



CCFB's Year in Review

A new year brought about more change for the Champaign County Farm Bureau. After a year of meeting challenges brought on by COVID 19 restrictions, the CCFB was able to return to a bit of normal in 2021. The CCFB office is fully staffed 5 days per week, members are meeting (safely) in person, and events are back up and running!

As we look back at 2021, the CCFB wants to extend a big thank to all our members. You represent the first line of action in our organization. Being a member of the Champaign County Farm Bureau is about more than farming. Being engaged in the CCFB is about the food on your plate, the fuel in your car, and the clothes on your back. Engaged members make a huge impact on the agriculture industry by giving their voices to issues that matter. Member engagement comes in many forms from participating in events, taking an active role on a committee, participating in an Action Request, or simply by paying membership dues and accessing over 302,000 member benefits.

for a Membership Appreciation Picnic held in Mahomet, IL. At the picnic, the CCFB awarded three awards to the following people for their services to the CCFB and to Champaign County agriculture: Don & Lois Wood received the Volunteer of the Year award, Trooper Tracy Lillard received the Urban Ag Leader of the Year award, and Deputy Deron Brize received the Deputy of the Year award.



Prime Timers Meeting

Advocacy for agriculture is one of the pillars of the CCFB's programming. This year, the CCFB has been actively engaged in working with the county government to



Salute to Veteran attendee Gerald Henry proudly wears his new CCFB hat.

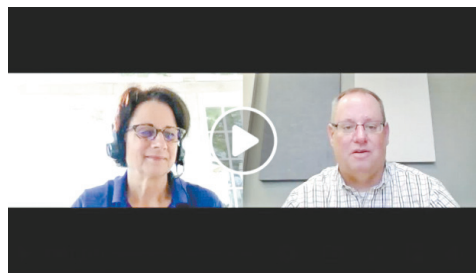
ensure that the funds allotted to Champaign County from the American Rescue Plan Act are used to better the lives of everyone in the county. The CCFB led the effort to get the county to allot \$7.5 million to efforts to improve access to high-speed broadband internet connections in the rural parts of the county. The CCFB has also been engaged at the county, state, and national level on issues like redistricting, the estate tax, preserving

the stepped-up basis, and on various conservation and carbon credit issues. Engaging with legislators remains a high priority for the CCFB. This fall, local government officials were invited to take combine rides to see first hand what harvest is like. The CCFB's Governmental Affairs Committee also remains committed to hearing first hand from legislators about the issues impacting agriculture.



*Membership Appreciation Picnic – CCFB
President Paul Hunsinger with Volunteer of
Year Award Winner Lois Wood*

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Virtual Meetings

2021 started out with a bang as CCFB hosted its annual meeting where several new officers were elected to lead the organization. Prime Timers and Women's Committee moved back to socially distanced, in-person meetings. Lois Wood hosted several well-attended trips and tours. Toolshed meetings made a triumphant return at three local farms. Members also joined one another

Champaign County Farm Bureau

Annual Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 110th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau is called for Thursday, January 20th, 2022 at the Champaign County Farm Bureau, 801 N. Country Fair Dr, Champaign, IL.

The business meeting will begin at 6 p.m. for the purpose of consideration of any business which may be properly presented.

Directors from the following townships will be elected:

- Compromise
- Ludlow
- Newcomb
- Philo
- Raymond
- Sadorus
- St. Joseph
- Scott
- Somer

Minutes of the 2021 CCFB Annual Meeting will be printed in the December edition of the CCFB newsletter.

Please fill out the information for the Proxy below and return by **Jan. 6th, 2022** to:

Champaign Co. Farm Bureau
801 N. Country Fair Dr.
Champaign, IL 61821

PROXY

KNOWN ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENT THAT

_____ (name of member) of _____ (address)

a voting member of the Champaign County Farm Bureau, a corporation organized under the law of Illinois, does hereby appoint and constitute Benjamin Rice of Sidney, Illinois, or failing him, Jason Watson of Villa Grove, Illinois, their true and lawful attorney to attend the annual meeting of the members of the Champaign County Farm Bureau to be held in the Champaign County Farm Bureau Building, Champaign, Illinois on the 20th day of January, 2022 and any and all adjustments thereof, and to vote for this member as its proxy and representative, the one vote which the member would be entitled to cast if actually present, upon any and all things competent to said member, as may in their judgement be necessary or advantageous for all interests of this corporation.

