





# May Report



Paul Hunsinger, CCFB President

## President, Paul Hunsinger

Well April has been an interesting month for farmers with the unpredictable weather. Despite it all, there have been quite a few planters out getting the 2021 crop planted, which is great to see. I am excited that the planting season has started.

I would encourage you all if you haven't already, to participate in the Illinois Farm Bureau Action Request for protecting Stepped-Up basis and opposing the transfer tax. These two issues, if changed, will have a very negative effect on how family farms can be passed down from one generation to the next. In some cases it will mean that family farms will have to be sold to pay the taxes. To get involved and help the voice of Agriculture be heard, join the FB ACT to contact your legislators on key issues the Illinois Farm Bureau notifies you about. Text the word "FARM" to 52886 to sign up and receive text messages to help act on issues like these that affect farm families. It only takes a couple minutes and if you don't know exactly what to write to your legislators, the Illinois Farm Bureau has you covered and has statements that you can copy and send in on the issues. Taking the time to write to your legislator does make a difference.

Hope you all have a safe planting season!

Sincerely,  
Paul Hunsinger

## Prime Timers is BACK!

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

**by Monday, May 10**

**Call the CCFB Office 217-352-5235**

**Meeting Date: May 13 @ 10 a.m.**

**Program: Jeff Blue, Champaign County  
Highway Engineer**

**Entertainment: Marvin Lee**

**Meal cost: \$8 per person**

### Important changes

- Lunch – There will **NOT** be a fried chicken buffet.
  - Lunch will consist of a box lunch.
  - Mask required for entry.
  - No walk-ins.
  - Meeting is limited to 35 people. Call to reserve your spot.
- First come/first served

## CCFB Calendar of Events

### May 2021

<b>May 13</b>	<b>Prime Timers</b>	<b>10 a.m.</b>
<b>May 20</b>	<b>Full Board</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>

**Several committees do not meet during the month of May.**

**Meetings will resume in June. Stay safe and have a safe planting season!**

**Virtual Meetings are posted at [www.ccfarmbureau.com](http://www.ccfarmbureau.com)**

- Recent virtual meetings include
- Checking in with Jeff Blue, Champaign Co. Highway Engineer to find out where all those orange construction cones are going to be this spring and summer!
- Mahomet Aquifer Update
- Dr. Trent Ford, Illinois State Climatologist
- An update with the National Agricultural Statistics Service



**Join Illinois Farm Bureau's  
Vice President Duncan for  
exclusive monthly episodes  
discussing all things policy.**



Visit [www.ilfb.org](http://www.ilfb.org) to listen today!

Episode 5 of *Policycast* with the VP is now available online. We are joined by Blake Roderick from Pike-Scott Farm Bureau and Ron Kern from Ogle county Farm Bureau. We quiz their Farm Bureau knowledge and discuss a number of topics including ways to get members involved in the program, collaboration between counties, and so much more!



## ANHYDROUS AMMONIA Certified Grower Training

### FREE Online Training [www.Bit.ly/IllinoisNH3](http://www.Bit.ly/IllinoisNH3)

All growers or grower farm operators who transport or apply anhydrous ammonia, or otherwise maintain anhydrous ammonia equipment, shall be certified to understand:

- Properties of ammonia.
- Competent in safe operating practices.
- How to take appropriate actions in the event of a leak or emergency.
- Personal Protective Equipment & First Aid.
- Transportation Safety.

Growers and grower farm operators have until April 1, 2022 to be initially certified, and must participate in refresher training every three years.

Certified grower training will be offered at no cost to the grower or grower farm operator via an in-person or online training program approved by the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA).

Online is now available on the IDOA website at [\[www.Bit.ly/IllinoisNH3\]](http://www.Bit.ly/IllinoisNH3). In-person training opportunities will be announced as they are developed.



### Who needs to be certified?

#### "GROWER"

Any individual who produces an agricultural commodity on property he or she owns or controls

#### "GROWER FARM OPERATOR"

An individual employed by or otherwise authorized by a grower to transport or apply anhydrous ammonia, or to otherwise maintain anhydrous ammonia equipment. These individuals include grower family members, full-time and part-time hired help, and others providing anhydrous ammonia services at no fee.

\*This new requirement is found in the IDOA regulations regarding anhydrous ammonia at 8 Illinois Administrative Code 215.



# Maggi’s Membership Corner

By Maggi Maxstadt, CCFB Membership & Outreach Coordinator



Hooray, it’s May, Farm Bureau members!

April was a month full of ideas for the rest of the year. Some of my conversations and meetings included preparing and planning events, new membership campaigns, and updates to how I do membership!

