



Champaign County Farm Bureau News

Vol. 94, No. 11 801 N. Country Fair Drive, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821 November, 2016

“Champaign County Farm Bureau will strive to assist families in agriculture by recognizing and responding to issues of concern while strengthening partnerships and improving farm family life for this and future generations.”

Your Vote Counts

local ballot questions need your input

It's that time again, on November 8th voters will have choices to make at the polling place. There are a number of critical referendums to take into account this year; reforming county government through the creation of a countywide elected County Executive structure, an Illinois Safe Roads Constitutional Amendment, a ¼ - Cent Facility Sales Tax increase and creation of a countywide elected County Chair position. The Champaign County Farm Bureau would like to provide facts and information to help educate on these decisions. The Farm Bureau (Illinois and Champaign County) oppose/support proposed bills throughout the entire year. These facts are to help you, as a voter, decide what to support/oppose, but we have included Champaign County Farm Bureau's position on the referendums as well.

County Executive

The County Executive position has been proposed by the Champaign County Chamber of Commerce and the Champaign County Farm Bureau. For years, Champaign County Government has struggled with decision making causing both sides of the aisle to have a stand-still approach, with no solutions. We constantly hear of the jail and nursing home woes, but no decisions to be made.

The County needs an independent leader who can work with both sides of the aisle to move the county forward.

This reform of county government brings with it a number of strong points, the County Executive...

...is elected by and accountable to ALL Champaign County voters to a four year term ...leads the County Board by presiding over meetings but is not a member of the county board unless there is a tie vote at which time they do vote to break the tie ... is an independent voice from the rest of the county board ... has the binding authority to move county government forward ... will create checks and balances ... leads the county budgeting process while allowing the board to maintain their legislative responsibilities ... will NOT increase the costs of county government unless the county board fails to perform their budgetary responsibilities ... will force bi-partisanship through veto authority; to override an Executive veto, 3/5ths of the board must work together – eliminating action based on party lines

Recently, several questions have been asked regarding the executive proposal. What has changed since the last time this effort was placed before the voters? The last time this issue was before the voters was in 1998, this was the fourth time on the ballot. Before 1998 it appeared in 1986, 1988 and 1990. So a lot has changed in 18 years, Champaign County now owns two county nursing homes, both past and present facilities, the county possesses two jail facilities to maintain and care for, the county administrator has changed, they were not in their current location for county government Brookens and the county board size has decreased since then.

Another concern is the creation of a county executive will increase the cost of government, it doesn't have to. The state statute does give the executive the about to shape his or her own staff and hire legal counsel to represent them separate from the state attorney. However, state stature is very clear that salaries for these positions are set by the county board and in many cases just hiring someone will require the consent of the county board. So there is a check and balance system, not a process that allows the executive to act freely without controls from the county board.

The county executive form of government is present in 45 other states. It's a chance for all voters to

have input into who leads our county and a chance to reform our current system to better meet the needs of our diverse and growing county.

Champaign County Farm Bureau SUPPORTS the County Executive proposal

Safe Roads Amendment

For years, Illinois politicians have made a habit of raiding our state's transportation fund. Since 2003, Illinois lawmakers have diverted over \$6 billion in funds that were collected by user fees such as gas taxes and vehicle registration and spent the funds on a myriad of other state government programs. That's \$6 billion that should have gone to fix our crumbling roads and bridges. Instead, nothing in the Illinois Constitution prevents lawmakers from participating in such reckless behavior.

In April of 2016, a proposal began to move in the Illinois House that would prevent this raiding from happening through a constitutional amendment. With 40 cosponsors, the measure passed the House by a 98-4 vote. In the Senate the measure garnered 25 sponsors and passed 55-0, ensuring the question would be on the ballot this November. The proposed amendment adds a new section to the Revenue Article of the Illinois Constitution. The proposed amendment provides that no moneys derived from taxes, fees, excises, or license taxes, relating to registration, titles, operation, or use of vehicles or public highways, roads, streets, bridges, mass transit, intercity passenger rail, ports, or airports, or motor fuels, including bond proceeds, shall be expended for other than costs of administering laws related to vehicles and transportation, costs for construction, reconstruction, maintenance, repair, and betterment of public highways, roads, streets, bridges, mass transit, intercity passenger rail, ports, airports, or other forms of transportation, and other statutory highway purposes, including the State or local share to match federal aid highway funds.

All Information Supplied By: http://www.businessesforsaferoads.com/page.asp?content=FAQ&g=IL_LOCKBOX
Illinois Farm Bureau SUPPORTS the Safe Roads Amendment to the

Illinois Constitution

¼ - Cent Facility Sales Tax

Over the past two decades, unfunded mandates, fast rising costs such as employee healthcare, and difficult economic conditions together have had a detrimental impact on county finances.

The county is asking voters to approve a ¼ cent sales tax increase to help fund deferred maintenance and address other county building needs.

Quick Facts

- The fiscal year 2016 General Fund budget for Champaign County is \$35.8 million.
- Of this total, 99.3% is dedicated to funding statutory obligations. Only \$240,000 or 0.7% is considered discretionary spending.
- The county's \$160 million building portfolio requires about \$3 million annually in maintenance.
- The FY 2016 budget has only \$532,000 for maintenance, or about 17% of the need.
- Critical deferred maintenance expenses are projected at over \$28 million over the next 10 years
- Food, medicine, and titled vehicles are not taxed.

The tax increase would mean that a consumer would pay an additional 25 cents in sales tax for every \$100 of tangible personal property bought in retail. It should be noted as well, that the referendum does have a sunset clause in that if imposed, the additional tax would cease being collected at the end of 12 years, if not terminated earlier by a vote of the county board.

Champaign County Farm Bureau is NEUTRAL on ¼ - Cent Facility Sales Tax

County Chair

The fourth, referendum on the ballot is the creation of a countywide elected chair. The County Chair has been proposed by the Champaign County Board. This form of leadership does NOT change current authority or responsibilities given to the present County Chair but rather simply changes who elects the chair of the county board, the voters of the board itself.

Champaign County Farm Bureau has no position on the County Chair



November Report

President, Chris Murray

This fall has been very good for our farm families in Champaign County. It has been steady, as the crop has come out of the field and into the bin, or to the elevator. For the bountiful harvest that we have witnessed, we have not seen an abundance of large truck lines at the elevator.

Fall for me is a special time of year - we as farmers get to see what did, and didn't, work throughout the year. Personally I drive a combine for our family farm and get to see first-hand what happens, good or bad, to each field. This year we have seen a tremendous crop that had a lot of favorable weather, which is out of our control.

