



## **ANNUAL MEETING NEWS**

The SWCD would like to congratulate Lou Brown on his re-election to the Board of Supervisors. We would also like to give a BIG thanks to Tad Turner for running in the election. The evenings program honored Bill Tostrick with the Outstanding Cooperator award, Mike Fishbaugh with the CREP Award and Jocelyn Birt and Laura Wilker (her dad accepted on her behalf) with the scholarship awards. Guest Speaker Chris Winslow gave a presentation about Lake Erie. Thanks to all who attended and hope to see you next year!

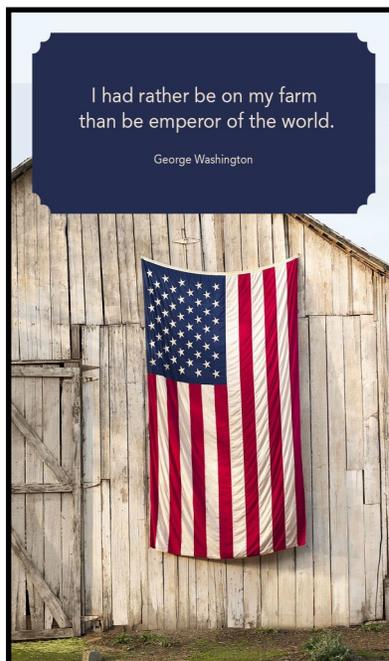


L to R: Outstanding Cooperator, CREP Award, and Scholarship Award presentation.



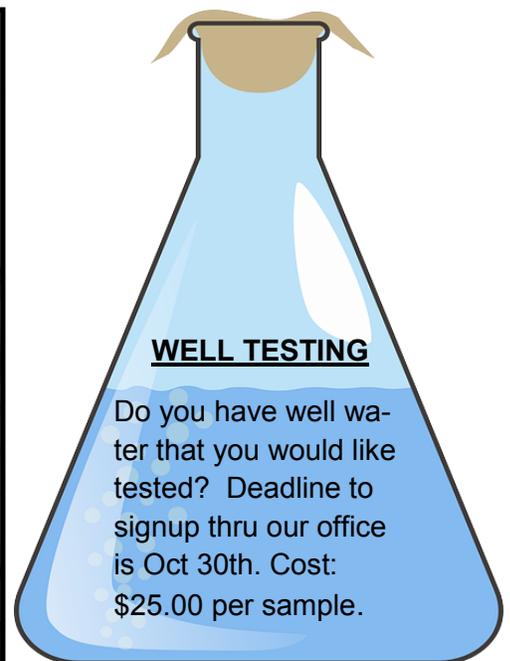
Guest speaker Chris Winslow w/ OSU Stone Lab—Left

Producers waiting to eat supper! - below



I had rather be on my farm than be emperor of the world.

George Washington



### **WELL TESTING**

Do you have well water that you would like tested? Deadline to signup thru our office is Oct 30th. Cost: \$25.00 per sample.



Staff prepping the pits—above / students judging pits—below



Students checking slope—above / students taking the exam—below



# SOIL JUDGING RESULTS

Thanks to Toby Kramer for providing the field and Dave Lenhart for digging the pits



## Individual Ag Winners

- 1st—Ben Steinke—Bremen
- 2nd—Rachel Brown—Bremen
- 3rd—Grant Childress—Wapak

## Top Team—Ag

- Minster #2 consisting of:
- Jenna Heuker
  - Jacob Heuker
  - Maria Dirksen
  - Luke Ripploh

## Individual Urban Winners

- 1st—Jessica Greiwe—Wapak
- 2nd—Maggie Schultz—Wapak
- 3rd—Conner Guthrie—Wapak

## Top Team—Urban

- Wapak #8 consisting of:
- Olivia Barhorst
  - John Buchanan
  - Jessica Greiwe





## OCTOBER

Oct 14th—Holiday  
Office closed



## NOVEMBER

Nov 3rd—Time change  
Nov 11th—Holiday—  
thank you Veterans  
Nov 28th—Holiday—  
Thanksgiving!