In mid-April, Brenda and I participated in a statewide membership update. This update was held on Zoom, hosted by the Marketing department

and Membership Operations from Illinois Farm Bureau.

The Marketing department filled us in on changes to statewide benefits, including an updated John Deere benefit! This promotion is only available from May 15-31st. Check out the ad for more details.

Membership Operations outlined the changes coming to the membership renewal notices you receive in the mail.

The most significant change is something I have been lobbying for since I started almost two years ago, along with other county Farm Bureaus from around the state. Starting later this summer, the placement of your address on the renewal notice will change to the opposite side. This action will prevent members from mailing their dues back to themselves. I’m so glad this problem finally has a resolution!

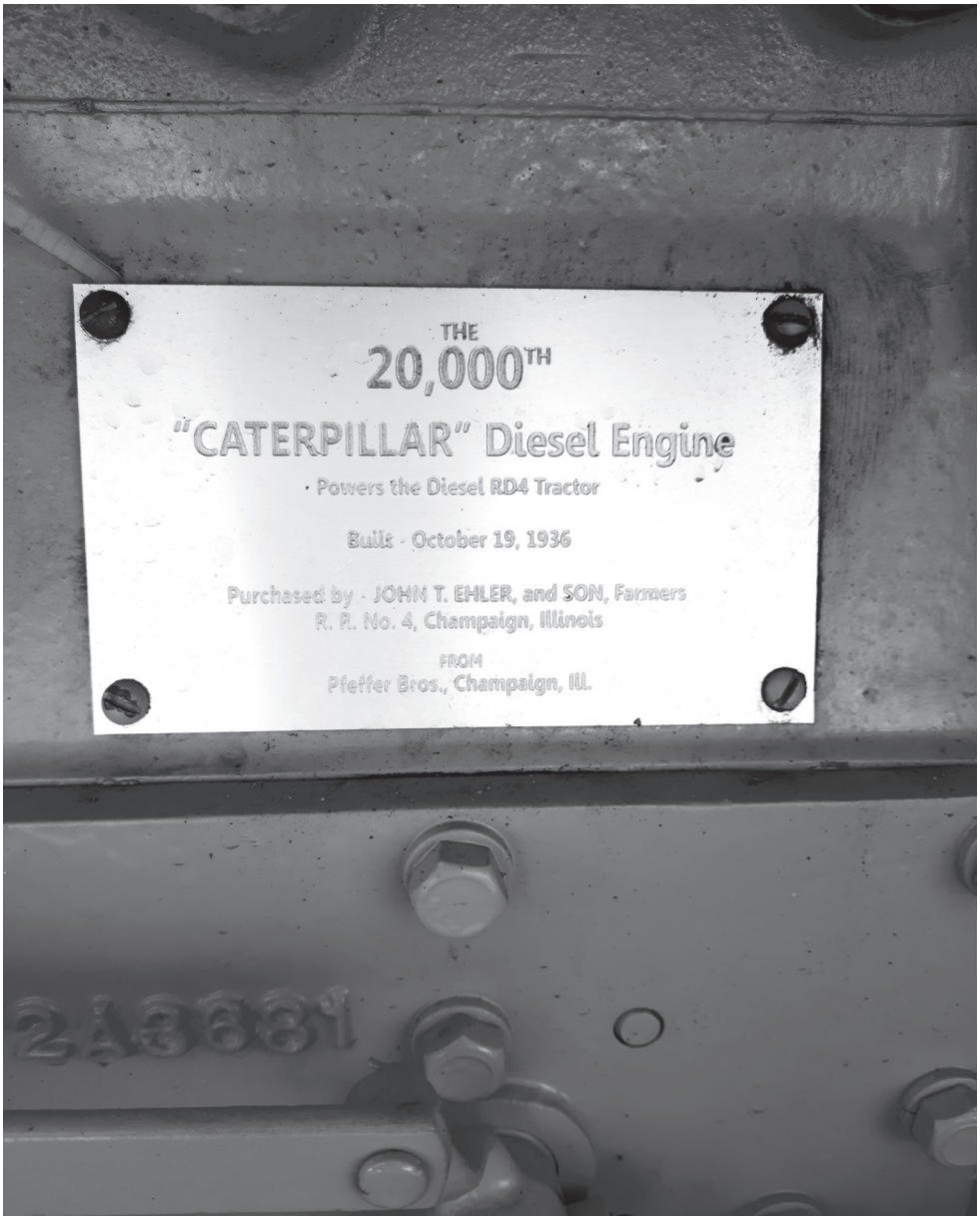
Thanks for reading, members! If you are out in the field planting this month, please be careful. See you in June!

