

2020 New Year & New Resolutions

New Year’s resolutions are a great way to reflect on the year behind us and develop a clear path for the future. The Champaign County Farm Bureau is following this tradition, along with one in three Americans, and moving forward with ways to grow and build our organization. Trade and the farm economy top are obviously top priorities for our organization and we will stay on top of this throughout the year. The resolutions below are focusing specifically on Champaign County and break it down to what is happening at the local level. We want to show you, our members, what happens when YOU get involved and drive change from the ground up!

Resolution #1 - Continue efforts with local media outlets, stay visible, stay vocal!

Regardless of leadership changes over the years, this mantra remains constant – Stay Visible, Stay Vocal. In 2020, CCFB will strive to address agriculture issues with constant contact with media

outlets. We want to be in front of the agriculture issues and be ready to have good discussions and provide timely information to the general public.

2019 was a good year for CCFB! CCFB increased radio efforts with a larger number of radio spots being aired during the University of Illinois Men’s Basketball games. These radio spots feature local, farm bureau members discussing several current agriculture topics to educate and inform the non-farm public. In addition to the increased radio ads, CCFB continued to maintain a presence on the WCIA noon show, CiLiving, WIXY Classic, and WDWS radio.

Resolution #2 – Focus on consumer engagement!

Looking ahead in 2020, CCFB will stay focused on the importance of talking to others about the importance of agriculture. CCFB cannot ignore the negative perception that is sometimes directed towards agriculture by the media and social media users, but we can pick and choose



Looking to socialize with others interested in agriculture? *Come together with other young professionals for a fun outing... Young Ag Leaders and Collegiate Farm Bureau enjoy an Illini Baseball game*

2019 Harvest Gala, CCFB Foundation will be offering scholarships for teachers to attend Summer Ag Institutes. Donors also stepped up to the plate and supported a large number of scholarships for college students majoring in an agriculture-related discipline. The future is bright!

2019 was a banner year for Champaign County’s Ag in the Classroom program. 1,100 teachers received ag learning resources and took part in 125 ag learning topics and experiences. Ag education was provided throughout the county reaching 16,794 K-12 students at 23 grade schools in 14 school districts.

Resolution #4 – Membership growth and involvement

2020 is filled with endless possibilities for CCFB members and the organization. The most important resolution to pass on to our members is to pay your dues! Being a farm bureau member

opens you up to a large number of member benefits such as discounts at local and national retailers, access to meetings and informational sessions about the latest and greatest ag-related topics. Members also have a chance to become involved and make a difference in the agriculture community by attending events or simply participating in an action request with legislators. CCFB has a strong base that starts with its members.

CCFB 2019 membership consisted of 10,520 members. This number of members made Champaign County one of the strongest, most vocal membership base in the state. We need your help to continue our efforts to make long lasting-impacts on agriculture. What can you do? Recruit your friends and neighbors to become members too! The more voices we have the louder we can be! Agriculture needs you!



Want to get involved? *Join CCFB for informational talks....Rachel Coventry of Curtis Orchard spoke to the Women’s Committee about honey and beekeeping*

specific opportunities to engage others in thoughtful and educational discussions. Specifically, individual farmers talking about personal experiences make huge impacts on others. IFB has been very dedicated to providing talking points that members can use to educate themselves and others on agriculture’s hot topics.

Looking back at 2019, CCFB hosted a large number of ag-related programs. All programs focused on agriculture and were able to address the needs and interests of our members. Meeting topics ranged from winter crop updates to Women’s Committee events to Governmental Affairs. Breaking this down over the year, CCFB hosted an average of a program every 2 days in 2019.

Resolution #3 – Agriculture in the Classroom efforts and educating the youth of Champaign County will continue to grow and flourish.

Setting the goals high for 2020 ensures that educating youth about agriculture will positively impact agriculture’s future. Thanks to generous donors at the



Want to learn more about local legislation? *Join us at a Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting*

Announcing Champaign County Farm Bureau’s Annual Meeting Speaker Sophia Hortin

Sophia Hortin served as the 2018-2019 State FFA President. Sophia and her fellow officers made history as the first, all-female State Officer Team in Illinois FFA History. Sophia is a 2018 graduate of Fisher High School and is a CCFB Foundation Scholarship recipient.

Sophia grew up on a corn and soybean farm in the Fisher area. She is currently attending the University of Illinois.



