

Champaign County Farm Bureau Member – FAQ’s

Are you a CCFB member with a question about benefits or what CCFB does? Don’t know who to ask or where to find your answers? We rounded up the most popular questions that come into the office and answered them for you! If you ever have a question or need additional information feel free to call the office at 217-352-5235.

- Why do I pay membership dues? What do the funds support?**

Like many not-for-profit organizations the CCFB depends on your membership dues to help fund the organization. Your dues help to support the programming and opportunities that our members have access to, including all of our informational meetings, our consumer outreach efforts, and registrations for the various Illinois Farm Bureau meetings throughout the year.

- I want to get involved in the organization, but I don’t know where to start.**

Great! We’d love to get you involved! The best way to do so would be to get in contact with the CCFB office and find out what events are coming up. Also, the list of current member committees is on the CCFB website. You can also find the township director for your township on the website and you can always contact them to learn more about the CCFB.

- How do I learn more about my membership benefits?**

The best place to see your over 300,000 benefits is at ilfb.abenity.com. Your local benefits can be viewed on the CCFB website under the membership tab.

- I am not tech savvy. Can I still call the office or come in for help to learn more about my benefits?**

Always! Maggi, our Membership & Outreach Coordinator will be happy to help you learn more!

- What are CCFB’s top 3 priorities for 2019/20?**

CCFB is striving to improve communications with our members, improve engagement with our members, and continue to provide excellent programming for all our members.

- What are 3 of the greatest accomplishments by CCFB & ILFB over the past 3 years?**

Over the few years we have seen an introduction of the Professional Membership, an increase in the number of programs run by the CCFB, and membership growth in Champaign County.

- Are there ways to support CCFB and its mission without joining a committee?**

Combine Rides Have Positive Outcomes

The Champaign County Farm Bureau recently invited several local lawmakers to spend time on the farm. Farmers opened up their combine doors to lawmakers and dedicated time getting to know them and educating them about the ins and outs of harvest.

One of those people riding along in the combine was Champaign County Coroner Duane Northrup. Duane farmed his grandparent’s land for several years until becoming Deputy Coroner in 2001. Getting back in the combine was a good and interesting experience for Duane, “I learned the technical side of farming has advanced considerably since I was farming years ago. Use of GPS equipment and its accuracy has improved significantly.”

Educating non-farmers living in a community heavily dependent on the agriculture industry is valuable to spreading the message about the importance of agriculture. Duane backs this up when talking about joining in Harvest 2019, “I find the farm bureau to be a great resource for all area farmers. I loved the idea of bringing local and countywide officials to the farm to gain knowledge directly from the farmers on how decisions and actions we make can and often affect rural farms.”

Communication is a two-way street in the cab of the combine. During the ride- along Duane shed some light on what his office does and how it benefits Champaign County, “I usually find that most people do not have a great understanding of the coroner’s job and I hope I was able to provide valuable information to the farmers regarding coroner job duties and responsibilities.”

Yes! There are a lot of ways to be involved without joining a committee. Just showing up to events helps the CCFB in its mission. We are always willing to listen to ideas for programs or thoughts on programs we’ve run and we are thankful for engagement from any member. Also, the CCFB Foundation is always looking for volunteers and supporters for their scholarship and Ag in the Classroom programs.

- What are the biggest challenges facing the organization and its membership?**

The biggest challenge continues to be engaging and educating the consumer on where their food comes from. The CCFB and the CCFB Foundation strive to improve the consumer knowledge in Champaign County. Also, the agriculture economy is currently struggling. So, helping our farmer members navigate this turbulent time is at the forefront of our mission for the next year.

- What big issues in agriculture does the CCFB foresee tackling in the next 3 years?**

The ag economy and how to help farmers navigate these tough times. The local issues are also important, we need to protect our drainage districts and the other local entities that serve rural areas. Finally, we are committed to being heard on a state and national level on issues like trade, ethanol waiver, crop insurance, and other important ag topics.