## Piece of History continued from Page 1

ing their way through many stages of deterioration and 3 or 4 layers of paint, Chuck and Clayton found the original 20,000th logo and lettering that had been seen in Caterpillar photos.

Work soon began to turn the RD4 into the gem it is today. Chuck estimates that he put in roughly 6 months of work and over 1,000 hours to get the RD4 up and running. The project was successful thanks to the efforts, research, time, and talents of Clayton Smith, Dave Tallon, Kent Bates, Eric Dahlke, and G & G Machine Shop in Rantoul.

“This spring we are going to the field and will break it in. I have a 10-foot disc and harrow and off it will go. There is a lot of history with this tractor. I am so impressed that when I think back to when this tractor was made all the parts were made by people with no computers, no calculators, just a dull pencil. All the pieces fit together to make this piece of machinery,” continuing on with a little more history Chuck states, “My grandfather and Uncle John were brothers and best friends. They farmed together. The Caterpillar dealer in Champaign was also a Minneapolis-Mo-line-Twin City dealer. My grandfather purchased a Twin City MM the same day my Uncle John purchased



Plaque, located on the RD4, denoting the special 20,000th “Caterpillar” Diesel Engine.

FROM MAY 15 TO MAY 31 ONLY

Farm Bureau® members

get ~~BIG~~ BIGGER savings with John Deere

From May 15 to 31, sign up for up to \$1,000 in extra savings\* with John Deere Rewards!

LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP TODAY! [JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau](https://JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau)

\*Eligible members can sign up between May 15-31, 2021 to receive a free temporary upgrade to Rewards Platinum 2 for 60 days. Already a John Deere Rewards member? You can Opt-In to promotion through an email that will be sent by John Deere Rewards once promotion begins. After 60-day period has ended, member account will return to Platinum 1 status.  
Must be a valid member of a participating state Farm Bureau® for 30 days and have a valid personal email address to be eligible for John Deere Rewards benefits. For full program details, please visit the John Deere Rewards for Terms & Conditions.

the RD4. The Twin City MM is in excellent condition and I have it too. It has been restored and they have been together since the fall of 1936.” If you are hoping to see this rare and beautiful tractor, you can catch it on a summer tour in Penfield, Rantoul, Pinckneyville, and Morton.

## Bureau Trips continued from Page 1

October 21, 2021  
(Thursday evening)

Is there Life After Fifty, The Barn III - Goodfield, IL

This new comedy flirts with a topical theme: the aging of the Baby Boomer generation. Three couples who all raised their kids on the same street have found a way to keep in touch after they move to new cities. Each year, on Labor Day weekend, the friends vacation together. This year, the ladies have planned a little surprise: a healthy, all – natural weekend at a trendy health resort, complete with organic food and exercise. The men, who really come for the beer and snacks, are not pleased when they find out. Tensions escalate into an all-out battle of the sexes, and the cabin is divided, literally, into the men against the women. They battle over health food, exercise, pizza, The Godfather, rock and roll, hot tubs, hot flashes, tummy tucks and their refusal to become middle-aged!

Price per person: \$107.00 per person - Gratuity included in price

Deadline to register or cancel reservations is – September 17, 2021

December 15, 2021,  
(Wednesday evening)

A Christmas to Remember, The Barn III - Goodfield, IL

It’s a Wonderful Life or Miracle on 34th Street? Can we even call it Christmas without the Grinch or the Griswalds? Spend some time this season savoring the best the Barn has to offer in song, dance and skit as we walk you through our own renditions of the season’s most memorable cinematic moments on stage. Featuring music and comedy performances that will get you in the holiday spirit!

Price per person: - \$88.00 - Gratuity included in price

Deadline to register or cancel reservations is – November 8, 2021





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Fueling our Industry.

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## MRS. KAPER'S CLASSROOM



## CHAMPAIGN COUNTY AG IN THE CLASSROOM



## EXPLORATION KITS

Spring Exploration kits went to many Champaign County second-graders in March. The kits include everything students need to complete activities that cover some Next Generation Science Standards. The contents include sugar cubes, small rocks, cups, beads, straws, playdough, an IL map, crayons, and a workbook. All written materials were translated into Spanish and French for dual language classrooms.

\*To date, 1,381 kits have gone out to schools. Watch the June newsletter and the June Partners magazine for more about this effort.