January Report

President, Mike Briggs



Welcome to 2020, I hope everyone had wonderful holiday season and was able to spend some quality time with family and friends. While 2019 was a challenging year on many fronts, it showed once again how resilient the agriculture community is. I am proud of everyone at the farm bureau who worked to get information out to our membership to try and help navigate the challenges. We look forward to 2020 and how we can serve the members in new ways. In early December many of us were at the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting in Chicago working on the priorities for this upcoming year. It was a good opportunity to talk with other farm bureaus from around the state and gather new ideas to provide value to our members.

Later this month we will be having the Champaign County Farm Bureau annual meeting. I hope to see many of you that evening. We are hoping for a little better weather than last year. As we move forward in the new year I ask that you take a look at our meetings and events and come join us. I am looking forward to another exciting year and want to say thank you for your continued support of the Champaign County Farm Bureau.

Sincerely,
Mike Briggs

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's Committee is

Open to all women interested in agriculture.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January 13 @ 9:30 a.m.

Regular meeting - Farm Bureau Auditorium
11:15 – Members leave for OSF - lunch and a meeting on Medical Screening Criteria and Pain Management and the recommended guidelines for the use of analgesics.

You must make a reservation with Brenda at the Farm Bureau to attend the OSF luncheon meeting

January 17 @ 10 a.m.

Sewing at the Farm Bureau Auditorium
Bring sewing equipment, snacks, and a beverage.
Lunch will be ordered.

February 10 @ 9:30 a.m.

Regular meeting – Farm Bureau Auditorium

SAVE THE DATE

Hosted by COUNTRY Financial & the Champaign County Farm Bureau

Farm Legacy Seminar

With proper preparation, we can help make sure you pass your family farm from one generation to the next.

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 • 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

IHotel & Conference Center
1900 S 1st St. • Champaign, IL

RSVP by filling out a form at <http://www.ilfb.org/farmplanning>

Join the Prime Timers!

NO JANUARY MEETING



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

February 13, 2020

March 12, 2020

CCFB Calendar of Events

January 2020

January 1	Holiday Office Closed	
January 2	Young Ag Leaders – Location TBA	
January 12	Euchre @ CCFB	2 - 4 p.m.
January 13	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
January 14	Governmental Affairs	7:30 a.m.
January 14	Premier Ladies Marketing	9:30 a.m.
January 26	Euchre @ CCFB	2 – 4 p.m.
January 27	CCFB Annual Meeting	
January 30	Full Board	6:30 p.m.

February 2020

February 9	Euchre@ CCFB	2 – 4 p.m.
February 10	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
February 13	Prime Timers	10 a.m.
February 18	Governmental Affairs	7:30 a.m.
February 20	Full Board	6:30 p.m.
February 23	Euchre@ CCFB	2 – 4 p.m.

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

All CCFB Members
welcome! Games start
at 2pm and last until
4pm in the CCFB
Auditorium

January 12 & 26
February 9 & 23
March 8

Unity FFA

This year has been an exciting time for Unity FFA. We have been able to help not only our chapter, but also our community. There have been many successes and chances to learn. This year has also been one of continuing our tradition of service.

In October, the 92nd National FFA Convention was held in Indianapolis, Indiana. Our chapter was lucky enough to attend and bring along many new members for a day trip, where greenhands got to browse the career fair and attend the opening ceremony, which was hosted by the National FFA Central Region Vice President, Ridge Hughbanks, and featuring keynote Speaker Bob Goff, a New York Times Best-Selling Author and motivational speaker. Twelve of our FFA members, including our officer team and four others, got to go on the overnight trip. The trip was three days and two nights, and consisted of sessions, workshops, and meeting many new people. We were able to

attend an Old Dominion concert as well as a rodeo. National Convention was an exceptional experience for us to learn and grow.

Also, in October, we went to Unity West Elementary school for Farm Safety Days. Farm Safety Days was an opportunity for our members to teach elementary school children about how to stay safe on the farm and the proper safety precautions. We volunteered to work with different speakers, including an expert with chemicals, workers from Ameren Illinois, and people who work with ATVs and grain bins. It was a great chance for our members to develop our leadership skills as well as inform the children in our community about how to stay safe.