- How does the CCFB communicate with me?**

We communicate in a variety of ways. There’s the monthly newsletter that all farmer members receive. There’s “The Friday Leader” email newsletter that comes out every Friday, if you aren’t receiving that please call the office so we can be sure we have your proper email address! We are also on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, just search for Champaign County Farm Bureau!



Champaign County Board Member Jim McGuire & Jeff Fisher on a combine ride along during Harvest 2019.

Special thanks to Steve and Bernie Hammel, CCFB members, for hosting Duane for a combine ride during Harvest 2019. Duane was sure to give them a shout out for a great time saying, “Thanks for the wonderful opportunity!”

In a different field on the same day, CCFB Member Jeff Fisher opened his combine cab to County Board Member Jim McGuire. The combine ride-along was a first-time, brand-new experience for Jim. Jim was fascinated with the technology being used and how a combine works. Jeff was able to give Jim a look at harvest from the operator’s viewpoint and hit on a lot of harvest basics. Jeff learned a lot during this visit too saying, “Jim and I touched on the tip of the iceberg when it comes to issues the county board is dealing with. They have a big job ahead of them dealing with the county jail, follow up with the nursing

home, and many other issues.” Jeff Fisher finds great value in a combine ride- along and encourages other local officials to get in the field and experience harvest. Fewer and fewer members of the general public have a connection to the farm. “Being able to provide an agriculture learning experience for a consumer who happens to be an elected official is wonderful. This is a great time to explain how harvest works and allow consumers to create a connection to the agriculture industry. Every day driving to school or work and passing a farm field, they will have a new connection and understanding of agriculture.” CCFB would like to extend a warm THANK YOU to all farmers, officials, and consumers participating in this year’s event! More photos on page 8...

November Report

President, Mike Briggs



I hope everyone had a safe harvest and is getting close to finishing up. Yields for some weren't what they have been the last couple years but most people have been satisfied given the conditions. Hopefully Mother Nature cooperates and we are able to get post-harvest work done as we start to prepare for 2020.

We are quickly approaching the end of the year which means it's time for the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting in Chicago. There is always good conversation as we work on setting the direction for Farm Bureau in the coming year.

Our programs in Champaign County will start to pick back up as harvest winds down and I hope to see many of you at one of our events or meetings.

Sincerely,
Mike Briggs

Women's Committee Technology Night

November 20 @ 6:30 p.m.

*Open to all Champaign County Farm Bureau Members
Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium*

Tricia Campbell will be teaching a workshop on how to use iDevices, such as I-pads and I-phones. The workshop will include how to use apps on your device and how to navigate the internet! At the end of the workshop she will answer any questions you may have! Call the CCFB office today to sign up at 217-352-5235!

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

*The Champaign County Farm Bureau
Women's Committee is open to all women
interested in agriculture.*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

November 11

9:30 a.m. - Leia Flure, RD

All You Want to Know about Cooking Oils

November 20

6:30 p.m. - Web Workshop with Tricia Campbell
Managing your I phone or I pad for optimal use

Snacks served

December 9

10:30 a.m. - Christmas Brunch
@ Farm Bureau Auditorium

A-L: Meat or Vegetable

M-Z: Salad or Dessert

Join the Prime Timers!

November 14 starting at 10 a.m.

SPEAKER – Dave Newcomb,
Agriculture Program Director with
Illinois Fire Service Institute