## Champaign County Ag in the Classroom presents **Put Ag in STEM** June 7-8-9 from 8:30-4:00 each day



**Who:** Educators K-12

**Where:** Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium

**Cost to attend:** \$75/person

**What is included:** FREE resources, Local food, AG Industry professionals, Hands-on activities

**Earn:** 22.5 CPDUs



Connect with me!  
sarah@ccfarmbureau.com



Mrs. Kaper's  
Classroom



Champaign County  
Ag in the Classroom



## You're Invited...



14th ANNUAL  
CCFB FOUNDATION GALA  
Thursday  
**JUNE 17** 2021  
Reserve your tickets at:  
[www.ccfbfoundation.com](http://www.ccfbfoundation.com)  
217-352-5235  
5:30pm Start Time



We hope you'll make plans to attend our 14th annual Gala on June 17th. It's been a long time since we have all been together and we can't wait to see everyone!

**Don't wait to purchase your tickets.  
This event sells out FAST!**

**Purchase Your Tickets or Sponsorship Online**  
[www.CCFBFoundation.com/gala](http://www.CCFBFoundation.com/gala)



## Congratulations! 2021 AFA Scholarship Recipients

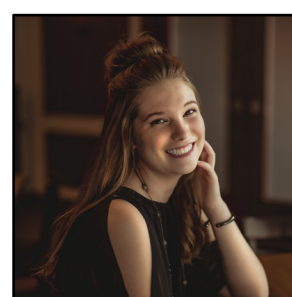
The CCFB Foundation is proud to announce our 2021 Ag Future of America Scholarship Recipients! These students will represent Champaign County at the Ag Future of America Leaders Conference in Kansas City, Missouri this November. Each recipient will also receive an academic scholarship in the amount of \$3,200.

The Ag Future of America organization recognizes the best in our ag community and the Foundation Board of Directors is proud to support the leadership growth of these scholars.



**Erica Johnson**  
The University of Illinois  
Mahomet Seymour High School  
Daughter of Scott & Kim Johnson

**Randy William Shook**  
Parkland Pathways to  
The University of Illinois  
Fisher High School  
Son of Randy & Kristi Shook



**Amelia Nelson**  
The University of Illinois  
Judah Christian School  
Daughter of Mark & Raquel Nelson

[www.CCFBFoundation.com](http://www.CCFBFoundation.com)

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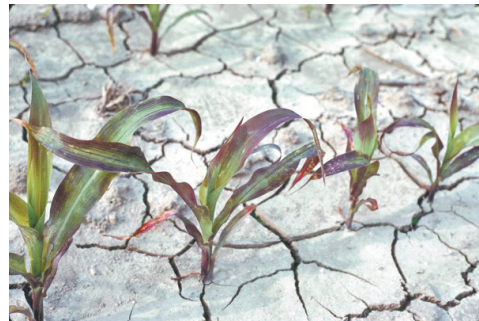
**KORY KRAUS,**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

## FROM THE FIELD

by Dr. Howard Brown

### Multi-Colored Corn (Figure 1).

Corn planted prior to the Mid-April cold weather may exhibit temporary nutrient deficiencies, specifically phosphorus, because of slowed early growth. A cold environment may have caused the seed to allocate more stored energy to sustain the seedling than anticipated, resulting in less energy to initiate the first 2-3 leaves and nodal root system prior to running out of starch. Some plants will express more symptoms than others due to differences in their soil environment, such as traffic patterns, changes in organic matter, or areas of herbicide overlap (crop injury). The purple color is the result of sugar accumulation in leaf tissue. A lack of phosphorus uptake (used to make plant energy) creates a back-up of sugar. High leaf concentration of sugar triggers the pigment anthocyanin to temporarily be the dominant leaf pigment (red/purple), with the lower leaves expressing the color change (phosphorus is mobile in plant). Normal plant color should return when the soils warm and root uptake returns to a more normal pace. No-till or strip-till environments will likely express more of the symptoms due to the colder, wetter nature accompanying the tillage practice. Starter fertilizers will minimize any expression of environmentally induced deficiency symptoms (N-P-K).



**Figure 1.** Purpling of corn leaves due to slow primary root development. The intensity of leaf purpling can be related to the amount of red pigment produced by the plant (anthocyanin).

### Multiple stresses prior to nodal root development may have lasting impact.

Fields planted prior to the Mid-April snow have already been stressed. Historically, plants have recovered from one stress, such as frost, hail or soil-blasting. However, adding multiple stresses prior to nodal root development may cause significantly slowed growth. Not all plants will respond the same. Less affected plants will tend to be more advanced in developmental and taller. The slower growing plants end up under the leaf canopy of surrounding plants likely impacting their contribution to harvest yield.



