**West Ohio Agronomy Day** went Great last Monday!! We had over 250 in attendance; the Food was great, Fred from Purdue was Funny, there appeared to be a lot of Fellowship happening among attendees and with sponsors, and as expected, there was *A LOT* of Information shared by all the presenters!! All went well!! Of course, Fred had to point out that I’ll do anything to get attention . . . even if that means falling on the floor while passing out materials!!

So, yes, one more “Shout Out” to all those who helped sponsor this year’s program: AG Boogher and Son, Inc.; Bambauer’s Fertilizer and Seed, Inc.; Cargill; Farm Credit Mid-America; Fertilizer Dealer Supply; From the Ground Up; Koenig Equipment; New Ag Horizons; Mercer Landmark; Ohio Corn & Wheat; Ohio Soybean Council; Otte AG, LLC; Precision Agri-Services, Inc.; Precision Agri Services, Inc. Planter and Technology Service; Lena Ag Center; Seed Consultants, Inc.; Shelby County Farm Bureau; and Shelby County SWCD/Loramie Valley Authority.

Now, if you missed this program and still need to get your **Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertification** completed, Auglaize County will hold their trainingnext Monday, January 28th at the St. Joe Parish Life Center in Wapak. FertRecert begins at 9 a.m. with the Pesticide Recert beginning at 10 a.m. The program will conclude at 3 p.m. (lunch on your own 12 noon-1 p.m.). Let Jeff Stachler know if you plan to attend: 419.739.6580.

A three-session program on **Improving Grain Marketing Plans** will be held in Darke County on Tuesdays, January 29th, February 5th, and February 12th. These will be held at the OSU Extension Learning Center on Wagner Avenue in Greenville, from 6-9 p.m. Topics to be addressed include Risk Tolerance and Risk Capacity; Crop Insurance Role in Marketing; Basis, Hedging, and Cash Contracts; Futures, Options, and Spreads; and Building a Grain Market plan. The cost is $45 per person or $60 per farm. The same program is also being held in Miami County, same dates, but in the mornings from 9 a.m.-12 noon. You can find more information at go.osu.edu/grainplan.

The **2019 Ohio Beef Cattle Webinar** will be hosted on Tuesday, February 5th by Shelby County Extension. The program begins at 7 p.m. and will deal with “Winter Management of the Cow Herd to Ensure a Productive 2019.” We will be meeting here at the Shelby County Extension Office at 810 Fair Rd. in Sidney. Please contact me to let me know you plan to attend: 937.498.7239. Thanks!!

Well, last week was busy with more to come!! Yes, we’re still taking applications for our **Master Gardener Training** which will begin the end of February. The cost is $110 for the 8-week training and includes the manual, hand-outs, a T-Shirt, and a hand lens. Drop me an email if you’d like an application packet: brown.1522@osu.edu.

Just a “heads up” that I am putting together a four-part series on “**Planning for Life’s Transitions**.” This will be held on Monday evenings February 11th and 25th and March 11th and 18th. We’ll start with a light supper at 5:30 p.m. with the program to begin about 6:15 p.m.

A different topic will be addressed each evening. The first week we’ll talk about “Setting the Stage” – Who will take over your business? What are your goals for retirement? Ideas for distributing your assets, etc. The second week we’ll address “Business Succession” – Transferring the business management/information to that next generation so they can succeed. The third evening will focus on “Retirement and Long-Term Care,” preparing for whatever happens in the future. The final session will deal with the legalities of “Estate Planning,” handling of physical assets.

Most of the speakers are confirmed and I’m finalizing details now. We’ll be limited to 25-30 people. If you’re interested in this program, please drop me an email or call the office so I can get you on the list. Yes, more information will (probably) be in next week’s article!!