

Member Appreciation Picnic

The Champaign County Farm Bureau hosted its Member Appreciation Picnic on August 8th! Members from across the county came together at the Lake of the Woods Pavilion in the Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve for a fun-filled, family night. Members enjoyed supper, live entertainment from David “Boots” Fulton, a kid’s pedal pull, and some Ag in the Classroom activities. Special guests included Illinois Farm Bureau Vice-President Brian Duncan. Members also donated non-perishable food items to the Eastern Illinois Foodbank.

At the picnic Paul Hunsinger, CCFB President, had the honor of presenting three awards to some outstanding citizens in our community. Tracy Lillard, Illinois State Police, was awarded the Urban Ag Leader of the Year Award. This award is designated by the Young Ag Leader Committee and given to an individual in the community who works in partnership with



CCFB President Paul Hunsinger and Deputy of the Year Deron Brize.
the Champaign County Farm Bureau. This individual may not farm full-time, but provides the dedication and talent to strengthen the agriculture industry and the Farm Bureau’s mission. Tracy Lillard grew up on a farm in Champaign County, but she took her talents to a profession outside of agriculture. As an Illinois State Trooper she’s never left her roots behind with her witty “corny corners” to her road safety Facebook posts, you will find “Trooper



CCFB President Paul Hunsinger and Volunteer of the Year Lois Wood.
Tracy”sending messages about the importance of agriculture and road safety on social media.
Deputy Deron Brize was the recipient of this year’s Deputy of the Year award. This award is given to a Deputy of the Champaign County Sherriff’s Department based on their dedication and valor to the citizens of Champaign County. The CCFB recognizes a deputy annually who serves and protects our rural membership. Deputy Brize joined



CCFB President Paul Hunsinger and Urban Ag Leader of the Year Tracy Lillard.
the Sheriff’s office as a deputy in 2015. He now serves as a field training officer, a Crime Scene Investigator, a firearms instructor, and a he is a member of the special enforcement team. Deputy Brize was praised by his peers as always maintaining a positive attitude and never wavering away from doing the best job he can for the residents of Champaign County.

Continue Picnic page 2

“Next Farm Bill” Talk May Seem Premature, But It’s Not

Wait a second? Aren’t we just three growing seasons into a five-year farm bill? And now we’re talking about the next one?

Yes, it does seem a bit premature. But it truly is farm bill season when groups like the American Farm Bureau Federation start gearing up for the next farm bill debate. AFBF has assembled a farm bill working group of state staff that will begin meeting

in Washington next month. I will be part of that working group representing Illinois Farm Bureau, so it’s imperative that I am able to accurately convey which programs are working for you and which ones aren’t.

Over the next several months both the U.S. House and U.S. Senate agriculture committees will begin a series of hearings asking what farm policy and programs are working, and which aren’t. Illinois Farm Bureau must be a part of those conversations and able to answer what’s working with the 2018 bill and what isn’t.

So, while we’re still as many as two years out from what will likely be the 2023 Farm Bill, we need to begin thinking about what changes we’d like to see in the commodity program and conservation. How’s crop insurance working? And is there a need – as some regions of the country believe – for a permanent disaster program inside of the farm bill?

Admittedly, farm bill commodity programs have played a secondary role over the last three years, when producers were deciding whether to sign up for ARC or PLC. 2018 found the U.S. locked in a trade war with China. The Chinese significantly reduced their purchases of U.S. soybeans, and Illinois farmers were caught in the middle. Secretary Sonny Perdue was asked to get creative and rolled out something called the Market Facilitation Program

(MFP), which was designed to make up for lost Chinese soybean sales.

Illinois farmers received two MFP payments totaling \$2.6 billion. The Spring of 2019 brought heavy rains at the wrong time, and IFB members up and down the state quickly became reacquainted with prevented planting provisions. WHIP+ payments were made in 2019 and are still being made. Then, a nationwide pandemic and congressional approved COIVD disaster assistance once again forced USDA to get creative.