Our FFA chapter has also celebrated many successes this year in Career Development Events, or CDEs. We participated in Horse Judging for our second year in a row and got first in section. Eric Vlahovich placed sixth in section and forty ninth in state,

Rachel Orders placed third in section and twenty third in state, Marie Baxely placed second in section and twenty second in state, and Emma Aders got first in section and twentieth in state. The team placed second overall in state for nonreasons. In Ag Sales, students go and give a sales pitch to judges. Our team was called Tolono Top Turf, and got first in section and district. High placing individuals in section were Phillip Hartke in first place, Savannah Hughes in second place, and Olivia Shike in eighth

place. They are advancing to state on December eleventh. Unity FFA also succeeded in Dairy Foods Judging this year, placing first overall at the section contest and advancing to state on December eleventh. Members in the top ten were Luke Williamson in tenth, Katie Kinney in seventh, Grant Anderson in sixth, Kayla Nelson in fourth, Emma Felsman in third, Shannon Flavin in second, and Savannah Hughes in first. We hope to continue with our successes and service throughout the year.



Students gather on the steps before heading into the opening session of National Convention.



Our Dairy Foods team showing off their first-place finish at the section contest.



Tolono Top Turf, our Ag Sales Team, displaying their ribbons after winning the section contest.

FARM BUREAU MEMBERS

"My husband and I have been long-time fans of the Sidney Dairy Barn. It is a bonus to receive the discount from this Farm Bureau member owned business."
- Paulette Brock

I use my Farm Bureau discount at Culver's because it saves me 10% on my whole bill." - Mitch Heap

"I used Bard Optical because they offered the Farm Bureau discount that saved me 25%." - Derek Harms

"We have saved hundreds if not thousands of dollars on our farm buying parts at NAPA over the past few years because of their Farm Bureau discount." - Benjamin Rice

"When travelling we check out the hotels and rental cars that are on the Farm Bureau discount program. We've saved hundreds of dollars annually just by being a Farm Bureau member." - Deidra Ochs

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY OR VISIT THE WEBSITE TO ACCESS YOUR 302,000 BENEFITS

Download the app or sign up today at <https://ilfb.abenity.com>

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Maggi's Membership Corner

Happy New Year members! In 2020, I want to make you more aware of what benefits and resources you have available to you. Here are some places to look!

Our website, ccfarmbureau.com. Here you can access the monthly newsletter, browse the local benefit guide for discounts, and view upcoming events and meetings!

For your membership, go to my-IFB.org. This is your membership destination to pay dues and contributions, update your mailing address and phone number, add information and interests related to your occupation and/or farming operation, and view your current membership card to use for discounts!

Speaking of discounts, you can find all of the discounts offered to our members at ilfb.abenity.com or through the Abenity app! In order to log in, use the membership number found on the front of your card. Android users need to register on a computer before using the app.


In the office, you can find plat books and information on upcoming trips and tours. Champaign County Plat Books can be purchased in the office year-round. 2017 books are available now and 2020 plat books will be available in February. The 2020 booklet of trips and tours can be found in the office at the end of January. Stop by in February to pick up a copy!


Wanting to become more involved in Farm Bureau? Join a committee! Current options include: Governmental Affairs, Women's Committee, Prime Timers, Young Ag Leaders, Marketing Club, and FB Connect. More information on upcoming meeting dates, committee descriptions, and more can be found on our website, ccfarmbureau.com under Get Involved.

Can't find what you're looking for? Contact the office at 217-352-5235 or email ccfb@ccfarmbureau.com.


MRS. KAPER'S CLASSROOM

JAN





2020



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
AG IN THE CLASSROOM

Where We've Been...


Thanksgiving Feast: Pumpkin Pie & Homemade Butter: Fisher - Wiley
Pumpkins / Pumpkin Pie in a Bag / Pumpkin Lifecycle
PVO Royal - St. Matthews - Lincoln Trail - Middletown - Robeson - Barkstall -
Stratton - Leal - UECC - Ludlow - Bottenfield - Gifford - PVO Ogden
Where Does My Pizza Come From? - Middletown - Lincoln Trail - UECC
Milk Plastics - Judah / Embryology - Carrie Busey
Ag Discovery - Edison

Our Impact...

Classes Visited

#Students

Teachers Receiving Resources

NOV

91

2,224

100

DEC

62

1,356

65

Sigma Alpha teaches lessons on Beef & Temple Grandin



Jan/Feb Topics...

