



Champaign County Farm Bureau News

Vol. 93, No. 12 801 N. Country Fair Drive, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821 December, 2015

“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.”

Weather Outlook - Eric Snodgrass, Agrible

Eric Snodgrass, Co-Founder and Senior Atmospheric Scientist of Agrible, Inc, has provided the Champaign County Farm Bureau with a “Winter Weather Outlook”. Snodgrass also sends podcast videos once a week (that are uploaded to the Champaign County Farm Bureau Facebook Page). These are his comments about the upcoming season.

Mild Winter:

There are two primary reasons why long range forecasts are calling for a near average or slightly warmer than average winter. First, 2015 weather events have been highlighted by the strengthening El Nino event in the equatorial Pacific Ocean. Warmer than normal sea surface temperatures have spread across this region giving way to the 3rd strongest El Nino event in recent history. Statistically, 10 of the last 12 El Nino winters were near average or warmer than average in Illinois. That is a strong signal in the weather data and NOAA along with numerous other weather forecasting centers have a similar forecast as us for this winter.

The second reason is that the northern Pacific sea surface temperatures, just off the west coast of the US, are very warm as well. We call this the positive phase of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation. What it does is push the jet stream farther north in the western 2/3 of the country which keeps the northern tier of states warmer than average for winter.

This does not mean that we won't have any cold weather at all or any snow at all. It simply means that on average, this winter will be near normal or warmer than normal. There is a low probability of having a bitterly cold winter like the past two winters. The only region in the US that is forecast to be cooler than average this winter is the south and southeast states. There is a chance the mid-Atlantic states could be cooler than average as well.

2016 Growing Season:

Looking out into the 2016 growing season, the long range forecasts are hinting at the possibility of warmer than average spring and early summer. Winter may be a little drier than average near the Great Lakes through the Ohio River Valley which will need to be watched closely. But beyond that time frame, there are no dominant indicators for major water stress for the start of the growing season. The last two summers have been close to ideal in terms of temperatures with no signs of heat stress - especially during corn's reproductive stages. Our long range models are showing warmer than average conditions for May - July. We are not predicting a heat wave or drought, we are just seeing a warming trend for those months. We at Agrible will watch this closely though.

Introducing the 2015-2016 Leadership Academy Class

The 2015-2016 Champaign County Farm Bureau Leadership Academy has begun! The class has met three times, including a field trip to Chicago. The Leadership Academy provides many opportunities to expand leadership character.



Constance Herriott
Clinical Dietitian
Sidney, IL



Daniel Herriott
Farm Manager
Sidney, IL



Chris Crider
Loan Officer
Monticello, IL



Kevin Knott
Director, Institutional
Accountability, Research,
Grants, and Contracts
Homer, IL



Luke Zwilling
Chief Product Officer
Dewey, IL



Brian DeWitt
Farm Hand
Tolono, IL



Rachel Torbert, Illinois Farm Bureau, leads conversation on effective media interviews, after all participants were taped.



Lynn Doran
Plant Manager/
Cheesemaker
Champaign, IL

Champaign County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 104th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau is called for
MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016
at the
I-Hotel & Conference Center
1900 South First Street
Champaign, Illinois

Registration begins at 5 p.m.
Marketing Club meets at 5 p.m.
Dinner will be served at 6 p.m.
The business meeting will begin at 7 p.m. for the purpose of consideration of any business which may be properly presented. Directors from the following townships will be elected:

To make reservations:
Turn to page 8 for the official registration form.
REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2016

Minutes of the 2015 CCFB Annual Meeting are printed on page 8 of this edition

Continued Winter Weather.....
Ground Freeze:
November 2015 felt as though the soils were kept under a blow torch. Before this past week, soil temps were in the 50s across a large part of the state.
White Christmas:
It is too far out for me to accurately forecast a White Christmas, but statistically about 1/3 of the time in central IL, we have a White Christmas. Your chances get better the farther north you go!
Other Things:
Keep an eye on Brazil. Dryness in Mato Grosso could stress beans. At the same time, the southern growing regions have been quite wet. We still think the overall harvest will be large due to an increase in acreage but its something to watch as grain prices are so low.

Challenge Corner

Are YOU Up For It?

Bring a friend, or family member with you to a committee meeting!
Committees are a great way to network and become involved with fellow Farm Bureau members.

Call today! 352-5235
Champaign County Farm Bureau

**Champaign County Farm Bureau
Issue Series**

Join us as we address hot button, agriculture issues!
Become more knowledgeable about issues affecting you!
Be ready to answer the call to action requests!

