

# Sponsors

*Growing Women in Agriculture* celebrates the empowerment of all women. One of the best ways to empower yourself is through education.

*Women in Ag. Scholarship Fund* was created to help a woman who is starting or furthering her education but may have a financial barrier in doing so.

We thank the following sponsors for making this Empowerment Celebration possible...

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A.G. Boogher and Son, Inc.  
In Memory of Wilma Baumer  
Shelby County Farm Bureau

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Cargill  
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Jill Smith, Chair  
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Tori Bensman  
Local Farmer

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Commissioner

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Lacey Gibbs  
Local Farmer

Amanda Hurley  
Shelby Soil & Water Conservation District

Rylee Kay Puthoff  
OSU Extension, Shelby County

Raci Zimpfer  
Shelby Co. Farm Bureau  
Communications Chair

# Agenda

growing  
women in  
agriculture

An Empowerment Celebration

Thursday,  
September 5  
6 to 9 p.m.  
VanDemark Farm  
2401 S. VanDemark Rd.  
Sidney, Ohio 45365

5:15 p.m. (Optional)  
Make 'n Take Session

6:00 p.m.  
Mix and Mingle  
Heavy Hors d'oeuvres  
& Wine Selections

6:45 p.m.  
Intro to the Evening

7:00 p.m.  
Keynote Speaker

7:35 p.m.  
Session 1

8:15 p.m.  
Session 2

9:00 p.m.  
Wrap up &  
Door Prizes



*Forging Your  
Own Path*

Women in Agriculture

Thursday,  
September 5,  
2024  
6 to 9 p.m.

VanDemark Farm  
2401 S. VanDemark Rd.  
Sidney, Ohio 45365

\$30 per person

Registration Deadline:  
August 31

For more information  
call or email:  
877-775-7642 or  
jsmith@ofbf.org

# Registration Form



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**First Time Attendee**  
 Will be entered to win a special prize!

Cost:  \$30 per person

**Additional \$10 per person**  
 Make 'n Take Session 5:15 p.m.  
 Needle Felted Pumpkin

**Additional Donation**  
 for Women in Ag. Scholarship Fund  
 \*\* Any amount accepted; these fund will go  
 directly to the scholarship fund.

Registration Deadline: **August 31**

## Session Choices

You will be scheduled for 2 sessions. Sessions are first-come, first-served basis, but you are guaranteed to be placed in 2 sessions.

### Session 1

\_\_\_ Sustaining Our Soils  
 \_\_\_ Sourdough: Learn it, bake it, enjoy!

### Session 2

\_\_\_ Insurance: Ensuring you are covered.  
 \_\_\_ Composting: Learn how to dig it!

Register online, go to:

<https://www.coanitoforms.com/FarmBureau8/ShelbyCountyWomanInAgEventRegistration>

Or please mail your registration, postmarked by **August 31**, with check payable to:

Shelby County Farm Bureau  
 110 Industrial Drive Suite C  
 Wapakoneta, OH 45895

For more information, call or email:  
 877-775-7642 or [jsmith@ofbf.org](mailto:jsmith@ofbf.org)



Starting at 5:15 p.m.  
**Make n' Take Session**  
**Needle Felted Pumpkin**  
 Learn about needle felting and make a cute felted pumpkin! Needle felting is a creative craft that involves sculpting shapes and figures using wool and special felting needles. Perfect to add to your fall décor! for an additional \$10 per person



**Sustaining Our Soils**  
**Janelle Leach**  
**Cargill**



Join Janelle to learn more about how carbon credits work, the market, and the value they bring to the agriculture industry. She will detail her work with carbon credits and how they are not at the forefront of our marketing and agronomic strategies.

Janelle is Cargill's US Conservation Agronomist Lead for the Cargill RegenConnect program. She works with Cargill customers, both farmer and demand, to provide support and education around soil health practices building soil health and soil resilience. Janelle has a wealth of experience, before Cargill, she wrote Variable Rate Fertility Prescriptions and proved whole farm consultation for farmers across more than six states and into Canada. She's also worked as a Product Agronomist providing education around farm chemistries. She lives in West Central Indiana where she earned three degrees in agronomy and agriculture from Purdue University. Janelle has dedicated her career to sharing education and experience with growers across the Midwest, working to build Sustainable Agronomic Cropping Systems.



**Sourdough:**  
**Learn it, bake it, enjoy!**  
**Kala Branscum**  
**Local Baker**



Kala will talk to us about how she started working with sourdough, how you can start, and how you can incorporate it into your daily food routine.

Kala was born and raised in Shelby County. She has been married for 16 years and has two children, Cassidy and Weston. They love to travel together, especially to Disney. Kala is a pediatric nurse in the community, going on eight years. When not working, Kala loves to spend time with my family and friends. She is also an avid reader and enjoys baking sourdough breads, muffins, and cookies.



**Insurance:**  
 Ensuring you are covered.  
**Alisha Morgan**  
**Nationwide**



Alisha is the Director of Underwriting for Nationwide Agribusiness and has been with Nationwide for 16 years. She will talk about the importance of regularly reviewing your coverage, strategies to protect your farm and family, and how the insurance market is adjusting to our ever-changing weather environment.

While leading the Agribusiness team she oversees 50 associates and \$360M of Nationwide's Farm and Ranch premiums in the Eastern half of the United States. Alisha is an active member of Women in Ag. events held across the US, Ohio Farm Bureau, the current President of the National Truck & Heavy Equipment Claims Council, part of the American Beef & Dairy Councils, and state advisor of the Jr. Jersey Breeders Association.

Alisha and her husband Clark reside in Urbana, Ohio, where they have grain crops and a small registered Jersey dairy herd!



**Composting:**  
 Learn how to dig it!  
**Rylee Kay Puthoff**  
**OSU Extension**



Join Rylee Kay for a quick how-to compost at your home to help improve the environment and your gardens. She will give us quick steps to start composting and what you need to do to succeed.

Rylee Kay is the Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator with Ohio State University Extension in Shelby County. She recently graduated from Wilmington College with a Bachelor's degree in Agronomy, minoring in Sustainable Agriculture and Soil Science. She is currently working on her Master's in Plant Health Management from The Ohio State University. In the past, she has interned with organic and permaculture farms in Alaska and worked as a field scout for a custom pesticide applicator who specialized in drone spraying.

Rylee Kay was raised on a hobby farm in Miami County, Ohio, and raised chickens, sheep, goats, and hogs for fair projects. She was involved in FFA, 4-H, Junior Fair Board, and even received her American Degree from FFA. She is currently staying on her parent's farm with her younger brother and grandfather. She is a world traveler and has been to eight countries, including a two-month student exchange in Japan, and several weeks touring Europe. She looks forward to traveling in the future and is excited to see what tomorrow holds.

# Keynote Speaker



**Emily Mullen**  
**Mullen Dairy and Creamery**

Emily operates Mullen Dairy and Creamery in Butler County. She is the 4th generation to run her family farm that was founded by her great-grandfather in 1898.

Emily attended The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute and has an associate's degree in dairy science.

Since operating her farm, she has converted to an automatic robotic milking system and started bottling and selling milk directly to consumers. These milks come in a multitude of flavors, including cookies and cream, strawberry, and cotton candy, and have gathered quite a following. The Mullen Dairy and Creamery also makes and distributes other cow's milk-based products such as soaps, lotions and lip balm. In addition to running the farm, Emily has taken it upon herself to educate the public about agriculture and food production after finding that most of the public are disconnected from where their food comes from. They host many different types of activities (including calf yoga!) and tours on their farm to engage with the public.