Hancock County Agriculture Hall of Fame nominations being taken

Agriculture was one of the first industries in Hancock County. Farmers and agribusinesses have contributed to the economic growth and vitality of the county for almost 200 years. The Hancock County Agriculture Hall of Fame was created in 2006 to recognize individuals who have made an impact in the agricultural community.

The award specifically recognizes and honors individuals with Hancock County ties who have made major contributions in agriculture, either as a production farmer or from another agriculturally-related profession.

Some of these individuals may have made their mark outside the county, but have their roots, or close ties to Hancock County. However, most recipients have resided in the county.

Any individual or organization may submit a name by completing the hall of fame nomination form. Qualified applicants may be a producer or breeder or anyone involved in an agricultural-related field.

Past winners have been farmers, agribusiness leaders, government officials, veterinarians, and even a driver for harness racing.

At a minimum, nominees should have been born, raised, resided or started their careers in Hancock County. They should have at least 25 years in an agriculturally-related occupation. Nominees should have made a significant contribution in their agricultural field and provided leadership and service to the agricultural community.

Only four individuals may be inducted each year, and of these, only two may be posthumous. Inductees are selected from the applications submitted and reviewed by a local committee.

Fifty-five individuals have become members of the Hancock County Agriculture Hall of Fame since the first group was inducted in 2006. C. Mervin L. Alexander, Donald D. Flanagan, John Motter and David Reese were the last group to be inducted in 2017.

Nominations should be submitted to the Hancock County Extension Office by Feb. 6, 2018. Nomination forms or additional information may be obtained at the extension office website at www.hancock.osu.edu (select the Agriculture and Natural Resources option under Featured County Programs), or call 419-422-3851.

Members of the Hancock County Agriculture Hall of Fame are displayed at the Hancock County Agriculture Service Center and in the ag tent at the Hancock County Fair.

Be sure to submit your nomination, so nominees can be considered for the award and receive appropriate recognition for their longtime work and contributions to agriculture — and if selected, become a part of the 13th group to be added to the Hancock County Agriculture Hall of Fame.

The hall of fame is affiliated with the leadership efforts of the Agri-Business Committee of the Findlay-Hancock County Chamber of Commerce. The 2018 awards will be presented at Brugeman Lodge during the Farmer’s Share Breakfast on March 15.

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Lentz can be heard with Vaun Wickerham on weekdays at 6:35 a.m. on WFIN, at 5:43 a.m. on WKXA-FM, and at 5:28 a.m. at 106.3 The Fox.