All programs start at 6:30p.m.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

12/16/15: Dr. Stephen P. Long, Professor of Plant Biology & Crop Science—**Feeding & Fueling the World with Crops by 2050!**

1/12/16: Lauren Lurkins, Illinois Farm Bureau Water issues - **WOTUS, drainage, locks & dams.**

2/9/16: Craig Gundersen, Professor of Agricultural Strategy—**Food Sustainability**

3/22/16: Tamara Nelsen, Illinois Farm Bureau & Leia Kedem, MS, RD—**GMOs**

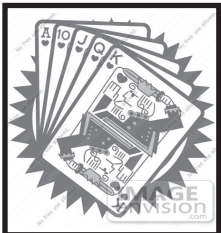


*Issue Series events are open to all CCFB Members.
Attend any or all events!*

Location: CCFB Auditorium, 801 N Country Fair Dr., Champaign, IL

RSVP Champaign County Farm Bureau 217-352-5235

Continue Issue Series on Page 3.....



**Agriculture Leaders of
Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow
(ALOYTT)
Challenges YOU
to a hand of Euchre!**

ALL FARM BUREAU MEMBERS WELCOME!!!

Games start at 2 p.m. and last until 4 p.m.
Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium

Mark these dates on your 2015 calendar!!!

**January 10
January 24
February 14
February 28
March 13**



**“Check Your Calendar!”
December**

10	Prime Timers	10 a.m.
11	YAL X-Mas at Zwilling’s	7 p.m.
14	Women’s Committee X-Mas at CCFB	10:00 a.m.
15	Legislative Committee	7:30 a.m.
16	Issue Series - Dr. Long	6:30p.m.
17	Full Board	6:30 p.m.
24 - 27 & 31	Offices Closed	

2016 - January - 2016

1	New Year’s Day - Offices Closed	
7	Young Ag Leaders - Wyndham Garden	6:30 p.m.
8-9	YOUNG AG LEADERS TOY SHOW	
11	Women’s Committee	9:30a.m.
12	Issue Series	6:30p.m.
14	Prime Timers	10a.m.
15	Pheasants Forever workshop - open to all members	8:30a.m.



December President’ Report

November 24, 2015

The year of extremes continues to not disappoint. Whether or not we were ready for winter or not, Saturday Nov. 21 decided to remind us that the year has flown by and it is time to get ready for the holidays and all that time of the year entails. Though a surprise, I hope that you and your family were able to enjoy the beauty that lied within the event. As November rolls by, we celebrated with the Farm Bureau Foundation at the Annual Gala. Thank you to all that attended, coordinated, and contributed to make educational opportunities possible for both our college students through the Scholarship program and elementary students through our Earth Partners program. The programs have been robust with 51 scholarships granted for the 2015-2016 academic year and over 2500 elementary students being exposed to ag education in over 50 schools across the county just this fall. Tremendous attendance, support, and fellowship occurred on Nov. 20 and we look forward to the opportunity of celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation next year. We are also preparing for Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in Chicago December 5-8. We will have our District resolutions review meeting on Nov. 30 to review some of the proposed policy changes that will be presented in Chicago before the Delegate Body with one resolution to be presented coming from Champaign County. It is a wonderful opportunity to be part of the policy creation process. In closing, the year has posed many challenges that we do not always face year to year. As we enter the holiday season, be sure to allow activities to slow down enough to celebrate the reason for the season and all that we do have to be thankful for.

**Happy Holidays
-Eric Suits**

Committee News

WOMEN’S COMMITTEE

Members are looking forward to their Christmas celebration at the Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium on Monday, December 14th, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Please bring a dish to share. Drinks are provided. This is a tremendous opportunity to share fellowship this holiday season and celebrate committee accomplishments throughout 2015! As the new year begins, members will plan a new year of opportunities and events for women of Champaign County Farm Bureau to get involved.

MARKETING CLUB

Be sure to mark your calendar for the 104th CCFB Annual Meeting on Monday, January 25, when there will once again be a marketing session at 5 p.m. at the I-Hotel and Conference Center. Turn to page 8 for your official registration form!

Like the Champaign County Farm Bureau and the Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation on facebook!

PRIME TIMERS

COOKIES, COOKIES, COOKIES! We need DOZENS of cookies to take to the Cunningham children’s home this month! Bring them to the December 10 Prime Timers meeting that begins at 10 a.m. Celebrate the holidays with music from the Martin Luther Chorus. Be sure to check our ad on page 7 and mark your calendar for the 2016 Prime Timer dates; you won’t want to miss a single one! Cost is \$8 to attend. Call 217-352-5235 to make your reservation!

