

FARM BUREAU NEWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Kick-off</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.



Lorain County Farm Bureau Membership Kick-off
at Strike-Out Lanes
48324 St Rt 18, Wellington

Saturday, February 6 | 4 p.m.

Bowling from 4-6 p.m. with Food & Discussion at 6 p.m.
Please RSVP to office—Bring a new member or membership with you to earn a \$25 gift card.

Third Annual Brunch with a Farmer

WHEN: Saturday, February 13, 2016 at 9:00 AM

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

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

TICKETS: \$10 (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 feature local farmers speaking about their farm. Please bring non-perishable food to support Second Harvest Food Bank. Any questions please call the Farm Bureau office.

THIRD ANNUAL *Brunch with a Farmer*

Sponsored by Lorain County Farm Bureau
forging a partnership between farmers and consumers

Saturday, February 13
9 a.m.

Lorain County Community College
Spitzer Conference Center, Grand Room
1005 North Abbe Rd. | Elyria

Come and meet Lorain County farmers
and enjoy local foods prepared by LCCC Culinary Arts students

Please bring non-perishable food to support Second Harvest Food Bank

PLUS – There will be door prizes!

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

Purchase tickets by Feb 10.

Contact Lorain County Farm Bureau at lorain.ofbf.org or 440-877-0706



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

Lorain County Farm Bureau Policy Process

Lorain County Farm Bureau annually goes through the policy development process at the county level. Lorain County Farm Bureau met with numerous elected officials on July 13, 2015 at their annual Pork Chop Dinner. Both elected officials and Farm Bureau members were present. Great discussion was had and everyone in attendance left more informed. This meeting is a vital part of 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 Lorain County Farm Bureau prior to 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 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 (LCCC).
2. We encourage the development of a cooperative relationship between LCCC and second-

ary student programs to allow students to develop technical and entrepreneurial skills in the agricultural industry while earning college credit.

3. We encourage producers and buyers to support the locally grown food movement.

4. We support and encourage all new developments to install water retention basins to control flooding.

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 collection haulers to have a containment system so that light materials, 'plastic bags, etc.' cannot escape from the vehicle.

7. We encourage Lorain County Commissioners to fund Lorain County's Ohio State University Extension and 4-H programs and Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District.

8. In light of the increased regulations relating to water quality & fertilizer application we encourage Lorain County Commissioners to hire an agricultural & natural resources educator.

9. We support that all publicly funded storm water projects applications; both district and community, be presented to the SWAC board (storm water advisory committee).

10. We support all district publicly funded stormwater projects require an application to be presented to the SWAC board (storm water advisory committee).

Scholarships & Ag Awareness Grants Available

SCHOLARSHIPS: Lorain County Farm Bureau offers scholarships for both high school seniors and continuing education students which include: 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, 2016.**

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!

February 6 | Membership Kick-off

4 pm - Strike-Out Lanes- 48324 St Rt 18, Wellington- *Please RSVP to office*—Bring a new member or membership with you to earn a \$25 gift card.

February 13 | 3rd Annual Brunch with a Farmer

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

February 15 | President's Day Legislative Brunch with Huron County Farm Bureau

9 am - Wellington Reservation - 535 Jones Rd, Wellington- *Please RSVP to office by Feb. 10*

March 2 | Membership Check-In

6 pm - Farm Credit's meeting room- 530 S Main St, Oberlin

March 21 | Worker's Compensation Safety Meeting 7 pm - Lorain County JVS, 15181 St Rt 58, Oberlin

March 21-27 | National Agriculture Week

March 30 | Membership Check-In

6 pm - Farm Credit's meeting room- 530 S Main St, Oberlin

March 31 | Scholarship Applications Due!

Lorain County Fall Farm Tour

Lorain County Farm Bureau's Fall Farm Tour will be held September 24, 2016. 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 3, 2015 at New Russia Township Hall. Over 115 members, elected officials, board members and guests were in attendance. This served as the seventh year where 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 2014 annual meeting were presented as well as financial reports for the 2014-2015 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 \$65 to \$75 for a yearly membership. This passed with a unanimous vote. Dues will change effective December 1, 2015.

2015 scholarship recipients for Farm Bureau were introduced: Janelle Pitts, Michaela Price and Leah Schwinn were all recipients of a \$1,000 continuing education scholarship, Jenna Beriswill, Stephanie Dostall, Jessica Ross and Megan Urig all received a \$500 general scholarship.

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 and recognized three volunteers who have gone above and beyond for Farm Bureau- Elaine Beekman, Amy Szmania and Al DiVencenzo are pictured to the right.

After this election results were announced, meeting was adjourned and door prizes were awarded. Thanks to all who attended!



Lorain County Farm Bureau

8460 Ridge Rd.
North Royalton, OH 44133

Phone: 1-866-859-2415
or 440-877-0706

E-mail: lorain@ofbf.org

www.northcoastfarmbureau.org

facebook.com/LorainFarmBureau

PRSR STD
U.S.Postage
PAID
Elyria, OH
Permit No. 22

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 : Jim Diedrick

Secretary : Eric Grim

Treasurer : Robert Beekman

Board of Trustees

Kyle Bremke

Russ Breyley

Adele Flynn

Eric Flynn

Jessika Fye

Lois McDowell

Liz Rowland

Joyce Ziegler

OFBF Trustees

Al DiVencenzo—District 3

Mike Boyert- Northeast Region

OFBF Staff

Organization Director-

Amanda Denes-Diedrick

Office Staff

Administrative Assistants-

Bev Cisar &

Mary Wallencheck

SEEKING FARM BUREAU MEMBERS WITH BUSINESSES

We are getting ready to prepare our 2016 Erie, Huron, & Lorain County Farm Bureau's 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: 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 #: _____ Email: _____

Discount Offered: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Name Which Membership is Under: _____