**Figure 2.** Uneven corn growth caused by injury to plant's mesocotyl (vascular tissue connecting seed to growing point and seedling plant).

### Dig-up smaller-than desired plants and determine the cause.

Uneven emergence is commonly caused by injury to the seed (endosperm), mesocotyl or primary root system. Making time to dig-up and wash-off the roots for a close examination may help avoid making a misdiagnosis of the problem. Many unfounded explanations start out with "poor quality seed" or "uneven germination" and end up wireworm, seed corn beetle, residual herbicide injury, Pythium, or other issues that robbed seed endosperm or disrupted the seedling development.



**Figure 3.** Use a spade to uncover the total environment around the young seedling. Place the spade at an angle to lift the seedling and soil environment together.

**Spring-applied anhydrous ammonia applied** into wet areas of a field may result in ammonia burn regardless of when it was applied. Applicator knives tend to cut through wet soils, leaving smeared sidewalls to the knife trench. The free space left by the knife is filled with ammonia gas. If the planter places the seed immediately above the knife trench free ammonia may escape into the seed zone, exposing the seed or young seedling roots to burn from free

ammonia. Above ground symptoms usually appear in low, wet areas as uneven emergence. The primary and/or seminal root tips of affected plants will exhibit a brown discoloration, which essentially stops root development, slowing early growth. Although plants may survive injury, the plant's contribution to harvest yield may be compromised. Spring-applied anhydrous ammonia should be offset from the planted row (guidance) or applied at an angle to the direction of planting to minimize the number of plants exposed to free ammonia from sidewall compaction.



**Figure 4.** Smeared sidewall and root injury caused by planting on top of the point of anhydrous ammonia application (less-than-ideal conditions at time of anhydrous ammonia application).

**Soybeans respond to soil residual N** even though they are a legume. Nitrogen-fixing nodules will start providing the soybean plant N approximately two weeks following emergence. Until then, the plant relies on residual soil N. High 2020 yields and a cold Spring have left soils with a minimal amount of N for crop utilization. Expect to see light green colored soybean fields the first two weeks following emergence. This would be the season to test soybean response to supplemental N. Try 100 pounds of ammonium sulfate/acre. Will be impossible to determine whether the response was caused by nitrogen or sulfur, that would be something to determine in 2022. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about setting-up an On-Farm Discovery Trial.

**Cool wet soils favor Pythium.** Pythium is an early-season pathogen that tends to attack most planted seeds, whether corn or soybean. It is considered a water mold and requires saturated soil conditions to infect the seed or young seedling (swims to the site of infection). The disease is favored by saturated soil conditions coupled with soil temperatures at or below 50° F. Infected plants may emerge and die or die prior to emergence. Infected plants will have a water-soaked rotting appearance.

**Using plant analysis to determine nutrient status.** Intensity of the plant's green color does not always indicate a shortage of plant-available nitrogen. Other plant-essential nutrients involved with chlorophyll (green color) production include sulfur, iron and manganese to name a few. The reason for the difference in color intensity and/or growth should be determined before any corrective action is taken. The value of plant analysis is greatly enhanced by testing tissue from plants that exhibit desired growth and color. It provides a relative comparison (yellow vs. green) to help determine the cause(s) of the color difference.

For more information about plant tissue analysis and how to handle the samples visit the following website: [https://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/p1224\\_0.pdf](https://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/p1224_0.pdf)

### CORN

Seedling stage (less than 12"). All the above-ground portion  
15 to 20 plants

Before tasseling: The entire leaf fully developed below the whorl  
10 to 15 plants

Tasseling to Silking: The leaf opposite and below the ear shoot  
10 to 15 plants

*Note: Sampling after silking is not recommended.*

### SOYBEANS

Seedling stage (less than 12") All above ground portion.  
20 to 30 plants

Before or during initial flowering. Top 2-3 fully developed leaves  
20 to 30 plants