YOUNG AG LEADERS

It’s time for the Annual Toy Show sponsored by the Champaign and Vermillion County Young Ag Leaders! Members will meet to finalize plans and help Chairwoman Sarah Hastings set up on Thursday, January 7, at the Wyndam Garden at 6:30 p.m. The ball room can be organized in a short amount of time if we have all hands on deck. Plan to attend! YAL will be having a NCAA Bracket Challenge again! Stay tuned for more information on Harvest For All events

Scenes from the November 12 FFA Acquaintance Day with Cargill; Illinois Farm Bureau; Asmark

Fisher FFA Attends CCFB Acquaintance Day

On November 12, 2015 Fisher FFA upperclassmen attended the annual Champaign County Farm Bureau Acquaintance day. The students that attend this event are then eligible to attend Farm Bureau Youth Conference in the spring. The Attendees from Fisher were Max Harmon, Nik Heiser, Madison Farrar, and Hannah Hires. The group spent the beginning of the day at Cargill Elevator in Bloomington where they toured the plant and learned about soybean processing and uses. Fisher FFA spent the later part of the day at Asmark where they learned about farm safety practices such as grain bin safety and proper anhydrous handling. When asked which part was especially interesting, attendee Maddy Farrar stated, “The Grain Bin rescue simulator was especially interesting.” During the Simulator Fisher and other area schools performed a mock grain bin rescue operation and learned what it would be like to be trapped in one of these life threatening situations. The Fisher FFA would like to Thank Champaign County Farm Bureau for all of their support and providing us with the opportunity attend!



(Above) Champaign County FFA Members “gear up” by securing a harness in preparation for the Asmark Grain Bin Entrapment demonstration/simulator. Facilitator, John Lee, taught the attending members the importance of grain safety and working as a pair, or in a team.



Kevin Johnson (KJ) of Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical, explains the importance of anhydrous ammonia safety. Asmark also had visuals of tanks that have blown up and “things to look for” when applying anhydrous. Students watched various videos of accidents that have happened.



Great volunteers! Students were able to simulate a grain bin rescue using both a live person and a mannequin. Students used a grain tube to simulate the rescue, pounding down the panels and latching them together to create a chamber to put around the entrapped individual. Using a shop-vac, students cleared the grain in chamber to finish the rescue!



**FFA Acquaintance Day is made possible by the
Champaign County Farm Bureau Young Ag Leaders!**

The 2015 Crop is IN the Bin.....What’s Next?



Joe Burke, Chairman
CCFB Marketing Club

Sharpen YOUR Strategy by Attending This Marketing Club Opportunity:

**Plan NOW to Attend the
2016 Champaign County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
on MONDAY, JANUARY 25,
when the CCFB Marketing Club presents a special
Marketing Meeting
beginning at 5 p.m. at the I-Hotel, Champaign!
Featuring Merrill Crowley**

Champaign County Farm Bureau Issue Series

Join the Champaign County Farm Bureau for a series of informational meetings tackling today’s hottest agricultural issues. Speakers will educate and inform you about issues affecting you! You are welcome to join us for one session or all four sessions.

Featured speakers include

Dr. Stephen P Long, Professor of Plant Biology and Crop Science at the University of Illinois. According to Dr. Long’s biography from the College of ACES his areas of research include

- “To understand the limitations to C4 photosynthesis and the adaptation of the process to cooler climates.
- Advance the development of accessible mechanistic mathematical models relating environmental effects on photosynthesis to plant productivity (see: <http://www.life.illinois.edu/plantbio/wimovac/>).
- Establish the potential of mitigation of atmospheric change through the development of herbaceous energy crops.
- To understand crop responses to global atmospheric and climate change.
- To understand mechanisms of plant responses to both rising atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration and tropospheric ozone, with particular reference to photosynthesis and relating changes at the molecular and biochemical level to observations of whole systems in the field.”

Dr. Long will be covering the topics “Feeding & Fueling the world with crops by 2050! Is it possible?”

Lauren Lurkins, Director of Natural and Environmental Resources at Illinois Farm Bureau, will cover several water issues including WOTUS, drainage, and locks and dams.

Craig Gundersen, Soybean Industry Endowed Professor of Agricultural Strategy at the University of Illinois. According to the University of Illinois, College of ACES, “Dr. Gundersen's research is primarily focused on the causes and consequences of food insecurity and on evaluations of food assistance programs with a particular emphasis on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program).” Dr. Gundersen will be discussing Food Production.

