Making Safety a Priority

Those of us who grew up in rural areas know how to drive during harvest season. Unfortunately, not everyone has had this learning experience. As such, we have to prepare for some of the motoring public to make unintelligent decisions. This Summer I had the privilege of attending some of the Farm Bureau's Burger Bash gatherings and remember hearing multiple stories about impatient drivers driving recklessly around combines and other farm equipment. While there is not a lot farmers can do to prevent that impatient driver from acting recklessly, there are some things that can help. Making sure slow-moving vehicles are clearly marked is one thing that can help. While not always possible, avoiding busier roadways with slow moving equipment is also a safer idea, especially during the morning and afternoon commute times when traffic is heaviest. Lastly, if parking machinery or vehicles along a roadway, make sure to have them off the roadway as much as possible and use any installed caution lights to warn motorists of the roadway obstruction.

This is also a prime time of year to be a victim of property crime. Many criminals are motivated by opportunity. The more difficult it is to damage or steal farm equipment, the less likely it will be damaged or stolen. Most burglars want the biggest "bang for their buck" with the least risk possible. Closing and locking barn doors and closing blinds in unoccupied houses

great way to persuade a would-be burglar to move along to somewhere else even if your dog wouldn't really hurt them (they don't know that!).

First and foremost, look out for your neighbors. My deputies are out patrolling to reduce the chances of your property being a target and to reduce the chances that impatient driver will cause an accident, but they can't be everywhere at once. If you see a suspicious vehicle, try to get a license

by Dustin Heuerman, Champaign County Sheriff of you who have dogs, too. Dogs are a plate and call it in to METCAD (333-8911) to have a deputy dispatched to the area. Even if you don't think it is a big deal, we have no problem sending a deputy to drive through to help deter any mischief that might be occurring. Many times, simply seeing a patrol car in the area is enough to deter criminal activity. Also let us know if you routinely see unsafe driving behaviors and we'll conduct some proactive patrol in that area. Together we can help make this harvest season as safe as possible!



Dustin Heuerman, Champaign County Sheriff

will reduce the chances of a burglar seeing something they want to steal, making it not worth the risk and entice them to move on to somewhere else. Because some burglars will ring your doorbell to see if someone is home before they try to break into your house, having a video doorbell such as "Ring" or noticeable surveillance cameras is a good investment. Make sure you lock your doors and shut your windows if you are not home, including locking your vehicles. The majority of our thefts and burglaries are as a result of people feeling too comfortable where they live so they don't take steps to protect their property (aka an "it can't happen here" mentality). I know many

Farm Bureau veterans and their spouses

via a recognition breakfast and program

on Monday, Nov. 8, 2021 at 8AM at

the CCFB auditorium. In addition to a

catered breakfast in honor of our Farm

Bureau veterans, each veteran will

receive a specially designed patriotic

Farm Bureau cap. Watch for a picture of

this cap in the November newsletter. We



A Tribute To Those Who Served Honoring Our Farm Bureau Veterans 11-8-21 have engaged three primary speakers, In celebration of Veteran's Day, gramming there. We will also recognize 2021, the Champaign County Farm Bueach giving a short presentation about veterans of the other major branches of reau Women's Committee is saluting our their experiences. Paul Lewis, a Marine

veteran, who spent 444 days as an Iranian hostage from 11-4-79-1-20-81 will share his experience. Also Army veteran, Jed Mackey, a service dog recipient, will present information about his experience plus insight about a program called This Able Veteran. Garrett Anderson, of the Chez Veterans Center at the University

of Illinois, will enlighten us about pro-

service as well, and will give a tribute to WWII veteran Farm Bureau veteran, Ken Roellig. You will not want to miss this patriotic day, which is intended for all veterans of all ages in our Farm Bureau family.

The only thing that is required of you is to call Brenda at 217-352-5235 to make your reservation by November 4th,

October Report



Paul Hunsinger, CCFB Presid

President, Paul Hunsinger

Hope everyone is having a safe and fun start to fall. It is personally my favorite time of the year. I have seen lots of combines out harvesting and the countryside is starting to take on a new look with fields being harvested. So far, I have heard that yields are good so hopefully that will continue across the county as we progress through harvest.

