



Champaign County Farm Bureau News

Vol. 96, No. 9

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

September, 2018

“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.”

Getting to Know Champaign County Government

By: Lesley Gooding



Mark Shelden

Meet Mark Shelden – Recorder Of Deeds

Mark Shelden has been Champaign County’s Recorder of Deeds since 2016. Growing up in Rochelle, IL, Mark developed an interest in politics early in his youth saying, “The neighbor across the street was in politics and he got me hooked.” Moving to Champaign-Urbana in 1983 to attend the University of Illinois, Mark fell in love with the community, became involved in local politics, and has now been here for 35 years.

The beginnings of Mark’s local political involvement began in the mid-1980’s. He was an active volunteer on several campaigns, ran for

Champaign County Board, and was a policy analyst for the Illinois House Republican Staff before being appointed the Champaign County Clerk in 1997. Mark was elected to the position of County Clerk four times after his appointment in 1997 and served in this role until 2011. From 2011 to 2013, Mark served as the Chief of Staff for former Congressman Tim Johnson. One of the reasons Mark enjoys local government is because “I can walk down the hallway and resolve a lot of problems!”

The Recorder of Deeds’ office employs 5 staff members plus Mark and currently some additional temporary employees working on a special project. An annual operating budget of approximately \$400,000 ensures the day to day operations of this office run smoothly. On top of this budget, the office generates approximately \$1.2 million from real estate transfer taxes and fee revenues. The office is responsible for recording real estate transactions, land plats, and land titles. Think about this office as the place to go for property rights information. Mark’s advice to all citizens is to “know about any covenants and restrictions on your property. This includes easements and can be done

with a title search through our office.”

The drive to increase technology is bringing change to the Recorder of Deeds Office. Mark and his staff are spearheading several projects including moving plats into a digital format to make them more accessible within the year and digitizing all the deeds from the county within three years. According to Mark, “expanding the digital offerings of the office allows us to digitally preserve records and make searches more accurate.”

Several new uses for technology are on the horizon for the Recorder of Deeds staff and Champaign County citizens and may be implemented in the next decade or so. Blockchain, a distributed ledger technology, helps thwart cybercrime and improve the user experience. Implementing a system so all transactions on a property can be done digitally is also coming down the pike. “It is a challenge to make sure these systems are accurate and secure. We want to make sure when the new technology comes in, it is done right and we do not cut corners,” says Mark.

Getting To Know Mark Shelden Cubs or Cardinals?

I am a Cub fan. I just celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the

1st night game at Wrigley Field which was scheduled for August 8, 1988. Remember it got rained out!

Favorite Dessert?

I love different ice cream concoctions, but my all time favorite is a Root Beer Float. It is so good that I feel guilty about it!

Bucket List?

I enjoy hiking and have done a lot of 13,500 ft. peaks. I really want to get in a 14,000 ft peak. I would also love to walk the Camino de Santiago in northwestern Spain.

Do you have memories of agriculture that you can share with us?

I grew up in Rochelle which had a lot of agriculture industry including Del Monte. Del Monte would give service groups dump trucks full of sweet corn to sell. I remember getting this sweet corn and having it in our freezer 2 to 3 hours after it was picked. It was so fresh and I still love sweet corn. I spent time detasseling corn and still think about walking through those cornfields. It was so cool to finally come to the end of the row – especially for a shorter guy like me! Riding in the combine was always neat too. I still think it is incredible to see all the technology that is used on the farm.

Behind the Scenes at the CCFB

By: Brad Uken

Frequently, all of us get asked, what have you been up to lately? Without unloading our full schedule onto the other person most of us just say oh, I’ve been busy. In reality, it’s true we’re all very busy but we rarely share with friends and neighbors everything we’ve been up to. Well, that’s the point of this new column, what has the Champaign County Farm Bureau been up to on your behalf as a member. The column is going to talk about those functions that we do for our members outside of the meetings and activities, this column is about the stuff that you don’t see pictures of in the newsletter.

These are the little things that we do for our members when they call

into the office or stop by and need some information or the work that we do for a smaller group of members that are impacted by a specific issue. Sometimes though they turn into big things and sometimes these issues that we work on may only impact a small group of members at the present time but have ramifications for the rest of the county in the future.

This month I want to touch on two particular items – one, how we helped some members with an underground utility being installed in the southwest corner of the county and two, an elected officials tour of agriculture.