Tamara Nelsen, Illinois Farm Bureau’s Senior Director of Commodities and Leia Kedem, a registered dietitian and a licensed dietitian/nutritionist in the state of Illinois, will be discussing GMO’s.

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by Utilizing Member Benefits.



Kirk Builta
Executive Director



CCFB FOUNDATION

www.ccfbfoundation.com

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Myla Munro
Earth Partners Coordinator

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Harvest Gala a Success



The Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation Board of Directors and staff would like to thank everyone who made the 8th Annual Harvest Gala a resounding success! From our named sponsors and attendees who made this year record-breaking; to the delicious food and fun surprises, we want to thank our dedicated supporters who truly made a lasting impact on the Foundation's Scholars and Earth Partners programs. The impact we are making in the local agricultural community was felt at the Gala, and thanks to your support, we pledge to continue that impact throughout the coming year!



Above Left: CCFB Foundation Chairman Brian Stark greets surprise celebrity guest emcee Dee Brown at the 8th Annual Harvest Gala. Left: Women's Committee member Barb Esworth displays her homemade Cookies and Cream Cake while Erna Mennenga (Right) shows off her rhubarb pie. These delicious desserts and others helped to raise over \$10,000 for the Foundation.

Ag Champion Update

by: Myla Munro

Last year Earth Partners created a program called Ag Champions and the goal was to locate teachers, or administrators, who are passionate about agriculture and would champion our Earth Partners program in their local school. As their individual school's "Ag Champion" they would become, what we hope, our biggest fan by helping to get the word out about the agricultural education activities and resources that we can provide. Each individual school is different and this approach allows Earth Partners to supply the right resources and programming to meet each school's unique needs and objectives for curriculum, while also educating about agriculture.

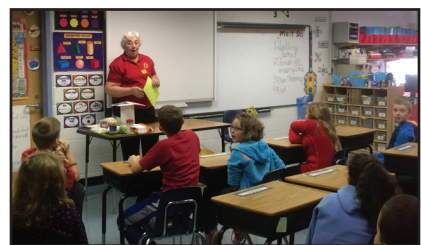
Currently, the Ag Champion program has 12 teachers that come from agricul-

ture or rural backgrounds and represent eight schools throughout Champaign County. Working with these teachers has been a wonderful addition to the Earth Partners program! In the month of October with the help of Ag Champions at Sangamon Elementary School (Mahomet) and St. Joseph Grade School we educated 328 students. These students learned about apples, corn, dairy and pumpkins through hands-on, engaging and tasty activities like making butter and our famous Pumpkin Patch Pie! In addition to these events, Earth Partners has also brought programming to 5th grade students at Unity West Elementary that were studying the water cycle and Illinois agricultural products.

The hope is that this program identifies more educators to help share our county wide agriculture literacy message both through the Farm Bureau's

Women's Committee's Learning Barn and Earth Partners programs. We are well on our way of creating a lasting relationship with teachers in each school building throughout Champaign County, but would love to add more teachers to our list of Ag Champions!

If you know a teacher, or administrator, in a local school who already exhibits a passion for agriculture and would be willing to be an "Ag Champion", please call Myla at the Champaign County Farm Bureau or email her at: myla@ccfarmbureau.com



Women's Committee Secretary, Loretta Stoerger teaching about apples to St. Joseph/Ogden students.



St. Joseph/Ogden students learning about corn!



Vann Parkin
Country Financial Agency Manager



FINANCIAL

AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT



Marcia Woolcott
COUNTRY Financial Agency Assistant
352-0012

'TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING? NEW SURVEY SAYS PERHAPS NOT

The holiday season may not get many Americans into the giving spirit

Many people associate the holiday season with giving, but contrary to popular belief, 71 percent of Americans say the holidays have no impact on their contributions to charitable organizations, according to the latest COUNTRY Financial Security Index. With countless organizations seeking donations during this time of year, those that align with a person's passions may find the greatest success.

Americans invest time and money

When it comes to giving, many Americans want to give more, especially millennials. What's more valuable: time or money? Americans find importance in each. Forty-two percent of respondents would prefer to donate both time and money to a cause. If they won a million dollars, a majority (about 87 percent) would donate a portion of it to charity. Most Americans, however, would donate 25 percent or less of their winnings.

Thirty-four percent of Americans report being a contributor to charitable causes on an annual or monthly basis. Others may want to do the same, but a lack of means may deter them. Twenty-four percent wish they were able to build charitable contributions into their budget.

"Charitable giving doesn't have to be wishful thinking," says Joe Buhrmann, manager of financial security at COUNTRY Financial. "With the new year approaching, now is the perfect time to revisit your financial plan and build in philanthropic donations."