## DECEMBER

Dec 25th—Holiday—  
Christmas



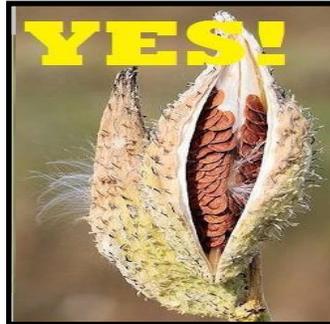
## JANUARY

Jan 1st—Holiday  
Jan 29th—Holiday

### HELP THE MONARCH

### BUTTERFLY

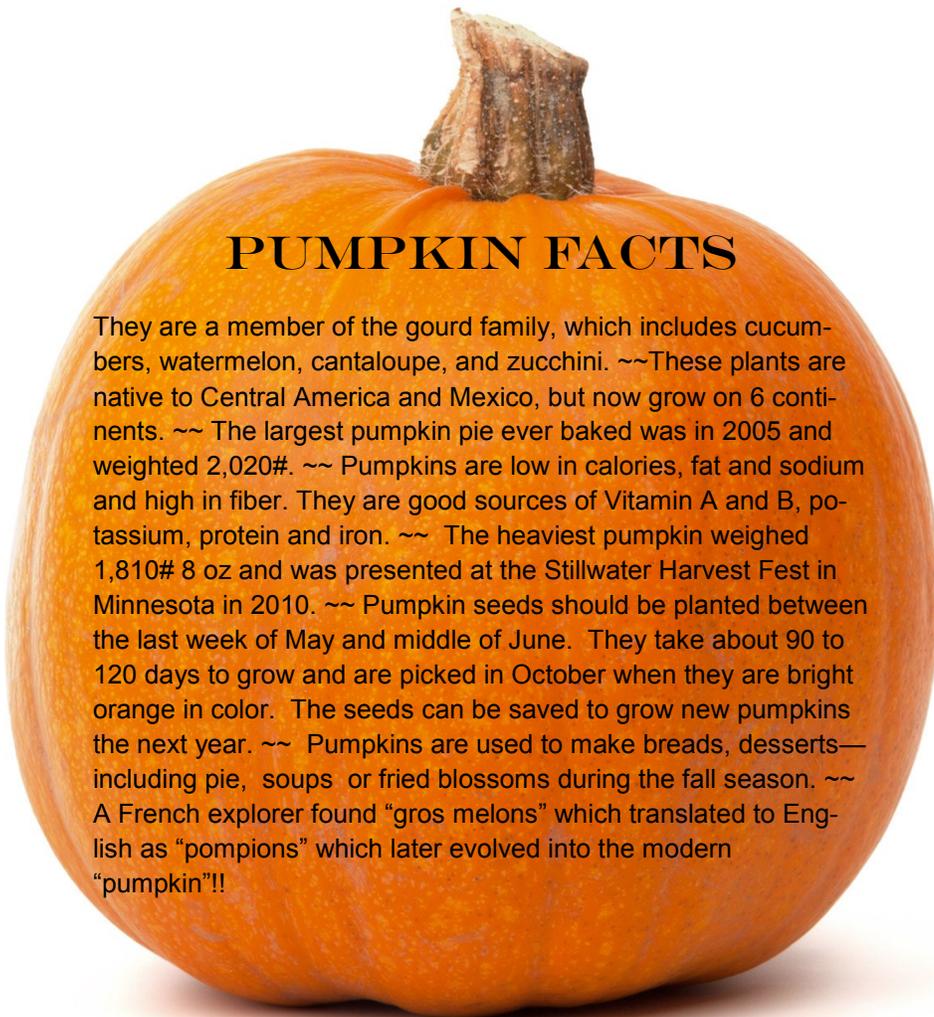
Common Milkweed is the sole host plant for Monarch butterflies. This particular plant is lacking on the landscape and has a direct effect on Monarch populations. **Our office is collecting milkweed pods till the end of October.** It is best to pick them when they are dry, gray or brown in color. If the seam pops with gentle pressure, they can be picked. Collect the pods in paper sacks/bags. Harvesting pods from milkweed plants do not have any effect on the population of the established milkweed areas.