*Note: Sampling after pods begin to set is not recommended.*





**Nathan Hubbard**  
COUNTRY Financial  
Agency Manager



**Dan Punkay**  
328-0023



**Travis Heath**  
352-4555



**Keith Garrett**  
485-3010



**Jessie DeHaan**  
352-3466



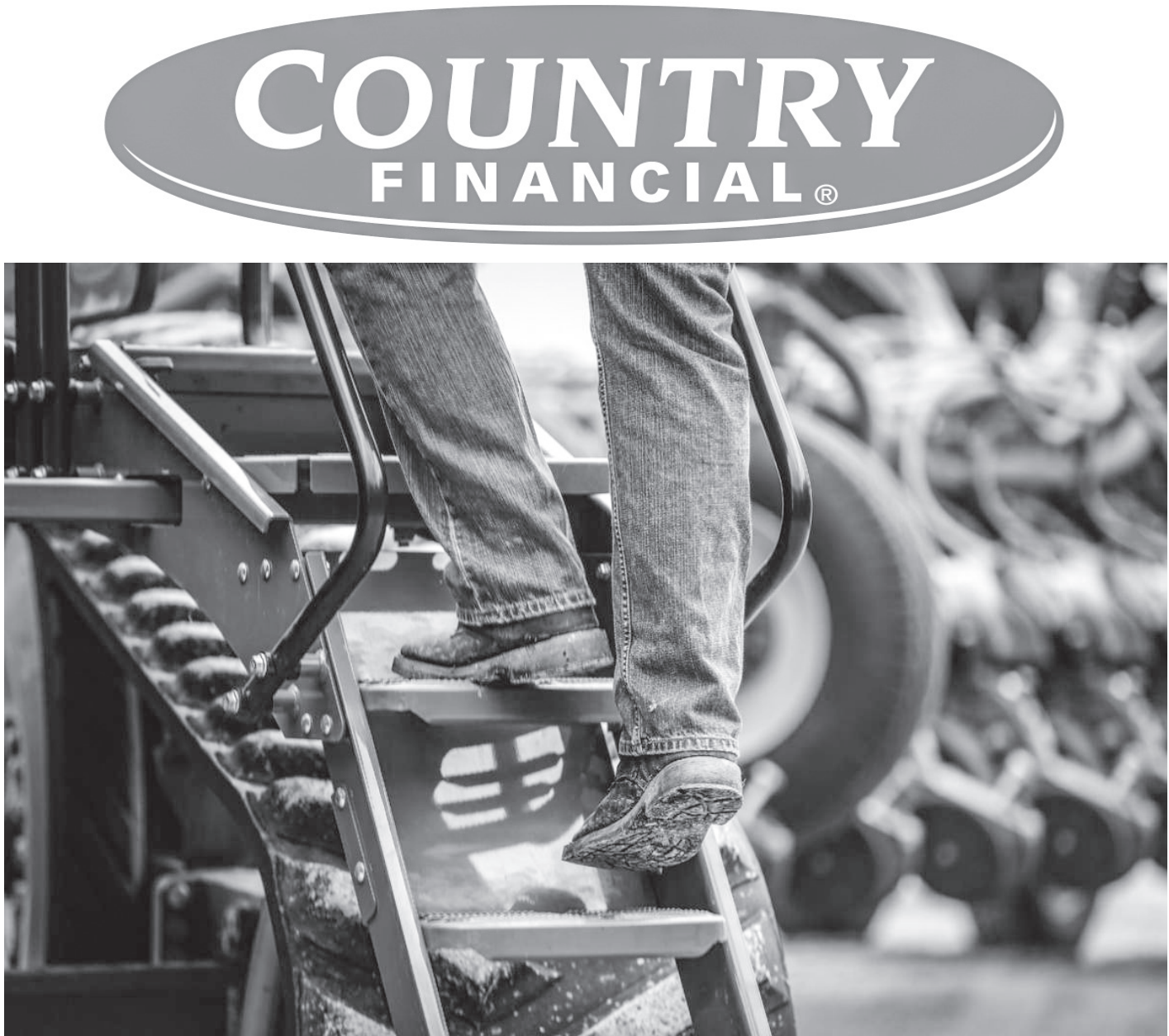
**Jordan McDaniel**  
217-352-9817



**Terry Hill**  
469-9800



**Jim Nelson**  
892-4479



## 7 Steps for a Safer Farm

*By Valerie Hawkins*

@ [www.countryfinancial.com](http://www.countryfinancial.com),

Farming is one of the most important and dangerous jobs in the United States. Yet here you are – working sunup to sundown to help put food on our tables. And while you dedicate your life to others, we're here to help protect you from the unexpected.

Here are seven tips to help keep you and your employees safe:

### 1. Maintain your equipment.

Most farm accidents and deaths involve outdated machinery. That's because older machinery might lack safety features, or it's not maintained correctly. Make sure you update equipment according to the manufacturer's advice to help prevent accidents.

### 2. Understand how to safely handle chemicals.

Keep chemicals in their original containers. Train all farm employees how to best handle the chemicals and what to do in an emergency.

### 3. Be alert on the road.

Most accidents occur when drivers try to pass a slow-moving farm vehicle. Watch out for other vehicles on the road. You can also use flashing lights to draw attention to the tractor's slow speed.