At the beginning of harvest, I decided to document some of the riders that have joined me this fall. The riders have been from all different places and backgrounds from around the country. I had 25 people ride along from as far west as San Diego to as far north as Minneapolis to as far south as Dallas, Texas. They are all amazed at how big the equipment has become, how quiet the cab is and how much technology is packed in the cab of a combine.

Overall, I think it has been a GREAT harvest and I hope that everyone ends with a safe finish as we turn the page into November.

*Sincerely,
Chris Murray*



What's New in Agriculture at Parkland?

This past month has been a busy time at Parkland and we have exciting news to share. Parkland hosted a technology field day for current students enrolled in the new online precision agriculture class. Local farmers are graciously allowing students to use their fields for training. Over 140 area high school students attended Parkland's Ag open house to gain insight into the agriculture programs and we have been busy serving our local FFA chapters. A special thank you to Arends Hogan Walker for loaning Parkland a John Deere Utility vehicle to assist with class field activities.

News to Share:

Precision Agriculture Dual Credit/Enrollment course—Parkland is offering its first online Precision Agriculture course this fall. This course is offered as a dual credit/enrollment course for area high school students that are interested in learning more about precision agriculture technology. High school students from Monticello, Fisher, Tuscola, Heritage, Villa Grove, Unity, Maroa Forsyth, and Arcola are earning college credit toward Parkland's Precision Agriculture Technology degree. The students were invited to participate in a technology field day on October 6 where they gained hands-on experience with UAV's, field boundary mapping and soil sampling using iPads, and learned the benefits of the precision agriculture through the SST Summit software. Helena Chemical's Joel McCormick and Jerry Lighty provided their expertise from the precision agriculture industry during the field day. Mandy Briggs, Parkland Aviation instructor, provided the students with updates to the new rules and regulations in the UAV industry.

"Check Your Calendar!"



November



7	Marketing Club	6:30 PM
8	ELECTION DAY	
9	Pheasants Forever Landowner Workshop	10:00 AM
10	Prime Timers	10:00 AM
10	Land Use	6:30 PM
11	Foundation Gala	5:30 PM
14	Women's Committee - Bone Health	9:30 AM
15	Legislative Meeting	7:30 AM
15	Premier Ladies Marketing	9:30 AM
17	Full Board	6:30 PM
24&25	OFFICE CLOSED - Happy Thanksgiving!	
28	Marketing Club	6:30 PM

December

2-5	IAA Annual Meeting	
5	NO MARKETING MEETING	
8	Prime Timers	10:00 AM
8	Young Ag Leaders Christmas Party	

The Challenge

Are YOU Up For It?

Stop by the Champaign County Farm Bureau Office and sign up today!

We are challenging YOU to join our 2016-2017 Leadership Academy and learn more about how to improve your strengths and grow as a leader.

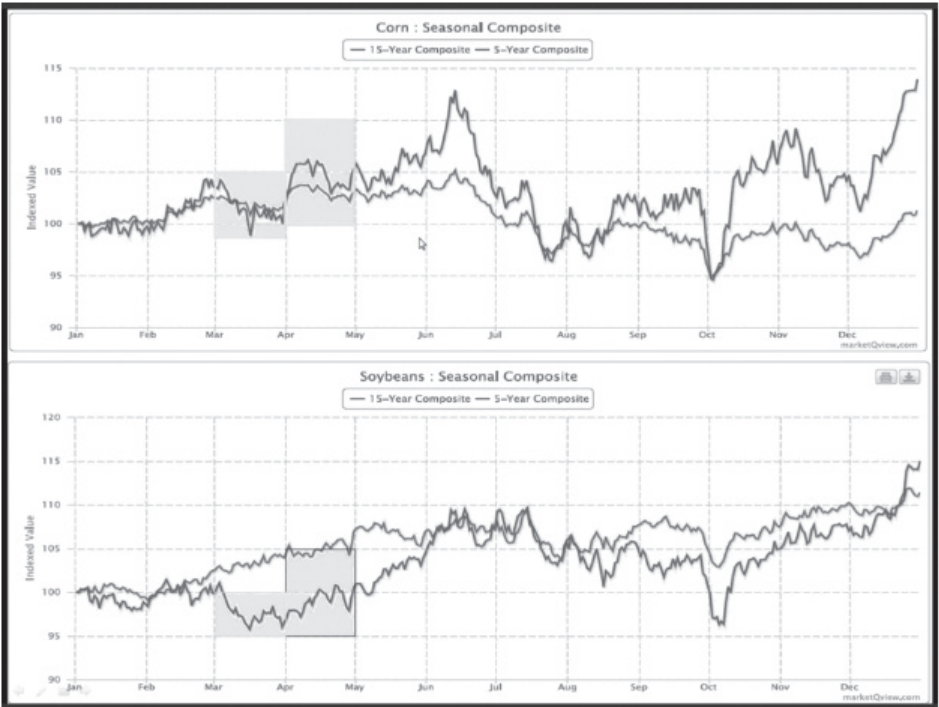
**Call today! 352-5235
Champaign County Farm Bureau**

Marketing Update

By: Merrill Crowley, Crowley Commodities

Looking at the seasonal pattern (See chart insert), we see that Sept, the most bearish month of the year, ended on a higher note or counter seasonal. Remember, seasonals are a guideline only. Counter seasonal moves suggest underlying strength or weakness. With the slightly higher close in the month of Sept, the seasonals are suggesting underlying strength.

The first week of October is supposed to see price lows followed by a rally which seems to be occurring. Corn prices rally toward the end of Oct and the first part of Nov before moving lower into Dec. Soybeans, on the other hand tend to rally right on into March after their lows have been made.



Once you get a seasonal low you need to see some support develop from the technical side of the market followed by support from the fundamental side. If this support fails to develop, the rally becomes suspect.

I believe that end users are buying corn hand-to-mouth and are hoping to increase purchases hoping this large harvest may see force selling due to lack of storage. However, I think that there is enough storage in most areas for this crop. I also believe that with the current carry and basis, elevators and producers will be pilling on the ground and using every possible method available to capture that basis and carry. I am of the mindset that end users will need to push basis levels and price if they are unable to procure their needs. Therefore, I am looking for the corn market to continue to rally into Nov. Once the end users have met their needs prices will again move lower into the typical Jan-Mar doldrums.

Average rallies in the corn and soybean market run about 20%. From the Dec low of \$3.14 ³/₄ and the Nov low of \$9.34, this suggests a rally to \$3.78 and \$11.32 respectively. With the current US and world stocks situation, I would look for rallies to be lower than average.

The first hurdles for these markets to overcome are \$3.80 Dec corn and \$9.80 Nov soybeans. I would plan to make some sales in these areas. In order to break through these levels, I believe we will need to see some type of disruption in supply, or a greater increase in demand, or a combination of both.