ENTERTAINMENT – Marvin Lee Flessner

Gerald Henry, Prime Timers Chairman

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month

Lunch cost - \$8

Call 352-5235 ahead of each meeting to reserve your spot

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

December 12

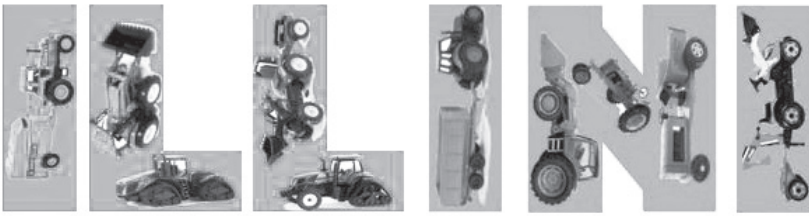
January - No Meeting

CCFB Calendar of Events November 2019

November 4	Marketing Club	6:30 p.m.
November 7	Young Ag Leaders	6:00 p.m.
November 11	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
November 12	Premier Ladies Marketing	9:30 a.m.
November 14	Prime Timers	10:00 a.m.
November 19	Governmental Affairs Committee	7:30 a.m.
November 20	Women's Committee Technology Night	6:30 p.m.
November 21	Full Board	6:30 p.m.
November 28-29	Office Closed – Holiday	

December 2019

December 5	Young Ag Leaders	6:00 p.m.
December 7-10	IFB Annual Meeting – Chicago	
December 9	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
December 10	Premier Ladies Marketing	9:30 a.m.
December 12	Prime Timers	10:00 a.m.
December 17	Governmental Affairs Committee	7:30 a.m.
December 19	Full Board	6:30 p.m.



FARM TOY SHOW AND AUCTION

Friday, Jan. 3rd, 2020 4 PM – 8 PM*

**Room vendors may be open later at vendor discretion.*

Saturday, Jan. 4th, 2020

9 AM – 3 PM, Auction 10:30 AM

Adults: \$3, Kids 6-12: \$2, Under 6: Free

**Garden Hotel, 1001 W. Killarney St. Urbana, IL 61801
I-74 to Exit 183, South on Lincoln Ave, Hotel on the West**

**For additional information contact Lynn
at (970) 420-4765 or lynnann85@gmail.com**

Sponsored by Champaign and Vermilion Young Ag Leaders

St. Joseph Ogden FFA News & Events

FFA members from Section 17 gathered together at the annual Leadership Training School to learn various leadership skills from the Section 17 Officer Team and State Reporter, Brodee McCormick. Members attended workshops about member re-

cruitment, building their chapter brand, leadership, and building a resume and scholarship. Section 17 provided dinner from Moe's in Champaign, various workshops, and impactful reflections. Thank you to the University of Illinois for providing a facility

and various leaders to assist in the execution of the event. Overall, the event was beyond successful and the Section 17 Officer Team is ecstatic for upcoming events!



St. Joseph-Ogden Auction

St. Joseph-Ogden High School FFA Chapter welcomes you to attend our 2020 Chapter fundraising auction. Due to the late harvest we have RESCHEDULED the date to February 22, 2020. The evening will begin with dinner at 5:00PM, silent auction at 6:00PM, and live auction starting at 8:00PM. All proceeds of the St. Joseph-Ogden FFA

Auction will be used to support the Agricultural Education Program/FFA Chapter. This money will be used specifically for scholarships to leadership camps, state and national conventions, and sending teams to compete at various Career Development Events. We hope to see you all in attendance!



CCFB was back at Mahomet-Seymour High School earlier this fall talking about driving safely around farm equipment with their drivers ed students!

Feeding our Future.
Fueling our Industry.

CCFBFOUNDATION.COM

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2019 Harvest Gala Sponsors

Thank you for your support this year!

Diamond Sponsors

Platinum Sponsors

Gold Sponsors

Bronze Sponsors

Silver Sponsors

MRS. KAPER'S CLASSROOM

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY AG IN THE CLASSROOM

September 2019
57 Classes
1,267 Students
113 Teachers
Received Resources

Schools Visited

- St. Matthews - Stratton
- Wiley - St. Thomas - Ludlow
- Edison -Lincoln Trail
- Bottenfield - MPE - UECS
- South Side - Prairieview
- Judah - Leal - Fisher
- Ogden - Ludlow - Ogden

October Lessons

- Illinois - #1 in Pumpkins!
- A-Maizing Corn
- Where Does My Pizza Come From?