Member Name: _____

Member Address: _____

Email: _____

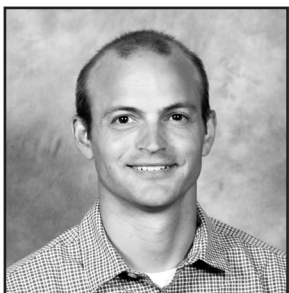
Phone: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

This proxy can also be filled out electronically at
<https://form.jotform.com/champaignCFB/ccfb-annual-meeting-proxy>

December Report



Paul Hunsinger, CCFB President

President, Paul Hunsinger

I can't believe that it is December already! Looking across the country side it looks as if everyone is wrapped up with harvest and going after the field work as fast as they can. It has definitely been a challenge this year getting harvest finished up with the rains that we have had.

As we finish up the year, Champaign County Farm Bureau will be sending delegates up to the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at the beginning of this month to represent Champaign County in the decisions on Farm Bureau policy and where the future of Agriculture will be headed. Last year this meeting was all virtual, so it will be nice to be able to go in person and participate in this meeting.

I'm looking forward to next year and all the new possibilities it brings. I want to give a huge thanks to all the staff at the Champaign County Farm Bureau and Foundation for all that they have done this year. None of what we do would be possible without them and they do a great job!!

I hope you all have a safe rest of the year and I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Paul Hunsinger

Prime Timers Meeting

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

by December 6

Call the CCFB Office 217-352-5235

Meeting Date: December 9 at 10 a.m.

Program-Anna Dilger, Associate Professor, College of ACES

Entertainment-Theresa Harris

Meal cost: \$8 per person

Important changes

• FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET IS BACK

- Masks are required in the building.
- No walk-ins.
- Call to reserve your spot.

CCFB Calendar of Events

December 2021

December 9	Prime Timers	10 a.m.
December 13	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
December 14	Governmental Affairs	7:30 a.m.
December 16	Full Board	6:30 p.m.
December 24 – 31 Holiday – Office Closed		

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

December 13

9:30 a.m. – Christmas Brunch Potluck

@ Farm Bureau Auditorium

A-L: Fruit, Side Dish, Sweet Treat

M-Z: Breakfast casserole, meat, Eggs, Vegetable

January 10

9:30 a.m. – Meeting and

Guest Speaker: John Brown, Public Guardian
for Champaign County

VIRTUAL MEETINGS

at www.ccfarmbureau.com

- Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association Brad Uken, CCFB Manager, is joined by the Interim President of the IFCA, KJ Johnson, to discuss issues relating to fertilizer prices, dicamba, and nutrient loss reduction strategies.
- This issue update is all about the Parkland College Ag Department. Brad Uken is joined by Charlie Mitsdarfer to discuss what's going on at Parkland and how they are preparing students for a wide variety of careers in agriculture!
- Listen in as Karen Stallman discusses the Farm Family Initiative and how it helps farm families throughout Illinois.
- Trent Ford, Climatologist - Featuring a weather report with Illinois' Climatologist
- Transportation issues during harvest with IFB's Rodney Knittel
- Catch the latest about Nutrient Management with Dr. Howard Brown from Illini FS
- Listen in as Nathan Hubbard, Country Financial Champaign-Vermilion Agency Manager, discusses the importance of insurance for young families.
- Follow Sarah Kaper, CCFB Foundation Ag in the Classroom Director, as she provides an update for Ag in the Classroom.
- Jim Goss, County Board member from District 1 visited with the Farm Bureau on the budget process and how things are proceeding with next year's County budget. Additionally, he spoke on the current situation with the jail, use of ARPA funds and redistricting.

Save the Date

RULES FOR THE ROAD

2/24/2022 @ 8 a.m. Champaign

More details to come!



FILL OUT YOUR
UCR REGISTRATION
TODAY!

To Register for 2022, Visit
UCR.GOV | Registration Deadline is
DECEMBER 31, 2021

QUESTIONS?

Contact Rodney Knittel at 309-557-3662 or rknittel@ilfb.org

2022 YOUNG LEADER CONFERENCE
JANUARY 21-22, 2022
Embassy Suites • East Peoria
FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Temple Grandin

Farm Bureau members receive

\$500 BONUS CASH*

ON ELIGIBLE NEW RANGER, F-150 OR SUPER DUTY*

We value our long-standing partnership with Farm Bureau and are proud to offer their members exclusive savings.