Beef: Beef or Dairy? Who is Temple Grandin?
Don't Use it All Up: Being Stewards of Our Water Supply
Get Popping!: IL State Snack—Popcorn!

2020



Grounded in Ag Campaign
February-March 2020

Think its important to teach future consumers about agiculture in a truthful and modern way? Our Ag in the Classroom program is doing just that! Help support showing young students the incredible world of modern agriculture. Donate to Grounded in Ag! **Watch your mailbox and your inbox for more info about GIA, including a special invitation to two special new events!**




Summer Ag Institute
June 2020

Summer Ag Institute is a three day workshop designed to educate teachers about agriculture and show them ways to incorporate it into their daily lessons. In essence...we are teaching the teachers! In addition to great guest speakers, fun field trips, and great food...teachers earn CPDU credits! **Know a teacher? Tell them about Summer Ag Instittue! Want your favorite teacher to attend SAI? You can sponsor their cost to attend!**


Golf FORE Ag!
August 6, 2020

Golfers....Mark your calendars for THE most fun golf outing..EVER!




BID BID BID BID BID BID

13th Annual Harvest Gala
November 13, 2020



Joe Cannon presents Emily Bluhm with her 2019 AgriGold Scholarship at the annual scholarship luncheon.

Know a college student majoring in an agricultural related discipline?

Scholarship Applications Open December 1, 2019
Must be submitted in full by 11:59 pm - January 31, 2020.

Requirements

Graduate of a Champaign County High School
Pursuing a Degree in Agriculture
(Tech Certificate - Associates - Bachelors - Masters)
Passionate About Agriculture

Apply Online At: www.ccfbfoundation.com/scholarships



KORY KRAUS,
GENERAL MANAGER

PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE in 2020

by Dr. Howard Brown

Now it is time to reflect on changes to consider. Make time to refresh or change some of the long-term traditional practices or to challenge how decisions are made. Here is a compilation of things to consider as we enter the first growing season of a new decade, 2020.

Nitrogen impacts both the environment and farm economics. It is second only to sediment as impairment to water resources in Illinois. It is considered the most important nutrient input for corn production and is one of the top two input costs. Each year new pattern tilled fields makes it easier for unused soil nitrate-N to find its way from the point-of-application to ditches, rivers, lakes and eventually into the Gulf of Mexico, increasing the risk impaired drinking water (elevated nitrate-N) and causing eutrophication (accelerated algae growth). Changing management practices to reduce N loss without impacting harvest yield will increase farm profitability by optimizing the investment in N applied (use it, don't lose it). It is all about M.O.M., Minimize environmental impact by Optimizing harvest yield and Maximizing input utilization. Focus on N management in 2020 to improve both farm profitability and environmental quality.

The soil holds several thousand pounds of N. About 95% of the N found in our East-Central Illinois soils is bound organically and is unavailable to the plant for uptake. Only a fraction of the bound N is released on an annual basis, depending upon microbial activity and a process referred to as mineralization (plant-unavailable N to plant-available N). It is assumed that approximately 25 pounds of N can be released as plant-available N for each percent of soil organic matter (cropping season). If the soil has 3% organic matter, approximately 75 pounds of N can be released during the growing season.

Tillage enhances release of plant-available N (PAN) from soil organic matter. Tillage increases mineralization of organic matter by providing an environment favorable for microbial activity. A short-term benefit of increased N release means more N becomes available for crop uptake. Unfortunately, the faster plant-available N is released from soil organic matter, the faster it oxidizes, minimizing soil productivity long-term. If we want the soil to remain a productive natural resource for future generations, now is the time to understand management practices that will maintain its productivity both in 2020 and beyond.

Soil releases a significant amount of PAN each growing season. If each percent of organic matter can release approximately 25 pounds of plant-available N annually, a soil with 3% organic matter may release as much as 75 pounds of N during the growing season. Unfortunately, it is nearly impossible to estimate or predict how much N is being released, since the amount is dependent upon the soil environment and microbial activity, and both are unpredictable each growing season. Mineralization of soil organic N is likely the primary cause of nitrate-N found in subsurface tiles and drainage ditches. Research is starting to focus more attention on organic N release, especially in fields following soybean production.