GOT WHEAT? We are looking for wheat for a lesson. Have some? Contact Sarah! 217-352-5235



**KORY KRAUS,
GENERAL MANAGER**

Illini FS Names New General Manager

Illini FS, Inc. is pleased to announce that Kory Kraus has been named the new General Manager as of October 1, 2019 following the retirement of former General Manager, Mark Thornsborough. Kory had been working as the General Manager of Piatt County Service Company since 2016.

Kory began his System career in 1998 as a customer applicator and crop specialist for Hancock Service Company (a predecessor company of West Central FS). From 2007 until 2009, he served as an FS Seed District Sales Manager for GROWMARK, Inc. In 2009 Kory became agronomy marketing manager at West Central FS, Inc. He was named general manager of Piatt County Service Company in 2016. Since his

start in the GROWMARK System, Kory has demonstrated leadership and effective, efficient management in all aspects of his career.

Kory had the following to say about his new role: “I’m excited to be the new General Manager at Illini FS, I believe we have great opportunities ahead of us. I look forward to meeting the great customers we have in the 5 counties we serve!”

With his vast knowledge and experience in the agriculture industry, Kraus is a great asset to Illini FS. The company will continue to provide customers with exceptional service and products while upholding the traditions of which Illini FS is so proud, while striving to further enhance service quality and brand value into the future.

From The Field

by Dr. Howard Brown

The season for fall-applied anhydrous ammonia is here. The length of the 2019 application season will be determined by the November weather pattern. While some farmers took advantage of an early start, many waited for the calendar date of November 1 to “start their engines”. Whether starting the last part of October or the first week of November, if soil temperatures after application are warmer-than-expected, nitrogen (N) losses are possible. It is all about the conversion of the applied anhydrous ammonia to nitrate-N after application. The process is called Nitrification. It is driven by soil microbial activity, which is soil temperature dependent. As the soil temperature in the zone of application increases, so does the activity of soil microbes and the probability of nitrification. The use of a nitrification inhibitor (N-Serve¹ or Centuro²) should delay the process for several weeks.

How long does it take for ammonium-N to change to nitrate-N? Anhydrous ammonia takes approximately 2-3 weeks in a warm, moist soil for nitrification to occur. The amount of time needed is extended with cooler soils and even further with the use of a nitrification inhibitor. Nitrification inhibitors slow the activity of nitrifying bacteria, allowing the plant-available N to remain in a stable ammonium-N form (resists movement in soil due to ionic charge) for an extended period-of-time.

What will increase the risk of N loss? A warm November and/or early December may be enough to start the nitrification process. Once ammonium-N is converted to nitrate-N it is vulnerable to soil water movement (leaching). Loss by denitrification (saturated soil) is less of a concern during the winter months, since the soils stay relatively cool. Microbes responsible for denitrification are not very active when soils are cold.

Track Plant-Available N form as an Indicator of Nitrification. Sampling within the point of injection over time should provide an estimate of when the nitrification process starts. If you don’t own a Back-Saver Probe or a template to collect the sample, visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about N-TRACKER Plus. N-TRACKER Plus is a N Management Tool developed by Illini FS, which makes tracking plant-available N easy and affordable. Illini FS has five years of experience tracking plant-available N at over 1000 sites.

What comes first, tillage or application? Consider making anhydrous ammonia applications prior to primary tillage (subsoiling or deep chiseling). The risk of disturbing the zone of application (activity of nitrification inhibitor) is less than the risk of an uneven application and possible leakage due to a rough, shattered soil profile. Many primary tillage implements are designed to lift and drop with minimal soil stirring.

Illini FS Soft Lime is the product-of-choice when neutralizing soil acidity. There is no higher quality liming source in East-Central Illinois. The Calcium Carbonate Equivalent of Soft Lime is 99 to 100%, making it a nearly pure source of liming material. The lime easily passes through a 60-mesh screen, giving it a Fineness Efficiency of 100%, allowing it to react with soil acidity within two years of application. Soft Lime is applied as a liquid, allowing it to “paint” the field white with liming material, providing a uniform distribution. When compared to Typical Ag Lime, Illini FS Soft Lime has a correction factor slightly less than 50% making ½ ton of Soft Lime solids equivalent to 1 ton of Typical Ag Lime. What is a limitation of Illini FS Soft Lime? The calendar window for application is limited by freezing temperatures. Once temperatures fall below freezing and stay, the application season is over. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist for more information about Illini FS Soft Lime or to place your order before the application season ends.