The issue with the utility project started when several members reached out to our office about

flags being put in the road ditch and on their property marking existing underground wiring. The landowners thought this was a bit odd since no one had contacted them about any type of digging project. We quickly realized that a fiber optic line was being installed in the road ditch along County Highway 17. The installing company was doing their job as they were being paid to do but with two very big issues. One, they did not have the landowner’s permission to cross their property since generally you as a landowner own to the middle of the road and two, by plowing the line in they were breaking every

Continue Behind The Scenes on Page 7

September Report

President, Mike Briggs



As the month of August draws to a close I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. It has been a busy month at the farm bureau. I was able to meet with the other county presidents at the beginning of the month and discuss what numerous issues are facing the farm bureau. A group of us also had the chance to go to Chicago and visit our adopted legislator. We had a good discussion and were able to learn a lot about his district.

As September begins and we are all getting ready for harvest I ask everyone to take time and make sure they are safe.

Again I hope everyone had a great summer and wish everyone a safe harvest.

Sincerely,
Mike Briggs

Join the Prime Timers!
September 13 starting at 10 a.m.

Speaker: Sheriff Dan Walsh

Entertainment: Ed Clem



Gerald Henry, 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 for future meetings!**

October 11
November 8
December 13

Defensive Driving Course

Give your driving skills a tune-up!

Registration deadline September 17th

Class Dates - September 26 & September 27

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

Call 217-352-5235 to reserve your spot today!



Young Ag Leader Update

Next Business Meeting – September 6 at CCFB, 6:30 p.m.

Dinner provided.

Special Thanks to the Young Ag Leader Pedal Tractor Pull Sponsors

Birkeys	Hammer Down Tractor Pull
AHW	Culvers
Champaign Fair Association	Livingston County Farm Bureau

Shout out to the first place 2018 Young Leader Agri-Quiz Bowl team, Champaign County! The competition took place at the Illinois State Fair in August. Team members were Daniel Herriott, Luke Zwilling, and Kyle Hammel! Photos can be found on page 8.

Marketing Fall Market Outlook Panel

September 10th at 6:30 p.m.
CCFB Auditorium

Panel Members:

Adam Moritz

Randy Bolen

Clayton Pope

JP Jones

RSVP by September 7th

#217-352-5235

VIEWPOINT SURVEY

Don't Forget to fill out and return your viewpoint survey!

Lost it? Visit:

www.jotform.com/champaignCFB/ccfb-viewpoint-survey

To fill it out today!

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's Committee is open to all women members of the Champaign County Farm Bureau. The women's committee meets every second Monday of the month (except May and October) at 9:30 a.m. with lunch to follow.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

September 10 - 9:30 a.m.

Meeting at CCFB Auditorium.

Lunch and tour at Harvest Market,

2029 S. Neil St, Champaign, following the meeting.

September 15 – 10 a.m. – 2p.m.

Curtis Orchard Harvest Day,
3902 S. Duncan Rd, Champaign

Backpack Donations Needed



CCFB Women's Committee is taking donations of new or gently used backpacks at the CCFB Office. Backpacks are donated to the Eastern IL Foodbank and used by schools to send food home for children at risk of weekend hunger.

"Check Your Calendar!" September 2018

September 3	Holiday	Office Closed
September 6	Young Ag Leaders	6:30 p.m.
September 10	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
September 10	Marketing Club	6:30 p.m.
September 13	Prime Timers	10 a.m.
September 13	Full Board	6:30 p.m.
September 15	Curtis Orchard Harvest Day	10 a.m. – 2p.m.
September 18	Legislative Committee	7:30 a.m.
September 26 & 27	Defensive Driving	

October 2018

October 8	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
October 11	Prime Timers	10 a.m.

NOTE – Most committees DO NOT meet in October.
Have a SAFE harvest season!



It was a great day in Chicago visiting our Adopted Legislator, State Representative Greg Harris! We had a fantastic discussion about the issues facing his district in Chicago.

Meet FarmWeek Crop-Watcher – Daniel Herriott



Daniel Herriott

You might recognize Daniel Herriott as one of the twenty-eight CropWatchers from around the state who are frequently featured in FarmWeek. Daniel is a second generation CropWatcher in his second growing season. A lot has changed for FarmWeek’s CropWatchers over the years and Daniel has seen it all first-hand saying, “In some sense, you could say being the CropWatcher for Champaign County is in my blood. A few years ago, my father was a CropWatcher. It was a little different back then as he had to call in every week to give his report orally; because the internet was not as widespread as it is today. Nowadays, I email my report every Thursday evening (or super early Friday morning) to the office in Bloomington. This gives them the opportunity to edit and format our reports on Friday before sending the paper off to the printer.”

