**Hamilton County Farm Bureau’s Policy Supporting Activities**

**A Year in Review**

**March 2016**

**Legislative Luncheon:** (Montgomery Inn) Issues briefing, educational program, and meet with community leaders Issues briefing: Yvonne Lesicko, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation (OFBF) Senior Director of State and National Policy. Guest Speakers: Gary Middleton, Federal Aviation Administration Unmanned Aircraft Systems authority speaking on UAS issues/federal regulations and Bob Gerding, Skylark Aerials speaking on UAS commercial uses.

**Ohio Soybean Council**: (Southwest Ohio High Schools) Provide soybean experts to judge Ohio Soybean Council Foundation’s Science competition. Identify best projects using soybeans: production, development, bio-sciences, bio-resources, biopolymers, bio-products, and/or bio-fuels

**February 2016**

**Ag Day at State Capital:** (Columbus, Ohio) Provide2 delegatesand 1 FFA young farmer professional to meet and exchanged ideas with Ohio Senators Seitz and Thomas and Ohio Representatives Blessing, Brinkman, Dever, Driehaus, Kuhns, Reece and Terhar

**January 2016**.

**SPCA Cincinnati Adopt a Pet Telethon:** (Blue Ash) Provide veterinarian, technician, horses, pony and riders to support SPCA program to help raise $70,000+ for SPCA Cincinnati.

**Equine Presentation**: **“Ask the Veterinarians”** (Crosby Township Community Center)

**Hamilton County 4-H Livestock**: (Whitewater Township Community Center) Provide guest speaker for 4-H monthly meeting speaking on HC Farm Bureau partnerships with 4-H programming and Ohio agriculture industry.

**December 2015**

**Ohio Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting:** (Columbus, Ohio) Two days: Provide 4 voting delegates to debate vote to revise/adopt new Ohio Farm Bureau Policy. HCFB responsible for updating OFBF and AFBF Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) policies

**November 2015**

**Equine Presentation: “Diamond Oaks Equine Sciences and Management Program Presentation”** (Crosby Township) Diamond Oaks Equine Sciences and Management team speaking /describing the Equine Sciences high school program to tri-state horse owners.

**Our Ohio Magazine**: HCFB member Ann Frederick featured in Our Ohio magazine. Distribution 200,000+

**October 2015**

**Fall Education Program:** (Simms Township) Partnership with Cincinnati Horticultural Society. Farm Bureau provides financial support for student transportation and supplies horses, poultry, goats and garden plants for multiple agricultural learning stations. 400 grade school students, parents, and teachers exposed to hands on agricultural learning via teaching stations.

**September 2015**

**Cover Crop Seeding by Air**: (Harrison) Four local farms collaboration with Hamilton County Soil and Water to plant fall cover crop by airplane. Funded by Hamilton County Water Quality Initiative Grant award.

**Harvest Home Fair and 4-H Livestock Sale:** (Cheviot) Members purchase 4-H livestock animals, provide veterinary support for 4-H animal exhibits, and participate in the horse show

**Instagram: A5A** Horse Farm is featured on Ohio Farm Bureau Federation’s “Take Over Tuesday” Program

**Hamilton County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting**: (The Farm, Delhi Township) Members vote and adopt Hamilton County Farm Bureau policy

**August 2015**

**Farm Bureau Night at Strickers Grove Amusement Park** (Hamilton) 1,769 Participants; 81 volunteer workers; 13 affiliate organizations represented; 3,500 lbs of food and cash distributed to four local food banks; 150 lbs of pet supplies and cash distributed to two local animal shelter

**Equine Presentation: “Horse Daze”** A Community Outreach Equine Program providing free horseback rides, educational stations and games to introduce equine husbandry to non-horse owners. (Fernald Preserve, Hamilton)

**July 2015**

**4-H Community Fair and Livestock Sale**: (Strickers Grove, Hamilton) HCFB Sponsor show pavilion, trophies, agricultural stations, and breakfast for 4-H participants plus provide $2,500 sponsorship money for the Saturday night Rodeo. Members purchase 4-H animals at the livestock sale, provide veterinary support and participate in the horse show.

**Equine Presentation**: **“Equine Movement Therapy”** (Miami Whitewater Forest, Hamilton County)

**June 2015**

**Public Policy Development Breakfast**: Friday, June 19, 2015 (Raffel’s, Evendale) Opportunity for community leaders to join conversation and provide input to influence Farm Bureau policy.

**Farm to Family Program**: Hamilton County Farm Bureau contributes $500 and staff to the success of this program (Thursdays: June 4, 11, 18, 24) connecting disadvantaged Head Start families with healthy eating habits.

**Hamilton County 4-H Community Fair**: Hamilton County Farm Bureau votes to provide Hamilton County 4-H with $2,500 to sponsor the Fair’s Saturday Night Rodeo.

**May 2015**

**Hamilton County Water Quality Initiative Grant Award:** (Harrison)$21,000 grant money, two year program.Purpose is to incorporate the use of cover crops seeding by air to gather data to quantify the value of cover crop as it relates to the water quality of the Dry Fork/Howard Creek Watershed. Partnerships include: Great Miami Water quality lab, Hamilton SWCD, USDA-ARS and Nutrient Management Plan development.

**Ohio Youth Capital Challenge Finals:** A team of four area teens including Natalie Pavlick from Indian Hill High School compete and become 2015 Ohio youth Capital Challenge finalists.

**Horse Trail Donor Recognition Party: (**Miami Whitewater Forest) 60+ attendees. Hamilton County Farm Bureau donates $3,500 and Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation donates $3,000 for the reconstruction of 5.6 miles of Miami Whitewater Forest horse trails. HCFB provides desserts for the party.

**Farm to Family Kickoff Picnic**: (Winton Woods) HCESC Head Start students, family, and staff spent an evening of play and agricultural education at Parkys Farm, Great Parks of Hamilton County. Farm Bureau votes to contribute $500 for materials needed for the success of this program

**HCFB Student Scholarships Awarded**: $1,000 Active member; $1,000 FFA member; $500 FFA member

**April 2015**

**Equine Presentation**: **“Ask the Veterinarian”** (Fernald Nature Preserve, Butler/ Hamilton County)

**Hamilton County Farm Bureau and Parkys Farm Partnership Project**: Hamilton County Farm Bureau votes to provide $5,000 to support a partnership project with Great Parks at Parkys Farm.

**SPCA Cincinnati**: Hamilton County Farm Bureau votes to donate $500.00 to SPCA Cincinnati.

**March 2015**

**Presidents Trip to the Capital:** (Washington, DC) Issues briefing and meet with legislatures Chabot, Wenstrap, Portman, Boehner, Brown and others

**Warren County Great Tack Exchange**: (Lebanon) Farm Bureau membership booth to support Warren County, Ohio Horseman Council fundraiser event

**Spring Fling**: (Raffels Restaurant, Butler/Hamilton County) Dinner for100+ attendees, Speaker topic: Beekeeping in the Greater Cincinnati area.

**Equine Presentation: Equine Infectious Diseases, Vaccinations and Biosecurity** (Fernald Nature Preserve, Butler/ Hamilton County) Speaker: Dr. Wendy Vaala, Senior Technical Services Veterinarian for Merck Animal Health, EquineDivision