The Farm Bureau had a great meeting with Congressman Rodney Davis last month. It was great to be able to hear first-hand what was taking place in congress and get answers for questions from our members. Thanks to all who attended.

Hope everyone has a great fall and safe harvest!

Sincerely, Paul Hunsinger

Congressman Rodney Davis recently visited with CCFB members about national agriculture issues, the status of the bipartisan infrastructure framework bill, and how CCFB members can be involved in the policy process.

Prime Timers Meeting

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
by October 11

Call the CCFB Office 217-352-5235

Meeting Date: October 14 at 10 a.m.
Program - Kaci Dunnum,
Eastern Illinois Foodbank
Entertainment –Logan Kirby
Meal cost: \$8 per person

Important changes

Lunch will consist of a box lunch.

Masks are required in the building.

No walk–ins.

Call to reserve your spot.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October NO MEETING

November 8

Veteran's Day Recognition Program

December 13

General meeting with holiday gathering

CHAMPAIGN CO. FARM BUREAU SALUTE TO VETERANS BREAKFAST

MONDAY NOV. 8 | 8AM



CCFB AUDITORIUM

The CCFB Women's Committee will be hosting a breakfast to honor our Veteran members and their spouses! Please RSVP by calling 217-352-5235 by Nov. 4th. A commemorative hat will be given out as a token of our appreciation for your service and sacrifice.



CCFB Calendar of Events

October 2021

October 14

Prime Timers

10 a.m.

Most committees do not meet during October due to harvest.

CCFB Virtual Meetings are posted at www.ccfarmbureau.com.



Women's Committee Visits Penfield

The October monthly general meeting of the Women's Committee was held at the I & I Antique Tractor and Gas Engine Club grounds in the old Penfield Grade School building there. Following the meeting, the ladies were provided a tour of the museum, as well as a one-room schoolhouse which was relocated from the Rantoul area to the Penfield grounds. The I & I Women's Auxiliary graciously served a catered lunch to attendees.

The tour included farm related items ranging from hand tools to trac-



Mary Miller shared her knowledge of the household exhibit.



Corn rack and germination tray used to grade corn grown and select seed to be used for the following year.

tor drawn implements. The museum occupies most of the old Penfield Grade School, with displays of small items in the second-floor classrooms and larger items in the gymnasium and the first-floor classrooms.

We enjoyed the I & I Women's Auxiliary Household display which showcases many of the latest home conveniences of the early twentieth century. Chapter 10 of the IH Collectors group displays a re-creation of 1950's era IHC parts counter, a gathering place for IH enthusiasts during the Historic Farm Days show which is held annually in July. An-

other classroom visited is used for the Corn Items Collectors display during the summer show.

Information was provided about the larger machines on display in the gymnasium, including corn shellers, threshing machines, and of course the two tractors on loan from the Smithsonian, the world's oldest running gas engine tractor, the 1903 Hart-Parr, and the futuristic 1961 International Harvester HT-341 Turbine Tractor

Tours are provided by appointment only for groups interested. You may contact Betty Bensyl - 217-493-3101.

WOMEN'S

COMMITTEE

RECIPE OF THE

MONTH

Submitted by Judi

Stierwalt



Kelly Birkey, one of the four founding brothers of Birkey's Implement known throughout Illinois, shared his knowledge of the vintage equipment displayed.



Farmers and the agricultural industry in Illinois have been leaders in the Illinois Monarch Project, and will continue to work towards ambitious goals to support pollinators and monarchs in our state.



Farmers have made great strides at adding pollinator habitat to the Illinois landscape in recent years.