Compared to other generations, millennials had the highest desire (35 percent) to plan better and build donations into their budget.

These younger Americans also realize they don't, or perhaps aren't able to, contribute as much as others. Forty-seven percent of millennials view their generation as less charitable than other generations.

Passion drives donations

What drives donations? More than 30 percent choose a cause they are personally passionate about. Secondary factors enticing donors to open their wallets include a cause that personally impacted them or their family (25 percent) and a cause that has a strong tie to their local community (23 percent).

That may explain why products with philanthropic ties won't necessarily excite shoppers this holiday season. In fact, 45 percent say they don't consider a product's charitable efforts when making purchases. Some shoppers (29 percent) don't seek out brands or products with a philanthropic focus, but when they find these products, they are willing to pay more for them.

Planning for philanthropic involvement

"Charitable giving should feel rewarding, not stressful. A little planning and management can help you make the most of your gift," adds Buhrmann.

Tips to effectively give back this season and in the year ahead include:

- Choose a relevant cause: When deciding to make a reoccurring or large charitable donation, choose a cause that is important to you and an organization you are familiar with. Knowing the charity's work will give you confidence your gift is being well utilized.

- Budget to give back: Like other expenses, a charitable donation should be built into your budget so giving doesn't deter your financial plan. When developing a yearly financial plan, map out how much you plan to give and when the gifts will occur.

- Give efficiently: Make sure your donation is tax deductible and get a receipt, regardless of the amount. Remember that contributions must be made by Dec. 31, 2015 to be deductible for that tax year. Additionally, consider payroll deductions if that option is available to you.

The COUNTRY Financial Security Index®

Since 2007, the COUNTRY Financial Security Index has measured Americans' sentiments of their personal financial security. The Index also delves deeper into individual personal finance topics to better inform Americans about the issues impacting their finances. Survey data, videos and analysis are available at www.countryfinancialsecurityblog.com and on Twitter at @hellocountry.

The COUNTRY Financial Security Index was created by COUNTRY Financial and is compiled by GfK, an independent research firm. Surveys were conducted using GfK's KnowledgePanel®, a national, probability-based panel designed to be representative of the general population and includes responses from approximately 1,000 U.S. adults for national surveys. The margin of sampling error for a survey based on this many interviews is approximately +/- 3 percentage points with a 95 percent level of confidence.

About COUNTRY Financial

The COUNTRY Financial group (www.countryfinancial.com) serves about one million households and businesses throughout the United States. It offers a full range of financial products and services from auto, home, business and life insurance to retirement planning services, investment management and annuities.



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ILLINI FS

Farm Safety For Just Kids

By: Pat Titus



2015 is winding down, equipment is put away, and farmers are starting to think about the 2016 growing season. It is important to think about safety year round. You never get to take a break from keeping yourself and your family safe from the dangers that face you every day on the farm. Farm Safety For Just Kids – Illini Chapter (founded in 2003) promotes a safe farm environment to prevent health hazards, injuries, and fatalities to children and youth. Adult education is also promoted throughout the county. The Illini Chapter hosts approximately 5 farm safety days every year. Kids can play grain tug-of-war, learn more about hearing safety, or gain some knowledge about meth awareness. Other areas of education may include animal safety, ATV safety, chemical safety, grain safety, tractor safety, and rural roadway safety. Safety days encourage people to understand simple guidelines to keep themselves safe.

This past year Farm Safety for Just Kids reached out to attendees of the Half Century of Progress Show in Rantoul. Farm Safety for Just Kids placed a tag in each golf cart with operating instructions for the driver with over 1,000 tags used in the first hour and a half. Pat Titus, Illini FS Member, was impressed with the impact the hang tags made. I & I Tractor Club members also made periodic safety sound bites over the PA system at the Show.

The group's next big focus will be at the Midwest Ag Expo held at Gordyville in January. Farm Safety For Just Kids will showcasing their Farm Hazardous display to attendees. Again, the group will be focusing on educating the public in order to reduce farm fatalities. A 2014 article in Modern Farmer titled "Death on the Farm" points to several dramatic farm fatality figures

- "of 335,000 workplace fatalities worldwide, over half occur in agriculture
- Agriculture has been the deadliest U.S. industry every year for the last decade, beating out mining and construction in deaths per 100,000 workers.
- Tractors now claim some 125 lives a year in the U.S., according to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), representing the biggest danger on a farm.

- Tractors are far and away the deadliest machinery for farmers. The most frequent event is a tractor rollover.
- Nearly 20 percent are under the age of 20.
- In 2012, 19 U.S. workers under the age of 16 died in workplace accidents — 14 of them worked in agriculture."