Farmers across the nation received two rounds of Coronavirus Food Assistance Program payments. Once again, Illinois producers were among the biggest beneficiaries. Again, the question remains what should a commodity program look like and how should it function in the coming years?

And, we can’t forget about the extraordinary role crop insurance played In 2018-2020, when Illinois farmers paid roughly \$1.2 billion out of pocket for federal crop insurance coverage. Between USDA’s share of the premium and indemnities paid, Illinois farmers have recently received an 81-cent return for every dollar in out-of-pocket premiums paid. The risk premium subsidy alone over the past four years in Illinois totals about \$1.6 billion underscoring the program’s tremendous importance.

In our meetings, we’ve had some

By Adam Nielsen, Illinois Farm Bureau
great discussion about potential improvements to the conservation program and suggestions on how to better support younger farmers.

So far, I’ve held ten district meetings around the state to gather member input on the next farm bill. I was in Champaign August 2 and collected some excellent feedback. If you have any ideas of your own, please feel free to send them my way at anielsen@iffb.org. This conversation and our collective effort to develop member-driven, grassroots farm policy will continue into the next several months.

Adam Nielsen is Director of National Legislation & Policy Development at Illinois Farm Bureau.



Adam Nielsen

September Report



Paul Hunsinger, CCFB President

President, Paul Hunsinger

It's been a busy summer. We have had lots of meetings and activities going on with the Farm Bureau. Thank you to everyone who came out for our Membership Appreciation picnic at Lake of the Woods in Mahomet. We had a great turn out and the weather was about perfect. It was great to get out and see everyone there. I want to thank all of our members for your membership and support to the Champaign County Farm Bureau. It's because of you that we are able to keep the Voice of Agriculture heard in our communities and surrounding areas.

Hope you all enjoy the rest of the summer and watch out for more of our events coming up this month.

Sincerely,
Paul Hunsinger

Prime Timers Meeting

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

by September 6

Call the CCFB Office 217-352-5235

Meeting Date: September 9 at 10 a.m.

Program – Lake of the Woods “What’s New & What’s Old”

Barb Oehlschlaeger-Garvey

Entertainment – Kathy Brake

Meal cost: \$8 per person

Important changes

- Lunch will consist of a box lunch.
- Fully vaccinated people are no longer required to wear masks.
- No walk-ins.
- Call to reserve your spot.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

Schedule of Events

September 11 – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Women's Committee Curtis Orchard Days

September 13th - 9:30 a.m.

Tour I & I Museum with Lunch

at the I & I Clubhouse

Return to Champaign

October – NO MEETING

CCFB Calendar of Events September 2021

September 9	Prime Timers	10 a.m.
September 13	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
September 17	Governmental Affairs	7:30 a.m.
September 19	Full Board	6:30 p.m.

October 2021

*Most Committees do not meet in October
due to harvest!*

CCFB Virtual Meetings are posted at

www.ccfarmbureau.com

Defensive Driving Class

Cost \$17



**Tuesday, November 2, &
Wednesday November 3,**

8:00 a.m. – Noon.

**Champaign County Farm Bureau
Auditorium • RSVP: 217-352-5235**

Picnic, continued from Page 1

Our final award is the Ken Roellig Volunteer of the Year award. Named after the very first honoree, this award is given annually to volunteers who have gone above and beyond in service to the Champaign County Farm Bureau. The couple being given the award this year is no exception. Don & Lois Wood have volunteered their time and talent to the Champaign County Farm Bureau for many, many years. Both were active in what is now the Young Ag Leaders and Don continued in a leadership role by serving 12 years on the Champaign County Farm Bureau Board of Direc-

tors. They are active members of the Prime Timers Committee and Lois currently serves as the Tour Director for our many member tours. They've hosted farm tours for elected officials and community members on behalf of the Farm Bureau and they've always been eager to volunteer and help with Farm Bureau programs. This year's volunteers of the year are Don & Lois Wood.