Where does Illini FS Soft Lime come from? Here is a simplified description of the journey from Typical Ag Limestone to Illini FS Soft Lime.

Step 1. High quality Typical Ag Limestone is heated at a high tem-

perature to drive-off carbon dioxide, leaving what is referred to as “burned lime”, a highly reactive liming source that has a Calcium Carbonate Equivalent of 178%. Burned lime is commonly used at water treatment facilities to help soften water (remove some of the hardness). It raises the water pH high enough that ions responsible for hardness precipitate out of solution. It is highly reactive with water and must be carefully handled due to the heat-of-reaction when added to water (mixing pipes are too hot to touch).

Step 2. Once mixed with water, Burned Lime becomes Hydrated Lime with a Carbonate Equivalent of 120 to 135%. The pH of treated water is high, precipitating ions responsible for water hardness.

Step 3. Finally, the hydrated lime slurry is treated with an acid to lower the water pH (to minimize scaling in water pipes), making it return to Calcium Carbonate as it is pumped into settling lagoons where Illini FS harvests the product for field application.

Review your N Management System. Even if N is to be applied after the Spring thaw, now is the time to create or modify a Nitrogen Management System. The primary components should include the sources, rates, timing and placements (4Rs of N Management, Source, RATE, TIME, and PLACE).

RATE: Start with the N Rate Calculator to determine a baseline rate of application (visit <http://cnrc.agron.iastate.edu/>). The rate of N suggested by the calculator may not be the actual rate applied, but it can serve as a baseline that can be modified according to individual farmer preferences. Consider using an N Rate Trial to help determine crop response in your fields (using your farming practices). Controller technology can make placement of the trial relatively easy by determining the trial location and changing the rate according to a pre-determined treatment map. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist for more information about placing a N Rate Trial in your field.

TIME: Making multiple applications of N minimizes environmental risk. Applying all the N early (fall or early Spring) allows for nitrification to occur, making applied N more vulnerable to loss by leaching and/or denitrification. Applying all the N late (post-emerge) increases the risk of dry weather-dry soils following application (2019), resulting in poor utilization (water must move N into plant). Making multiple application at different times hedges the risk associated with loss and/or availability.

PLACE: Placing N in more than one position also helps minimize environmental risk from dry weather. If all the N is placed in the upper soil profile, extended dry weather will have a significant effect on N uptake (some areas in 2019). Injected N is positionally unavailable to the plant until water moves N closer to the roots and the roots to grow closer to the N.

¹ Trademark of Dow AgroSciences, DuPont or Pioneer, and their affiliated companies or their respective owners.

² Trademark of Koch Industries, Inc.





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Agency Manager



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5 Questions Farmers Should Answer Annually

by Valerie Hawkins



Your farming operation changes frequently. And when you make updates on your farm, you also need to update your insurance coverage.

But, as a farmer, do you REALLY have time to do one more thing...like think about insurance? We get it. That's why our reps are here to meet with you regularly and ask these five questions, to make sure your protection is up-to-date.

1. Did you buy any new farm equipment?

You may change farm equipment frequently. Maybe you purchased a new planter and you need to add it to your policy. Or, you sold off a combine, and you no longer need coverage for it.

Make sure your farm equipment inventory matches what's on your policy, so you're covered come claim-time, or to save you from paying unnecessary premium dollars.

2. Have you built or knocked down any farm buildings?

You may make updates to outbuildings on your farm, like grain bins, barns, machine sheds, and stables. If you build, remodel, or tear down any of these structures, make sure those changes are reflected on your policy.

3. Are you growing a new crop?

Diversifying crops is common among today's farmers. If you add a new crop to your operation, make sure you update your crop coverage. And new crops might also mean new equipment (see #1)!