### WHY SOIL TEST?

Knowing the exact nutrients found in your farm soil and the pH is the first step of any healthy crop production program. Crops are usually grown on a wide variety of soil types and have different fertilizer requirements, depending on the soil health and condition. Application of too many nutrients can result in an imbalance of soil and eventually affecting the environment, contamination of water and the creatures beneath.

Testing your soil every 3 years helps determine the exact nutrients that your field needs. It also prevents over applying and grow healthier crops. It is estimated that each year around 24 billion tons of soil is lost due to erosion, which could be caused by unbalanced soil management. Current farming puts pressure on the soil more than ever. There is a need to produce yields that will feed the world's ever-growing population.



## PUMPKIN FACTS

They are a member of the gourd family, which includes cucumbers, watermelon, cantaloupe, and zucchini. ~-These plants are native to Central America and Mexico, but now grow on 6 continents. ~- The largest pumpkin pie ever baked was in 2005 and weighted 2,020#. ~- Pumpkins are low in calories, fat and sodium and high in fiber. They are good sources of Vitamin A and B, potassium, protein and iron. ~- The heaviest pumpkin weighed 1,810# 8 oz and was presented at the Stillwater Harvest Fest in Minnesota in 2010. ~- Pumpkin seeds should be planted between the last week of May and middle of June. They take about 90 to 120 days to grow and are picked in October when they are bright orange in color. The seeds can be saved to grow new pumpkins the next year. ~- Pumpkins are used to make breads, desserts—including pie, soups or fried blossoms during the fall season. ~- A French explorer found “gros melons” which translated to English as “pompions” which later evolved into the modern “pumpkin”!!



## WORKING LANDS SMALL GRAINS PROGRAM

The program encourages producers in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) watershed to plant small grains such as wheat, barley, oats or cereal rye on eligible cropland. It also provides livestock producers with a longer time period to land apply manure and nutrients. Participants can plant and harvest small grains, land apply manure and plant a cover crop to receive cost share payment to help offset operating costs.

**Guidelines:** small grain must be planted and harvested for grain, land must be used for manure application following harvest of grain, cover crop must be planted following manure application, manure application records, soil test and manure analysis are required prior to any cost share payment.

**Benefits:** planting small grains and cover crops can be beneficial to soil health, expanding time to land apply manure can minimize the risk of nutrient runoff, and cost share incentive payments of \$75 per acre.

## SIGN UP FOR EITHER PROGRAM

Funding is 1st come 1st serve basis until money is spent



## WORKING LANDS BUFFER PROGRAM

The program encourages producers in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) Watershed to establish year-round vegetative cover on eligible cropland. Acts as a buffer on cropland and provide another line of defense to filter surface water while allowing participants to harvest forage from established areas.

**Guidelines:** land must be in the WLEB watershed, only cropland acres where sediment and nutrients have potential to be transported from the field and enter environmentally sensitive areas are eligible, maximum enrollment width is 300 ft average—minimum width is 50 ft, practice must be maintained for a 5 year period, annual payment of \$120 per acre per year over a 5 year period is available for establishment and maintenance.

**Benefits:** can harvest hay and forage from your buffer, improved soil health year around, visual demonstration of your commitment to land stewardship, and receive annual payments for maintain established forage.

## Grain Bin Hazards!

**Respiratory:** dust from grain can affect people in a variety of ways. Reduce and prevent by wearing protective gear or ventilation equipment so you won't suffer breathing issues from the dust.

**Fire or explosion:** build-up of grain dust can be ignited by a heat source such as fire, sparks or hot bearings. Don't weld or smoke in a grain bin containing grain.

**Falling:** falls can occur as workers move from bin to bin, vertical exterior ladders, grain legs etc. Be aware of your surroundings while working.

**Entrapment:** flowing grain, which is a down and outward movement, forms a funnel when grain flows to the center of the cone. It only takes 3-4 seconds to be knee deep and become "trapped" or suffocated. Never enter a grain bin when grain is being removed. Always use a safety line or have two observers during grain bin entry. ~ ~ Be safe, someone will be THANKFUL you did!

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always, always,  
**ALWAYS**  
something  
to be thankful for



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