Apply Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) by removal, not just soil tests. Having an estimate of plant-available nutrients in the upper soil horizon will remain a part of making phosphorus and potassium recommendations. Determination of nutrient availability on a grid-basis ushered-in an era of "precision farming". However, making phosphorus and potassium recommendations is moving toward a removal-based recommendation. Adding nutrients back to the areas of the field where they were removed by grain just makes sense. Areas of highest yield should receive the highest nutrient applications. Areas of below-expectation yield are likely yield-limiting as a result of other growth factors (water, soil type, soil structure, etc.). Adding additional nutrients may not have an impact on productivity. Traditional soils tests will remain a part of nutrient management, but they will eventually be used to establish a trend of plant-available P and K availability, not as the basis for application recommendations. Traditional soil tests will remain an important part of nutrient management by identifying areas that may not need additional fertilizer due to high test levels.

Apply nutrients ahead of each crop. Making fertilizer applications based on estimated removal makes economic sense. Yield provides the basis for nutrient rate recommendations and the value of the harvested crop provides income to cover the costs. High yielding crops will hopefully generate more income to pay for the higher removal rates. Although low-yielding crops will generate less income, less nutrients will be recommended based upon less nutrients removed.

Trusted harvest yield mapping will be needed for decision-making. The importance of harvest yield data management continues to be emphasized as we enter an era of input management within a field. A wide range of variable rate technologies allow for changing the rate of input application, seeding rate, planter down pressure, and pesticide applications across the field. The primary metric (measure) that determines whether a technology has an economic Return-On-Investment (ROI) is harvest yield maps. Make time to maintain/replace yield monitoring systems on

the combine. Give your local Illini FS Crop Specialist a call to help with calibrating yield monitors next fall. It is important to make management decisions on good harvest yield data.

Sulfur applications continue to support higher crop yield. Many strip trials over the past two years have resulted in an economic ROI. The form of sulfur applied will make a significant difference with crop response. Elemental sulfur is water insoluble and is not plant-available. It is normally ground into a fine powder (to increase surface area) and pressed into pastilles (half-moon-shaped) so it can be blended with dry fertilizer. It must be oxidized by soil microbes, something that won't happen until sometime in June making it a poor choice if to be used for the 2020 crop. Common sulfate-Sulfur containing fertilizers include Ammonium Thiosulfate (ATS), Ammonium Sulfate (AMS), Calcium Sulfate (Gypsum) and Micro-Essentials MES-10 (50% elemental S and 50% sulfate-sulfur). Need help with setting up the trial or sourcing sulfur fertilizer? Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist for trial design or help acquiring fertilizer products to test. Sulfate-Sulfur is water soluble. If possible, avoid making applications to frozen and/or snow-covered soils unless applications are made to an existing crop, such as winter wheat.

It is time to test for crop response to zinc and boron. N-TRACKER Plus has renewed an interest in testing for crop response to both zinc and boron. Samples collected at both 0-1 and 1-2 feet were tested for all common nutrients over the past two years. Frequently, the concentration of both zinc and boron was below what is considered adequate. Tissue analysis was added to N-TRACKER Plus in 2019. The combination of nutrient concentration in the upper soil profile and tissue analysis at V4 and VT validated the need to investigate crop response possibilities with both nutrients. Does every farmer need to apply supplemental zinc and boron on every field? No. Should farmers be testing for crop response to these two micronutrients? Yes. Does form of nutrient applied and timing of application make a difference? Yes. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist and ask for help with source, timing and placement of both zinc and boron in 2020.

Designate a field for On-Farm Discovery. Although the number of products that claim to improve harvest yield continues to grow, local data showing a consistent response is usually limited or nonexistent. Many products are supported by data collected from across the Midwest. Unfortunately, a field local to Central Iowa may not provide a good estimate of a field in East-Central Illinois. Take ownership of determining the value of new products by selecting a field that represents most of the soils in your operation and designate it as a place to test new products and/or practices. Technology makes it relatively easy to apply treatments and your local Illini FS Crop Specialist will make it easy to create a trial design and locate product for treatments, help track crop response, whether it be scouting for treatment response on the ground or from the air (we have five drones and six pilots). On-Farm Discovery is focused on addressing your questions, in your fields, utilizing your data.

On-Farm Discovery is focused on addressing your questions, in your fields, utilizing your data.