4. Have there been any changes to your livestock?

Your livestock may vary each month. Have you sold or purchased a large quantity, or gained or lost a few due to breeding or death?

Whether your policy covers your livestock individually or as a herd, make sure your coverage matches your current animal inventory.

5. Have you purchased any new farm vehicles?

A common coverage gap for farmers is on their farm vehicles. These items are not covered on farm insurance policies, so they need separate auto and auto liability coverage. This type of coverage can be complicated and is often overlooked.

Our reps are here to help you understand your unique insurance needs, so you're covered at claim time, and you aren't paying unnecessary insurance premiums.



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359-9391



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Dan Duitsman
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John May
352-3341



Austin Beaty
352-0012

Evaluate Health Options Now For 2020

by Joanie Stiers

Just as farmers book next year’s seed, now marks the time to evaluate health coverage options that best meet medical needs and budgets in 2020.

The enrollment period for individual health insurance plans runs from Nov. 1 to Dec. 15 for coverage beginning Jan. 1, 2020.

“Don’t wait until the last minute,” said Sara Sturgeon, COUNTRY Financial health brokerage lead. “Review your current plan that you have and also shop around different carriers and see what you can get with different options.”

Illinois Farm Bureau understands the strain that rising health care costs have put on farm families. In response, the organization continues to research options to help members with health-related needs, from more affordable insurance and prescription assistance to accessible mental health support.

Most pressing right now, individual health insurance plans require application by Dec. 15 to secure coverage in calendar year 2020. While members can purchase this type of plan directly with carriers or through Healthcare.gov, the latter offers potential cost-share assistance.

Sturgeon said more members may qualify for assistance than they realize based on income and household size. At a minimum, she suggested members use Healthcare.gov as an online price-comparison tool when reviewing individual health plans.

This plan type represents just one of several coverage options available. Farms with employees could form a small group insurance plan. Short-term health plans can bridge the gap between insurance coverages, and healthcare sharing ministries provide a faith-based, non-insurance option that works for some members. IFB also explores formation of an association health plan, which allows people in a like industry to band together to establish a plan at a potentially lower cost.

In that spirit of savings, members seeking price relief at the pharmacy counter can try the ScriptSave Prescription Drug Savings Card provided

with their Farm Bureau membership. Benefits consultant Lisa Carlson of Lockton Companies in Chicago also recommended GoodRx, a free online tool and mobile app that offers drug coupons.

Shopping around can save money, too. Various retailers advertise flat-rate deals on generic drugs. For brand drugs, some manufacturers offer discounted medications to patients through their web sites.

IFB knows the rising cost of health care adds stress for families, particularly during this challenging year on the farm. Members mentally overwhelmed with daily stresses, anxiety or depression should seek support.

Carlson said telehealth assistance through programs like MDLIVE can put help just a virtual visit away. Meanwhile, IFB continues to expand its accessible mental wellness resources, including online at www.ilfb.org/resources/mental-health-wellness. Members can use this site to identify stressors and find wellness tools for a healthier 2020.



Brian Duncan, Illinois Farm Bureau Vice President, was the chairman of IFB’s Healthcare Working Group. A main priority of the working group was to provide IFB members with more healthcare options.

All Hands On Deck to Pass USMCA

by Richard Guebert, Jr.
President, Illinois Farm Bureau

The success of American agriculture industry is directly linked to our ability to engage in free, fair and enforceable trade with partners from around the globe. To continue supporting Illinois agriculture, our farmers need trade agreements that align with the reality of modern agriculture and the 21st century economy.

Illinois Farm Bureau supports the passage of such agreements that will open markets for our farmers and their agricultural products. We need signed and ratified agreements to ensure that American agriculture has a strong foothold within the global marketplace.

In this very moment, all hands are on deck to get the U.S. Congress to ratify the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). The Illinois Farm Bureau has been working diligently towards its ratification – or as we

say, “all hands on deck.” Through our efforts, more than 1600 Illinois Farm Bureau members have made more than 6,000 contacts to their congressman, both U.S. senators and Speaker Pelosi.