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center is now forecasting a 70% chance that La Nina will arrive next month, which could change weather patterns worldwide. Most weather guru's are thinking this particular event will be weak and short-lived in nature.

Remember, this is still a bear market. Not selling early works in a bull market, but that strategy can backfire in a bear market. Market year price highs tend to come early in bear markets.

**"Futures trading involves the substantial risk of loss and is not suitable for all investors. Past performances is not indicative of future results."*

At The Farm Gate

November 2016

By Joanie Stiers

Pumpkin a big slice of Illinois agriculture

To our kids’ delight, a field of processing pumpkins grew across our gravel road this year. And to mine, they witnessed commercial pumpkin production and what few people realize: Illinois smashes the competition when it comes to growing pumpkins. Illinois farms commercially grow more pumpkin-pie-worthy pumpkins and ornamental carving pumpkins than any other state, a university expert tells me. In the recent five-year average, Illinois annually produced three times as many pumpkins as No. 2 California. Our state commercially grew an average 537.6 million pounds of pumpkin per year on 18,140 acres, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

While our farm does not commercially grow pumpkins, our family’s farmland sits at the western edge of pumpkin country, where thousands of acres of canning-type pumpkins grow for the state’s two major processors: Nestle Libby’s in Morton and Seneca Foods in Princeville. Illinois’ heritage of pumpkin processing, now about 100 years old, prompts our state to produce more than 90 percent of the nation’s processing pumpkins. Yes, pretty much all of them, which means the prime ingredient in nearly every pumpkin pie, too.

By October, the vines across the road began to wither away and reveal an expanse of pale orange. Processing pumpkins dawn a pale color, as opposed to the vibrant orange of an ornamental jack-o-lantern. They also have chunky oblong shapes and meaty innards. The kids eagerly anticipated the harvest, when tractors and implements rolled the pumpkins into rows throughout the field. Afterward, a harvesting machine elevated and tossed the pumpkins into a container that followed alongside. Then, a truck full of pumpkins traveled to the processing facility where workers washed, chopped, processed and canned them. One year, we saw harvest continue through the night, when workers hauled in portable lights bright enough for a football game. The sounds of thumping pumpkins set the night’s white noise.

During the summer, the sprawling vines grow as much as 30 feet and spill beyond their bounds and even into the ditches. From there, we pluck one or more for decoration after harvest, as the machines often miss the fruits that lie out of bounds. For a truly from-scratch experience, I once baked with a processing pumpkin that we liberated from the ditch. Romanticizing aside, stick with the can of concentrated pumpkin, which tastes better and spares the time to cut, gut and cook a whole pumpkin.

In celebration of fall and our need to use an abundance of eggs from the hen house, I recently baked a farm friend’s recipe for pumpkin bars. It warmed the hearts and tummies in our household on that late harvest night. The flavor also generated conversation about a favorite pumpkin-pecan layer pie, a Thanksgiving demand from some men in my family. At 560 calories per slice, the dessert fits right in with holiday food indulgences while honoring the Illinois pumpkin harvest. Happy Thanksgiving! About the author: Joanie Stiers works and raises two kids on her family’s grain and livestock farm in West-Central Illinois.

Pumpkin-Pecan Layer Pie (Makes 2 pies)

Note: Hy-Vee Seasons Magazine deserves credit for this recipe; I only adjusted it a bit, such as opting for homemade graham cracker crust over the pre-made variety.

- 2 graham cracker crusts
- 1, 15 oz. can pumpkin
- 1, 12 oz. can evaporated milk
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 3 eggs
- 1 box of butter pecan cake mix
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans
- 2 sticks butter, melted separately
- Whipped topping, for serving

DIRECTIONS: First, make your graham cracker crusts (or use store-bought). Stir together pumpkin, evaporated milk, sugar, spice and eggs in a large mixing bowl. Pour half the pumpkin mixture into each pie crust. Sprinkle half the cake mix over each pie. Then, sprinkle half the pecans on each pie. Drizzle one stick of melted butter on each pie. (Try to cover all the cake mix.) Cover edges of pie with foil to keep from overbrowning during baking. Bake pies at 350 degrees for 40 minutes, or until knife inserted comes out clean. Allow to cool. Serve with whipped topping. Refrigerate leftover pie.

Homemade Graham Cracker Crust (Makes 2 crusts)

Note: Recipe from allrecipes.com.

- 3 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup butter, melted

DIRECTIONS: Combine and press into two pie plates. Bake at 375 degrees for 7 minutes.



Joe Burke, Chairman **Join us to learn more from marketing experts*
Marketing Club*

Marketing Club Meetings are open to ALL members of the Farm Bureau.

- Monday, November 7th
Jason Clapp, Risk Management Commodities
(There will be 2 meetings in the month of November)
6:30 PM CCFB Auditorium
- Monday, November 28th
Bill Mayer, Strategic Farm Marketing

Farm. Family. Food.™

Don't use slow moving vehicle emblems to mark your driveway or mailbox.

It's illegal in Illinois.

\$75⁰⁰ Fine

**ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU.**
Farm. Family. Food.™



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HW330W5AC

Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem for Farm Equipment Use Only

Farming is a job for all seasons. Farmers travel with their equipment on local highways and roads year-round, as well as during planting and harvesting.

Champaign County Farm Bureau wants to make sure that everyone is aware of farm equipment traveling on local highways and roads. Farmers have to travel between fields to move their equipment; they do this in the best way possible. The tractors and machinery that they are driving do not travel at the rate of speed that the typical automobile travels. So they are marked with a Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem (SMV). An Illinois Vehicle Code requires certain vehicle types to display the SMV emblem when operated on public roads – day and night. This includes farm equipment.

The SMV emblem’s unique triangular shape and red/orange color combination gives motorists advance warning that the vehicle they are approaching is moving slowly. Any use

of the SMV emblem other than for these vehicle types, such as driveway or mailbox markers, or on trucks or trailers, is prohibited by Illinois law.

Any misuse takes away from the intended meaning of this recognizable traffic symbol. For this reason, Illinois law prohibits its use on stationary objects and other vehicle types. Penalty for improper use can result in a \$75 fine.

In an effort to promote rural road safety, Champaign County Farm Bureau asks residents to never use the Slow-Moving Vehicle (SMV) emblem to mark driveways, mailboxes, or other fixed objects. Please help keep everyone safe with proper use to preserve its true meaning.

Want to Learn More about Farm Safety from Illinois Farm Bureau??