The agricultural sector has committed, along with other sectors in Illinois, to adding 150 million additional stems of milkweed plus other nectar sources to the Illinois landscape in the next 20 years. In order to do that, the agricultural community will work to:

- educate farmers and rural communities
- support university research and science that addresses agricultural questions
- install and improve pollinator habitat on and around Illinois farms
- monitor our progress and adapt our plan accordingly

What can YOU do?

PLANT A POLLINATOR HABITAT ON YOUR FARM (in your garden, along roadsides, in field corners, around the homestead)

- Include milkweed
- Plant other flowers that bloom May through October to provide sustenance for monarchs during their stay in Illinois

CHANGE YOUR MOWING PRACTICES

- Farm-specific recommendations coming! Stay tuned...
- Don't mow road right-of-ways (ROWs) unless necessary for safety, problematic weeds and woody encroachment
- Negotiate more flexible mowing practices in your leases by discussing the benefits of pollinator and wildlife habitat with your landlord

PESTICIDE STEWARDSHIP

- Follow your pesticides labels
- Monitor your surroundings and check for sensitive areas and endangered species

SIGNAGE

 Publicize your pollinator habitat with signage to educate your neighbors and community

AG IN THE CLASSROOM, 4-H. FFA

 Work with student groups to create habitat and educate the community

PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

 Reach out to any of the ag groups in this report to be connected with researchers and host research on your farm!

TELL YOUR STORY

- Don't be shy
- Present at local meetings to diverse groups
- Tell the media what you do for the environment

Ingre at meetings • 4 c • 1 c what you ironment • 2 c • 2 t

Ingredients

Apple Cake

- 4 cups diced apples
- 1 cup golden raisins
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 3 cups flour
- 1 ½ cup oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ tsp. salt (optional)

Directions

Dump all together and mix. Bake at 300 degrees for one hour.





Grounded in Ag Campaign

October - November 2021

Did you know that your Champaign County Ag in the Classroom program is one of the largest and most expansive programs in the state? Reaching over 1,500 students/month, Ag in the Classroom is popular with teachers and provides memorable learning experiences for students that represent our industry in a truthful and modern way.

The Grounded in Ag campaign helps fund our Ag in the Classroom program, and runs October through November, 2021. Please consider making a donation to support this program that is so important to students and teachers in our county and our industry. Watch your mail for your Grounded in Ag Campaign letter and make plans to join us at Flight Night for Agriculture!





New Program Aims to FUEL Careers in Agriculture

By: Kirk Builta - Executive Director, CCFB Foundation

A new program offered by the Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation takes aim at a growing need in production agriculture by encouraging the expansion of essential agricultural career pathways. Through the new FUEL grant program, the Foundation will support careers which fuel production agriculture.

Career-driven students pursing associates degrees, certificates, or accreditations in various technical agricultural fields will be eligible to apply for annual grant funding. Areas of study could include precision ag technology, agricultural business/operations management, diesel power technology, veterinary technology, landscape design, and more.

Grant funds can be requested for a wide range of educational needs from tuition and fees to books, tools, lab equipment and more. CCFB Foundation Executive Director Kirk Builta says the program will remain flexible to the needs of students. "If there is a financial roadblock preventing a student from pursuing their education, we want to take that into consideration, and help where we can."

Builta hopes the program is designed to not only help students afford the cost of education, but also to build connections for careers within the local industry. "In addition to alleviating the financial burden on our students, we also hope to provide meaningful connections to local businesses for internships and eventual careers.'

To receive funding, students with a passion for agriculture can complete a short application online at www.ccfbfoundation.com/FUEL. Applications are open and will remain open for consideration throughout the 2021-2022 academic year.



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

COUNTRY



4 Reasons Auto Insurance Rates Are On The Rise

1. Say it with me "Get off your phone!"

I doubt this one surprises you, but you may not be thinking of all the phone related distractions that are out there. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the "estimated number of drivers using electronic devices during the day is 660,000." That includes people who text, snap a photo, record video, and more. The younger the driver, the higher the distraction rates.

2. Our cars got fancy.

Back in the day, a fender bender meant that you might spend some cash on a small repair. Today, you're replacing more than a headlight, it's a special-ordered, LED headlight. The more bells, whistles, and sensors on the car, the pricier it is to fix.