### 4. Have a plan for grain bin safety.

Train workers on grain storage hazards. Follow safe bin entry practices like "Lock Out Tag Out" and use a lifeline system. Have an emergency action plan and train everyone on your farm to follow it.

### 5. Tell your family and employees where and when you're working.

Be sure to also carry a cell phone or walkie-talkie in case of emergencies or accidents.

### 6. Get plenty of rest and take frequent breaks.

Have healthy snacks and fluids on hand to keep your energy levels up. Do not push yourself past healthy limits. Accidents are more likely once fatigue sets in.

### 7. Know how your medications affect you.

Some machinery and medications (both prescription and over the counter) do not mix. Consult your doctor to see if your medicine may harm your ability to safely operate your equipment.



**Rhonda Wagner**  
Administrative Assistant  
Champaign Agency



**Bret Kroencke**  
359-9391



**Kolby Jackson**  
586-5030



**Chris Greenwold**  
355-8675



**Dan Duitsman**  
469-2033



**John May**  
352-3341



**Austin Beaty**  
352-0012



**Steve Derry**  
352-2655



**Aaron Wheeler**  
586-6170



**Nate Lovekamp**  
352-0012



**Scott Jackson**  
359-9335



**Dawn Babb**  
892-4479



**Andrew Deedrich**  
359-3941



# At The Farm Gate: Bring on the Beef

## May is National Beef Month

By Joanie Stiers, May 2021

The occasion marked the first time my husband’s family had dined out together in at least 16 months, and we celebrated the moment of normalcy with beef. The ten of us sat in a semi-private space at a favorite steakhouse, more than six feet from anyone but our waiter. My filet was fantastic, cuttable by butter knife and made even better surrounded by family.

National Beef Month appropriately claims the month of May, when hamburgers and steaks frequent the backyard grill. This American pastime also shares roots in farm family tradition. The National Beef Checkoff reports 91% of U.S. cattle farms and ranches are owned by families. In Illinois, farmers care for just over 1 million beef cows and calves on almost one-fourth of the state’s farms, according to the Illinois Department of Agriculture. In some rural townships, cows outnumber people.

On our farm, the genetics of the small herd of beef cattle trace back to Grandpa’s decades as a cattleman. Hedge posts harvested from the farm frame the pasture fence, and we paid the local FFA chapter to build the feed bunks in the cattle lots. Some of our farm’s favorite photos have come from sunset’s glow on the pasture or the cattle shading themselves under the big burr oak.

Cattlelive in tandem with the environment, from co-existence with wildlife to the carbon sequestration of managed grazing on land unsuitable for growing food crops.

For generations, our farm-raised beef has taken prominent space in the chest-style freezers at family and employee homes. The practice of freezing a year’s worth of beef moved mainstream during the pandemic. Many local meat processors, including ours, are so booked with work that our farm for the first time scheduled custom beef processing more than 18 months in advance for unborn animals.

Absent a social calendar for much of a year, our household commonly prepared beef for dinner. Beef tacos, smoked pulled beef, burgers, beef stew and roast beef dinners brought us around the table. I look forward to the summer meals, when we can throw a steak on the grill and cook some garden veggies for a simple, nutritious meal with protein, iron, zinc and B vitamins from the main course alone.

*About the author: Joanie Stiers' family grows corn, soybeans and hay and raises beef cattle and backyard chickens in West-Central Illinois.*

## Ag Innovation Challenge

# Entrepreneurs Needed to Rise to the Challenge

The Farm Bureau Ag Innovation Challenge is a national business competition that showcases U.S. startups developing innovative solutions that address challenges facing America’s farmers, ranchers and rural communities. Launched in 2015, The Challenge was the first national business competition of its kind focused exclusively on rural entrepreneurs.

Now in their eighth year, the American Farm Bureau Federation in partnership with Farm Credit, are looking to identify the top entrepreneurs who are addressing both traditional challenges farmers face on their operation, such as access to labor, optimizing yield and reducing operating costs, to entrepreneurs who are addressing new challenges facing farmers and rural communities.

Farm Bureau will award \$165,000 in startup funds to ten businesses, culminating at a live pitch competition and networking event at the AFBF Annual Convention in January 2022 in Atlanta, GA. The Ag Innovation Challenge Winner will be awarded

\$50,000 in startup funds provided by sponsors Farm Credit, Bayer Crop Science, John Deere, Farm Bureau Bank, Farm Bureau Financial Services, and FMC Corporation.

For more information visit the American Farm Bureau Federation at [www.fb.org](http://www.fb.org)



## Mental Health First Aid Training

Would you know what to do if you saw someone having a panic attack or were worried a friend or co-worker might be showing signs of alcoholism? Mental Health First Aid, a national program, takes the stigma out of speaking up and teaches you to safely and responsibly identify and address a potential mental illness or substance use disorder.