Go to their web page:
<http://www.ilfb.org/get-involved/>



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KIRK BULTA
Executive Director



MYLA MUNRO
Earth Partners Coordinator

HARVEST GALA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2016

PEAR TREE ESTATE, CHAMPAIGN



9th Annual Harvest Gala

Friday, November 11th, 2016

5:30 P.M. – Silent Auction & Cocktails

7:00 P.M. – Dinner by LA Gourmet

7:30 P.M. – Live Auction & Dessert Auction

Silent Auction - Cocktails - Live Auction - Dinner - Dessert Auction

Register today at www.ccfbfoundation.com/gala or at the CCFB Office
Limited seating available – Register TODAY!

A Time to Give Thanks A Time to Celebrate

By: Kirk Bulta



Looking Good at 30! (Pictured Left to Right:) Founding Fathers John Reifsteck, Richard Rayburn, Lin Warfel and Marvin Bell gather to reflect on their vision 30 years ago, and to lend their thoughts on the Foundation's future. Look for their perspecting in a special celebratory publication later this month.

For many families, November is a time to celebrate and be thankful. This is especially true in the agricultural community. Celebrating a bountiful harvest, gathering with friends and family around a Thanksgiving table, or enjoying the fall colors while roasting

marshmallows around a campfire. No matter what you're celebrating this is a time to share joys and appreciation.

At the Farm Bureau Foundation, our family also looks forward to November. As we prepare to celebrate at our Harvest Gala; and we also reflect on our past. We have much to be thankful for this fall season. Our Earth Partners Agricultural Literacy programs have impacted over 11,000 students in the past year. With new knowledge of the food and agricultural industry, these students are thankful for our farmers.

Our Foundation Scholars program currently supports 51 scholarship recipients and has produced over 375 college graduates and agricultural leaders since our beginning in 1986. That's 30 years of encouragement and financial support to our agricultural community.

We have so much to be thankful for this year. 30 years of impacting the future of the food and agricultural industry, countless volunteers, and unwavering support from individual donors and corporate partners who believe in our mission of leaving our industry better tomorrow, than it when we found it yesterday.

As we sit down to dinner at our Harvest Gala on November 11th we hope to share our thanks with the guests in attendance. In late November, we will also be sharing our thanks through a special 30th Anniversary newsletter. This special edition publication will include interviews with the CCFB Foundation's Founding Fathers, past scholarship recipients, donors, and more. We look forward to celebrating our history as we turn our focus towards the future of our organization and how we might continue our impact on the food and agricultural industry in Champaign County, and around the world.

There's No Football Without Agriculture

By: Myla Munro



For many, fall means two things: Harvest and Football. Just as farmers tend to bleed a specific color representing their machinery or seed brand of choice, football fans have a strong allegiance to their team. Common color combinations might include; Orange and Blue, Green and Yellow or Blue and White. From Friday night high school lights to Saturday's tailgating at Alma Mater all the way to the professional league, it wouldn't be possible without agriculture. No pig skin, no turf and certainly no corn-fed players! Let's pause to consider all of the agricultural commodities that help bring us this gridiron game...

Football – Commonly referred to as "pigskin", which dates back to the ball originally being made from an inflated pig bladder then covered with leather. We've updated the internal structure today, but the outside is still covered in leather coming from cattle. Did you know that 20 footballs can be made from one cattle hide?

Uniforms – Today most team uniforms are created from synthetic fabric, there are still many other items of clothing that do utilize cotton to make them.

Turf Grass – Many football fields utilize natural grass as the footing for players.

Tickets, Programs and Schedules – These are printed on paper from trees and may even be printed with soy ink made from Champaign County soybeans!

Tape and Bandages – Corn dextrin and gelatin derived from cows are used as adhesives and binding agents.

What about all that food and drink that's consumed tailgating or inside the stadium?

Pop – Unless you're drinking diet, pop is sweetened with sugar. It may be derived from different sources like corn, sugar cane or sugar beets; but they're all agricultural commodities.

Nachos and Cheese – This concession stand staple wouldn't be possible without corn flour and cheese made from dairy cows. Oh, don't forget those pickled jalapenos!

Hot Dogs and Hamburgers – These two staples of any tailgate wouldn't be enjoyed without thanking farmers raising livestock for consumption. Then

there's the bun, made from wheat, and all the toppings like ketchup, mustard and relish.

And I would be remiss not to mention that it takes crops like barley, hops, wheat and rye to create adult drinks that help wash down those hamburgers!

The next time you sit back to enjoy your football team, keep your eyes open for the many ways that agriculture impacts your favorite fall sport. Football and agriculture go hand-in-hand and we have the American farmer to thank for growing crops and raising livestock so that players and fans can experience the thrill of victory. As you enjoy a hotdog and beverage at this weekend's home game, be sure to toast the local farm who helped make it possible.





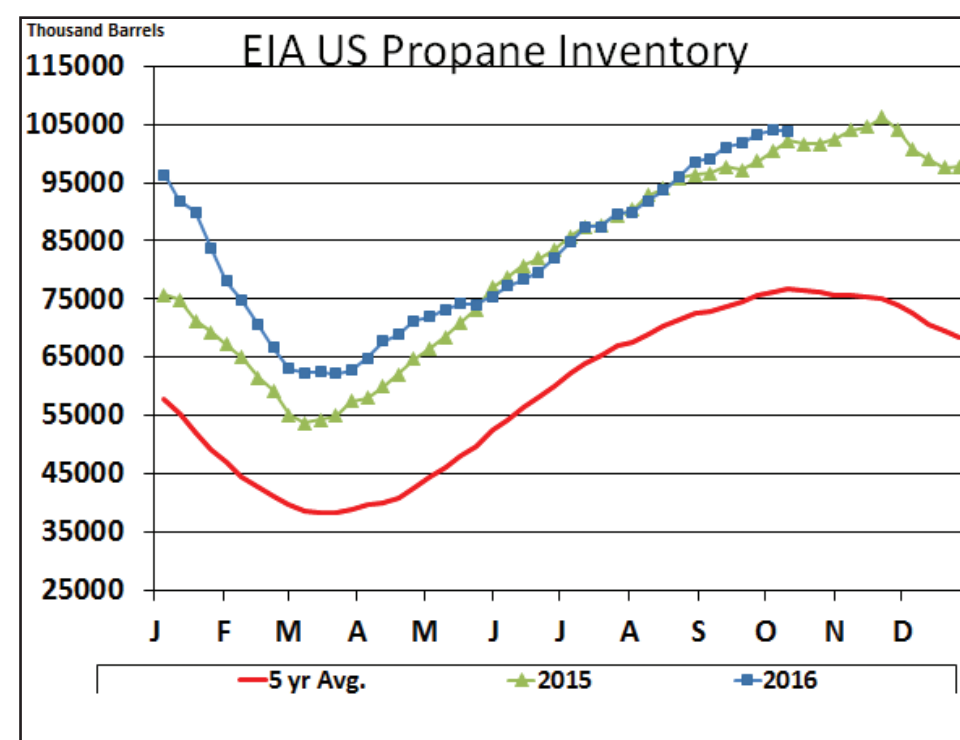
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MARK THORNSBROUGH,
GENERAL MANAGER

