

# Around OUR COUNTY

..... A MEMBER BENEFIT OF RICHLAND COUNTY FARM BUREAU .....

## A night of food, fun and Farm Bureau

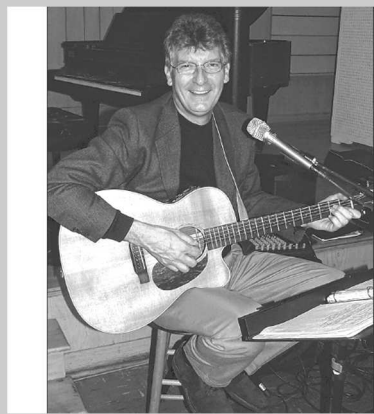
Aug 2015

*Please, join us for the Richland County Annual Meeting*

**Thursday, Sept.3**

Der Dutchman  
720 State Rt 97 W  
Bellville, OH

**Tickets: \$10 each**



Richland County Farm Bureau is excited to invite you to this year's Annual Meeting & Dinner. Please join us at an all new venue and evening entertainment we expect to provide an informational yet entertaining time for all.

This year's Annual Meeting & Dinner will be held Thursday, Sept. 3 at the Der Dutchman Restaurant, 720 State Route 97 W, Bellville, OH

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Attendees will take part in their Buffet-style meal selections beginning at 6 p.m. and the program will end at 8 p.m. All Farm Bureau members are welcome and the cost is only \$10 per person.

Tickets will available at Richland County Fair Farm Bureau Tent, call your reservations into the office by Aug. 27 at (419) 747-7488, or email [richland@ofbf.org](mailto:richland@ofbf.org) and pay at the door.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by guitarist, Jim Boedicker. In his more than forty

years of guitar playing, Jim has performed everything from rock to country and bluegrass to gospel. According to Generations Magazine: "In this age of high tech music, it's sometimes nice to know that some can still make music the 'old fashioned way'. Jim's unique 'fingerstyle' guitar playing appeals to a wide range of audiences."

We look forward to your attendance to have an enjoyable evening while also voting on important issues and policy. Remember, all Farm Bureau members and their families are invited to join us for this special event.

We hope  
to see  
you  
there!



**CHECK US OUT  
ON FACEBOOK!**

Like "Richland  
Farm Bureau"

## Richland County welcomes new Organization Director

Haley Davis of Bucyrus has been promoted to Ohio Farm Bureau Federation organization director for Crawford, Marion, Morrow, Richland and Wyandot counties. Davis will act as liaison between the county Farm Bureaus and Ohio Farm Bureau. She will assist the county groups as they develop and implement programs to strengthen their organizations, and enhance their ability to serve members and affect positive change in their communities.

Davis previously joined Ohio Farm Bureau in March, training in field staff work in anticipation of future needs.

She is a 2013 graduate of West Virginia University where she majored in animal and nutritional sciences and was vice president of the Collegiate FFA. She also worked at Hord Livestock Co. in Bucyrus as a farrowing technician/manager and at Southern States Morgantown Ag as a sales associate.

Davis grew up in West Chester, Ohio and was involved with 4-H for 10 years, serving as a junior fair board mem-

ber and on the horse judging team. She is a Crawford County Farm Bureau member and Young Agricultural Professionals member.

Davis replaces Tim Hicks, who served as organization director since 2013. Hicks has been named the Business Development Field Director for Ohio Farm Bureau, where he will work to strengthen OFBF member benefits and business partnerships.



# Thoughts from the President-elect...

**Luke Wittmer** has been living on the farm he grew up on all his life. He attended Lexington High School and graduated in 2001. He married Brittney on August 25, 2012 and they have three children, Addelynn 4, Lucas 2, and Lane 1. Luke's family grows corn, soybeans, wheat, and hay in west central Richland County and northern Morrow County.

**1. How long have you been a farmer and was your family in farming?** I am a 4th generation farmer and have been since I graduated from high school. Our family moved to Mansfield in 1913 from Paulding, Ohio where they bought a farm in the middle of Clear Fork

Reservoir. When the City of Mansfield completed construction of the reservoir in 1949 they bought the farm where we currently live, on Marion Ave.