Daniel farms with his family near Sidney, IL, but keeps his eyes on the county as a whole when reporting on crop conditions. “Every week, I strive to write about what is currently happening across the county. In the early season, I am mostly writing about activities that are happening in the fields for those that are in other areas of the state or maybe an out of state landowner. When we get into July and early August, that can become a little difficult as field activity slows down and the crop is not changing as quickly. Last year, I had the unfortunate chance to talk about spider mites that affected a small area in the county.”

Covering the crop conditions around the county is challenging, but other challenges come with the title of CropWatcher including providing information to Farmweek on the correct day of the week. Daniel says reports are due on Thursday and “that seems to be the most common evening for meetings. It is certainly a struggle to remember to write my report on those evenings when I get home late from a meeting. I am fortunate that my wife is always looking out for me and has reminded me a few times.”

In addition to farming, Daniel has an off the farm job which allows

him to frequently travel to other parts of the county and talk with farmers. This frequent travel helps Daniel keep an eye and ear to the ground for changing weather conditions and crop conditions throughout the county. “It is a big challenge to write the Crop-Watcher reports and be relevant to the entire county. Last year, the crop was fairly uniform across the northern part of the county and then uniform in the south as well. I felt pretty comfortable splitting the county in half. We also had 3 planting windows that most of the crop was planted into, which helped as I talked about crop development. This year has been completely different. I feel the county needs to be split into 4 quadrants in order to be more accurate when writing reports. The planting windows were scrambled this year with the popup rain showers that started back when we were planting in April. My space for writing is limited, so it is hard to truly write what is happening in every part of the county when the county is so large and has such different weather patterns every year. As I had been watching rain move through the area this year, I thought there was some uniformity to it. I was dearly wrong when I traveled down to the SW tip of the county to find the crops in dire need of rain. When that happens, I feel guilty that I missed a chance to tell that story for others to be aware. There has been a good amount of variation this year from township to township and it has been harder to cover the entire county. Overall, I strive to give a report that is a good representation of Champaign County so that readers across the state can compare their crop to ours. I also strive to add something specific to the area so readers from Champaign County can be on the watch for certain insects or diseases that are popping up in the area.”

Harvest 2018 is quickly approaching. CCFB was able to get a sneak peek at what Champaign County’s CropWatcher is expecting to see...”I would expect that this year’s corn crop is going to be similar to our past 5-year average, but I certainly do not anticipate it to set any records. As I write this in the middle of August (before a forecasted rain), I am unsure how the soybean yields will be. I would expect the northern part of the county that had a good 2+ inch rain in early August to have a good crop of soybeans. In the southern part of the county, I expect soybean yields to vary depending on planting date and maturity. Some early planted beans struggled with Phytophthora and now the early maturity beans are turning before receiving the last rain of the season they need to finish out strong.”

Now that you have met Champaign County Farm Bureau’s Crop-Watcher keep an eye out for Daniel in FarmWeek or find his weekly report online at cropwatchers.ilfb.org

VETERANS: Mark your Calendars for Monday, Nov. 12!

Have you carefully reviewed the July and August newsletter with our ad for the special Veteran’s Day program we are having in honor of Champaign County Farm Bureau Military Veterans? Have you taken action to reserve your spot by calling the Farm Bureau office at 352-5235?

The Women’s Committee is

inviting veterans from our membership, along with their spouse, for a special breakfast at 8AM that day. We are planning a panel presentation with veterans from different eras of service. You will not want to miss this event. Veterans in attendance will receive a specially designed cap to thank you for your service to our country.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
FARM BUREAU SALUTES OUR VETERAN MEMBERS

Monday | Nov. 12 | 8 AM
801 N. COUNTRY FAIR DR.
CHAMPAIGN, IL
RSVP REQUIRED: (217) 352-5235

Veterans: The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women’s Committee will be hosting a breakfast in your honor for your service and protection of our country and freedom. 50 Veterans will receive a specially designed Farm Bureau veteran hat as a token of our appreciation.



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KIRK BULTA
Executive Director



MYLA MUNRO
Earth Partners Coordinator

The Vision of an Educator

By Sarah Kaper- Director, Earth Partners

If it's been awhile since you were in school, the classrooms of 2018 look a little different than they once did. Today's modern classroom has dynamic space with desks, books and storage for each student. Teachers and students have access to several forms of technology. There are ways to track a student's growth and ways to communicate that growth with families, but does it have room for real world experiences?

