A publication of Lorain County Farm Bureau

FARM BUREAU NEWS

January 2013

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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.

OHIO FARM BUREAU®

County Farm Bureau Office Move

The Erie, Huron and Lorain County Farm Bureau office has moved from it's location in Oberlin to North Royalton. We have moved in with Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau at their office which is located at 8460 Ridge Road (State Route 3) in North Royalton.

Each of the county Farm Bureau board of trustees in Erie, Huron, Lorain, and Cuyahoga counties discussed the possibility of the office move over the summer and by August all four counties had voted in favor of the move. A 90-day notice was given to Lorain County Farm Bureau's landlord and the office move was completed on November 30, 2012.

Toll free numbers, which is 1-866-859-2415 for Lorain County, have remained in tact and each county Farm Bureau can be reached by email at erie@ofbf.org, huron@ofbf.org or lorain@ofbf.org. The website has also remained the same which is www.northcoastfarmbureau.org. County specific information can be found at this website.

Productive conversation can be done with E-A-S-E!

Engage | Acknowledge | Share | Earn trust

Important conversations about how our food is produced are taking place, and farmers need to be a part of those conversations. Understanding what consumers want and allowing them to learn more about food production will build trust and confidence in food, farming and agriculture.

To help farmers and other key stakeholders have productive conversations that build trust and confidence in food, farming and agriculture, the U. S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance—which Ohio Farm Bureau belongs to—has developed the **Conversation with EASE (Engage, Acknowledge, Share, Earn trust)** program.

Conversation with EASE is not a spokesperson or media training program, but rather a movement specifically designed to help turn today's war of words about food, farming and agriculture into a conversation led by the people who know the subject best—farmers.

Talk is not cheap. Conversation is powerful. It can change opinions, it can enlighten and it can inspire additional conversation. It's one of the most powerful human interactions.

OHIO FARM BUREAU® U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance®

EASE Training scheduled for June 13, 2013

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.

Grow it. Know it. Live it.
our Ohio
OurOhio.org

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

Lorain County Farm Bureau Policy Process

Lorain 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. Lorain County Farm Bureau met with numerous elected officials on July 9, 2012 at their annual Pork Chop Dinner. 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 Lorain County Farm Bureau prior to the annual meeting to review.

The 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.

Lorain County Farm Bureau members adopted the county policies that were voted on at their county annual meeting in September. They are listed to the right.

LOCAL/COUNTY

1. We encourage the use of rumble strips at dangerous intersections.
2. We support increasing the minimum amount of insurance coverage for car insurance.
3. Does the membership of Lorain County Farm Bureau support the creation of the Lorain County Joint Police District in the 16 of the 18 townships? YES
4. We support the restoration of local government funds.
5. Should Lorain County Farm Bureau continue to support educating their members about issues concerning oil & gas leases? YES
6. Should Lorain County Farm Bureau continue to support agricultural education programs at Lorain County Community College, as long as they provide a balanced approach to all types of agricultural systems (ex. organic versus conventional)? YES
7. We encourage Lorain County Commissioners to use monies gained through the casino revenues to fund Lorain County's Ohio State University Extension and 4-H programs.
8. Lorain County Farm Bureau opposes the creation of the Lorain County Land Bank.
9. We oppose the privatization of the Ohio Turnpike.

If you feel there is anything that the county Farm Bureau should be working on then contact a member of the board of trustees.

Mark Your Calendars!

February 11 | Membership Check-in
7 p.m. — Place TBA– Call office for address
February 18 | President's Day Legislative Brunch with Huron County Farm Bureau
9 a.m. — Wellington Reservation – 535 Jones Rd., Wellington
February 25 | Membership Check-in & Energy Meeting
Speaker Dale Arnold-OFBF 7 p.m. — New Russia Township Hall – 46268 Butternut Ridge Rd., Oberlin
March 11 | Membership Check-in
7 p.m. — Bread-n-Brew – 100 S. Main St., Wellington
March 18 | Worker's Compensation Safety Meeting
7 p.m. — EHOVE Career Center, Milan
March 2l | Membership Recognition Dinner
6:30 p.m. — Location TBA
For all volunteers who sign one or more member
June 13 | Conservations with EASE Training
7 p.m. — Lorain County JVS
June 24 | 12th Annual Ag Ecology Tour & Picnic
6:30 p.m.— Location TBA
July 15 | Policy Development Meeting with elected officials 6:30 p.m.— North Eaton Church

Did You Know that Lorain County…

- Ranked 57th in corn production in Ohio in 2011 with an average yield of 155.2 bushels per acre?
- Ranked 43rd in soybean production in Ohio in 2011 with an average yield of 43.2 bushels per acre?
- Ranked 28th in wheat production in Ohio in 2011 with an average of 58 bushels per acre?
- Ranked 16th in alfalfa production in Ohio in 2011?
- Ranked 37th in Ohio in the number of cattle and calves in 2011 with over 12,100 head?
- Ranked 17th in Ohio in the number of milk cows, with over 4,600 head in 2011, which produced 67,800 million pounds of milk sold?
- The average farm size in Lorain County is 142 acres and there were more than 873 farms in Lorain County in 2011.

*Data acquired from the 2011 Annual Report from the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Report can be viewed at www.agri.ohio.gov

Animals for Life Requests for Proposals

The Animals for Life Foundation, which works to educate the public about the value animals bring to human life and the care humans give their animals in return, is now accepting requests for proposals (RFP). Visit http://aflfoundation.org/grants for more information on how your organization can apply for funding. Requests for proposals are due by July 1. Community organizations can apply for this money.

Advisory Councils Name Changed to Community Councils

Advisory Councils now have a new name. The name change to Community Councils is symbolic of the reason advisory councils were started: To make a difference in the community by identifying and helping to solve problems. The success of councils is largely based on the fact that group discussion is the method and problem solving is the goal. Councils should have received a workbook, in late January, that outlines several areas of discussion.

Scholarships Available

SCHOLARSHIPS: The Lorain County Farm Bureau offers scholarships for both high school seniors and continuing education students. Scholarships that the Farm Bureau offer include: a General $500 Scholarship for high school seniors, an Agricultural $1,000 Scholarship for high school seniors, and a Continuing Education $1,000 Agricultural Scholarship. Applications are available by calling the Farm Bureau at 866-859-2415 or visiting: www.northcoastfarmbureau.org and clicking on "Scholarships & Grants." Guidance counselors and FFA advisors should have copies of both of the high school scholarships. Multiple scholarships are awarded each year.

The scholarships are due by March 31, 2013. To inquire about the scholarship program, call or make a request via email at lorain@ofbf.org. We look forward to receiving your application.

AG AWARENESS GRANTS: Ag Awareness Grants for both classroom and non-classroom are available. Applications are due twice a year: January 31 and June 30. Visit our website for an application, call the office or email lorain@ofbf.org.

Lorain County Farm Bureau
8460 Ridge Rd.
North Royalton, OH 44133

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SEEKING FARM BUREAU MEMBERS WITH BUSINESSES

We are getting ready to prepare our 2013 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, 2013 to be included in the brochure.

Mail to: Lorain 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 #: _____

Discount Offered: _____

Website (if applicable):_____

Name Which Membership is Under: _____

Lorain County Farm Bureau

8460 Ridge Rd.
North Royalton, OH
44133

Phone: 866-859-2415
E-mail: lorain@ofbf.org
www.northcoastfarmbureau.org

The Lorain County Farm Bureau newsletter is distributed to Lorain 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.

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