

Around **OUR COUNTY**

A PUBLICATION AND MEMBER BENEFIT OF MEDINA COUNTY FARM BUREAU

WINTER 2020

Counties receive American Farm Bureau recognition for grain safety facility project

On October 1, Ashland, Holmes, Medina and Wayne counties were notified of their County of Excellence award from the American Farm Bureau Federation. This honor is only bestowed to 24 projects nationwide, 8 of which went to Ohio. Project leaders Bob Hange and Jon Orr attended the AFBF annual meeting in Austin, TX in January 2020 to share about the project.

The Safe Farms training prop at the Wayne County Regional Training Facility is in its final stages of construction! The steel framed building has been constructed and the training platform is due to be completed this winter. A ribbon cutting ceremony is tentatively planned for May 2020. Please stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for details! If your farm or company is interested in utilizing the prop for trainings for your employees, please contact the training facility at wcrtf@hotmail.com for details and scheduling.



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT!

PLATINUM+

Centerra Co-op
Custom Agri-Systems
Farm Credit Mid-America
Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

PLATINUM

Brock
Caryle Cebul
Orrson Custom Farming
Morrow Metal Building Systems LLC
Westfield's Legacy of Caring Program

GOLD

Ashland County Community Foundation
Ashland County Farm Bureau
CHS, Inc.

Feikert Sand & Gravel
Medina County Farm Bureau
Orr Construction
Wayne County Farm Bureau
Wood Quarry

SILVER

Firelands Electric Co-op
Grain Systems Distribution
Honeyville Metal Inc. Topeka, IN
KC Supply
Medina Community Fund
Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation
Ripco Ltd

BRONZE

Advanced Drainage Systems
Brenneman Trucking
Gerber Feed Service
Holmes County Farm Bureau
Kalmbach Feeds
Lisa Acker
Loder Farms
Loudonville Farmers Equity
Lowe & Young
Mast-Lepley Ag/Hardware/Turf
Ohio Agribusiness Association
Ohio's Electric Cooperatives
Orrville Trucking & Grading
Purina Animal Nutrition
Shearer Equipment
Trent Insurance Group

*Donations are still being accepted for this project. Please contact Lindsay if you or your business is interested in donating.

A look back at some 2019 highlights

SEASON'S HARVEST

In August, Medina County Farm Bureau held the 9th annual Season's Harvest dinner at Richardson Farms in Medina. One hundred thirty people enjoyed a gourmet meal while participating in a silent and live auction. Almost \$37,000 was raised for Feeding Medina County thanks to the efforts and generosity of the Richardson family, Chef John Kolar of Thyme2 Restaurant and the volunteers of Medina County Farm Bureau!



AGRICULTURE ACRE AT THE MEDINA COUNTY FAIR

Agriculture Acre was held throughout the week of the Medina County Fair and offered activities for children and families both in the tent and around the fairgrounds. Fairgoers had the opportunity to interact with chicks and goats, learn about ag trivia, participate in daily activities sponsored by Medina County businesses, and complete a scavenger hunt around the fair. Thanks to Trent Insurance Group for their help with the fair and for providing the popular cooling station!

AG DAY

Medina County Farm Bureau collaborated on a first annual Ag Day this past September and it was a hit! 350 students + 75 volunteers + beautiful weather = AMAZING This event would not have been possible without the team of volunteers from Medina County Extension (especially Ashley Kulhanek and Erin Ruggiero!), OSU Extension Medina County Master Gardener Volunteers, Medina County Soil & Water Conservation District, Medina City Parks and Recreation, Medina County 4-H, OSU Extension,

Summit County and Summit County Master Gardeners plus many Medina Co Farm Bureau members and other partners!

We also could not have done this without our sponsors! We are extremely thankful to:

Gold level: American Dairy Association Midwest, Dairy Farmers of America, Inc., Medina Izaak Walton League, Medina County Fair board, Medina County 4-H Endowment, Sandridge Food Corporation, Community Energy Advisors, Medina Veterinary Clinic, Medina County Soil & Water Conservation District, and Ohio State University Extension.