Interested in making a difference? Become part of Farm Safety For Just Kids! Membership is open to businesses, groups, and individuals interested in agriculture. An individual membership is only \$15 per year! This organization is privately funded, leverages money from membership dues to educate youth and adults, and relies on a group of dedicated volunteers to reach 3,500-5,000 people annually. The organization currently meets 4-6 times per year, has 50-60 members and takes on projects that are task focused. Outreach for farm kids and outreach in rural areas is vital to staying safe on the farm. From safety day to booths at farm shows, Farm Safety For Just Kids is working hard to keep Champaign County farmers and families safe.

Want to know a little more about this organization? This group has very humble beginnings. According to their national website "In the Fall of 1986 11-year-old Keith Algreen suffocated in a gravity flow wagon of corn while helping with harvest on his parents' farm in rural Iowa. Months later Keith's mother Marilyn Adams set out to help her daughter with an FFA project on farm safety. Their research revealed Keith wasn't the only one. Hundreds of kids died on farms every year. Compelled to action, Marilyn founded Farm Safety For Just Kids the following year in the hopes of preventing another tragedy." You can find out more about Marilyn Adams' story in her book "Rhythm of the Seasons."

Growing Forward

Information from Corporate and Government Relations

U.S. Senate Voted to Drop Consideration of S. 1140 - Passes Joint Resolution On November 3, the U.S. Senate voted 57-41 to drop consideration of S. 1140 (Federal Water Quality Protection Act.). Passage of this bill would have stopped the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

from implementing the Clean Water Rule, also known as the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule, and restart the rulemaking process. After the vote on S. 1140 did not pass, the Senate voted in favor of a motion to proceed to S.J. Res.22, which provides for congressional disapproval of the WOTUS rule. On November 4, the resolution passed by a vote of 53-44.

Illinois Vehicle Registration Renewal Notices Suspended

Due to budget constraints, the Illinois Secretary of State's office announced they will suspend mailing out vehicle license plate renewal reminder notices to the public.

Vehicle owners are encouraged to be mindful of their vehicle registration status, and sign up to receive reminder notices electronically by email using the registration ID and PIN that is located on the current registration card.

Illinois 4R Code of Practice

Earlier this fall, the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association (IFCA) launched their 4R Code of Practice to minimize environmental impact, optimize harvest yield, and maximize input utilization. IFCA is encouraging individuals to take the pledge (company name not required) to support the principles in the 4R Code of Practice with their farmer customers and promote stewardship. The concept of the 4R system is to apply and/or recommend the right source of nutrient, at the right rate, at the right time, and in the right place for customer's fields. Consider taking the pledge by visiting www.Keepit4RCrop.org.



Matt Hoose



Mike Turner
General Manager

Illinois Ag By the Numbers



In the heart of America's bread basket, Illinois agriculture makes a major impact in the economy. At FS, we say every day is a reason to celebrate ag. Share these facts and applaud the vitality of Illinois ag.

- \$17.2 billion total agriculture product sales
- \$5.7 billion in state revenue from farm exports
- 950 food manufacturing companies
- 713,661 jobs in agriculture
- 74,600 farms
- 16% US corn is produced
- 12 Million acres corn planted annually
- 565 FS locations
- \$4.1 billion contributing to local economies from FS supply cooperative sales (FY 2013)
- 4,134 full-time and part-time FS employees
- 489 seasonal FS employees



CROP INSURANCE SEASON IS HERE

It is time to plan for the 2016 growing season. Crop insurance is a great tool for Illini FS customers to use to insure against a variety of crop related losses.

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT!

Contact Matt Hoose, ILLINI FS

217-621-6983

***Celebrate Christmas with Prime Timers
December 10 starting at 10 a.m.***

Program: To be Determined

****Please bring cookies to donate to
Cunningham Childrens Home****

Music by:

*The Martin Luther
Chorus*

- 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:

**January 14
February 11
March 10**



NEW Membership Benefits

-Goose Creek Firearms Training

Goose Creek Firearms

Training was founded in 2013 to begin meeting the needs of Illinois Concealed Carry Training requirements by owner William Smoot Jr. Our firearm instructor cadre is made up of law enforcement firearms instructors and NRA instructors who are affiliated with the University of Illinois Faculty Staff Firearms Safety Program (FSFSP) which is sponsored by the University of Illinois Police Department. William Smoot was the Director of the FSFSP at the time of his retirement from the police department in April 2015.

Our instructors have extensive experience working with non-law enforcement individuals conducting training from basic to advance firearm handling skills.