Congratulations to the award recipients and thank you to all the members who came out to the picnic. It was a great day to meet new people, see familiar faces, and gather together for fun and fellowship. CCFB hopes to see members at future events that are scheduled throughout the year!

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY & HEALTH WEEK

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY & HEALTH WEEK 2021
SEPT. 19 - 25, 2021

**FARM SAFETY
YIELDS
REAL RESULTS**



Women’s Committee In Ashkum

The Women’s Committee enjoyed a lovely afternoon on Monday, August 9th, touring Janie’s Mill in Ashkum, IL. Ashkum is located about one hour north of Champaign. Harold Wilken, owner and CEO, shared the history of the mill and how they became an integral part of the food chain when COVID struck last year to



many food suppliers that could not buy elsewhere. Jill Brockman-Cummings, head miller, talked about how to source, clean, de hull, and grind the flour ethically and sustainably. She truly cares about the consistency of the products they make.

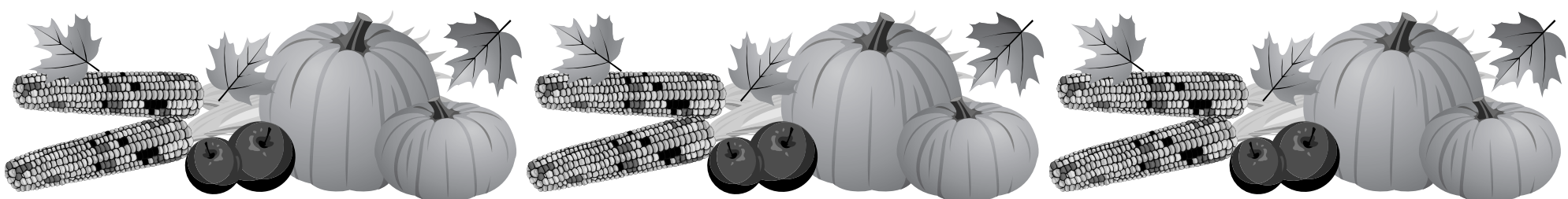
Later the retail manager, Cecilia Gunther, spoke about the various flours made there, and uses for each. They have many varieties and she shared how each serves best for particular baking products (bread, rolls, pizza, pastry, scones, cookies, etc.). Afterwards, we were invited into their store where several of us purchased bags of flour that we hope to bake into delicious things for our families.



Women’s Committee Safety Project

The Women’s Committee community safety project for this fall was to assemble 250 first aid kits to be distributed to local farmers. Some of these were taken home by attendees of the Farm Bureau’s Member picnic, held on August 8th. The kits included Johnson & Johnson mini first aid kits, along with additional gauze, antiseptic wipes and larger bandages.

Carle Rural Health & Safety assisted by providing items for the kits, as well as a mental health and emergency contact information included in each bag. The Women’s Committee wishes all farmers and their families a safe and bountiful harvest.



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Thank You Golf FORE Ag Sponsors!

Golf FORE Ag was held Thursday, August 5th, 2021 at the UI Golf Course. Over 30 teams and 118 golfers participated in golf and other "shenanigans" in support of the CCFB Foundation's Scholarship and Ag in the Classroom programs. Our sincerest thanks to all our sponsors for helping make this year's outing a huge success!



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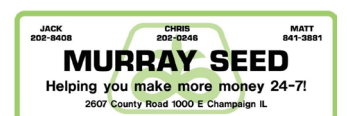
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Timothy Johnson



Buzz Johnson



**Over the
EDGE**
for Agriculture!



New Date! April 1st - 2022

See you in the Spring...and we're not foolin'!





**KORY KRAUS,
GENERAL MANAGER**

FROM THE FIELD

by Dr. Howard Brown

Fall fertilizer applications for the 2021 crop. The end of the 2020 growing season will arrive, ushering in preparation for 2022. Here are some common questions and responses that may be helpful when making nutrient management decisions for the next cropping year.