My name is Sarah Kaper, and I am the new Director of Earth Partners. I grew up in rural northeastern Indiana. I met my husband at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana. In 1991, we moved to Iroquois County where I taught, and we had our 4 children. I "retired" from teaching to stay home with my children. Then, in 2007, we had the opportunity to move to Mahomet where my husband started his own business, and I began teaching in

the Mahomet-Seymour School District. I recently left the classroom to work with the CCFB Foundation and look forward to bringing agriculture to the students and teachers of Champaign County.

Looking at our world through the eyes of an educator, I see apples and pumpkins in the fall and wonder how much the students know about the life cycle of an apple or a pumpkin. During fall harvest I wonder if students know how our economy is impacted by corn and beans. While students are shopping, preparing, and consuming meals with their families, do they know where their meat and dairy comes from? In the spring, have the students ever experienced the joy of seeing new life hatch from eggs?

Ag in the Classroom can bring those experiences right to the classrooms of Champaign County. Bringing agricultural education to students of all



ages is the goal of the CCFB Foundation's Earth Partners program. With a wealth of physical resources (teaching kits that can be checked out prepared with lessons ready to teach), professional presenters (educators who are trained to teach or advise lessons), and volunteer resources (farmers, teen teachers, and other experienced members from the community who are ready to help bring

the real world to the classroom) there is a great potential to reach many classrooms.

There is still work to do to teach relevant and ever-changing agricultural content, reach all types of learners, and equip classrooms with real resources. I look forward to working with the teachers of Champaign County to bring agriculture into their classrooms.



Thank You to our Sponsors!



Congratulations to our Winning Golfers!

Golf Course Pro Division

1st Place - Watson's Top Crop

Jason Watson, Jerry Watson, Jeff Watson & Scott Jackson

2nd Place - COUNTRY Financial

Nathan Hubbard, Ron Gregory, Dan Punkay & Steve Derry

Farmer Joe Division

1st Place - Ehler Brothers #1

Chad Goldenstein, Todd Albers, Randy Frerichs & Ryan Loschen

2nd Place - CCFB Board of Directors

Mike Briggs, Tom Swigart, Brennan Breymeyer & Dale Franzen

94 golfers participated in this year's Foundation Golf outing at Lake of the Woods Golf Club in Mahomet. Golfers were split into two divisions based on their golf skill. Golfers competed against others at their skill level: the Golf Course Pro's and the Farmer Joes. Winning teams took home a gift of our appreciation, and bragging rights for the year. Congratulations to all golfers!



Foundation friends from Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative take a break from golf to enjoy a "fiesta in the fairway". This year's golf outing included fun games and themed tee boxes including the "fiesta in the fairway" complete with chips and salsa and sombreros.



Foundation Scholarship recipient Michael Sage (right) helps a supporter prepare to launch his golf ball 300 yards with the Foundation's Golf Ball Cannon. Golfers are able to save their swing, and a stroke or two, by launching their ball towards the green.



MARK THORNSBOROUGH,
GENERAL MANAGER

From The Field

by Dr. Howard Brown

CORN HARVEST TO ARRIVE SOONER THAN LATER

Recent dramatic changes to the 2018 corn crop's appearance provide us a reminder that the fall harvest season is not far away. The cause of the rapid loss of plant health likely originates with environmental stress over the past several weeks coupled with an aggressive yield potential. Here are some examples of environmental or growth events that may be primary contributors to current crop conditions:

SATURATED SOIL AND ROOT GROWTH. Rainfall received in June, 2018 exceeded rainfall received during June in 2017 by 6.2 inches (Champaign, IL). Periods of wet, saturated soil can lead to both the loss of plant root mass and plant-available N (specifically nitrate-N). Roots require oxygen to live and grow. Rainfall sustained over a period of time tends to infiltrate the soil and fill pore space with water, excluding soil air containing needed oxygen for plant roots. Roots tend to start dying within 24 to 48 hours without soil air. Plant-available N is normally found in the nitrate-N form by mid-June (exceptions include the use of nitrification inhibitors or controlled-release N). Nitrate-N can be lost as a gas through denitrification (microbially driven) or by leaching (movement with soil water).

N-TRACKER AND PLANT-AVAILABLE. None of the 2018 N-TRACKER sites beyond the first week of June (last N-TRACKER sampling date). It is nearly impossible to determine the soil's N status once the corn plants are growing on a daily basis due to plant uptake. However we are working on an addition to the current N-TRACKER sampling program to track plant-available N during rapid plant growth and beyond pollination into the fill period. More information about the new approach will be a topic at our fall meetings and discussions. I am excited. :-)

CRITICAL PERIOD FOR ROOT GROWTH. Corn plants focus on root and vegetative growth up to silk emergence (post-tassel emergence) and on ear fill following pollination. Any loss of root mass (e.g. Insect feeding, dry or saturated soil conditions may not be noticed until the plant enters the reproductive stage of growth when the primary focus of the plant is filling the young kernels in the ear and the root mass is inadequate to support the increased demand for water and nutrient uptake. Following pollination, plant roots generally die faster than they grow. Any loss of root mass or lack of an opportunity to develop root mass during the vegetative stages of growth will likely take a toll on plant health during the reproductive stages.