Don't miss out on this offer.

*Visit FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com today for complete offer details!



Maggi's Membership Corner

By Maggi Maxstadt, CCFB Membership & Outreach Coordinator

Hello Champaign County Farm Bureau members! November was a busy month for us here in the office: committees started up after a month off for the harvest season, and we held some well-attended events. Thank you to those who came!

The CCFB Women's Committee hosted a Veteran's breakfast on November 8. Thank you, veterans, for your service! We had a great crowd and presentation Monday morning.

That Friday, Brenda and I "zoomed in" with staff from other county Farm Bureau offices to hear an update from the Illinois Farm Bureau membership team. We heard about the latest developments for our membership system and new resources available to us. These both help us support our members!

Throughout November, Brenda and I fielded numerous questions and calls about the trips being offered in 2022. Information about those will be in the

February newsletter, or you can stop by the office to pick up a copy starting in February.

As we look towards 2022, the Champaign County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting will be in late January with a proxy format similar to last year. Due to this, we need our members to fill out the proxy form found on page 1.

Please note that our office is closed from Christmas Eve through the first of the year. Have a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!



Winter Ag Seminar – Champaign Wednesday, January 19, 2022 @ 11 a.m.

COUNTRY Financial®, Illinois Farm Bureau Keep Farmers Updated on Improved Opportunities to Protect Farm & Crops in 2022

There is always uncertainty around what spring, summer and fall may bring. COUNTRY Financial® and Illinois Farm Bureau remain ready to assist farmers through every season. The organizations are again teaming up for regional meetings across Illinois to share updates on improved opportunities for farmers to protect their farms and crops in 2022.

"Every farm operation is different, and our goal is always to help our farm clients and Farm Bureau members reach their goals together with options and information from a trusted partner," said Doug Yoder, COUNTRY Financial Crop Agency Manager. "These meetings offer us the opportunity to connect with clients and members prior to the busy planting season, to make sure they have the most up-to-date information about federal crop and hail insurance options, learn about new coverage options from COUNTRY and gain a better understanding of changes in markets and government that they may need to consider, so they can make informed decisions for their operation."

Champaign County Farm Bureau will host an in-person meeting on January 19th, 2022. There will also be two virtual presentations on January 25 and February 9. All meetings will include:

- Crop Insurance Update, including changes to federal crop insurance and new private products offered by COUNTRY, the #1 crop hail insurer in Illinois. (Doug Yoder, Crop Agency Manager for COUNTRY Financial)
- Crop Claims Update (COUNTRY Financial Crop Claims Representative)
- Market Outlook (Tim Tresslar, Grain Origination Manager for Growmark)
- Legislative Update (Illinois Farm Bureau)
- Opportunity for Audience Q&A with presenters

Registration opens December 13, 2021 for each event. To register and reserve a seat, please call the Champaign County Farm Bureau at 217-352-5235. Farm Bureau members can also login at www.myifb.org to register online.

For updates and more information, visit <https://on.ilfb.org/winter-agribusiness-seminars>

Women's Committee Sewing News

The Women Committee's sewing group has been kept busy the last few months sewing **Christmas stockings** for the Illiana VA Medical Center patients. Twenty-nine large stockings have been delivered to Illiana, including items such as toothbrushes, word search books, socks, etc.

Each veteran will receive a stocking on Christmas Day. Items purchased were supported by gifts at our Salute to Veterans program on November 8th. Also, over 200 smaller stockings which will hold a candy cane were sewn for local Peace Meal attendees to receive in December.

In addition, children in the Pediatrics wing of Carle Hospital will receive a holiday **pillowcase** they can take home from the Women's Committee sewn by our seamstresses. Sixteen pillowcases, with holiday themed fabrics, including Peanuts characters, Mickey Mouse and the Grinch will hopefully cheer young patients who are ill on Christmas Day.

Our next initiative will be creating pillowcases for OSF cardiac patients for Valentine's Day. Watch for an announcement of the next sewing date in the January newsletter. All are welcome.



Paulette Brock



Elizabeth Rothermel and Carolyn Graham



Pillowcase designs and the finished product



Paulette Brock giving pillowcases to Carle Pediatric Nurse, Kyle Ross

Feeding our Future.
Fueling our Industry.