Illinois Farm Bureau leadership, including our president, vice president and national legislative team, have participated in multiple fly-ins to D.C. to amplify the need for swift ratification of the USMCA. We’ve spoken face-to-face with lawmakers – including members of the Illinois General Assembly, U.S. Vice President Mike Pence, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and additional legislators to stress the need for trade with our closest neighbors.

Our communications team has fielded nonstop media interview requests from national media outlets in the spring and summer months. In fulfilling these requests from journalists at ABC, CBS, CNN, Fox Business News, Rolling Stone, Wall Street Journal and more, we have kept farmers’ livelihoods on the minds of decision-makers in Washington, D.C. and Springfield.

Illinois has much to gain from USMCA ratification. Canada and

Mexico are responsible for a 29 percent and a 14 percent market share of all Illinois exports, respectively.

For Illinois agriculture, Canada accounts for 18 percent of all Illinois agricultural exports and Mexico accounts for 10 percent. With Canada and Mexico, alone, Illinois farmers export 40 percent of their corn, 13 percent of their beef and 34 percent of their pork to the two countries.

And not only will this agreement help businesses in each of its most important sectors – including agricultural expansion into new international markets – it invests heavily in the manufacturing sector, which has vast benefits for businesses and consumers statewide. USMCA preserves zero tariffs and includes strong provisions that would help level the playing field for farmers, manufacturers and workers, ensuring more products are made right here in Illinois and across America.

As combines continue to harvest the 2019 crop – concluding a season of extreme weather challenges – Illinois farmers need certainty. We need markets for our corn, soybeans, wheat, the list goes on.

Fortunately, in the past few weeks, several wins on the trade front have come to pass.

After 18 months in limbo, the latest news of a partial trade agreement with China was both significant and celebratory. This limited deal is a step in the right direction, though current tariffs remain in place. There is more work to be done as details of this mini deal come to light.

Additionally, a signed trade agreement with Japan, our fourth-largest export market, also holds promise for advantageous trade benefits between our two nations.

With progress being made on the U.S.-China trade war and other international relationships, the biggest priority on the table is USMCA ratification. Distractions of the election year, party divisions and impeachment proceedings will not deter us from getting this message across. Generations of farmers and their livelihoods depend on the action we take now, together, to get this done.



Richard Guebert

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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Administrative Assistant -- Brenda Wood
Membership & Outreach Coordinator -- Maggi Maxstadt
Ag In The Classroom Director -- Sarah Kaper
Foundation Director -- Kirk Builta

Contact us at (217) 352-5235
www.ccfarmbureau.com

CCFB Members hosted several local, elected officials for combine rides on the farm.



State Representative Brad Halbrook & Chris Hausman



Champaign County Clerk Aaron Ammons & Scott Bidner



Champaign County Coroner Duane Northrup, Steve Hammel, and Bernie Hammel



Champaign County Sheriff Dustin D. Heuerman & Jeff Fisher

SAVE MORE WITH YOUR Champaign County Farm Bureau Member Benefits



**MEMBERS
SAVE \$500***

*Please check www.illfb.org for more details



To join call (217) 352-5235 or visit ccfarmbureau.com.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Banana Salad Lemon Dressing - Elizabeth Rothermel

This month's recipe was submitted by Women's Committee member Elizabeth Rothermel. This Banana Salad Lemon Dressing recipe was one my mother, Julia Tate, made and took to all the potlucks. She always brought an empty bowl home. She was known as one of the good cooks!

Banana Salad Lemon Dressing By Julia Tate

- 1 c. sugar
- 1 T.(heaping) flour
- 2 eggs with a pinch of salt beaten up
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1 c. hot water

Mix sugar and flour together, add eggs, juice and hot water; cook in double boiler till thickens. Cool. Layer bananas, lemon dressing and crushed up peanuts several times (Planter peanuts work best)

Enjoy!