ENVIRONMENT FOR HIGH YIELD. With exception of a few periods of significant rain events or sustained above-normal temperatures, the 2018 growing season for many has supported the hope of high yields in a few weeks. Plants that make it through vegetative and early reproductive stages of growth with little stress provide an environment for ear development. Unfortunately, uneven rainfall distribution, coupled with abnormally high temperatures has limited yield potential in localized areas of East-Central Illinois.

EAR DEVELOPMENT. The number of rows an ear will have is determined when the young plant has 5 to 8 true leaves. The number of kernels per row is determined when the plant has 12 to 15 true leaves. The number of kernels fertilized (pollinated) and filled depends upon the growing environment approximately 2 weeks before and after tassel emergence. Stress during early growth may limit the number of rows per ear while stress closer to tassel emergence may limit the number of kernels per row.

STRESS PRE/POST TASSEL EMERGENCE. Stress prior to pollen shed may leave some kernel embryos unfertilized due to delayed silk emergence (hot and dry). While pollen shed (tasseling) is primarily driven by heat units, heat or moisture stress during silk emergence can delay silking enough for tip kernels to miss pollen shed (tip embryos last to receive pollen). Periods of stress during pollination can also be noted when regions within the ear express bands or areas of poor or no pollinated embryos. Plants experiencing stress following pollination may abort ear tip kernels. Although pollinated, tip kernels may be aborted if the plant detects it does not have the capacity to complete all the kernels pollinated.

BEYOND POLLINATION. Corn is an annual plant with the primary purpose to germinate, grow and reproduce. The plant does whatever it takes to complete at least one viable kernel before the end of the growing season or the plant's life, including killing itself by remobilizing needed nutrients to the developing grain. Beyond 2-3 weeks following silk emergence the plant commits to fill all remaining kernels, remobilizing needed nutrients from the roots and lower stalk if needed to complete kernel fill. Roots and lower stalk tissue that lose nutrients to such remobilization start to die, attracting soil pathogens that breakdown dead or dying plant tissues, many that we refer to as stalk rots.

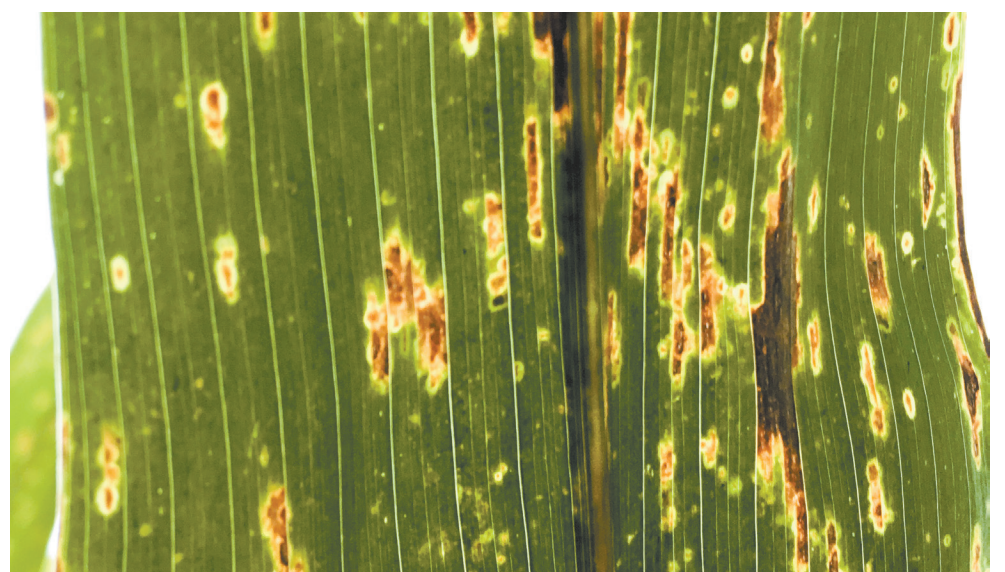
Twitter

Howard Brown @Hbrownillinifs Jun 22

If ever there was environment to test the value of a fungicide appl., it would be this year. Split a field. Make untreated area wide to minimize any marginal fungicide drift. Request sooner than later. Many fields will be scheduled. Timing is important.