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t /CCFB_FOUNDATION



Ag in the Classroom

JANUARY-MARCH LESSONS

Farmer George



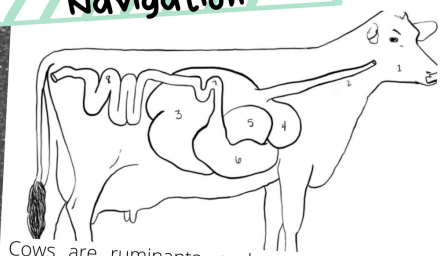
Students will gain background knowledge about George Washington as a farmer discovering the crops that he grew on his farm. Students will explore wheat and how it becomes our food.
***Best for K-5th**

Where does my taco come from?



Did you know that American eat about 4.5 billion tacos every year? That give us a reason to "taco 'bout" where tacos come from. During the activity students will build their own taco while discovering where each ingredient comes from.
***Best for K-5th**

Rumination Navigation



Cows are ruminants, and rumination or cud-chewing is the process by which the cow regurgitates previously consumed feed and chews it further. Farmers collect data on the digestion of their cows to assess the well-being of the herd. This is a fun, hands-on activity designed to help students understand how a cow's digestive system breaks down food for energy.
***Best for K-5th**

Farmer Feature Sheet

Tell us a little about yourself so that we can share what you do with the students in Champaign County.

1. Name./age
2. Where do you farm?
3. What do you farm?
4. Why do you farm?
5. How long have you been farming?
6. What is your favorite snack to eat while you are in/on the tractor?
7. Do you like planting or harvesting best? Why?
8. What was your favorite subject in school?
9. What do you like best about your job?
10. What is the funniest thing that has happened to you on the farm?

• Send me a selfie
• Email your answers to Sarah



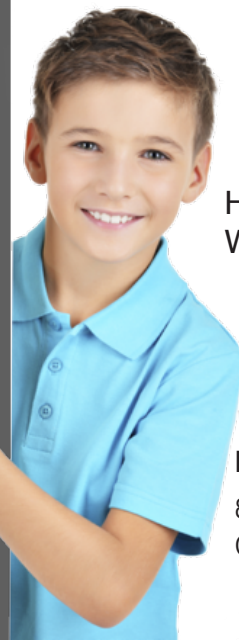
Connect with me! sarah@ccfarmbureau.com



Mrs. Kaper's Classroom



Champaign County Ag in the Classroom



Like what you're seeing here each month?

Help us grow our Ag in the Classroom outreach. We believe that all Champaign County students should be Grounded in Ag!

Donate today to the Grounded in Ag Campaign!

Donate online or by mail:

801 N. Country Fair Dr. - Suite A
Champaign, IL 61821



Over the EDGE
Champaign-Urbana

Join Us!

Friday - April 1, 2022

Hendrick House
904 W. Green - Urbana, IL



It's NEW and it's BOLD!
It's OVER THE EDGE CRAZY!

Have you always wondered what it would be to rappel down the side of a building like a superhero?

Here's your chance! Don't Miss It!

Spots are limited so don't wait!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Extremely Safe - No Experience Necessary
No Age Limitations - Must Weigh 100-300 lbs
Individual or Team Participation



www.OverTheEdgeCU.com

Scholarship applications are open!

Encourage your favorite agriculture student to apply!

Deadline
Jan 31st
2022



CCFBFoundation.com





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 Tips for the Sandwich Generation

by Rick Halberg @ www.countryfinancial.com

I've been in the sandwich. My mom and my aunt, both in their 80's, required assisted living – and attention. At the same time, my kids were in high school and required an equal amount of attention. You sometimes need to walk a fine line, but a few quick tips can help you keep your balance.

Create and follow a schedule.

Can you schedule a doctor appointment for mom or dad over a lunch hour? It may help you avoid working late and missing a kids' ball game.

Spend time together with the whole family.

If you notice you're spending a lot of time taking care of your parents and children separately, why not bring everyone together? Encourage your children to visit with their grandparents. Meanwhile, enjoy a little break!

Share the responsibility.

Brothers and sisters, cousins and friends often offer to help. Let them! Don't be afraid to ask them to run an errand or give the kids a lift to soccer practice. The same goes for other parents – consider setting up a rotating car pool so the pressure isn't always on you to get junior from A to B.

Make time for you.