Variable rate N is on the horizon. Data gathered by over 1000 N-TRACKER Sites over the past four years has provided confirmation of how variable plant-available N can be both between and within each cropping season. Whether determining residual N in the profile prior to the winter freeze, after the Spring thaw, or just before time for post-N applications, N-TRACKER Plus provides a good estimate of the soil's PAN status at a point-in-time. The next cropping season will bring with it a new decade (2020) as well as a new approach to N management. Illini FS plans to test variable rate N applications based upon a 2 ½ acre grid samples collected to a depth of 2 feet and tested for both nitrate and ammonium-N. A variable rate recommendation will be generated based upon the amount of plant-available N detected at the time of sampling (pre-plant). If any significant rain events occur after sample collection, rates will be adjusted according to specific N-TRACKER Plus sites resampled with vulnerable areas of the field. Will there be issues? Yes. Will there be more questions than answers? Yes. Regardless of the outcome, we plan to test the concept with plans for further expansion in 2021. No better way to learn than to do. The number of fields to try our new technique will be limited (2-5). Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about how the new approach is working. Thanks in advance to those few brave farmers that are willing to partner with us on our first attempt. Interested in participating? Let your local crop specialist know that you would like to participate in future variable rate N trials.

Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.

Winston Churchill



Nathan Hubbard
COUNTRY Financial
Agency Manager



Rhonda Wagner
Administrative Assistant
Champaign Agency



Dan Punkay
328-0023

Are you prepped for Jack Frost's seasonal visit? Take simple steps by following tips to keep your car in the clear this season.

by Alex Williams



Travis Heath
352-4555



Bret Kroencke
359-9391



Kolby Jackson
586-5030



Keith Garrett
485-3010

Prep your Winter Emergency Weather Kit before snow hits

You're probably familiar with emergency kits, but have you ever considered packing a shovel in your trunk or hauling around a bag of kitty litter? How about a jar of peanut butter?

Hauling that shovel could come in handy if your car ever lands in a ditch. And having that cat litter on standby could offer the much needed traction you'd need to dig it out. As for the peanut butter, when you burn all those calories digging through the snow, a jar of peanut butter could provide some nourishment in a pinch.



Chris Greenwold
355-8675

Better safe than sorry

Winter weather can turn a routine trip into a dangerous situation, but being prepared can make the difference between life and death when facing hypothermia.

No one plans to be marooned roadside, but with severe weather looming, it's always a possibility. Be ready for Jack Frost with a Winter Emergency Weather Kit.



Jessie DeHaan
352-3466

Consider the basics:

- First Aid Kit
- Cell phone and car charger
- Flashlight with new batteries
- Candle with matches or lighter
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Shovel
- Hazard sign or brightly colored flag
- Cat litter or sand
- Bottled water and non-perishable food items
- Warm clothing, winter boots, gloves
- Blanket
- Battery jump pack or jumper cables

If you live in a rural area or are taking a longer trip, your needs may be different so consider adding a few extra items to your kit.

Add-on items:

- Flares/emergency strobes
- Light sticks
- Disposable hand warmers
- Toilet paper
- Basic tool kit
- Tire Chains/Tow Rope

In the case of highway accidents or ice storms, motorists may get stranded in groups. Ensure you have enough supplies for you and your family and pack a little extra to help other stranded motorists.

You can also buy readymade kits in stores and online. Make sure whatever you buy includes the basics. Also update your kit twice a year to ensure your supplies and tools are in good working order.

Wishing you and your family, safe and happy travels from COUNTRY Financial®.



Dan Duitsman
469-2033



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352-3296



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352-2655

Adopt a Legislator Making an Impact



Representative Greg Harris

Champaign County Farm Bureau participates in the Adopt-A-Legislator program. The Adopt-A-Legislator program began in 2001 and currently has 75 legislators participating as “adopted” legislators. Most of the legislators are from Cook County, with a few from the collar counties of Metropolitan Chicago. CCFB has “adopted” Representative Greg Harris from District 13, which includes parts of Uptown, Ravenswood, Lincoln Square, North Center, West Ridge and Bowmanville. Representative Harris takes time out of his schedule to visit with farm bureau members and learn about issues affecting Champaign County with the most recent visit taking place during Illinois Farm Bureau’s Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Christina Nourie, IFB’s Northeast Legislative Coordinator, explains “The purpose of the program is to build a long term, personal relationship between a Chicago area urban legislator and one of our “downstate” County Farm Bureaus, help urban lawmakers better understand agricultural issues and educate our members on concerns of those who live in an urban area. Once a legislator agrees to be adopted, we do a “district visit” and a “farm tour,” usually within six months of the legislator joining the program.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS

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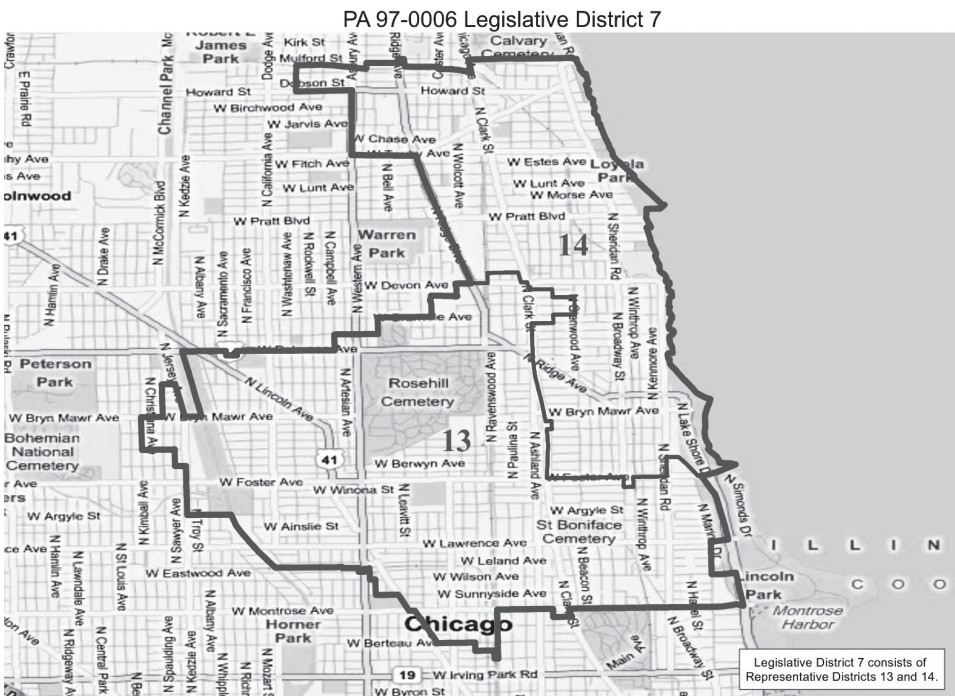
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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
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Contact us at (217) 352-5235
www.ccfarmbureau.com

During a district visit, a group of farmers from the adoptive County Farm Bureau travel to the legislator’s district to spend the day learning more about issues important to those who live in an urban area. They meet with the legislator in his/her district office, have lunch to get to know each other and discuss issues, and then spend the afternoon touring places of importance in the district. Examples of places legislators have taken their adopted farmers are schools, factories, police stations, non-profit organizations, tourist attractions, and urban farms. At the end of the visit, the farmers will have a better understanding of what the legislator’s district is like and the main concerns of those living in the area.

The next step is to schedule a farm tour. During a farm tour, the legislator is invited to spend a day in the “adoptive” county touring farms, meeting with farmers and learning more about agriculture and rural life issues. A typical farm tour may include a combine ride during harvest, a tractor ride during planting, visiting a variety of farms including grain, livestock and specialty crops. Depending on the legislator’s interest, we may also tour a rural school, hospital or another



agri-business. Lunch and conversation are also included in the itinerary. After the farm tour, the legislator has a better understanding of the work farmers do to grow crops or raise livestock as well as the challenges farmers face to operate their farms.

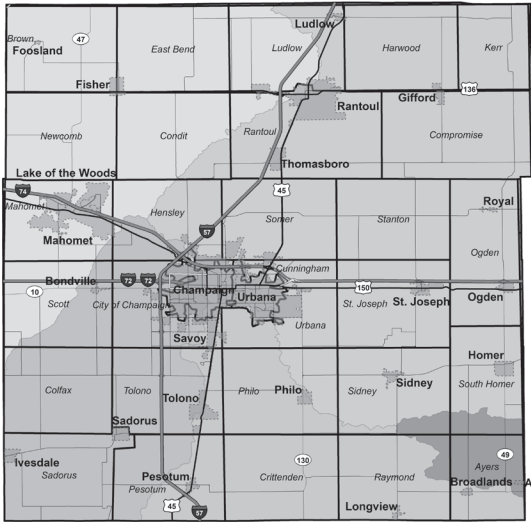
Beyond that, we encourage our farmers and adopted legislators to maintain an on-going relationship by getting together a few times a year, whether that be another district visit to the city or a farm tour in the county, dinner in Chicago during Annual Meeting, or a visit to the State Capitol in Springfield.”

