned and held a farm tour on September 13, 2014. The tour featured three different farms that you could stop at. Stop 1 was Bar Lee Jersey's Farm just west of Willard, Stop 2 was Feichtner Farms on Townline Road 12, and Stop 3 was OARDC Muck Crops Agricultural Research Station & Development Center on State Route 103 south of Willard. K 96 Radion Station, Norwalk Area United Fund, Willard FFA Alumni and local Nationwide Insurance Agency- The Trent Group were all present with an informational display at Bar Lee Jersey's Farm. Farm Credit-Mid America had an informational display at Feichtner Farms. Ag Credit County Mortgages also had an informational display at OARDC Muck Crops Agricultural Research Station & Development Center.

If you attended or helped with the farm tour thank you very much! Positive comments were received from participants and Huron County Farm Bureau will be planning a farm tour for 2015. Watch for more information coming up in 2015!



Huron County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

The Huron County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting of Membership was held on September 11, 2014 at the New London Grange. Over 90 members, elected officials, board members and guests were in attendance.

Meeting started with President Elaine Conger welcoming everyone, meal was served, and then the business meeting started. Minutes from the 2013 annual meeting were presented as well as financial report for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Both the minutes and financial report were approved. Bill Ommert gave the nominating committee report and then members were asked to vote for board of trustees members and OFBF Annual Meeting delegates for 2015. Policy Development Chair, Doug Brown gave the policy development report and again members were asked to vote on proposed policies. *A list of local policies is on page 2, all policies are at www.northcoastfarmbureau.org*

The 2014 scholarship recipients were recognized: Amanda Szabo, daughter of Dennis & Sharon Szabo and Evan Walcher; son of Chris & Michelle Walcher were both recipients of an agricultural scholarship. Sam Schwab; son of Ellen Schwab and Erin Kramer, daughter of Jim & Susan Kramer were both recipients of a continuing education scholarship.

OFBF Trustee, Al DiVencenzo gave a brief report. Organization Director, Amanda Denes presented a few awards and thanked every Farm Bureau member who volunteered in any capacity over the past year.

Dennis Hall, from the Ohio Bio-Products Innovation Center at The Ohio State University and Mike Sword served as speakers for the evening giving some insight on collaborating for anaerobic digestion, biomass to energy and other alternative fibers & fillers for composites. After this election results were announced, meeting was adjourned and door prizes were awarded. Thanks to all that attended!

Pictured are Huron County Farm Bureau Board of Trustee members.



Huron County Farm Bureau

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North Royalton, OH
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E-mail: huron@ofbf.org
www.northcoastfarmbureau.org

The Huron County Farm Bureau newsletter is distributed to Huron County Farm Bureau members to keep them informed of Farm Bureau issues, events, member benefits and agriculture. With direction from the county board of trustees, the organization supports Ohio farmers and promotes Ohio agriculture.

Executive Board

President:

Jason Nuhfer—Richmond

Vice President :

Dave Kamm—Hartland

Secretary:

Megan Riley— New London

Board of Trustees

Heidi Benich— New Haven

Doug Brown—Bronson

Elaine Conger—Greenfield

Tom Gies— Peru

Chris Hilaman— Wakeman

Will Lewis— Peru

John Liles—Townsend

Bill Ommert—Norwalk

Jeremy Sherman—New Haven

OFBF Trustee

Al DiVencenzo - Grafton

Office Staff

Amanda Denes-Diedrick,

Organization Director

Bev Cisar & Mary

Wallencheck,

Administrative Assistants

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SEEKING FARM BUREAU MEMBERS WITH BUSINESSES

We are getting ready to prepare our 2015 Erie, Huron, & Lorain County Farm Bureaus Member Benefits brochure. This brochure lists businesses that are Farm Bureau members and offer a discount to fellow Farm Bureau members. The brochure is put together by the Farm Bureau office and is then distributed to the entire membership in the tri-county area. This reaches close to 11,000 people!

You can advertise in the brochure as long as you or your business are a Farm Bureau member, you offer a discount to Farm Bureau members, and your Farm Bureau membership is currently paid or is enclosed with the form below. **You must offer a discount to be included in this brochure.**

Please fill out the form below and mail to the Farm Bureau office, along with your membership dues (if not paid), by March 1, 2015 to be included in the brochure.

Mail to: Erie County Farm Bureau, 8460 Ridge Rd., North Royalton, OH 44133

*If you have already paid your current membership dues, please note that and we will contact you if our records indicate differently.

Business Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: _____

Discount Offered: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Name Which Membership is Under: _____