We always intend to do this, but rarely follow through. Commit to "me time" and it could help you avoid feeling overwhelmed. It's ok to put yourself first every once in a while.

Carve out time to talk finances.

You already know your family's financial picture, but are you aware of your parents' situation? Their savings or their insurance policies? Split the responsibilities with your spouse. While they take care of your family finances, spend some time handling mom and dad's budget.

Planning ahead now can help with some of the expenses incurred in our later years.



Rhonda Wagner
Administrative Assistant
Champaign Agency



Bret Kroenke
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



**KORY KRAUS,
GENERAL MANAGER**

From The Field

by Dr. Howard Brown

Status of applied nitrogen. Applications of anhydrous ammonia made to the cool November soils will extend the period-of-time ammonium-N remains in a form that resists movement. Nitrification inhibitors added to the applied anhydrous ammonia will delay the conversion process even longer. Can N still be lost? Yes. If winter soil temperatures favor microbial activity, some applied N will be converted to nitrate-N, making it vulnerable to loss before plant uptake sometime in June or July 2022. Creating a Nitrogen Management System is the best way to manage N loss risk and assure the plant has enough N in the right place at the right time. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about creating or improving a Nitrogen Management System.

Status of applied phosphorus and potassium. The lack of extreme rain events in November allowed an application of dry fertilizer (P and K) to be temporarily fixed to the soil minimizing the chance of loss through surface runoff or preferential flow. Over a week or two, nutrients exposed to the soil react with soil and form compounds that can be less water-soluble or attached to the soil surface. Nutrient loss can still occur before Spring when soil is moved from the field with runoff water.

Soil erosion is the primary avenue of phosphorus and potassium losses. Nutrient interactions with thawed surface soil do not eliminate the possible loss of nutrients with soil movement (soil erosion). The best answer to minimize surface soil movement is with conservation tillage practices and cover crops. Soil is a non-renewable natural resource, at least in terms of our lifetime. We can take better care of it, but we will not see it recreated. Watch other farmers that utilize conservation practices and determine whether they are worth a try.

Make time during December to consider testing new farming systems. Interest in carbon sequestration and carbon credit trading continues to grow. Agriculture is the World's largest warehouse for storing atmospheric carbon, and the pressure to involve production agriculture into some trading program will not evaporate anytime soon. Although voluntary programs are front-page discussions, compliance discussions are underway as well (governmental involvement). Now is the time to learn when decision-making is still under your control.



Figure 2. MOM is an acronym used to represent what production agriculture is all about. Any effort to improve environmental quality at the farm gate must also include profitable for any change to be sustainable.



Figure 1. Saving Tomorrow's Agriculture Resources (STAR) is a FREE nationwide tool to assist farm operators and landowners in evaluating their nutrient and soil loss management practices on individual fields. (<https://starfreetool.com>)

Start small and limit the risk of setbacks. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about developing plans or changing a cropping system.

Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy (INLRS) and 2025. The year Illinois EPA expects production agriculture to reach loading reduction targets is not far away. Even with all the efforts to achieve nitrogen and phosphorus nutrient loss targets, there is a chance that we will fall short. Now is the best time to try new strategies that can be found in the INLRS Strategy publication. Make time and read Chapter 6: *Nutrient Loss reduction Strategies for Agricultural Non-Point Sources* (pgs. 6-1 to 6-22). Evaluate the various practices listed and see if any could fit into your farming practices. Farmers may soon be asked to adopt one or more of the practices to qualify for government programs. Don't like any of the strategies listed? Get involved with any revision to make it better. The Illinois EPA is always looking for better ideas to help agriculture hit the reduction targets. Want to learn more about the Nutrient

Loss Reduction Strategy? Visit the following website for more information and download a copy of the most recent revision of the strategy. <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/Documents/iepa/water-quality/watershed-management/nlrs/nlrs-final-revised-083115.pdf>

Nu-TRACKER Plus is the new and improved N-WATCH mentioned in the INLR Strategy.

Nu-TRACKER Plus provides a set of eyes into the upper soil profile to track plant-available N (PAN) and other mobile nutrients (sulfur and boron) over time. Additional information gathered over the past three years has provided insight into the relationship of other

plant-available nutrient concentrations according to sampling depth (7", 12" and 24"). Visit your local Illini FS Crop Specialist for more information about Nu-TRACKER Plus or sign-up for a site in 2022. If you are interested in exploring variable rate N based upon actual PAN detected, visit your local Illini FS Crop Specialist to participate in the project.