LEAF DISEASE CHALLENGES. The 2018 growing season has favored higher potentially higher yields as well as fungal leaf pathogens, such as Gray Leaf Spot in corn and Frog Eye Leaf Spot in soybeans. Gray Leaf Spot is considered an aggressive pathogen that destroys leaf area and limits the plant's ability to complete grain fill. Loss of leaf area causes the plant to cannibalize itself in an effort to complete grain fill, leaving the roots and lower stalk vulnerable to soil pathogens that cause stalk rots. Fungicide applications, whether to corn or soybean crops, will likely be viewed as a good investment this fall.

STALK ROTS LIKELY TO CHALLENGE HARVEST. Based upon the current crop condition, producers should expect widespread stalk rots in corn. Cannibalization of the roots and lower stalk to finish grain fill, coupled with adequate moisture for growth and development of the soil-borne fungal pathogens, make it an ideal environment for stalk rots to be an issue to corn harvest. Make time to walk into a few fields and pinch the lower stalk. If the stalk is soft or easily pinches, consider an early-than-anticipated harvest. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist for help determining the extent of stalk rots.



Gray Leaf Spot taken under the leaf looking up into the light (8/23/2018). Small specks are new points of infection marking where a lesion will grow. The timely use of fungicides in 2018 will likely provide a significant Return-on-Investment.



Nathan Hubbard
COUNTRY Financial
Agency Manager



Rhonda Wagner
Administrative Assistant
Champaign Agency



Dan Punkay
328-0023



Travis Heath
352-4555



Keith Garrett
485-3010



Jessie DeHaan
352-3466



Stan Ochs
352-3296



Terry Hill
469-9800



Jim Nelson
892-4479

Catching Up With Austin Beaty



NOW - Austin, Nash, Kelsey, & Romy



THEN - Kelsey, Nash, and Austin



Bret Kroencke
359-9391



Chuck Rippy
586-5030



Chris Greenwold
355-8675



Dan Duitsman
469-2033



John May
352-3341



Austin Beaty
217-352-0012



Steve Derry
352-2655

Some things have changed, but some things have remained the same for COUNTRY Financial Representative Austin Beaty since we interviewed him in March 2017. Austin says “I am still employed, which is great. Also, my wife gave birth to our second child, a little girl named Romy, last Halloween! My family is very busy, but things couldn’t be better!”

In addition to being very busy at home, you can find Austin working hard at his office located at 801 N Country Fair Drive in Champaign. Austin, born in Bloomington and raised in Harrisburg, made his way back to central Illinois to attend Illinois State University. After graduating from ISU, Austin worked in COUNTRY Financial’s billing department for two years. An opportunity arose for Austin to tackle a new job and made the switch to the Champaign Agency.

Austin’s role as a COUNTRY Financial Representative provides him with the opportunity to sit down with people and figure out their needs. “The life insurance side of the job is the most rewarding. You can see the relief in their face when someone walks away knowing their family is now protected. You know that they just made a decision out of love that will benefit those around them someday when they’re gone.” In addition to life insurance, Austin has a big piece of advice to share with clients “lose that debt.”

Working with clients to put them in a better position than when they first walk in Austin’s office is very important. When we asked Austin what is the #1 avoidable mistake young people make with their finances he responded, “I see SO many young people go out and buy an expensive car and get a fancy apartment the moment they land their first job because that’s what they see other people doing. Pay yourself first. Establish a budget that allows you to contribute to your retirement and savings BEFORE buying the toys.”

Hard hitting questions to find out **WHO IS THE REAL AUSTIN BEATY?**

Who has inspired you in your life and why?

My father has been my greatest inspiration. He set the example of how to be a good father, son, friend, husband, man, etc. He is who I want to be like when I grow up.

Name one item on your bucket list?

I would like to take my wife on a trip to see the major cities in Europe.

Cubs or Cardinals?

Atlanta Falcons

What’s the best advice you’ve received?

You miss 100% of the shots you don’t take. Shooters shoot.

What’s your favorite thing to do in Champaign County?

I love to try all the new restaurants that pop up around the county! I love a delicious meal (that I didn’t have to cook myself).

If you could tell your 15-years-younger self one piece of advice, what would it be?

The memorable moments in life come after you feel the butterflies in your stomach. Don’t run away from that feeling!