The Adopt-A-Legislator program benefits everyone involved in the process. Champaign County Farm Bureau members have been able to visit District 13 and immerse themselves in some experiences that truly show the different needs of people in District 13. On the flip side, Rep. Harris has visited Champaign County and has been on the farm, experiencing a very

different life than the one he sees daily in Chicagoland. Christina Nourie can point out benefits from the program that she has seen on a statewide level, “The most valuable result of this program has been the relationships that develop between the farmers and their adopted legislator. While the visits are educational in nature, they are fun and enjoyable experiences where everyone is learning about issues in which they may not be familiar. As relationships develop, the farmers can serve as a resource to their adopted legislator on agricultural issues as they arise in the General Session and are available to answer any questions the legislator may have. Overall, we have seen more awareness, understanding and support of farm issues among adopted legislators who are active in the program. Many adopted legislators encourage their urban colleagues to join the Adopt-A-Legislator program, and the program has grown steadily over the years.”

EMBARRAS RIVER WATERSHED FARMER MEETING

Champaign County



Watersheds:
Embarras
Middle Wabash-Little Vermilion
Upper Kaskaskia
Upper Sangamon
Vermilion

Township names are italicized.
Town names are bolded.

Do you farm or own ground in the Embarras River Watershed?

We want your input to identify resource concerns and solutions in the watershed to aid with an update of the 2011 Embarras Watershed Plan.

What to expect: Group discussions of your water quality concerns, and the opportunity to identify locations for voluntary conservation practice implementation in the watershed.

When: Thursday, January 16, 2020 from 3:30 – 5:30 PM (meal provided)

Where: Champaign County Farm Bureau – 801 N Country Fair Drive, Champaign IL 61821

Who: Farmers and landowners in the Embarras River Watershed in Champaign County

Register online at extension.illinois.edu/ccfj or call Jennifer Woodyard (University of Illinois Extension) at 217-347-7773; Erin Bush (Champaign County Soil and Water) at 217-352-3536; or Brad Uken (Champaign County Farm Bureau) at 217-352-5235



The University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact our office.

CCFB Members Participated in IFB's Annual Meeting in Chicago



Members taking part in Monday morning's legislative reception.



Become an active Champaign County Farm Bureau Member! 2019 was a busy year, 2020 has more opportunities waiting for you!



Marketing Club meetings draw a good crowd and knowledgeable speakers give great information.



Stop by and visit CCFB's booth when you see us out and about. It is a great chance to catch up, talk about hot issues, and even visit with local legislators.



RSVP for events! Legacy seminars are very popular and informative. We have one scheduled in February 2020!



Prime Timers meet monthly. Speakers, entertainment, and food!

FAMILY FUTURE

LEGACY





More than **\$875,000** in scholarships are awarded annually through the Illinois Farm Bureau and County Farm Bureaus.

Visit www.iaafoundation.org

Application Period: **December 1, 2019 - February 1, 2020**



Charitable arm of the Illinois Farm Bureau®

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Submitted by - Bonnie Compton

"This is one of the "enhanced" pumpkin pie recipes I use for the Foundation Gala pie contribution!" Have you enjoyed one these pies at the Gala in the past? Did it leave you wondering how to make one in your own kitchen? Your prayers have been answered with this recipe.



PECAN GLAZED PUMPKIN PIE

INGREDIENTS

2 large eggs
1 (16 oz.) can solid pack pumpkin
1 (12 oz.) can evaporated milk
1 C. brown sugar, packed; divided
2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
1 deep dish pie crust, frozen
1 C. pecans, chopped
¼ C. butter, melted

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 F. In large bowl, using a wire whisk, whisk together, eggs, pumpkin, evaporated milk, ¾ C. brown sugar, and pumpkin pie spice. Place frozen pie crust on preheated baking sheet. Pour filling into crust. Bake 40 minutes. In small bowl, combine remaining ¼ C. sugar, pecans, and melted butter. Crumble over top of partially baked pie. Bake an additional 30 minutes, or until tested done. Serves 8.