3. Gas is cheap. (Wait? What?)

That may sound like an oxymoron, but relative to gas prices a couple of years ago, it's true. When gas prices are lower, more cars are on the road. More cars = more accidents.

4. Healthcare costs are going up.

When health care prices rise, so do auto insurance rates because auto insurance covers the medical costs of those injured in accidents or collisions.

Right now, you're probably thinking "I have no control over 3 of the 4 things on this list and now I'm just mad at you." I don't blame you. All is not lost though; you can do some things to help offset these rising costs.

- Maintain your vehicle: Keep up with oil changes, brake repair, tire replacement, and other necessary maintenance. A well-maintained car is a safer car.
- Car pool: Ride to work with friends. If you work at the same place or are close to each other, you can take turns driving. You'll save some gas money and have time to catch up with your pals. Bonus: A chat with a good friend is an awesome stress reliever after a long work day.
- Put your phone away: Stow your phone before you start the car, even if you have hands free capability. Talking on the phone, through a speaker or not, can be distracting.
- Pick your music before you hit the road: Who doesn't love a good soundtrack while driving? Just line up your tunes before you go, so you aren't trying to change the music while you're behind the wheel.



Nate Lovekamp 352-0012

Aaron Wheeler

586-6170



Scott Jackson 359-9335



Dawn Babb 892-4479



Andrew Deedrich 359-3941



Rhonda Wagner Administrative Assistant Champaign Agency



Bret Kroencke 359-9391



Kolby Jackson 586-5030



by Kristin Smith

www.countryfinancial.com

Chris Greenwold 355-8675



Dan Duitsman 469-2033



David Palmer 352-3341



Austin Beaty 352-0012



Steve Derry 352-2655





KORY KRAUS, GENERAL MANAGER

From The Field

Cornstalk quality will deteriorate rapidly over the next few weeks. It is critical to monitor stalk quality by field as we move through the 2021 harvest season. Inspect 20 plants in five locations per field. Pinch the lower two internodes or push the stalk over at least five inches. Count the number of soft and broken stalks in relation to the total observed. If you find 10 to 15% of the stalks showing weakness, schedule the field for the next harvest.

Patchy areas of disappointing yield. Disappointing areas within some harvested fields are likely to run short of nitrogen or aggressive leaf diseases after pollination. Significant rain events in the latter part of June created a soil environment for denitrification of nitrate-N. Nitrogen is remobilized to the developing grain as the end of the growing season approaches. Remobilization occurs sooner if the plant's N requirement is not satisfied by soil uptake with soil water. Since remobilization occurs from the lower stalk and roots first, premature plant death can be expected. Rainy days followed by dry periods provide an ideal environment for fungal leaf pathogens, such as Gray Leaf Spot. Storm fronts from the south carried Southern Rust spores early, benefiting from the wet/dry cycles. Tar spot, a disease not common to East-Central Illinois, is easy to find in many fields, contributing to the loss of leaf area, increasing earlier-than-desired remobilization of plant nutrients. Seriously consider planning for fungicide applications in 2022. Testimonials of significant yield response to the 2021 applications will be expected this harvest season.

Soybean Cyst Nematode. Access field for Soybean Cyst Nematode Pop-

ulations following soybean harvest. Populations of the pest should be at a peak, making it easier to identify the problem. Areas identified as having high cyst counts following soybeans will provide a great testing ground for cyst-fighting technologies the next time soybeans are planted. Visit your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about Soybean Cyst Nematode testing and the products available to manage the pest.

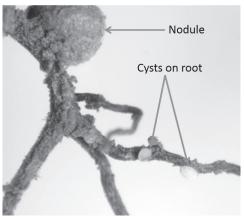


Figure 1. SCN on soybean root. Photographed August, 2020 by Eric Beckettt, Field Sales Agronomist for Illini FS.