Are there any special considerations if soil samples will be collected this fall? If soil samples are collected this fall, here are a few considerations when interpreting the results.

1. *Dry soil conditions may cause the soil pH to be slightly lower than soil moisture at or close to field capacity. During dry periods water is pulled upward through the soil to the surface by evaporation. Solutes (salts) carried by the water as it moves through the profile are concentrated at the surface as the water evaporates. A concentration of soluble salts can result in a lowering of a standard water pH. Soil testing protocols for pH in the humid Midwest do not allow for soluble salts since it typically is leached. The effect of soluble salts on a soil water pH can be as much as 0.5 pH unit (lower). Once salts are leached, soil pH should return to what is considered normal.*

2. *Potassium test levels tend to be lower during dry periods. Clay layers tend to collapse with dry conditions, trapping some potassium between the layers. A lack of adequate rainfall after harvest may also leave much of the potassium used by the plant (not grain) to remain in the residue. Potassium is not part of any cell structure. It is part of the plant's liquid and is water-soluble. Once the plant dies, potassium can be readily leached from the residue, moving it back into the soil profile.*

3. *Dry soils make it nearly impossible to manually collect (probe and muscle) samples to the proper depth. Test results from samples collected to a depth less than 7 inches will be artificially high since most applied nutrients are concentrated near the surface. If samples must be collected, consider asking for robotic sampling. Rogo Ag is the provider of robotic sampling for Illini FS. The autonomous device uses a high-speed drill to collect soil at a consistent sampling depth. Visit with your local Illini FS crop specialist to sign-up for robotic sampling. We have two years of experience utilizing this new technology.*



Figure 1. Robotic Sampler used on over 24,000 acres by Illini FS. Robotic sampling allows for improved accuracy and precision of soil sample collection, a must when collecting samples from dry, hard soils.

Why do samples need to be collected at a 7-inch depth? The only soil testing depth correlated and calibrated to crop yield response to phosphorus and potassium fertilizer applications is 7 inches. Samples can be collected at other depths, but no interpretation is available to determine how much phosphorus or potassium to apply.

Will sampling depth ever change? Illini FS is building a database of samples collected at 7, 12, and 24 inches. The data is being used to explore the relationship between the sampling depths. Data collected so far is helping us learn more about nutrient movement and distribution within the upper soil profile. Learn more about what Illini FS is doing with soil testing and nutrient movement by visiting your local Illini FS Crop Specialist.

When should we start applying fall fertilizer? Phosphorus and potassium fertilizers can be applied anytime once the crop is harvested. Both nutrients are considered immobile in medium-to-heavy textured soils and move very slowly, why they are considered immobile. Once time is allowed for the nutrients to react with the soil, the only way significant losses could occur is through soil erosion. Minimizing soil erosion potential by using conservation practices will help optimize soil productivity and reduce any nutrient loss.

Is there a time NOT to apply fall fertilizer? Yes. Try to avoid any phosphorus

and potassium applications within 12 to 24 hours of a significant rain event (1-inch or more), especially in fields with some slope. The phosphorus and potassium fertilizers commonly applied are nearly 100% water-soluble (90%+ for phosphorus and 100% for potassium). A rain event soon after application may not allow enough time for the nutrients to react with the soil, leaving them vulnerable to dissolve in rainwater and move with surface runoff. Nutrient loss to surface runoff has negative economic and environmental consequences. It is also critical to avoid fertilizer applications to bare frozen or snow-covered. Significant nutrient losses can be anticipated with applications made prior to winter rain events or snowmelt.

Does adoption of strip-till or no-till minimize loss of nutrients by surface runoff? Surface residue should slow surface water movement, allowing water to soak into the soil, reducing surface runoff loss of soluble nutrients or movement of soil by water erosion. However, the increase in macro-pore development with strip or no-till practices increases water infiltration through larger soil pores, increasing preferential flow of water containing dissolved nutrients into subsurface tile lines. Light incorporation of surface-applied fertilizer soon after application will help minimize nutrient loss with surface runoff, but it may increase the potential for nutrient loss through soil erosion. Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eroGrAjILZk&t=6s> and watch the video to learn more about macropores and preferential flow to subsurface tile lines.

