

Industry Experts Speak At Free Agriculture Seminar Sponsored By Consumers National Bank

Minerva, Ohio—Four agriculture industry experts spoke to local farmers about various topics related to “Growing the Next Generation” at a free agriculture seminar sponsored by Consumers National Bank on March 20, 2013 at Courtney’s Banquet Center in Alliance, Ohio.

- Chris Bruynis, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University, delivered the keynote speech entitled *Growing the Next Generation* which explored subjects that farm families need to consider when preparing children and grandchildren to take over the family farm.
- Mark Thomas, Vice President, Thomas Farms and seven-time IHRA Alcohol Funny Car World Champion, presented *Team Work Spells Success in Racing and Farming* which explained to farmers how conducting operational meetings ensures communication and success in business.
- Kent McGuire, Ohio AgrAbility Program Coordinator, spoke on *Quality Lifestyle for Farmers, Ranchers and Other Agricultural Workers with Disabilities*. AgrAbility promotes success in agriculture for Ohio’s farmers and farm families who are coping with a disability or a long-term health condition.
- Christopher Zoller, Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources, with The Ohio State University presented information about Crop Insurance and points to consider when reviewing the options that are available from a variety of sources.

Consumers’ President and CEO Ralph J. Lober, II announced at the seminar that the bank has created the Homer Unkefer Agriculture Scholarship program for students pursuing secondary education in an agricultural related profession. The scholarship is being named in recognition of Homer Unkefer, a founder and Director Emeritus of Consumers National Bank and a life-long advocate for agriculture in Ohio.

“Homer has provided Consumers with expertise in agriculture and sales since he helped found the bank in 1965. Even at age 98, Homer continues to refer business to the bank and remains an advocate for Consumers,” said Lober. “We are pleased to name the Homer Unkefer Agriculture Scholarship in honor of him. Agriculture lending is a very important part of our business at Consumers, and we are proud to support the upcoming generation of farmers and agriculturists,” said Lober.

The purpose of the Homer Unkefer Agriculture Scholarship is to provide financial assistance to students pursuing higher education which will prepare them for a career in agriculture. Applicants must be a high school senior attending a school in or residing in Carroll, Columbiana or Stark counties. Five awards in the amount of \$1,000 each are based on the applicant’s experience in agriculture and ability to meet all of the educational eligibility requirements. Scholarship applications can be obtained at any of Consumers National Bank’s 12 locations.

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Consumers National Bank is an independent community bank that provides a comprehensive line of banking and other investment services to business and personal customers through its main office in Minerva, and branches in Alliance, Canton, Carrollton, East Canton, Hanoverton, Hartville, Lisbon, Louisville, Malvern, Salem, and Waynesburg, Ohio. More information about Consumers National Bank can be accessed online at www.ConsumersBank.com. Member FDIC.

CONSUMERS National Bank

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Agriculture experts spoke at a free agriculture seminar presented by Consumers National Bank. Pictured L to R: Becky Miller, Agriculture Lender; Mark Thomas, VP, Thomas Farms; Christopher Zoller, Extension Educator, The Ohio State University; Chris Bruynis, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University; Kent McGuire, Ohio AgrAbility Program Coordinator; Sarah Chronister, Agriculture Lender.



About 50 local farmers listened to four agriculture experts speak on various topics related to "Growing the Next Generation" at an agriculture seminar sponsored by Consumers National Bank at Courtney's Banquet Center in Alliance, Ohio.

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