

FARM BUREAU NEWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Farm Bill Panel</i>	1
<i>Brunch with a Farmer</i>	2
<i>Local Policies</i>	2
<i>Scholarships & Grants</i>	3
<i>Mark Your Calendars</i>	3
<i>Annual Meeting</i>	3
<i>Local Member Benefits Brochure</i>	4

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

Second Annual Brunch with a Farmer

WHEN: Saturday, February 14, 2015

WHERE: LCCC (Lorain County Community College) Spitzer Conference Center, 1005 N Abbe Rd, Elyria

TIME: 9:00 AM

RSVP: Please be sure to make a reservation to 1-866-859-2415 or 440-877-0706 or lorain@ofbf.org

TICKETS: \$10 (a partial refund upon arrival at event)

WHY: Come and meet Lorain County farmers and enjoy local foods prepared by LCCC Culinary Arts students. Brunch will also feature water quality speakers from Ohio Farm Bureau & Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Please bring non-perishable food to support Second Harvest Food Bank.

Any questions please call the Farm Bureau office.

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 Buying Local

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 14, 2014 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 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 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.

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

1. We encourage all county residents to take advantage of higher education in Lorain County at Lorain County Community College.
 2. We encourage producers and buyers to support the locally grown food movement.
 3. We support and encourage all new developments to install water retention basins to control flooding.
 4. We encourage the use of biodegradable shopping bags by all vendors.
 5. We encourage all trash & recycling receptacles to be placed no closer than 18 inches to the edge of road.
 6. We support to require all trash haulers to have a containment system so that light materials, 'plastic bags, etc' cannot escape from the vehicle.
 7. We support restoration of local government funds.
 8. 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 and Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District.
- If you feel there is anything that the county Farm Bureau should be working on then contact a member of the board of trustees.

Scholarships & Ag Awareness Grants Available

SCHOLARSHIPS: Lorain County Farm Bureau offers scholarships for both high school seniors and continuing education students which include: a General \$500 Scholarship for graduating high school seniors, an Agricultural \$1,000 Scholarship for graduating high school seniors and Continuing Education \$1,000 Agricultural Scholarships. Applications are available by calling Lorain County Farm Bureau at 1-866-859-2415 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 31, 2015.**

AG AWARENESS GRANTS: Ag Awareness Grants for both classroom and non-classroom uses 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

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 10 | Membership Check-in

7 pm - Oberlin McDonald's - 265 S Main St, Oberlin

February 14 | 2nd Annual Brunch with a Farmer

9 am - LCCC - Spitzer Conference Center- 1005 N Abbe Rd, Elyria - \$10/ticket- *portion to be refunded & please RSVP to office*

February 16 | President's Day Legislative Brunch with Huron County Farm Bureau

9 am - Wellington Reservation - 535 Jones Rd, Wellington- *Please RSVP to office by Feb. 12*

February 22-28 | Grain Bin Safety Week

February 24 | Membership Check-In

7 pm - Location TBA in the Grafton area

March 10 | Membership Check-In

7 pm - Fort's Old Town Tavern- 122 W Herrick Ave, Wellington

March 16 | Worker's Compensation Safety Meeting

7 pm - EHOVE, 316 W Mason Rd, Milan

March 23-28 | National Agriculture Week

March 31 | Scholarship Applications Due!

March 31 | Lorain County & Huron County Membership Recognition Dinner

6:30 pm - Location TBA

For all volunteers who sign one new or renewal member

Lorain County Fall Farm Tour

Lorain County Farm Bureau's Fall Farm Tour will be held September 26, 2015. This annual fall farm tour is traditionally held on the fourth Saturday of September. Fall farm tour locations are yet to be determined but if your farm is interested or you would like to nominate a farm please email lorain@ofbf.org or call the county office with suggestions.

Lorain County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Lorain County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting of Membership was held in conjunction with Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District on September 4, 2014 at New Russia Township Hall. Over 120 members, elected officials, board members and guests were in attendance. This served as the sixth year that Lorain County Farm Bureau and Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District have jointly held their annual meeting together.

Meeting started with Lorain County Farm Bureau President Ron Pickworth and Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District Chairman Will Schlechter welcoming everyone, meal was served then the business meeting started. Minutes from the 2013 annual meeting were presented as well as financial reports for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Policy Development Chair Russ Breyley gave the policy development report and members were asked to vote on proposed policies. *A list of local policies is on page 2, all policies are at www.northcoastfarmbureau.org*

Ron Pickworth gave the Code of Regulations report and then asked members to vote upon the proposed code change to increase Lorain County Farm Bureaus dues from \$55 to \$65 for a yearly membership. This passed with a unanimous vote. Dues will change effective December 1, 2014.

Barb Ziegler gave the scholarship committee report; the 2014 scholarship recipients for Farm Bureau were introduced: Janelle Pitts and Michaela Price both received a \$1,000 agricultural scholarship, Ashley Gott, Rachel Kozuma, Morgan McDonnell and Alex Spanos all received a \$500 general scholarship.

OFBF Trustee, Al DiVencenzo gave a brief report recapping what Ohio Farm Bureau has done for it's members in 2014. Organization Director, Amanda Denes presented a few 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!



Lorain County Farm Bureau

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North Royalton, OH
44133

Phone: 866-859-2415
or 440-877-0706
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.

Executive Board

President:

Ron Pickworth

Vice President :

Rick Carlson

Secretary:

Lois McDowell

Treasurer:

Robert Beekman

Board of Trustees

Kyle Bremke

Russ Breyley

Jim Diedrick

Adele Flynn

Eric Flynn

Eric Grim

Barb Ziegler

Joyce Ziegler

OFBF Trustee

Al DiVencenzo—Grafton

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Organization Director-

Amanda Denes-Diedrick

Administrative Assistants-

Bev Cisar &

Mary Wallencheck

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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: 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: _____