**2. Why did you decide to be a farmer?** I wanted to keep our family farm continued for another generation.

**3. What do you love about farming?** I chose to farm because I enjoy the challenges, hard work, and dedication it takes to be a successful farmer. In addition I wanted to give my children the opportunity to become 5th generation farmers if they so choose.

**4. Why do you think its important to know where**

**your food comes from?**

Knowing where your food comes from bridges the gap between farm and table. By improving the relationship people have with food can help improve the way people eat and their overall health.

**5. What is the biggest challenge facing agriculture?** I believe Water Quality could become more of a issue if actions are not taken to help farmers stay compliant with the current rules and regulations.

**6. Why are you active in Farm Bureau?** To represent farmers, landowners, and whomever else that has a issue I can help with.

## What you need to know about Ohio's new nutrient law

Ronny Ryland, Farm Bureau Trustee

Even though Richland County is not currently defined as part of the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB), there are areas that drain into Lake Erie and may come under scrutiny in the near future, so we are sharing information on Senate Bill 1 which became effective July 1. Ohio Farm Bureau supported this bill because it balances clean water and food production. OFBF is working with lawmakers and the governor's office on the state budget in an effort to increase funding for resources in the WLEB that can assist farmer compliance with the law. Many of the items addressed in the bill are good production practices and can be addressed on your Richland County farms now.

Here is a summary, provided by **Tony Seegers**, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation Public Policy Staff.

The spreading of nutrients (fertilizer and manure) on frozen, snow-covered and saturated ground and under certain weather conditions has been identified in contributing to the harmful algal blooms in the WLEB for the past several years. In an attempt to assist in reducing and preventing the blooms, the General Assembly passed, and the governor signed into law, Senate Bill 1. This bill will restrict the ap-

plication of nutrients on frozen, snow-covered and saturated ground and under certain weather conditions (expected precipitation).

There are some exceptions to the restriction. If you can inject the nutrients, incorporate within 24 hours of application or apply on a growing crop, then you may do so. For manure, you can request permission from Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to apply in emergency circumstances (i.e. manure pit is close to overflowing) if done according to USDA NRCS standard 590.

Small and medium size livestock farms, as defined in the bill, that believe they cannot immediately comply with the new law's provisions can request from ODNR an exemption from the nutrient restrictions though the local soil and water conservation district office. The exemption gives small and medium sized farms a little longer time to comply. If granted, the farms should work on ways to comply with SB 1's nutrient application restrictions during that extended time.

Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has jurisdiction over the fertilizer application restriction. ODNR has jurisdiction over the manure application.

### RICHLAND COUNTY FARM BUREAU 2014-2015

#### OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

Tim Johnson, *President*  
 Luke Wittmer, *Vice President*  
 Diana Kelley, *Secretary*  
 Earl Lynch II, *Treasurer*  
 Keith Alt  
 Korre Boyer  
 Mike Cook  
 Fred Cooke  
 Drew Eckert  
 Todd Fackler  
 Marilyn Glenn  
 Ron Ryland

#### Action Team Leaders

Drew Eckert, Korre Boyer & Ron Ryland,  
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Fred Cooke & Todd Fackler  
*Communications*

Marilyn Glenn & Rhonda Molton  
*Organization*

#### STAFF

Haley Davis,  
*Organization Director*  
 Eileen Eisenhauer,  
*County office administrator*

#### State Trustees

Cy Prettyman  
 Eddie Lou Meimer

 We need your e-mail!  
**Stay up-to-date on Farm Bureau news!** Send your e-mail to [richland@ofbf.org](mailto:richland@ofbf.org).

## Join Farm Bureau at the Richland County Fair

Richland County Farm Bureau is excited to be a part of your experience at the 2015 Richland County Fair! Spring-boarding from last year's success with the new digital computer games and Minute to Win It challenges, we will showcase the winning entry from our Ag Literacy Challenge: a life-sized board game designed by Sarah Lehner of Delaware, Ohio. The game has farming scenarios where players will receive or lose tokens, or helping hands, based on what happens "on the farm."