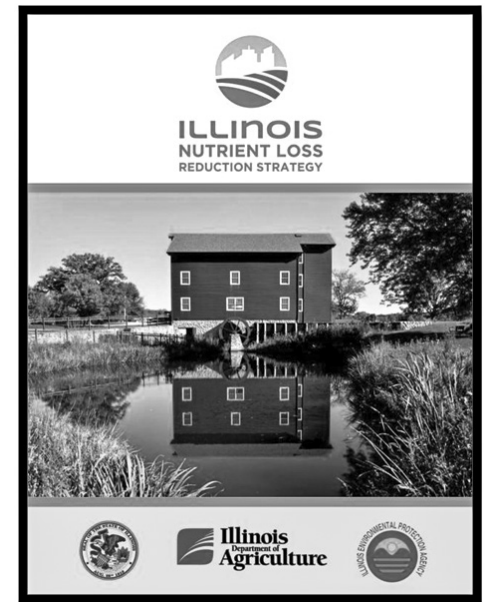
Soil Testing beyond the plow layer. Crop root systems remove nutrients from the upper soil profile beyond the standard 7-inch sampling depth. Exploring soil test levels beyond 7 inches may uncover a stronger relationship between soil test level and crop yield. Nu-TRACKER Plus allows a closer look at relationships between nutrient test levels in the upper 1 and 2 feet of the soil profile. What was learned in 2021 will help modify nutrient management in 2022 and beyond.

The 2021 Illini FS On-Farm Discovery Report will soon be released.

Trials were placed in area fields testing a variety of nutrients and fungicides. Trials are placed in fields with no recent testing history to avoid confounded outcomes caused by lingering effects of past treatments. Visit your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about the 2021 results or request a copy of the Trial Report. The current anticipated release date is mid-December.

A New Approach. We need to revisit how nutrient recommendations are determined. It is not about building soil test levels. It is about improving sustainable productivity. Soil test levels of the plow layer (upper 6-7 inches) had significance over 50 years ago, but its relevance has diminished in an era of conservation tillage, sustainable high yields. New technologies now allow us to collect site-specific yield data across a field. Corn yielding 220+ bushel/acre and 80+ bushel/acre soybeans remove far more nutrients within areas of a field than are replaced with traditional fertilizer applications, whether straight rate or according to soil tests. What role with sulfur, zinc, and boron have with sustainable higher yields? What is the best way to determine the amount of phosphorus and potassium to apply? How much nitrogen is needed to optimize yield within the field, when should it be used, and where should it be placed? These and many other questions drive Illini FS to discover new ways to manage crop inputs to provide a consistent return on investment. Not an easy task, but we are trying. Visit your local Illini FS crop specialist about technologies we have tested and have adopted to make input management decisions or new approaches to old ideas in our search for increased farm profitability. Is it easy to find a way to increase farm profitability consistently? It is not about "easy," but "needed." Not purchasing crop inputs from Illini FS? Allow your local crop specialist to share our vision of future nutrient management. We won't disappoint you.

Consider making room in your 2022 Nutrient Management System for Sulfur, Boron, and Zinc. Illini FS On-Farm Discovery Trials over the past three years have demonstrated a crop response to each. No room in your nutrient management budget for the added input costs? Consider reducing phosphorus and potassium rates in one field to accommodate the nutrients. Test for a response. If you prefer to pick only one or two nutrients to test, select them in the order listed above (sulfur, boron, zinc). Let your Illini FS Crop Specialist know that you are interested in setting up an On-Farm Discovery Trial in 2022. Let us make the treatments, observe during the growing season, and interpret harvest data.



2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

The 109th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau was held on Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Champaign County Farm Bureau.

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Briggs at 7:02 p.m.

Call of the Meeting by Brennon Breymeyer

Notice is hereby given that the 109th Annual meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau is called for Thursday, January 21, 2021 at the Champaign County Farm Bureau, 801 N. Country Fair Dr. Champaign, Illinois. The business meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of consideration of any business that may be properly presented. Directors from the following townships will be elected: Ayers, Brown, Champaign, Colfax, Condit, Harwood-Kerr, Mahomet, Pesotum, Sidney and Stanton.