New nutrient removal numbers. Below are the revised estimates for nutrients removed per bushel of grain by corn and soybeans (Table 1). Take time and assess what is happening to the nutrient reserves in your soils. Calculate how many pounds of P2O5 and K2O you are removing. It is time to transition from nutrient applications based on soil tests to applications based upon nutrient removal. Soil tests will continue to be of value, but only to help determine the soil nutrient status trends over time (up or down). The relationship between soil test level and harvest yield is very weak. However, it is all that was available pre-yield monitor and GPS technology. Now, with the ability to map harvest yields, it makes sense to focus on nutrient applications based on what is removed. We have the technology to make it happen. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about how we use our tools to generate maps to variable-rate nutrient applications based upon harvest yield and how the process is simplified by using Climate FIELD VIEW Plus.

Table 1. Crop nutrient removal per bushel revised September 7, 2017.

	P2O5 Removal (lbs/bushel)	KZO Removal (lbs/busnel)
Corn	0.37	0.24
Soybeans	0.75	1.17

Source: The Bulletin, Emerson Nafziger, New Grain Phosphorus and Potassium Numbers, Sept. 7, 2017. Link: https://farmdoc.illinois.edu/field-crop-production/uncategorized/new-grain-phosphorus-and-potassium-numbers.html

We are growing the list of nutrients to apply for the 2021 crop. Our nutrient management tool, Nu-TRACKER Plus, identifies the potential need for

"Nutrient use should be a part of a systems approach to nutrient management considering both farm profitability and environmental impact."

and suggestions for the rate and timing of applications.

by Dr. Howard Brown supplemental sulfur, zinc, and boron. Both soil and tissue samples collected from multiple sites in 2020 and 2021 suggest the need for additional nutrients. Visit your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about the forms available

Create a Nutrient Utilization Strategy. A profitable investment in supplemental nutrients requires more than just making an application. The 4-Rs of Nutrient Management is needed to ensure a profitable crop response with minimal environmental impact. Source, Rate, Time, and Placement are all critical. It takes all 4 Rs to make a Nutrient Strategy work.

Let your local Illini FS crop specialist help develop your Nutrient Utilization Strategy for 2022. Creative tools developed exclusively by Illini FS will help optimize management decisions. Whether Nu-TRACKER Plus, Nutrients by Removal, or Robotic Soil Sampling, Illini FS strives to be your trusted business partner delivering winning results through innovative products, services, and solutions.

On-Farm Discovery will soon be summarized for the 2021 report. Our On-Farm Discovery trials for 2021 focus on supplemental sulfur, boron, zinc, and various fungicide applications. Visit your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about the trials and ask for a copy of our 2021 On-Farm Discovery Report. The summary report should be published by early December.

Want to track Plant-Available N, both concentration and form? We have tracked Plant-Available N for the past seven years from post-harvest to pre-tassel the following year. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about Nu-TRACKER Plus (Figure 2) and what we've learned from tracking plant-available mobile nutrients, such as nitrogen, sulfur, and boron.

What comes first, tillage or application? Consider making anhydrous ammonia applications before primary tillage (subsoiling or deep chiseling). The risk of disturbing the zone of application (activity of nitri-



Figure 2. Nu-TRACKER Plus is a nutrient management tool developed and tested by Illini FS to track plant-available nutrients.

fication inhibitor) is less than the risk of an uneven application and possible leakage due to a rough, shattered soil profile. Many primary tillage implements are designed to lift and drop with minimal soil stirring.

Fall Soil Sampling? Dry weather has created challenges to sample collection this Fall. The most significant concern is the depth of sampling. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about robotic sample collection. Our preferred method of sample collection this Fall uses a high-speed drill, assuring consistency in depth of the collection.

Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. Reducing the amount of nutrients lost from farm fields and into water resources will not happen overnight. We need to discover and create new assessment tools that help optimize nutrient use, focusing on farm profitability. To be sustainable, improved nutrient stewardship must be accompanied by improved farm profitability, something that is possible with technologies available in 2022. Ask your local Illini FS crop specialist what innovative products, practices, and solutions we offer to provide you with winning results.