Our more experienced law enforcement instructors were trained

under part time a Gunsite instructor, so our curriculum will have a law enforcement and Gunsite philosophy.

Courses offered by Goose Creek Firearms Training:

- Illinois Concealed Carry License Training
- 16 and 8 hour Classes
- Basic Handgun Safety and Marksmanship
- NRA Basic Pistol Course
- Advanced Semi Auto Pistol Handling Skills
- Advanced Revolver Handling Skills
- Goose Creek Firearms Training Inc.** Offering Concealed Carry classes to members. Members can email Bill Smoot to find out about the special member pricing and to schedule a class.

1 day Class : Normal Rate

\$125---Member Pricing: \$100 (1 day class is for those with prior credits from other firearms training or honorable discharge military personnel)

2 day Class: Normal Rate

\$225---Member Pricing: \$175
2 day Class: Special pricing for a married couple: \$300

Email: William Smoot if interested:

goosecreek.training@gmail.com

-Pard's Western Shop

\$25 off any pair of boots. Unlimited pairs per year/in store purchase only.



**Champaign County
Farm Bureau**

**801 N Country Fair Dr
Champaign, IL 61821**

**Phone: 217-352-5235
www.ccfarmbureau.com**



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**Members Can Save
With Case IH**



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Case IH tractors and
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**You can use this discount with other
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- NANCY'S CREATIONS
- NAPA AUTO PARTS
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- RAHN EQUIPMENT COMPANY
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**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
FARM BUREAU NEWS**

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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU
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

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facebook page!**

ILLINI FARM TOY SHOW
Sponsored by Champaign & Vermilion County Young Ag Leaders
Friday and Saturday January 8th and 9th, 2016
Wyndham Garden Inn
1001 W. Killarney St, Urbana, IL 61801
Exit 174 to Exit 183 at Lincoln Avenue

Friday 5 pm - 9 pm
Saturday 9 am - 5 pm
Farm Toy Consignment "Live" Auction Saturday at 10:30 am

Admission: Adults \$3 Children (6-12) \$2 Under 6 Free

For more Illini Toy Show Information, please contact
Sarah Hastings (217) 841-2190 sarah@hastingsccci.com



Dr. Robert Easter

Robert A. Easter served as Interim Provost for Academic Affairs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Professor of Animal Sciences and Nutritional Sciences. Prior to his appointment at Interim Provost, Dr. Easter served as Dean of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) from 2002 to 2009. He has served as Head of the Department of Animal Sciences from 1996 to 2001, and has been on the Animal Sciences faculty since 1976. In 2006, President George W. Bush appointed Dr. Easter to the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), and in 2007 he was appointed as Chair of BIFAD. Dr. Easter serves as a Director of iBIO Institute. Dr. Easter is also a member of the American Society of Animal Science, the British Society of Animal Science, The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology and the Illinois Council for Food and Agricultural Research (C-FAR).

2015 Annual Meeting Minutes

The 103rd Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau was held on Monday, January 26, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at the I- Hotel and Conference Center, 1900 South First St., Champaign, IL. Ken Roellig gave the invocation.

President Lin Warfel welcomed everyone to the 103rd Annual Meeting of Champaign County Farm Bureau. The meeting was called to order at 7:18 p.m. by President Lin Warfel. Lin asked that everyone direct their attention to the center of the room as the colors were presented by FFA members that were present and Young Ag Leader Chairman, Kirk Bulta, led the pledge of allegiance. Lin introduced all legislators and guests that were at the Annual Meeting who serve us in Washington D. C., Springfield, and locally. Lin recognized past presidents of our organization and introduced many other special guests here with us this evening including FFA members from Fisher, St. Joseph and Unity high schools and representatives of the University of Illinois Collegiate Young Ag Leaders.

Call of the Meeting by Tim Frick
Tim Frick, Board secretary, gave the call to the meeting.

Credentials Committee Report by Lin Warfel
The Credentials Committee consisting of Jim Esworthy, Hal Barnhart and Dale Stierwalt informed the president that a quorum was present. Therefore, the president declared that the 103rd Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau was legally convened.

Secretary's Report by Tim Frick
Tim Frick reported that minutes of the 102nd Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau was

published in the December 2014 edition of the Champaign County Farm Bureau News. It is the recommendation of the Board of Directors that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. A Motion was made by Tim Frick, seconded by J.C. Reitmeier and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Tim Frick asked if there were any additions or corrections. Hearing none, he moved that the minutes be approved as presented; motion was seconded by Paul Berbaum. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report by Bev Ehler
Bev Ehler stated that Treasurer's report for the Champaign County Farm Bureau was available on page 4 and 5 of your program booklet. It was moved that the financial statement be approved as printed. Motion was seconded by J.C. Reitmeier and the motion carried.