Credentials Committee Report by Brennon Breymeyer

The Credentials Committee consisting of Paulette Brock, Gerald Henry and Amanda Zwilling informed the President that a quorum was present. Therefore, the Secretary declared that the 109th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau was legally convened.

Secretary's Report by Brennon Breymeyer

Brennon reported that minutes of the 108th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau was published in the December 2020 edition of the Champaign County Farm Bureau News. It is the recommendation of the Board of Directors that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with. A Motion was made by Brennon Breymeyer, seconded by Jason Watson, and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Brennon asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the last annual meeting. Hearing none, he moved that the minutes be approved as presented; motion was seconded by Benjamin Rice. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report by Derek Harms

Derek Harms stated that the Treasurer's report for the Champaign County Farm Bureau was available on the table or on the screen. It was moved by Derek Harms, seconded by Dale Franzen, and carried that the financial statement be approved as printed.

Introduction of Retiring Board Members by Mike Briggs

Mike Briggs introduced the retiring Board members and presented them

with a gift of appreciation: Carl Smith of Ayers Township, Derek Harms of Stanton Township, Dale Tharp of Champaign Township, Kristi Pflugmacher of Condit Township, Chris Foran of Colfax Township, Jim Kleiss of Pesotum Township and Amanda Zwilling Young Ag Leader chair.

Introduction of Nominating Committee by Dale Franzen

Dale Franzen introduced nominating committee which consisted of: Carl Smith, Jim Kleiss, Chris Foran, Derek Harms, Kristi Pflugmacher, Dale Tharp, Mike Briggs and himself.

Members Running for an additional term by Dale Franzen

Members running for an additional term: Trent Wolken Harwood-Kerr Township, Paul Hunsinger Mahomet Township and Benjamin Rice Sidney Township.

Candidates nominated for the First Time by Dale Franzen

Candidates nominated for the first time: Mark Hortin Brown Township, Doug Downs Ayers Township, Bob Barker Champaign Township, Kaitlin Tharp Colfax Township, Meg Hansens Condit Township, Lucas Meharry Pesotum Township and Les Suits Stanton Township.

President Mike Briggs nominated

Jason Watson and Mark Jones to serve as tellers who will count the ballots in case of a contested election. He asked for nominations from the floor and there were none. A motion was made by Dale Franzen, seconded by Steve Hammel, and carried for the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominated candidates.

IAA Annual Meeting by Mike Briggs

Mike Briggs asked for a motion to authorize the Board of Directors to select the delegates for the 2021 IAA Annual meeting and to approve the actions and deeds of the Board of Directors of 2020. The motion was made by Greg Knott, seconded by Benjamin Rice, and carried to allow the Board of Directors to select delegates to the 2021 IAA Annual meeting and approve the actions and deeds of the Board of Directors of 2020.

Adjournment of Meeting by Mike Briggs

President Mike Briggs asked for a motion to adjourn the 109th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau. Motion was made by Dale Tharp, seconded by Dale Franzen and carried to adjourn the meeting. Mike Briggs declared the Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Year In Review continued from Page 1

One highlight program of the year was an Ag 101 tour for the first-year medical students at the Carle Illinois College of Medicine. These future doctors were introduced to agriculture through stops at Barker Farms, C-Mor Beef Farm, and the Premier Cooperative location in Sadorus. The vast majority of these students had never set foot on a farm and the tour allowed them to understand the size and scale of equipment, to ask questions about farming, livestock, and agriculture in general, and to begin to recognize the unique healthcare challenges faced in rural areas. Several of these students have remained engaged with the CCFB, so stay



Toolshed Meetings with IFB's Mark Gebhards

tuned for some potentially very impactful programming coming from this partnership in the next few months!

After a year of COVID 19 restrictions and meeting changing needs, some things are around to stay. Adapting to meet member's needs and seeking out other avenues to involve members allowed us to realize that virtual meetings are a great way to engage members and meet with speakers that might not normally be able to attend an in-person meeting. Posting virtual meetings on our website allows members to have opportunities to be involved and learn about important agriculture issues. Meetings with legislative officials and local agriculture experts are recorded and placed on www.ccfarmbureau.com for viewing.

Members have continued to take an active role in Action Requests impacting legislation on a state and national level. The CCFB is working hard to provide quality programs and workshops to educate and impact member's lives. The list continues to be extensive in regards to CCFB member activities and is successful because of member engagement. New voices and different ideas keep members on their toes when it comes to policies, bylaws, issues tackled at meetings, and legislative issues. The CCFB needs YOU to stay involved as the agriculture industry continues to evolve. Farmers deal with a wide variety of people daily and YOU have the potential to impact the Champaign



First year medical students from the Carle Illinois College of Medicine County Farm Bureau.