What happens to applied phosphorus and potassium fertilizers once applied to the soil? Granular phosphorus fertilizers are applied in an orthophosphate form, a form that plants can utilize. Soon after application (1-2 weeks) orthophosphate reacts with soil iron and aluminum ($\text{pH} < 7$) or calcium and magnesium ($\text{pH} > 7$) to form iron/aluminum phosphates or calcium/magnesium phosphates respectively. These compounds are much less water-soluble than applied orthophosphate fertilizer, precipitating the phosphorus and removing it from soil water (temporarily unavailable for plant uptake). A fraction of the applied phosphorus may react with the soil clay, temporarily making it unavailable for plant uptake. In either case, applied phosphorus is not lost but rendered unavailable for movement or plant uptake. Eventually, the fixed or precipitated phosphorus will find its way back into the soil solution, where the growing crop can take it up. Unfortunately, when it finally makes it back into soil solution remains an unknown.

What happens to the nitrogen applied with diammonium (DAP) and monoammonium (MAP) phosphate fertilizer? Research has discovered as much as 60% of N applied with ammoniated phosphate was lost before May 1st the following year. The investigation did not determine the fate of the lost N.

When is it a good time to apply Anhydrous Ammonia? Fall application of anhydrous ammonia across most of the Illini FS territory should only be considered **after November 1st when soil temperature at 4 inches (bare soil) is at or below 50° F mid-morning.** The purpose of waiting until November is to minimize the chance of a soil warm-up, causing an undesirable conversion of ammonium to nitrate-N before freezing temperatures. Once ammonium-N is converted to nitrate-N, it can be easily lost through leaching (water movement) or denitrification (saturated soil) early in the Spring, well ahead of crop utilization. A proven nitrification inhibitor, such as N-Serve or Centuro, should be used with fall applications. N-Serve or Centuro stops or slows the activity of soil microorganisms responsible for the conversion of ammonium-N to nitrate-N (Nitrosomonas bacteria).

Should N be applied to corn stubble to expedite stalk breakdown? No. Nitrogen applied to corn stubble as ammoniated phosphorus fertilizers (DAP, MAP, MES-10) will likely be immobilized by soil microbial activity (up to 45 pounds N), especially if worked into the soil with tillage and the soils are still warm. However, it is not advised to apply additional N fertilizers to enhance soil microbial breakdown of corn stalk residue. The economic and environmental risk associated with N loss is much greater than any potential benefit (if any) to enhancing the microbial breakdown of corn stubble, especially as the soil cools.



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



5 Questions Farmers Should Answer Annually

By Valerie Hawkins, www.countryfinancial.com

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 talk 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 a combine and 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 in your policy.

3. Are you growing a new crop?

Diversifying crops is common today. 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 animals through the course of your operations?

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

5. Have you purchased new farm vehicles?

Farm vehicles are a common coverage gap. 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 aren't paying unnecessary insurance premiums.



Rhonda Wagner
Administrative Assistant
Champaign Agency



Bret Kroencke
359-9391



Kolby Jackson
586-5030



Chris Greenwold
355-8675



Dan Duitsman
469-2033



David Palmer
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

SPOTS AVAILABLE- CALL TODAY

Champaign County Farm Bureau Trips & Tours

October 21 – Goodfield, IL • December 15 – Goodfield, IL

Please feel free to share this information with friends, neighbors and family. We would love to add them to our list of travel friends. Thank you and we look forward to traveling with you.

