

Newsletter

Did you know Ohio Farm Bureau now offers a Health Benefits Plan?

As today's **farmers** and **small businesses** continue to search for health coverage options, the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation has taken action to help employers save on these expenses. The Ohio Farm Bureau Health Benefits Plan can lead to more rate stability and is a smart solution that offers potential savings for Ohio farmers and small businesses with 100 or fewer employees. For more information on the Health Benefits Plan, feel free to contact the office at 419-849-2128!

Mark your calendar's to join us for an informative seminar on September 13th at 6:30 pm. at the office!

Huge Savings Opportunity!

Sandusky County Farm Bureau to present at FFA Field Day

On September 7th Sandusky County Farm Bureau has the honor of presenting at the annual FFA Field Day held at Ricker Farm Seed. Monsanto hosts this leadership and educational seminar annually for junior and senior FFA students in local chapters. This year will feature a rotation of various topics of agriculture, along with a career panel. Farm Bureau is excited to have this opportunity to talk with the future generation of agriculture enthusiasts about opportunities post high school while working alongside extraordinary businesses in the agriculture community to build a better tomorrow through our youth.

Farm Bureau celebrates more accurate taxes for farmland

Ohio's farmers and rural communities will benefit from reforms to the state's farmland tax policy, culminating a three-year effort led by Ohio Farm Bureau. The reforms were included in the new state budget signed by Gov. John Kasich. "It's taken three years of grassroots action to fix the flaws in the CAUV formula, and our members should be proud of this significant accomplishment," said Ohio Farm Bureau Executive Vice President Adam Sharp. "We also want to thank the legislators who listened to our Farm Bureau members," he added. The budget legislation contains changes to the Current Agricultural Use Value formula, which in recent years has caused farmland owners to experience tax increases of 300 percent or more. These unsustainable increases have come at a time when farm incomes have fallen dramatically. Sharp cited the "thousands of phone calls, emails and personal visits" Farm Bureau members made to help legislators understand the critical need for reform. It is estimated that these changes, coupled with previous Farm Bureau-led reforms, will result in average savings of 30 percent for 2017 reassessments. This will help farmers stay on their land and continue their contributions to the local economy and community. The reform also removes the penalty on farmers who place land in conservation practices that protect water quality. The reforms are phased-in over two reassessment cycles (6 years) in order to assist local communities and schools to transition to the more accurate CAUV formula. Under CAUV, farmland is taxed at a rate that reflects its value for agricultural purposes instead of its value as development property. It was enacted by Ohio voters in 1973 as a means to preserve farmland. Sharp expressed gratitude to Gov. Kasich, Senate President Larry Obhof and House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger, as well as Senators Cliff Hite and Bob Peterson and Representatives Brian Hill and Kirk Schuring for their leadership. The reforms will begin in the 2017 valuations, which farmers in 41 counties will receive in January 2018, and will be fully implemented for all counties after the 2022 reassessment.

Mark your Calendar's!

Annual Meeting

September 5, 2017 at 6 pm.
Ole Zim's Wagon Shed
1387 OH 590
Gibsonburg, Ohio 43431
RS.V.P. by August 28th

Health Benefits Program Informative Seminar

September 13, 2017 at 6:30 pm.
Dinner Provided
Sandusky County Farm Bureau Office
109 Portage Street
Woodville, Ohio 43469
R.S.V.P. by September 6th

Long Term Care Luncheon

September 19, 2017 at 12:30 pm.
Lunch Provided
Sandusky County Farm Bureau Office
109 Portage Street
Woodville, Ohio 43469
R.S.V.P. by September 12th

Land As Your Legacy

November 16, 2017 at 6:30 pm
Dinner Provided
Sandusky County Farm Bureau Office
109 Portage Street
Woodville, Ohio 43469
R.S.V.P. by November 9th

**Sandusky County
Farm Bureau**

109 Portage Street
Woodville, Ohio 43469
419-849-2128

President's Report

Greetings from Sandusky County! I hope everyone is having a safe and enjoyable summer, despite all of the rain! At my farm, we have had 8 inches of rain over the course of 8 days, so we are hoping the crops hold up for everyone! This summer has been a busy one for the Sandusky County Farm Bureau. We are currently getting ready for the Ag in your Community Bus Tour that will feature three businesses, showing three different aspects of agriculture. We are also preparing for the Sandusky County Fair! This year, the Sandusky County Farm Bureau will have a tent set up with various activities for kids, such as a combine simulator, information for adults, and opportunities to speak with our board members about what the Farm Bureau can do for you! Lastly, I would like to extend an invitation to each of you for our Annual Meeting, which will be held on September 5th at Ole Zims! We hope to see everyone there!

Best wishes,

Sharon Drown



Scholarship Recipients



Garrett Joesph

The son of Michael and Jennifer Joseph, Garret resides in Fremont and is a recent graduate of Fremont Ross High School. As a high school student Garrett participated in FFA where he held several offices, National Honor Society, and Excellence Rewarded Club. He was awarded the Fremont Ross Bricklayer award in 2013. Garrett has also been involved with 4-H and is a Junior Fair Board member and a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church Dartball Team. This fall Garrett plans on attending Terra State Community College to study agribusiness management.

Jared Draeger

A resident of Lindsey, Jared is the son of Heather and Darin Draeger. Jared is a 2017 graduate of Woodmore High School. While in high school Jared participated in golf, bowling, FFA, marching, concert and jazz band, symphonic chorale, Teen Advisory Group, National Honor Society, Key Club and Drama Club. Jared also participated in Boy Scouts and has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. A member of Trinity United Methodist Church, he is active in the youth fellowship and assists with worship and mission trip fundraising. He is currently employed at Timmons Equipment. This fall Jared will attend Ohio State University ATI to study agricultural biotechnology.

Congratulations!

Meet the Organization Director



Kayla Richards joined the team in November of 2016. She is a 2011 graduate of Bowling Green State University. Kayla, her husband Levi, and their three children reside in Bowling Green where they raise and sell cattle. She enjoys working in various aspects of agriculture, especially with youth.



Thank you for your continued support of the agriculture community!



KNIPP FARMS

Meet the Interns!



Sarah Hunker is our Field Intern. Sarah was born and raised in Bellevue, Ohio on a diversified livestock farm where she, along with her family, show cattle, sheep and pigs. After graduating from Bellevue High School, Sarah attended Redlands Community College in El Reno, Oklahoma where she was a member of the livestock judging team and graduated with her associates in Ag-Economics. Next fall, Sarah plans to attend Oklahoma State University to pursue a degree in Agri-Business while being a member of their judging team.

Harrison Patton is our Water Quality and C.L.E.A.N. Project intern. Harrison graduated from Eastwood High School in 2015, where he studied college preparatory classes and was constantly involved with Eastwood FFA. He is currently enrolled at Wilmington College, where he just completed his second year studying Agribusiness and Business Engagement.