### WHEN:

- Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Virtual Class\*\*
- Thursday, June 24, 2021, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Virtual Class\*\*
- Wednesday, July 28, 2021, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Virtual Class\*\*

### WHERE:

**\*\*VIRTUAL CLASSES AND BLENDED CLASSES REQUIRE APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS OF SELF-PACED WORK ONLINE BEFORE ATTENDING FIVE HOURS OF CLASS. VIRTUAL CLASS TIME WILL BE HELD OVER ZOOM. BLENDED CLASS TIME WILL BE HELD IN PERSON.**

**COST: \$15.00**

**REGISTER:** Sign up for classes online at [carle.org/mhfa](http://carle.org/mhfa) or, if you prefer, by phone at (217) 365-5460. Contact

[SeedsofWellness@carle.com](mailto:SeedsofWellness@carle.com) with any registration questions.

### 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  
Manager -- Bradley Uken, FBCM  
Assistant Manager -- Bailey Conrady  
Communications Director -- Lesley Gooding  
Administrative Assistant -- Brenda Wood  
Membership & Outreach Coordinator -- Maggi Maxstadt  
Ag In The Classroom Director -- Sarah Kaper  
Foundation Director -- Kirk Bulta

Contact us at (217) 352-5235  
[www.ccfarmbureau.com](http://www.ccfarmbureau.com)



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# Soil Your Undies Challenge



Left to Right: Chris Hausman and his grandson, Archer; Dale Franzen's planting site; Lyle Brock and his great nephew, George; Cory Mitchell's planting site

Ag in the Classroom Director, Sarah Kaper, challenged the Farm Bureau board members, the Foundation board members, and the Ag in the Classroom committee members to participate in a Soil your Undies Challenge. This challenge is a way to test the health of the soil right where you live. Your undies won't break down in just any soil. Healthy soil contains billions of microbes that consume the cotton. In fact, one teaspoon of healthy soil contains more microbes than there are people on the planet. In addition to chowing down on organic matter like cotton, they also help soil resist erosion, cycle nutrients,

and store water. Participants plant a new pair of cotton underwear in a site they are curious about. Then, wait 60 days to give the soil microbes time to work their "magic". After 60 days, dig up the underwear and take a picture to submit to sarah@ccfarmbureau.com. These photos will be shared in the June newsletter as well as with county students who are learning about soil through Ag in the Classroom lessons.

There are a few more pairs of underwear at the Farm Bureau office if you want to stop by and pick them to participate in this challenge!

## Women's Committee



Brooke Buzard, Associate Director for Advancement at Cunningham Children's Home was guest speaker at the April Women's Committee meeting. Ms. Buzard provided an informative presentation on the history of Cunningham Children's Home, as well as information on current programs and anecdotal stories. The Home provides 3 levels of services: educational, residential and community. The Women's Committee will be coordinating an effort to collect items for Cunningham Children's Home later this summer. More information will follow as the date approaches.



Women's Committee members enjoying the April meeting.

## WOMEN'S COMMITTEE RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Paulette Brock

### Blueberry Kuchen

This recipe is an enjoyable use of summer's bounty, and is always well received when I have served it when entertaining.

#### Ingredients

- 1 c. plus 2T flour, divided
- 1/8 t. salt
- 2 T. plus 2/3 c. sugar, divided
- ½ C. butter, slightly softened
- 1 T. white vinegar
- 5 C. blueberries, divided
- ¾ t. cinnamon.

Mix 1 c. flour, salt, 2 T. sugar. Cut in butter until coarse. Sprinkle with vinegar. Shape into dough, and with floured fingers, press into a 9" springform pan. This should be about ¼" thick on the bottom and brought up about an inch or so high around the sides.

Add 3 c. blueberries, mixed with 2 T. of flour and 2/3 c. sugar.

Sprinkle ¾ t. cinnamon over the blueberries.

Bake on lowest rack in a 400 degree oven 50-60 min. until the crust is browned and filling bubbles. Remove from oven to a rack. Sprinkle with 2 cups fresh blueberries. Cool. Remove rim of pan and serve with Cool Whip or Ice Cream.



The Women's Committee joined in the efforts of the Sadorus All-Stars 4-H club in their multi-county community service opportunity -- collecting items for the Crisis Nursery of Champaign. The 4-H club provided information detailing their efforts to organizations, schools, etc. and were very successful. Items collected were delivered to the Crisis Nursery in mid-April.