Illini FS Propane

By: Lesley Gooding

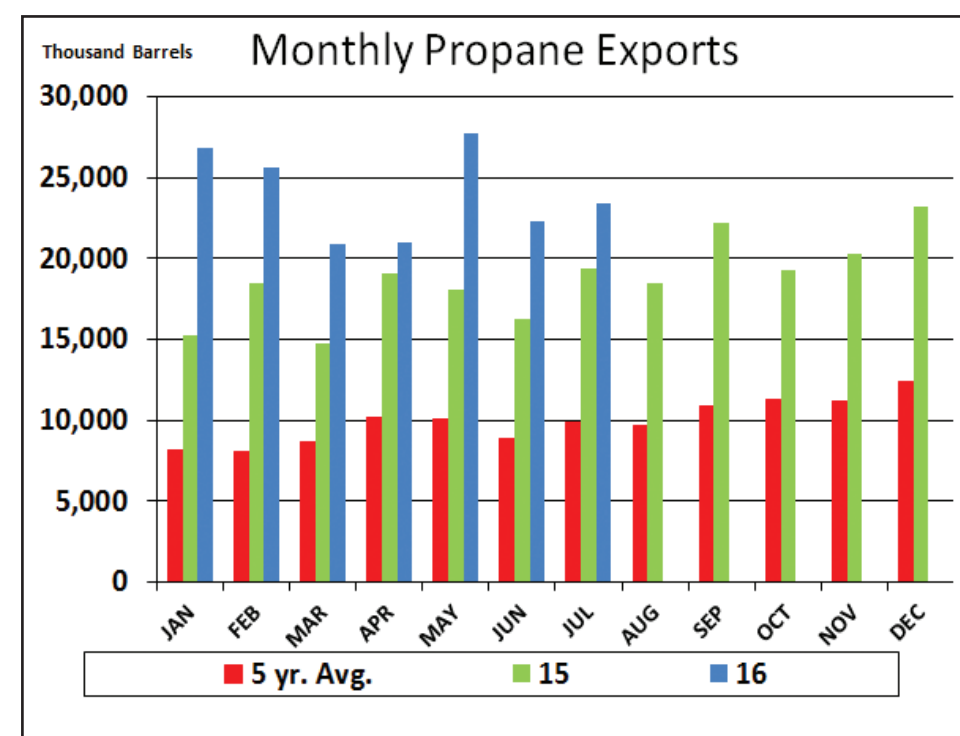


Mother Nature's dry temperatures are keeping the demand for propane at manageable levels. Crops are drying down in the fields keeping propane demands similar to last year. Dave Rich, Illini FS Propane and Retail Marketing Manager, and his team of 8 are dedicated to meeting customer's needs. This team includes 4 team members focused on sales and delivery and 4 service technicians in the five county Illini FS territory.

Dave Rich has been employed in the Growmark System for 28 years. Dave started his career employed by Illini FS at its Paris, IL, location for several years. Dave spent 8 ½ years working for Growmark before coming back to Illini FS in September of 2015. Coming back to Illini FS, has Dave back in familiar territory. While in Paris, IL, Dave was a sales person and manager overseeing the propane cylinder exchange program. He knows the all the details of the propane business and is a great asset to Illini FS and its customers.

Different buying options are offered to Illini FS customers in late June and July. These options are designed to meet needs and demands of customers and include deferred pay programs, contracting, and an 11 month even pay program. Dave says Illini FS is dedicated to "finding something to suit the needs of everyone and have a dependable supply for customers."

According to Dave, "Propane prices have been steady all summer and are now jumping due to exports and the price of crude oil. Prices are lower than the 5 year average, yet higher than 2015 prices. Propane is a great way to heat a home and take care of your family. Illini FS has a dependable supply for the fall and winter!"



N-TRACKER, Nitrogen Management

By: Dr. Howard Brown



Dr. Howard Brown
Illini FS

Soil pH is important to production agriculture. It influences the microbial population and dynamics of their activity, availability of nutrients, activity of herbicides, root growth, and in some cases, overall harvest yield. To optimize environmental conditions for microbial activity and nutrient availability, soil pH is maintained in a range of 6.0 - 7.0. Since most East-Central Illinois soils are acidic, limestone is the soil amendment used by farmers to increase soil pH and optimize soil microbial activity, nutrient availability and plant growth.

Limestone is insoluble rock primarily composed of calcium carbonate. The strong bond between the components, calcium and carbonate, make it insoluble in water (difficult to dissolve). If a piece of limestone rock (from a road or driveway) was placed in a glass of water many birthdays would pass before there would be any evidence of the rock dissolving. However, if the same rock was crushed and pulverized into millions of microscopic rocks, getting the rock to dissolve becomes much easier. One of the two properties of limestone quality is how small the limestone particles are the other is purity.

Limestone quality is based upon purity and fineness of grind. Purity is measured by the Calcium Carbonate Equivalent or CCE. The Calcium Carbonate Equivalent tells us how much of the lime source is calcium carbonate. If the limes source was pure calcium carbonate, it would have a CCE of 100%. Common limestone sources to East-Central Illinois have a CCE of 90 - 94%.

The fineness of grind refers to the size of the limestone particles. Particle size will determine the speed of reaction with soil acidity. Any limestone that passes through a 60 mesh screen has a fineness efficiency of 100% and is expected to neutralize soil acidity the year of application. Most limestone sources in East-Central Illinois have mixture of particle sizes with a Fineness Efficiency Factor of

50 - 52% within the year following application with a 68 - 70% Fineness Efficiency Factor 4 years after application. This suggests that 30 - 32% of the liming material is not active within 4 years and will eventually neutralize soil acidity sometime beyond 4 years.

According to the Illinois Agronomy Handbook, "Typical Ag Limestone" has a purity of 90% and a fineness efficiency of 51.5% year-1 and 75% year-4. Any limestone source that has a higher purity and/or Fineness Efficiency Factor is considered a more efficient source of liming material, reducing the rate needed and/or the speed it corrects soil pH.