CCFB Trips & Tours FAQ’s

- We have been assured that both theaters and the bus companies we are using will be following proper CDC & Health Department guidelines, as it pertains to COVID 19.
- Please note the deadlines posted for each trip
- Any cancellation, for any reason, must be made on or before the deadline posted for each individual trip to guarantee any refund. We ask that all day trips are paid for in full when you register.
- Gratuity not included in the price unless indicated

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 Griswolds? 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



Carle Center for Rural Health & Farm Safety: ATV & Me

ATVs, like other heavy machinery, have a lot of power and the potential for high speeds. To keep yourself and others safe, use common sense and follow these helpful safety guidelines:

- Get trained
- Wear a helmet
- Don’t ride tandem
- Don’t ride on pavement
- Don’t allow children to ride on adult ATVs

- Don’t ride under the influence
- Get trained:**

A course on safety training teaches basic skills for driving and maneuvering an ATV as well as important information on how to keep safe. ATV drivers who have taken an interactive safety course have a lower risk of injury than those with no formal training.

Wear protective gear when riding ATVs:

In case of an accident it is crucial to be wearing protective gear to lessen the severity of injuries. A helmet is the most important piece of equipment and should be a motorcycle or motorized sports helmet certified by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) or the Snell Memorial Foundation (certification can be found near the back of the helmet). To protect the rest of the body from injuries due to rocks, debris, and brush, other protective items should include: ankle-covering boots, goggles, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt.

Don’t ride tandem:

Never drive with a passenger or ride as a passenger on an ATV. The driver must be able to maneuver his body in order to properly control the vehicle. Passengers can make it very difficult to do so, putting the safety of the driver and passenger in jeopardy.

Avoid pavement when driving an ATV:

Never drive an ATV on paved roads or areas. ATVs are meant to be driven on rough terrain and are difficult to control on paved roads. In addition, collisions with other larger

vehicles (even small cars) can be deadly. Many ATV fatalities happen on paved roads.

Don’t allow children on adult ATVs:

About 1/3 of all deaths and injuries with ATVs involve children and most of these occur when a child is riding or driving an adult ATV. No children under the age of 16 should be allowed on adult ATVs.

Don’t ride under the influence:

Never drive an ATV under the influence of any amount of alcohol or drugs, including prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Reaction time and judgment are essential skills for the safe use of an ATV and these skills are impaired by alcohol and drugs..

WOMEN’S COMMITTEE RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Marilyn Whalen

Ham and Fresh Vegetable Medley – from my Toppe Family Cookbook

Ingredients

- 1 lb fully cooked ham, cut in ¼” strips
- 1 green pepper, cut in 1/2” strips
- 1 red pepper, cut in ½” strips
- 1 onion, cut in ½” strips
- 2 med. Zucchini, cut in ½” strips
- 3 Tbsp. salad oil
- 1 med. Yellow squash, cut in ½” strips
- ½ c. water
- 1 env. Chicken bouillon (2-3 cubes)
- 2 t. basil
- ½ t salt
- ¼ t pepper
- 2 large tomatoes, cut into 8 wedges

Directions

In large skillet over high heat, cook peppers, onions, squash and ham in hot oil about 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Reduce heat to medium; add water, bouillon, basil, salt and pepper. Cook until vegetables are tender crisp, stirring occasionally about 5 minutes. Add tomato wedges; continue cooking until tomatoes are heated through. Makes 4 servings.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS

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Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
Manager -- Bradley Uken, FBCM
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Administrative Assistant -- Brenda Wood
Membership & Outreach Coordinator -- Maggi Maxstadt
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Contact us at (217) 352-5235
www.ccfarmbureau.com

CCFB Member Appreciation Picnic August 8 at Lake of the Woods

Photos courtesy of Sweet Lemonade Photography



Summer Fun Fling

Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's Committee hosted its Summer Fun Fling event in July. Members enjoyed lunch and listening to speaker Dr. Anna Dilger- Associate Professor of Animal Sciences at UIUC, Fred Delcomyn – Professor Emeritus of Entomology at UIUC, and the Kitchen Keenagers Band.



Thank You for Attending CCFB's Burger Bash 2021