Silver level: Farm Credit Services Mid-America, McJak Candy Company, LLC, Medina County Convention & Visitors Bureau, PNC Bank, The Farmer Savings Bank, Trent Insurance Group, Westfield

Bronze level: Firelands Farmer, Lazor Insurance & Financial Services - Nationwide Insurance, Ohio Soybean Council

The 2020 Ag Day has been set for September 25 and WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! We could use help on the Ag Day committee as well as just help on the day of the event. If you are interested in helping in any capacity, please contact Lindsay at Lshoup@ofbf.org or at 330-263-7456.

AG TOY DRIVE

The Medina County Young Farmers and Ashland/Wayne Young Ag Professionals held their 3rd Annual Ag Toy Drive on November 21st and over \$2000 in toys were donated to Medina County Toys for Tots! Special thanks to Legacy sponsor Bauman Oil for coming to Rural King Wooster to shop with us and transporting all of the toys to Medina!

We could not have done it without the support of these sponsors!

Legacy: Bauman Oil and Rural King of Ohio - Wooster

Gold level: Mike and Patti Boyert, Reusch Diesel, and Trent Insurance Group

Silver level: Community Energy Advisors, Farm Credit Services Mid-America, JTS Landscaping, and Spring Mist Farms



UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2020!

Jan 25: Ohio Farm Bureau Night with The Cleveland Cavaliers – Watch the Cavs take on the Bulls at 8 pm. Tickets start as low as \$24 and each ticket comes with a co-branded FB/Cavs t-shirt! To buy tickets, go to www.rocketmortgagefieldhouse.com/ofbf.

Jan 27: Membership campaign – Join Medina County Farm Bureau in this year's membership campaign! We kick-off on Monday January 27 with an evening of food, door prizes, and learning about membership with Medina County Farm Bureau and the prizes available for those who help sign a new member. MCFB's campaign runs from January – March 2020. A special drawing will be held at the Member Appreciation Lunch on Feb 22 for anyone who brings in a new membership!

Feb 22: Member Appreciation Lunch & Learn – Join us for lunch, door prizes, and an opportunity to hear from retired Farm and Dairy Editor Susan Crowell on her "5 life lessons learned while hiking the Appalachian Trail"! This event is free to members and their dependents. Please RSVP by Feb 19 by calling the office or emailing us at medina@ofbf.org

Feb 21 & 22: The Ohio Hop Growers Guild and MCFB member Jenny Napier of Barn Talk Hops Farm asked us to share about the Ohio Hop Conference which will be held Feb 21 and 22 in Springfield. Join fellow hop growers and other industry leaders for two days of growing, unifying and educating the Ohio hops community. Session topics include soil sampling, tasting techniques, brewing processes, marketing strategies and more, including keynote speaker Erin Lizotte, a hops expert with Michigan State University Extension. Registration link is available on www.eventbrite.com.

March 15: Ohio Farm Bureau Night with the Cleveland Monsters as they take on Rochester! Tickets are \$14 for upper bowl and \$30 for lower bowl. Lower bowl tickets include a hot dog, chips, and drink. All tickets include a skate after the game (you can bring your own skates or they will provide some). Tickets can be purchased at rocketmortgagefieldhouse.com/ofbf.

March 24: Safety Meeting – Come for a light breakfast and learn about safety topics such as rural road safety and how to avoid taking on other's liabilities. Attendance at this meeting qualifies for worker's comp group rating program safety credits. Meeting is Tuesday March 24 from 8:30 to 11 AM at the Farm Bureau office in Wooster. RSVP to 330-263-7456 by March 20.

Aug 3 – 9: Medina County Fair – We need volunteers to help at the Agricultural Acre tent for 3 hour shifts. Volunteers will be given a free admission pass into the fair. Please contact us if you are interested in helping!

Aug 13: Season's Harvest – Our 10th annual dinner on the farm event will be held August 13. Tickets will go on sale on June 1! We could use volunteer help during this event (wine pouring, food servers, dishes, setup/teardown). Please contact us if you are interested in helping!

Sept 10: Annual Meeting – Save Thursday September 10 on your calendars! Postcard invitation will be sent about 1 month before the meeting.

Sept 25: 2nd Annual AG DAY is scheduled for Friday Sept 25 at the Medina County Fairgrounds. Please contact us if you are interested in helping lead a station or chaperone a student group!