Harvest time provides more opportunities for accidents to occur.

Practice safe operation of farm equipment. Have a Safety meeting with those harvesting the crop with you. Define the ground rules to ensure safety. Schedule breaks throughout the day to stay alert. Stay aware of those around you,

especially young children or people unfamiliar with farm equipment. Have a safe harvest season.

"If we use it we won't lose it."

Maggi's Membership Corner

By Maggi Maxstadt, CCFB Membership & Outreach Coordinator

Happy fall, Farm Bureau members! As the membership coordinator, a big deadline for me is the end of our membership year. August 31st is the date for us to meet the quota that Illinois Farm Bureau sets. As such, August is always my busy month.

Outside of working towards the quota, I helped host two events. Our first annual membership picnic was the second Sunday in August. It was a hot August afternoon, but an excellent time to celebrate our members and the successes from the past year! We enjoyed catching up with members and showing our appreciation.

About a week later, we concluded our third Burger Bash of the year at Greg Knott's. Just like the first two events, we had a great turnout. On behalf of the Farm Bureau, I would like to say a big "thank you!" to all of our hosts. Also, thank you to Cory Mitchell and Lee Waters from Farm Credit for cooking the delicious burgers. I can't wait to see where in the county we end up next time!

After wrapping up these events, we could finish out our membership year and achieve our quota. Just because the end of the membership year came and went doesn't mean my work ended!



I can now focus more time on our communications campaign for all members. We want to be reaching out yearround with all the benefits your membership has to offer! On top of this campaign, I'll be doing my weekly responsibilities of entering dues, generating reports, and administrative tasks associated with membership.

As always, thank you for your membership with the Champaign County Farm Bureau. We appreciate having you as a member! To all, please have a safe harvest, and I'll see you in November!

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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 Builta

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



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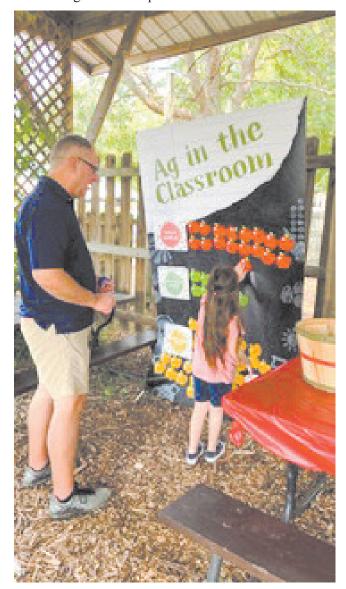
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Ag Day in the Orchard with the Women's Committee

On September 11th, the CCFB Women's Committee hosted Ag Day at Curtis Orchard. This was an agricultural event for children of all ages. Interactive ag activities were provided for children along with a backpack filled with more information appropriate for their age and to share with their families. All participating learned more about where their food comes from and how farmers play an important role in the food chain.

Hands on activities included apple-tasting and graphing; learning about products made from the corn grown by farmers and making Oobleck with cornstarch; making their own germination pouch/necklace with Orbeez and soybeans.



Brad Uken, Farm Bureau Manager, assisted children with placing their apple cut-out on the graph choosing the apple they thought tastiest.



Diane Lecher, Farm Bureau Women's Committee member, helps children make their Oobleck and learn about corn products.



Children learn about soybeans and make pouches with Orbeez to watch soybeans germinate with the help of committee members Vicki Goodmann and Pam Sisco.

Carle Visit

The CCFB was excited to provide an Ag 101 tour to the first year medical students from the Carle Illinois College of Medicine! It was a wonderful way to introduce them to agriculture in Champaign County and provide them with important information about farm safety and rural health issues. Thank you to Art Farley of C-Mor Beef Farm & Bob Barker, CCFB Township Director and owner of Barker Farms, for being fantastic hosts and speakers. A big thank you, as well, to Cody Conrady for sharing his personal farm safety story.