Aaron Wheeler
586-6170



Scott Jackson
359-9335



Dawn Babb
892-4479



Andrew Deedrich
359-3941

TRIP & TOUR SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE

The deadlines to join CCFB on its upcoming trips and tours are here! Don't miss out on your chance to make new friends, visit fun and interesting places, and see more of the Midwest. Call the office today at 217-352-5235.

Family Bus Trip to Louisville - NEW THIS YEAR

There is something for everyone on this trip. A quick family getaway designed with family fun in mind. Young children, youth, and adults will be entertained and make memories for years to come.

Trip Dates: October 26 & 27, 2018

Cost per person: Under age of 3 - \$76; Age 4 & 5 - \$125; Age 6-14 - \$160; Age 15 – 18 -\$175;

ADULT \$255 per person – DBL - \$313 for SNGL

Trip includes: Hotel stay at Courtyard by Marriot, transportation, Jack-O Lantern Spectacular, Churchill Downs, Friday dinner at Guy's, Saturday box lunch, and your choice of Louisville Slugger Museum & tour or Bulleit Frontier Whiskey Experience. Families must pay for their dinner on Saturday and drinks for Friday dinner, as well as any souvenirs or extras.

Southern Illinois - 2 day, 1 night trip

Trip Dates: October 17 & 18, 2018

Cost per person: \$325.00 per person

Trip includes: Transportation, hotel, 2-lunches, 1-dinner, 2-wine tastings and museum tour.

Day 1 Highlights

◆ General John A. Logan Museum This museum celebrates one of the most noteworthy nineteenth century Americans to escape notice in the 20th and 21st centuries. Among his legacies are modern veterans' benefits and Memorial Day.

◆ Von Jakob Vineyard We will enjoy lunch and wine tasting if you choose



General John A. Logan Museum

◆ Rendleman Orchards Since 1873, Rendleman Orchards has been committed to growing and shipping quality peaches, nectarines, apples and vegetables to the commercial produce markets throughout the Midwest including Champaign County Farm Bureau. This orchard is nestled in the hills of Southern Illinois' Shawnee National Forest.

◆ Bald Knob Cross of Peace is designed to provide a place where all people can unite to experience the presence of God.

◆ Peach Barn at Hedman Vineyards Enjoy a wine tasting and dinner, this Swedish restaurant complements the wine selections and offers a truly unique experience. It provides authenticity and the highest-quality value in the culinary and viticulture world. There is nothing else like it in the region.

◆ After dinner you will head for the hotel in Anna, IL (Super 8 Hotel)



Hedman's Vineyard and Winery Peachbarn

Day 2 Highlights

- ◆ Illinois ASA Hall of Fame in Casey, IL
- ◆ Lunch at Richards Farm Restaurant

Guest Commentary Educates Non Farm Public

Champaign County Farm Bureau aims to place monthly commentaries in the News-Gazette focusing on issues important to agriculture. Volunteers with knowledge of agriculture issues develop an educational piece focused on the non-farm public. CCFB finds great value in educating the non-farm public about agriculture and keeping them informed about issues affecting their neighbors and friends in Champaign County.

The August commentary was tied directly to the county and state fair season that was in high gear with a focus on the time and effort kids put into showing livestock. The commentary educates the non-farm public about time spent working with and caring for the animal and why kids and families invest time in this endeavor. It also speaks to what kids learn from the experience and the value of participating in programs such as 4-H.

August's commentary, written by Marla Todd, was published in the News-Gazette on August 12. Marla showed Charolais cattle with her family as a youth and is now a proud 4-H mom and leader. Her sons are now beginning to experience showing livestock.

An excerpt from the commentary is below. To read the commentary in full please visit www.ccfarmbureau.com

LIFE LESSONS LEARNED IN THE BARN

"The Illinois State Fair kicked off Thursday evening in Springfield with the traditional Twilight Parade. However, days before politicians shook hands and community floats made their way past the grandstand, hundreds of 4-H and



FFA members arrived with sheep, cattle, swine, goat, and poultry projects to compete for blue ribbons and grand champion recognition.

The work to prepare for this one week began months before trucks and trailers filled with kids and livestock arrived in Springfield. These young people and their families have spent countless hours working with these animals, feeding and caring for them, and keeping them comfortable with clean bedding and cool fans. They learn how to work with their animals and know how to interact with each animal for their own and the animal's safety. For many, this is a family affair and time spent in the barn is quality family time."