Membership Report by Lee Warfel
Chris Murray reported that Champaign County has made quota for membership since 2004 and this year was no exception. We ended the 2014 Membership Year with a total of 2,501 "M" Members and a Total Membership of 10,393. Champaign County Farm Bureau Volunteers and affiliates signed 76 new "M" members and 639 new Associate members. Adam Watson and Chris Murray both signed 5 new "M" members. Kirk Bulta and Paula Zwilling both signed 3 "M" members, Lin Warfel and Marguerite Zahnd signed 6 new "M" members, Joe Burke and Mark Pflugmacher both signed 5 new "M" members and Darrell Rice, Scott Kesler and J.C. Reitmeier all signed 3 new "M" members. Lin thanked Country Financial Representatives for their work in signing new members; Chris Greenwold was the top signer this year signing 52 Associate members, Stan Ochs, 49 Associate members and John May signed 46 Associate members and 1 "M" member.

Registration Deadline:

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2015

The 104th Champaign County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Monday, January 25, 2016 -Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

The I-Hotel and Conference Center

1900 South First Street

Champaign, Illinois

Cost: \$15 per person



ur check with this order form to: Champaign County Far
801 N. Country Fair Drive - Champaign, IL 61821



Name: _____

Address: _____

Number of Reservations: _____ Total Included with Order: _____

Introduction Current Board
Members by Lin Warfel
Lin Warfel introduced the current Board members and asked them to stand as their name is called.

Introduction of Retiring Board
Members by Mark Pflugmacher
J.C. Reitmeier and Paul Berbaum introduced the retiring Board members and presented them with a picture: Reid Anderson, Camille Miller, Marguerite Zahnd, Mark Pflugmacher, Deb Heinz, Derek Busboom, Judi Steirwalt, Kirk Bulta, Paula Zwilling and Lin Warfel.

Introduction of Nominating
Committee by Mark Pflugmacher
Mark Pflugmacher introduced nominating committee which consisted of myself, Reid Anderson, J.C. Reitmeier, Camille Miller, Marguerite Zahnd, Deb Heinz, Judi Steirwalt and Lin Warfel.

Members Running for an additional
term by Mark Pflugmacher
Members running for an additional term: Darrel Rice, Sidney Township; Chris Murray, Brown Township; Jason Crider, Mahomet Township.

Candidates nominated for the
First Time by Mark Pflugmacher
Candidates nominated for the first time: J.C. Reitmeier, Harwood/Kerr Township; Carl Smith, Ayers Township; Derek Harms, Stanton Township; Dale Tharp, Champaign Township; Kristi Pflugmacher, Condit Township; Frank Hardimon, Colfax Township; Kim Wishall, Pesotum Township.

President Lin Warfel appointed three
tellers consisting of Daniel Herriott, Don Wood and Paul Compton. He asked for nominations from the floor and there were none. Motion was made that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot, motion was seconded by Bev Ehler, and motion carried to cast a unanimous ballot.

IAA Annual Meeting by Lin Warfel
Lin Warfel asked for a motion to authorize the Board of Directors to select the delegates for the 2015 IAA Annual meeting and to approve the actions and deeds of the Board of Directors of 2014. The motion was made, seconded, and carried to allow the Board of Directors to select delegates to the 2015 IAA Annual meeting and approve the actions and deeds of the Board of Directors of 2014.

Deputy of the Year by Eric Suits
Eric Suits introduced Deputy Doug Bialaski as the 2014 Deputy of the Year and presented him with a plaque.

UrbanAgLeaderoftheYearbyKirkBulta
Young Ag Leaders Chair, Kirk Bulta named Bill Malone as the 2014 Urban Ag Leader of the Year.

IFB Award Recognition by Bob Dyer
Bob Dyer presented Champaign County Farm Bureau with the Liberty Bell Award and the Presidents Award.

CCFB Presidents Message by Lin Warfel
Lin Warfel thanked his wife Kay for all her support and everyone for coming.

CCFB Manager Message
by Bradley Uken
Brad also thanked everyone for their time and help in making this another successful year.

Adjournment of Meeting by Lin Warfel
President Lin Warfel asked for a motion to adjourn the 103rd Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau. Motion was made by Mark Pflugmacher, seconded by J.C. Reitmeier and motion carried to adjourn the meeting. Lin Warfel declared the Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Lin Warfel introduced the speaker for the evening Cody Morris, State of Illinois FFA President.