Illini FS Soft Lime offers an alternative lime source to typical ag limestone. Soft Lime is generated from a municipal water softening process. Specially-processed Limestone used by urban water providers to soften the water has a high purity and is finely pulverized (>150 mesh screen). The product remaining after being used to soften water is still a premium lime source, since it has a purity of greater than 90% (as high as 99%) and fineness efficiency factor of 100% (reactivity within 1 year of application). Soft Lime is a slurry (liquid) allowing for a more uniform surface distribution, eliminating drift of fine dry lime particles or the variability is spread pattern of typical ag lime (larger particles travel further than smaller particles). The fineness of grind (> 150 mesh screen) also makes it reactive within the year of application, achieving the desired change in soil pH over a shorter period of time. Delivery as a solution also makes it an efficient way to apply lime only where the soil test calls for a pH correction (variable rate). For more information about limestone quality or to learn more about Illini FS Soft Lime (and availability) contact your local Illini FS crop specialist.

IT IS TIME TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING N-TRACKER as a way to watch the dynamics of plant-available N for the next cropping season. N-TRACKER is a Nitrogen management tool that tracks plant-available N over time at a point in a field. It should not be used replace any current system used to determine how much N to apply. It simply provides a way to look into the soil and watch the "behavior" of plant-available N. What is there before any N is applied? Is the N applied accounted for? Is it still there after the Spring thaw? Did N-Serve keep N in the ammonium form longer? Is there enough N to optimize yield? are all questions that N-TRACKER helps address. To learn more about N-TRACKER or to sign-up for N-TRACKER Sites for the 2017 cropping season visit with your local FS Crop Specialist.

<http://www.illinifs.com/propane/Pages/default.aspx>



Vann Parkin
Country Financial
Agency Manager



FINANCIAL

AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT



Marcia Woolcott
Administrative Assistant
Champaign Agency



Dan Punkay
328-0023



Travis Heath
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Keith Garrett
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Jessie DeHaan
352-3466



Stan Ochs
352-3296



Terry Hill
469-9800



Bret Kroencke
359-9391



Nathan Hubbard
892-4479



Jim Nelson
892-4479

Parents Give Children Realistic Expectations on the Cost of Chores

Parents Teaching Kids that Money Needs to Be Earned Are Now Armed with COUNTRY Financial Security Index Findings and New Chores App Tool

The value of a dollar can be a hard concept for children to grasp. When it comes to finances, kids tend to think big and beyond reality. However, the real world is not a fantasy full of ponies and monster trucks.

The latest COUNTRY Financial Security Index examined Americans' current sentiments on the topic of teaching their children about finances through the use of chores and allowance. It revealed 68 percent of Americans believe children should receive an allowance for completing chores. Furthermore, of the people who are currently providing kids with an allowance, more than half (54 percent) did so to teach their children money needs to be earned. A further 22 percent wanted to teach their kids the value of money, while only 12 percent said it was to teach them financial independence.

Based on responses, COUNTRY Financial® has identified the average rate of payment for chores in America today, which parents can use in their negotiations with kids on the value of common household chores. "Now more than ever, American parents are feeling the pressure of achieving a financially secure future, not just for themselves, but also for their children," said Troy Frerichs, director of wealth management at COUNTRY Financial. "This is why COUNTRY Financial is working to equip parents with helpful tools to educate their kids on being financially responsible."

Parents and Family Play Key Role in Educating Youth

When it comes to learning about finances:

- Nearly half of all respondents (46 percent) reported learning on their own, with 39 percent saying they learned from their parents and family members.
- The number who learned from their parents grew to 48 percent for Millennials, showing a shift toward a greater parental responsibility for their children's financial education in the new generation.

A majority of Americans said children should begin receiving money for chores completed, allowance or "free" financial support at a young age. Nearly 40 percent of parents said between 8-10 years old is the right age, and one-third said it should start between the ages of 5 and 7. To help parents teach their kids about the value of money, as it relates to chores, COUNTRY Financial has developed the ChorePal app. The new app is a modern way for families to work together to save for personal and family goals through daily household chores.

"COUNTRY Financial is providing parents with a proactive tool to explain this concept, which can be a difficult one to grasp, in an easier way for their kids to understand," said Frerichs. "It can help prompt great family conversations about the value of hard work, savings and investment, while helping introduce the topic in a simple and fun way." Along with allowing you to create and assign chores to your kids, ChorePal lets you reward them with points or money toward real goals. They can be rewarded with a night at the movies, extra screen time, the latest gaming system or any other reward a parent or child can imagine.

Looking Beyond Chores: How Parents Reward Their Children

Rewarding children for good deeds and positive performance were also reported:

- More than 60 percent of parents said they bought their child a gift to reward them for good behavior.
- Women were more likely to reward a child for good behavior (64 percent) than men. (58 percent)
- Forty-seven percent of Americans said they gave their child money for good grades.
- Women were also more likely to give a financial reward for good grades (50 percent), compared to 43 percent of men.

The generational differences in what people rewarded their children for were also worth noting:

- Millennials (ages 18-35) were more likely to reward for good behavior (66 percent) compared to 59 percent in Gen. X (ages 36-51) and 61 percent in Baby Boomers (ages 52-70)
- Baby Boomers were more likely to reward for good grades (56 percent, versus 47 percent for Gen. X and 41 percent for Millennials). This number rose to 100 percent in the Silent Generation (ages 71-88), with every respondent in this age group reporting having given a child a financial reward for good grades. Interestingly, 12 percent of parents who are married also revealed they had bought a child a gift out of guilt, with this number rising to 19 percent for respondents who are single.

The COUNTRY Financial ChorePal app is available for download at www.GetChorePal.com. For more information, visit www.CountryFinancial.com and join the conversation online with #LearnToEarn.



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Austin Beaty
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Andrew Deedrich
359-3941



Steve Derry
352-2655



Scott Jackson
359-9335

My name is Andrew Deedrich and I would like to introduce myself as your new COUNTRY Financial® representative. I recently joined COUNTRY Financial after nearly 7 years in agriculture machinery sales for a John Deere dealership in Mattoon. During my time working at the dealership I strived to transcend the typical salesman role and become a trusted resource for my clients. I focused on not only gaining an understanding of my clients' current needs, but also what their long term plans were. My goal in joining COUNTRY Financial is to become a trusted resource for your insurance and financial security needs.

I am from Pesotum where I grew up on a fourth generation family farm. While my father and I are no longer farming, agriculture will always remain a passion of mine. I consider myself very fortunate because from an early age the principles of hard work and helping others was instilled in me by both my parents and grandparents. These two principles are ones that I apply to my everyday life and I feel blessed to have the opportunity to help the members of my community on their path to financial security.

My wife, Erica, and I were recently married this past June. She is originally from Tuscola and received her BSN from Lakeview College and works as an RN at Carle Foundation Hospital. We currently reside in Pesotum and truly enjoy the small town atmosphere it provides.