Oct 10 & 11: Fall Foliage Tour – Dates for the tour are Saturday and Sunday, October 10 and 11. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering for a 2 hour shift to sell tshirts! Volunteers will earn a free shirt.

2019 Distinguished Volunteer, Ben Richardson



A graduate of Cloverleaf High School, Ben was born in Cleveland and has lived his entire life in

Medina County. Ben will soon be celebrating 8 years of marriage with his wife, Stefanie, and they have four children – Lillian, Finley, Oliver, and Avery. Ben is a 6th generation farmer and co-owns Richardson Farms with his parents. Originally, their family began farming in Brooklyn Heights after

the Civil War and then moved to Medina. Richardson Farms has been a long-standing fruit and vegetable farm. Ben's Grandfather Neil began selling flowers for spring sales in the 1960's.

Medina County Farm Bureau recognizes Ben for his six years of service as a board trustee, 2 years of service as President, and the countless hours spent supporting various programs (especially the Fall Foliage Tour and hosting this year's Season's Harvest) and membership efforts. Thank you Ben and congratulations!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 31!

Medina County Farm Bureau is distributing a total of \$5,500 in scholarships via the Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation for 2020. Please share this scholarship opportunity with any Medina County youth that will be studying in an agriculture-related field in the fall of 2020. Apply at ofbf.org/foundation/scholarships and complete the "Medina County Scholarship" application online.

Scholarship details: Scholarships are awarded to assist graduating high school seniors and current college students that are residents of Medina County or have graduated from any Medina County high school and have been accepted to an accredited two or four year college/university. Scholarships will only be awarded to students who are members or a dependent of a member of Medina County Farm Bureau. Students will be evaluated on extracurricular activities, work experience, academic achievement, and communication based on essay. Past recipients may reapply.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TRUSTEES

Lowell Wolff, President
 Paul Trent, Vice President
 Corey Remington, Treasurer
 Brittney Robinson, Secretary

 Tyler Arters
 Dan Bock
 Ryan Boettcher
 Jake Boyert
 Patti Boyert
 Dick Hill
 Christina McDowell
 Jake Newcomer
 Joe Pavlovicz
 Justina Reusch

COUNTY STAFF

Lindsay Shoup
 Organization Director
 lshoup@ofbf.org

Susie Anderson
 County Office Administrator
 sanderson@ofbf.org

Jennifer Fatheree
 County Office Administrator
 jfatheree@ofbf.org

Interested in serving as a trustee? The MCFB board meets approximately 8 times annually on the fourth Monday evening of the month around 7:30 PM. Nominations for trustees are accepted until July 1 and nominees must be members of MCFB. Please email medina@ofbf.org with your nomination.



Buy Local Directory

We are now accepting submissions for our 2020 Medina County Buy Local Directory. There is no cost to have your business included in the directory but you must be a current Medina County Farm Bureau Member. We plan to print and distribute 500 free copies throughout Medina County by offering them at local events and placing them at local businesses. More will be ordered and distributed as needed. The directory is also available on our web-page. The booklet features any goods/services that are provided by our members. They do not need to be only agricultural! (View the 2019 booklet at medinafb.org).

If you would like to be added to the Buy Local directory or amend your company's information, you can complete this paper form and mail to our office OR you can email JFatheree@ofbf.org with the following. Please submit your information no later than March 31 to be included in the 2020 edition.

Business name: _____ Member ID#: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Website: _____

Type of business/products sold _____

Thank you to our group members!



EXCITING NEWS!
 Effective Jan. 1, 2020 the Ohio Farm Bureau Property Protection Program has increased the reward to \$5,000. New signs will be available at the Member Appreciation Lunch & Learn as well as at the Wooster Farm Bureau office. Four signs are available, per member, at no cost.

For information leading to arrest and conviction for certain property crimes committed against a Farm Bureau member. With other signs for complete list of eligible crimes and other conditions.

Office Hours M - F 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. | medinafb.org
E-mail: medina@ofbf.org
Phone: 330.263.7456

twitter.com/OhioFarmBureau

facebook.com/MedinaFarmBureau

facebook.com/OhioFarmBureau

Medina County Farm Bureau
 377 West Liberty Street
 Wooster, OH 44691



NON-PROFIT ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 CANTON OH
 PERMIT #1005