Behind The Scenes continued from Page 1

field tile they came across with the promise they'd come back later and fix it. While the Farm Bureau is not opposed to new fiber optic lines or in general to utility projects, they are opposed to trespassing and damaging private property. With the help of the Illinois Farm Bureau General Counsel and several local attorneys, the project was stopped, at least temporarily. Although, just recently the company has informed landowners that they will again be starting the installation process in the coming days. The challenge continues to be that the Farm Bureau believes they do not have the authority to utilize the road ditch for installation of a fiber optic line without landowner permission since landowners own to the middle of the road in most circumstances. We are diligently working with landowners in that area to inform them about their rights and steps that need to be taken to maintain the integrity of their private property.

So, while this project impacted only a small number of landowners in a portion of the county it's these type of utility projects that can happen throughout the rest of the county. Again, the Farm Bureau is typically not opposed to these projects but are opposed when the rights and privileges of our members are forgotten about and ignored by these utility companies.

The second effort this month I'd like to touch on is our recent elected officials tour of agriculture.

While we couldn't possible see every aspect of agriculture in a brief three-hour tour around the county were able to have some great conversations about irrigation and the Mahomet Aquifer and some of the many conservation practices our members are utilizing to protect the water quality and soil of this county.

The participating elected officials ranged from mayors to county board members, city staff, staff for our U.S. Congressman and members of the state-appointed Mahomet Aquifer Protection Taskforce. It's these leaders that are the decision makers on a number of fronts that all have an impact on our industry, thus, we need to work harder in engaging them in conversations about what we are doing, why we do it, and its impact on our farming operations, the environment and the community as a whole.

I want to say a huge thanks to the Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District and especially Jonathon Manuel for his work on the conservation side of the tour and Mark & Kristi Pflugmacher, Jacob Kesler, John Clifford and Chris Murray for their efforts with the irrigation stop.

I hope that perhaps this column provides some insights into how the Farm Bureau is continuously working to represent you, our members, and the organization as a whole. It's this type of programming that many of you may not be aware of that is going on each and every day within the Farm Bureau. Thank You for being a member!



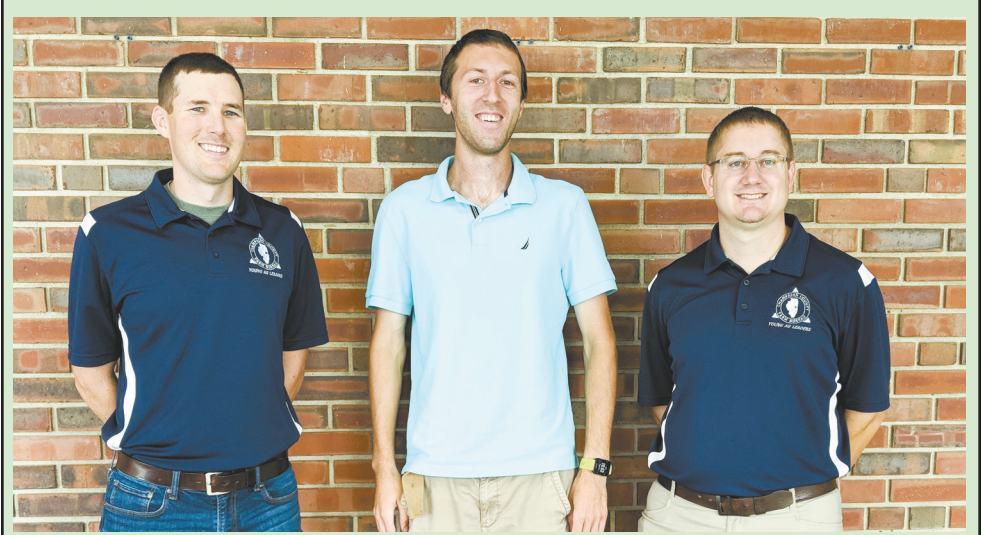
As part of our outreach efforts, the CCFB hosted local legislators on a tour of an irrigation pivot and conservation practices in order to inform the local legislators of farmer efforts to conserve and protect the water supply.



Over 100 members discussed the latest legislative issues over the course of 3 Toolshed Meetings. Thank you to the Rund's, Franzen's, and Zahnd's for hosting and to Mark Gebhards of the Illinois Farm Bureau for spending the day in Champaign County.



The marketing club was pleased to welcome Curt Kimmel and Paul Berbaum to their August meeting. The next meeting will be on Sept. 10th at 6:30 and feature a Fall Outlook panel.



Congratulations to the Champaign Co. Young Ag Leaders Quiz Bowl team that placed 1st at the Illinois Farm Bureau quiz bowl contest at the Illinois State Fair! Team members were: Kyle Hammel, Daniel Herriott, and Luke Zwilling.



The CCFB Women's Committee had an exciting day as they toured the State Farm Center, home to the U of I Men's & Women's Basketball Teams!