I will be reaching out to each of you in the coming weeks to personally introduce myself. I want to get to know you so I can understand your individual insurance and financial service needs. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to give me a call or stop by my office. I'm looking forward to meeting you and feel very blessed to be starting a career with COUNTRY Financial

- Andrew Deedrich

www.countryfinancial.com

***Giving Thanks with the Prime Timers
on November 10 starting at 10 a.m.
Program:***

John Bruns - WW II experiences

Music by:
Ed Clem



Ken Roellig, Prime Timers Chairman

- Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month***
- Cost is \$8 to attend***
- Call 352-5235 ahead of each meeting to reserve your spot***

Mark your calendar - Don't miss a single Prime Timer date!

**Prime Timers 2016:
December 8**

**Here are some facts to chew on while
you digest your Thanksgiving meal.
-CBS News**

According to the American Farm Bureau Federation's (AFBF) latest price survey, the average cost of a classic Thanksgiving dinner for 10 people this year -- with all the fixings - will come to \$49.41, or up 37 cents from last year. The centerpiece of that feast, a 16-pound turkey, costs \$21.85, or about \$1.35 per pound, down slightly from 2013.

"Turkey production has been somewhat lower this year and wholesale prices are a little higher," AFBF deputy chief economist John Anderson said in a statement, "but consumers should find an adequate supply of birds at their local grocery store."

A major factor behind that price increase is the rising cost of the grains, especially soybeans, used to feed the birds. But even with growing production costs many supermarket chains sell turkey as a "loss leader," offering it at a loss to bring in customers who they hope will buy other products. "They'll sell it for less than

they paid for it," Steve Olson, the Minnesota Turkey Grower's executive director, told CBS affiliate WCCO-TV. "While that's great for consumers, on the other hand it gives the impression that that's what it should cost year round."

Other traditional Thanksgiving foods showing the largest price increases this year are sweet potatoes, dairy products and pumpkin pie mix. Add in other holiday staples like cranberries, bread rolls, assorted vegetables and coffee, and the cost of a typical Thanksgiving meal for 10 is still something of a bargain, coming in at around \$5 per person.

But let's talk turkey about that great native bird. According to the National Turkey Federation (NTF), U.S. turkey consumption has more than doubled over the past 45 years. As of last year Americans ate an average of 16 pounds of turkey per person annually, or nearly double what they consumed in 1970. Turkey is the fourth most-consumed meat in America, after beef, pork and chicken, and in 2011 the total value of the nation's turkey processors' production was around \$18 billion.

Over the past 20 years U.S. turkey products have also developed a large export market, with 758 million pounds of the bird shipped out of the country last year. The top five foreign markets for turkey in 2013 were Mexico, Canada, Hong Kong, South Korea and Russia.

And turkey is no longer just for Thanksgiving. The NTF says two-thirds of the turkeys eaten in the U.S. are consumed during the first eight months of the year.

Importance of TPP



Chris Hausman operates 1500 acres of corn and soybeans in the Pesotum area and is a past president of Champaign County Farm Bureau. He currently represents the counties of Champaign, Vermilion, Douglas and Edgar as District 12 Director for Illinois Farm Bureau. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois with a bachelor's in Agriculture Education.

Another successful harvest is coming to a close. Mother Nature has been kind and I had a bountiful harvest. The crops I brought in from the field this fall will be used domestically

to create food, fuel and fiber for our nation, but a portion will be exported to other nations. Imports and exports have an impact on me and the food I grow. Imports and exports affect you too, the foods you eat and the options you have at the grocery store.

All of us in Champaign County need to pay attention to what is happening globally with a trade agreement call the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). TPP is a regional trade agreement involving the United States and 11 Asia-Pacific Region nations. The countries involved in TPP account for 40% of the world's economy. TPP would boost demand for U.S agri-food products among 500 million consumers there. How would a trade agreement reducing tariffs on exports affect a farmer in Champaign County? Imagine the corn I grow, harvest, and take to the elevator makes its way to a cereal processing plant. These boxes of cereal, maybe corn flakes, are exported for sale to consumers in one of the countries in the TPP agreement and currently face a tariff of up to 27%. With the passage of TPP the tariff would be zero, reducing cost to the consumer and boosting demand.

The benefits of this agreement trickle down to the local economy, affecting you and me. When farmers like me sell more corn, we spend the profits locally on things like fuel and equipment for our farms. Fuel and equipment purchased from local companies places new money in the hands of workers and businesses. These workers turn around and take this money and spend it out in the community generating more business and additional revenues.

In addition, agriculture exports support rural communities and promote job growth. TPP will open doors for Illinois agriculture, creating a demand for more products at an important time. Illinois Farm Bureau President Richard Guebert described the current state of Illinois agriculture when he testified before Congress in April telling legislators that low commodity prices, tightening credit, expensive land and rising costs for expenses such as seed and fertilizer will lead to financial losses for many farmers this year.

TPP will affect all of us in Champaign County whether we are involved in agriculture or other lines of work. Locally, agriculture is a major industry. Did you know that in 2015 Champaign County produced 53,210,000 bushels of corn and 16,036,000 bushels of soybeans? Champaign County ranks 3rd in the State of Illinois for the production of both crops. To wrap your head around the sheer volume of production, 1 US bushel equals 8 US dry gallons. For example, a bushel of corn will sweeten more than 400 cans of soda or produce 1.5 pounds of corn oil! TPP is going to boost the demand for agri-food products, demand for products will trickle down to Champaign County and the need for our agriculture products.

You will find supporters and critics on both sides of the hotly contested Trans-Pacific Partnership. I believe the United States needs to take a lead role with trade issues. TPP is going to affect us whether we choose to be part of it or not. We need to stay involved and stay on the leading edge of importing and exporting on a world-wide level. The United States needs to be a leader or we will get left behind.

