### **EYE ON CONSERVATION**



Wood Soil & Water Conservation District

The Board of Supervisors is a voluntary elected position. Voting is 5:30-6:30 PM the evening of the banquet.

Absentee voting runs through
September 12 at 4:00
PM. Please stop by the district office to cast your ballot.

# Celebrating 70 years of Conservation

The Wood SWCD is hosting the 70th Annual Banquet & election on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at Nazareth Hall, Grand Rapids.

Doors open at 5:30 PM with voting for two supervisors 5:30—6:30 PM. Dinner served at 6:00 PM with the guest speaker, awards presentation, and election results to follow.

#### Guest Speaker, Ryan Wichman

Ryan is a local meteorologist from Wood County, OH. He has a passion for the weather and the outdoors



#### **Commitment to Conservation**

The Wood SWCD supervisors and staff will recognize Randy Gardner for his efforts in maintaining a positive relationship the ag community and conservationists as the legislators and residents work to improve the quality of our local natural resources.



"The biggest takeaway for me over those years, was working with the many and varied volunteer District Supervisors, who were willing to take new risks and try new ideas and methods to improve our soil and water resources. Who else would have done what they accomplished over the past 70 vears?"

-Gene Nagel, NRCS District Conservationist (retired)

#### Partners in Conservation



The first county-wide self-driving farm tour held September 2018 welcomed over 1,700 visits to local Wood County farms and agbusinesses. The Wood SWCD supervisors and staff will

TOUR recognize the seven stop-hosts who opened their barn doors and

ag-businesses to educated and entertain the public on local agriculture. Thank you to, Vetter Family Farms, Hirzel Canning Company, Luckey Farmers, Inc., Moser Farms, Pioneer Seed, Schooner Farms, and Black Swamp Ag, Inc.

## **MEET THE CANDIDATES**

Two Supervisors will be elected to serve a three year term.

Term begins January 1, 2020.

**Dylan Baer** of rural Deshler, is a partner with the family farm, raises beef cattle, and manages a hay and straw business. As a seed representative for LG Seeds and Seed Consultants, he hosts field days and provides commentary for the *Between the Rows* on the **Ohio Ag Net** podcasts.

As a young farmer, Dylan was a member of the Jackson Livestock 4-H Club and FFA. Dylan and his wife, Marissa, are the proud parents of one year old Logan. They, too, enjoy helping on the family farm.

His farming practices include crop rotation, little tillage, and acres of cover crops. Dylan favors cereal rye as a cover crop because of the soil health benefits and simplicity of management.



**Steve Benner** of Portage, is a sales representative for S & D Application in Wayne, OH and a CCA. Steve is a commissioner of the Wood County Veterans Service Commission and commander of the American Legion Post 45.

He is the committee chairman of Boy Scout Troop 485, member of the Knights of

Columbus Council 6373, and an active parishioner of St. Aloysius parish, Bowling Green.

Steve and his wife Marcia have been married 42 year with two sons and six grandchildren. He is active with agriculture, veterans activities, and golf.

"My goal is to promote common sense agronomic solutions to protect our most precious natural resources; soil and water."



**Lee E. Sundermeier** is currently serving as the Vice—Chairman on the Board of Supervisors serving 11 years on the Wood SWCD Board of Supervisors.

Lee is a retired Sales Manager for Morral Companies. A graduate of The Ohio State University, Lee holds a Bachelors of Science in Agronomy.

Lee enjoys shooting sports including deer and bird hunting, working at his wildlife area, volunteering at his church and spending time with his grandchildren. He also enjoys visiting with congressional representatives in Washington D.C. and Ohio, discussing current concerns in the Ag. Industry.

Lee and his wife Diana will celebrate 50 years of married this year. They have two married daughters and four grandchildren.