

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.



Family Fun Night with Erie Co. Farm Bureau on March 11

WHEN: Friday, March 11, 2016

WHERE: Quality Inn and Rain Water Park (Cedar Lanes and Thirsty Pony), 1935 Cleveland Road, Sandusky

TIME: 5:00 - 10:00 PM– Pizza, pop & ice cream included.

WHY: Fun Night includes bowling, Rain Water Park, pizza, pop, ice cream, and cards & games in the Royal Palm Room for \$7.50 per Farm Bureau member and \$15.00 for non members. ***Bring a new paid Farm Bureau membership with you and you can attend for free!** Family members age 2 and under are free. Look for your invitation in the mail. We hope you can join us on March 11.

New Membership Opportunities

The Ohio Farm Bureau Federation is strengthening its advocacy efforts on behalf of Ohio's farm and food community with the implementation of a new membership structure. The new model includes four categories:

Active Members– are farmers and those whose jobs are directly impacted by the health of Ohio agriculture. Benefits include the right to vote on policy positions, discounts on Nationwide Insurance products and access to many other products & services.

Young Active Members– is for those 18-24 who are farmers or whose job is directly impacted by the health of Ohio agriculture. These members qualify for all Active Member benefits but at a statewide rate of \$25, a substantially reduced rate.

Community Members– are those interested in local foods, landowner issues and rights, protecting agriculture and preserving Ohio's farm heritage and lifestyle. Membership brings invitations to educational forums on issues such as taxes and property rights. This level also includes a variety of savings opportunities on everything from insurance to cars to travel and other products and services.

Our Ohio Supporters– are individuals who wish to stay connected to food & farm events and issues without joining as members. The low supporter rate of \$25 includes a subscription to Our Ohio magazine– Farm Bureau's bi-monthly magazine. Everyone is invited to become part of Farm Bureau by visiting GrowWithFB.org Volunteers will also be busy working on membership during February and March.

Huron County Farm Bureau now has a Facebook page! Be sure to like it on Facebook at facebook.com/HuronFarmBureau

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.



Want to know what fruits & vegetables are in season?

For a listing of what's in season visit www.ourohio.org and click on What's In Season

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 18, 2015. 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. 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 Ohio Farm Bureau and then 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. They are listed below and to the right.

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 (i.e. township trustees) and not regional government with 2008 local government funding levels re-
3. stored.
3. We support 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 Ohio counties and communities.
7. We continue to support funding for The Ohio State University Extension.
8. We support an income tax base for school levies with a reduction in real estate taxes.
9. 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.
10. We encourage all livestock farmers to utilize BMP's (Best Management Practices) for animal waste.
11. We support OFBF policies in regards to wind and solar energy.
12. We support the U.S. EPA's jurisdiction on navigable waters (only) of the U.S.
13. We support the investigation 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.
14. We support improving the CAUV (current agricultural use value) formula.

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, 2016.**

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, 2016.**

Mark Your Calendars!

February 25 | Membership Check-in Period

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

February 27 | Huron County Chamber of Commerce Home & Business Show

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

March 11 | 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 15 | Scholarship & Teacher's Grant Applications Due!

March 15-17 | County Presidents' Trip to Washington DC

March 21 | Worker's Compensation Safety Meeting

7 pm - Lorain County JVS, 15181 St Rt 58, Oberlin

Huron County Farm Tour

Huron County Farm Bureau planned and held a farm tour on September 12, 2015. The tour featured four different farms that you could stop at. Stops included the Wakeman Farmers Market, CHL Farms, Matus Winery & Ohio Malting LLC, Clarksfield Grain & Feed Facility and Collins Elevator. A big thank you to the host farms/businesses for everything you did to prepare for the farm tour.

K 96 Radion Station, Norwalk Area United Fund, Ag Credit & Country Mortgages, local Nationwide Insurance Agency- The Trent Group, Farm Credit Mid-America, Wellington Implement, Brother's Chevrolet and American Powersports were all present with informational displays at various stops.

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 2016.

Watch for more information coming up in 2016!



Huron County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

The Huron County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting of Membership was held on September 10, 2015 at Kilkerrin Barn-Mike & Jill Nolan's near Wakeman. Over 80 members, elected officials, board members and guests were in attendance.

Meeting started with President Jason Nuhfer welcoming everyone, meal was served, and then the entertainment started- Drew Murray, magician, creator, artist and more performed for the crowd. Everyone enjoyed his presentation. Then the business meeting started. Minutes from the 2014 annual meeting were presented as well as financial report for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Both the minutes and financial report were approved. Elaine Conger gave the nominating committee report and then members were asked to vote for board of trustees members and OFBF Annual Meeting Delegates for 2016. 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*

Jason Nuhfer gave the Code of Regulations report and then asked members to vote upon the proposed code changes. Huron County Farm Bureau Scholarship Recipients were recognized in members' annual meeting notice but they included: Jared Hutchison, Brayden Mahl and Kaylee Musso.

OFBF Trustee, Al DiVencenzo recapped what Ohio Farm Bureau has done for its members in 2015. Organization Director, Amanda Denes-Diedrick presented awards and thanked every Farm Bureau member who volunteered in any capacity over the past year.

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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888-292-6442

E-mail: huron@ofbf.org

www.northcoastfarmbureau.org

[Facebook.com/HuronFarmBureau](https://www.facebook.com/HuronFarmBureau)

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

Kevin Erf—Lyme

Tom Gies— Peru

Chris Hilaman— Wakeman

John Liles—Townsend

Bill Ommert—Norwalk

Jeremy Sherman—New Haven

Stuart Smith—Greenfield

OFBF Trustees

Al DiVencenzo - District 3

Mike Boyert- Northeast Region

OFBF Staff

Amanda Denes-Diedrick,

Organization Director

Office Staff

Bev Cisar & Mary Wallencheck,

PRSR STD
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Elyria, OH
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SEEKING FARM BUREAU MEMBERS WITH BUSINESSES

We are getting ready to prepare our 2016 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 31, 2016 to be included in the brochure.

Mail to: Huron 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.

Cut here -----Cut here

Business Name:

Contact Person:

Address:

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Discount Offered: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Name Which Membership is Under: _____