**RENEW YOUR
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**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
FARM BUREAU NEWS**

(USPS 099-840)

801 N. Country Fair Drive, Ste. A, Champaign, IL
61821

Published Monthly by the Champaign County
Farm Bureau

801 N. Country Fair Drive, Ste. A,
Champaign, IL 61821

SUBSCRIPTION RATE -- \$3 PER YEAR

Periodicals Postage Paid at Champaign
(ISSN 1078-2966)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to "Farm
Bureau News" 801 N. Country Fair Drive,
Ste. A, Champaign IL 61821-2492

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Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
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Contact us at (217) 352-5235
www.ccfarmbureau.com

2016 Citrus Sale

A member service of the Farm Bureau

FRESH CITRUS

Navel Oranges	4/5 bushel	\$35.00	2/5 bushel	\$22.00
Grapefruit	4/5 bushel	\$28.00	2/5 bushel	\$20.00
Trio Pack			2/5 bushel	\$31.00

(10 oranges, 11 grapefruit and 10 Red Delicious Apples)

AVANTI CHEESE

Baby Swiss	2 1/2 lbs.	\$16.50
Farmers Cheese	2 lb.	\$12.75
Mild Cheddar	1 lb.	\$ 7.50
Sharp Cheddar	1 lb.	\$ 8.50
Calico Cheese	1 lb.	\$ 7.00
Mild Brick	1 lb.	\$ 7.00
Mozzarella	2 lbs.	\$11.75
String Cheese	1 lbs.	\$ 7.25
American Sliced	5 lbs.	\$18.50
Gift Box A		\$18.50
(Mild cheddar, swiss, longhorn, calico)		
Gift Box C		\$20.00
(Mild brick, mild cheddar, longhorn, 12 oz. sausage)		

OTHER PRODUCTS

Yellow Popcorn	2 lb bag	\$ 3.25
Pork Spice	12 oz. bottle	\$ 8.00
Riley's All Purpose Seasoning	6 1/2 oz. bottle	\$ 3.75
Louie's Italian Beef Seasoning	3 oz. packet	\$ 2.00
Mild Chili Seasoning	4 oz. bottle	\$ 3.50

Please stop by the CCFB office and check out our new selection of nuts, trail mixes, dried fruits and chocolates.

These make great gifts!



ALL PRICES INCLUDE SALES TAX

Member To Member has guaranteed the quality of the fruit and Champaign County Farm Bureau is backing this. If you are dissatisfied with your fruit, please call the Farm Bureau within 24 hours and return the fruit within 48 hours of pick-up.



2016 Citrus Sale Order Form

Order and Payment must be received by the CCFB Office by November 14



	Ordered	Price	Quantity Ordered	Price
Navel Oranges 4/5	—	—	Yellow Popcorn	\$ 3.25
Navel Oranges 2/5	—	—	Pork Spice	\$ 8.00
Ruby Red Grapefruit 4/5	—	—	Riley's Seasoning	\$ 3.75
Ruby Red Grapefruit 2/5	—	—	Italian Beef Seasoning	\$ 2.00
Trio Pack	—	—	Mild Chili Seasoning	\$ 3.50
Baby Swiss	—	—		
Farmers Cheese	—	—		
Mild Cheddar	—	—		
Sharp Cheddar	—	—		
Calico Cheese	—	—		
Mild Brick	—	—		
Mozzarella	—	—		
String Cheese	—	—		
American Sliced	—	—		
Cheese Gift Box A	—	—		
Cheese Gift Box C	—	—		

TOTAL AMOUNT : \$ _____
Please pay in full at time of order

Delivery date:
Mid December

Post card will be mailed out 1st week of December as to Day & TIME Of pick-up.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____



Please make checks payable to: CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

DUE BY NOVEMBER 14

Mail form to 801 N. Country Fair Dr. Champaign, IL 61821

We now accept the following credit cards:
(in office orders only no phone orders)



Farm Bureau Heroes

By: Lesley Gooding



We know Gerald Henry as a dedicated farmer and Champaign County Volunteer. Did you know he is an Army Veteran? Gerald was 23 when he entered the service. Growing up on a farm had taught him discipline and gave him a strong work ethic, both of which paid off when taking and following orders.

Gerald Henry was drafted into the regular Army Infantry, entering the Army in March 1969. Gerald began his first year of service in the United States moving to various bases. Gerald began his journey with Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO; received Advanced Infantry Training at Fort Lewis, Washington (now known as Joint Base Lewis-McChord); moved on to Non Commissioned Officer (NCO) School at Fort Benning, Georgia and then enrolled in Airborne Jump School, also at Fort Benning Georgia.

Gerald had been in the Army under one year, but still had more to learn and one more move to make. He earned his Sergeant E-5 stripes at NCO School in Fort Benning and was sent to Fort Polk, Louisiana, to enroll in a training to ensure he was capable of keeping his E-5 stripes and leading troops under the direction of a drill sergeant. Gerald passed his training

and then received his marching orders for Vietnam. Arriving in Vietnam in March of 1970, Gerald was assigned to the 173rd Airborne Brigade. Gerald and his comrades were sent to protect local villages from the Viet Cong, who often times kidnapped men and stole food supplies from villagers. For one month, Gerald went to local villages to watch for enemy activities, set up ambushes, and patrols. Gerald also had to check on a series of tunnels to make sure they were not being reused by the enemy.

Gerald also had a skill set that several others did not, he knew how to type. Skilled at typing, Gerald was moved from his task of protecting villages to become the Company Clerk and Mail Clerk. Gerald says the clerking job "was a good assignment! I received a soft bed and a cold shower!" Gerald did receive a bit of R and R while in Vietnam and was able to visit beautiful Sydney, Australia.

In December of 1970, after 8 months as the Company Clerk and Mail Clerk, Gerald was on the move once again. Gerald came back to Illinois and enrolled in graduate school at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (SIU). Gerald was an SIU Alumni and was lucky to return to begin studying Animal Industries – focusing on feeding and production of livestock. Gerald moved back to Champaign County and began farming in 1971. Gerald's last crop was in 2011, he sold his cattle and machinery, officially retiring in January of 2012. Gerald stays busy helping a neighbor with harvest and drives an anhydrous applicator for United Prairie for a few weeks each year. In addition to staying busy around home, Gerald is able to visit his children and grandchildren in Southern Illinois.

Thanks for your **service!**



Champaign County Farm Bureau Members know Ken Roellig as the face of Prime Timers, but he is also a man who deserves high praise and thanks for serving his country! Ken is an Army Veteran serving from November of 1944 to July of 1946.

Ken began serving his country in the infantry and was stationed in Italy during World War II. When the war ended in Europe, Ken left the infantry and became a Combat Engineer. The Combat Engineers were going to be involved in the invasion of Japan, tasked with detonating mines

planted by the Japanese. Plans to head to Japan were set in motion, but once the Atomic Bomb was dropped, Ken's group was sent back to the United States. Once back in the U.S., Ken was stationed at Fort Knox, KY. Ken completed his time in the Army testing various engineering projects.

Ken's life in Illinois...

Ken grew up on a farm in Windsor, IL, and briefly worked for the railroad before he was called into service at the age of 18. Ken's duty with the Army ended in 1946, Ken then attended the University of Illinois and received a Bachelor in Education degree. He taught math for 31 years in Unit 7 schools, also serving as principal and as superintendent. During his time of employment with Unit 7 schools, Ken furthered his own education receiving a Masters of Education Degree and Advance Certificates in Education. An entrepreneurial spirit led Ken to owning and operating a Christmas tree farm for 25 years!

Thank you Ken for your service and sacrifice!