As always, the popular Ag Across America Spinning Wheel will allow guests to learn more about the agriculture around them. A large television screen will broadcast movies about today's food and fiber. Partner organiza-

tions, such as Farm Credit Mid-America, Sunrise Co-op, and Nationwide will help man the booth with our Ambassadors and volunteers. We will have safety presentations all day Thursday. There will also be a Scavenger Hunt across the fairgrounds, so look get your questions sheet and look for the signs as you tour the 2015 Richland County fair! Look for one of our County Fair Ambassadors to claim your scavenger hunt prize, play games and answer questions.

Farm Bureau aims to reach fair guests with a positive message about agriculture in our community, state, and nation and to provide a memorable experience for fairgoers. We are looking for volunteers

**Visit Farm Bureau at the fair!**

**When: August 9– 15**

**Details: Scavenger Hunt  
Life-size board game: F A R M  
Minute to Win It challenges  
Farm Safety Presentations**

to help interact with visitors from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Saturday. If you can help us for an evening, please sign up online: [richland.ofbf.org](http://richland.ofbf.org), by Aug. 8 or stop by the booth for an evening shift, or just an hour!

Never miss an update! Like us on Facebook to keep informed of events and news: [www.facebook.com/RichlandFarmBureau](http://www.facebook.com/RichlandFarmBureau)



## Richland County Farm to Plate

The 2015 program will be part of the Farmers' Market in Shelby. A host of partners, supporters and volunteers have joined together to provide this exciting program linking the growers of our local foods with local chefs and with us, the consumer.

Cooking demonstrations featuring items that can be found at the Farmers' Market or through local sources, will occur on five occasions this summer.

Taste testing, recipes and starter kits will be available. There will be healthy activities for the kids too. This is a great opportunity to learn about and support our local food economy, and to be newly inspired to eat healthy and to eat fresh.

*Special thanks to the Richland Community Development Group Local foods/Ag sector, the Shelby Foundation and Our Ohio for funding this experience!*

- Aug 1 Chef Nathan Snyder of Mohican State Park's Bromfield's Dining Room
- Aug 22 Chef Joseph Motter of Malabar Farm Restaurant



**To get the latest news from Richland County Farm Bureau bookmark the webpage [richland.ofbf.org](http://richland.ofbf.org)**

## Emerging Agriculture Leaders of North Central Ohio

Are you looking to take that next step in professional development in agribusiness and farming? Are you new to farming and agribusiness? Recently out of college and looking to improve your network? Curious how to make a difference in your community? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should sign up for the Emerging Ag Leaders' Workshop series.

### COST

Attend one session for \$25  
Three fall sessions at \$50  
Three winter sessions at \$50  
All six sessions at \$75 per person (\$100 per couple)

Credit card payments & reservations accepted (800) 327-6055

### Fall Sessions

August 21, 2015  
**Diversity in Area Agribusiness**  
Marion - Ag Credit Office  
September 18, 2015

### Consumer Engagement

Bucyrus - Holiday Inn  
November 20, 2015

### Board & Leader Development

Upper Sandusky - Shotzy's Vice-roy Room

### Winter Sessions

January 2016  
**Personal Brand, Social Media and Blogging**  
February 2016  
**Risk and Financial Management**  
March 2016  
**Policy and Grassroots Advocacy**

*Dates, locations and speakers for winter sessions to be determined.*



## Richland County Gifts of Grain

COMING THIS HARVEST SEASON

### What is Gifts of Grain?

Farmers can donate crops right at a local elevator. The producer can select a fund at the Foundation to receive the gift.

- \* **Why give grain instead of cash?**  
Donated grain is not recorded as income; you may save on taxes.
- \* The grain you give will not count as income in your government payments limitation caps calculations.

For more information  
Richland County Foundation  
President Brady Groves  
[bgroves@rcfoundation.org](mailto:bgroves@rcfoundation.org)  
Director Donor Services  
Maura Teynor  
[mteynor@rcfoundation.org](mailto:mteynor@rcfoundation.org)  
419-525-3020




Phone: 419-747-7488 | 800-327-6055

E-mail: [richland@ofbf.org](mailto:richland@ofbf.org)

Office Hours M-F 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m. | [richland.ofbf.org](http://richland.ofbf.org)

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Richland County Farm Bureau  
1495 W Longview Ave. Ste 203  
Mansfield, OH 44906