From recruiting new members to teaching local school children about the importance of agriculture the CCFB made an impact in Champaign County in 2021. Kirk Builta, CCFB Foundation, and Maggi Maxstadt, Membership and Outreach Coordinator, are thankful for all members have done in 2021! Please read below as they contribute to our Year in Review...

Membership Year in Review by Maggi Maxstadt

Oh, what a year 2021 has been. During the summer, Champaign County Farm Bureau hosted three Burger Bash get-togethers throughout the county. In all, over 100 attendees came to hear an update from CCFB and CCFB Foundation staff and connect with other members in their township.

At the beginning of August, the CCFB held its inaugural Membership Picnic. We had a wonderful time celebrating the accomplishments of the past two years and talking with our members.

My busiest season is the end of our membership year, which is in August. Each year, Illinois Farm Bureau sets a membership goal or "quota" for all counties. For the Champaign County Farm Bureau in 2021, we needed to achieve 2,522 voting members and 8,077 "Friend of the Farm" members in good standing. Members in good standing means the member's dues are current. Thanks to the hard work of our CCFB members, we achieved our voting member quota this year.

Membership is a moving target, needing constant attention to maintain. As the membership coordinator, I keep an eye year-round on these numbers. For me, though, membership is not about the numbers. Instead, it is

about connecting with members, providing opportunities for education and networking, and assisting members to the best of my ability.

I want to thank those who attended any Champaign County Farm Bureau events this year, whether in person or virtually. We are glad to have you as a member and hope to see you soon!

CCFB Foundation Year in Review by Kirk Builta

The CCFB Foundation wraps up a successful year dedicated to our educational mission communicating the importance of agriculture throughout our community.

The Foundation awarded nearly \$65,000 in scholarships to 34 Champaign County students pursuing degrees in food and agricultural curriculum. We're proud to help students lower the financial burden of education while connecting them with industry professionals and leadership development opportunities.

Champaign County Ag in the Classroom, a program of the CCFB Foundation, continues to keep students grounded in agriculture. Visiting over 1,500 students each month and providing hands-on agricultural lessons to student, teachers, and classrooms. Available free of charge to every classroom in the county, our Ag in the Classroom program is proud to present agriculture in a real and modern way; in a manner that our local farmers would be proud of.

As the year ends, the Foundation has launched a brand-new program helping students to explore skills-based careers in agriculture. Our new FUEL Grants strive to clear the financial burden of local students pursuing education, and an eventual career in the agricultural trades. These grants help to pay tuition, fees, books, tools, or other costs related to a student's education.

As we close the year, we look forward to a big 2022 as we expand these programs. To help us grow, we're offering a brand-new fundraiser called Over the Edge CU. See page 4 of this newsletter to find out more.



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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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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
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Salute to Veterans – Recognition Breakfast

The CCFB Women’s Committee was blessed to host a program honoring our veterans on November 8th. Panelists included: Jed Mackey (Army and This Able Veteran program); Lynn Huls (Air Force); Susan and Bill McLane (Navy and Sidney American Legion Post 433); Paul Lewis (US Marine Corps); Jim Esworthy (Coast Guard); Joe Lecher (National Guard); and Garrett Anderson, (Army and National Guard, as well as representative of the Chez Veterans Center, University of Illinois.) These servant Americans men and women shared their experiences with our audience of other veterans and members.

Jan Fisher (piano), J.D. Rennels (trumpet), and members of the Unity High School acapella group, Surreal Sound, led us in singing military songs for each branch represented.

Ken Roellig was given special recognition as a WWII veteran. We thank our veteran members for their service.



Uniforms shared by the McLanes



Bill & Susan McLane



Jed Mackey & Veteran Panel



(Left to Right) Joe Lecher, Garrett Anderson, Ken Roellig



WOMEN’S COMMITTEE RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Elizabeth Rothermel

A tried-and-true recipe! Elizabeth Rothermel shares her longtime and special friend’s recipe for Pizza Casserole this month.

Pizza Casserole

Ingredients

- 1 pkg pepperoni slices
- 1 lb. hamburger
- 1 medium onion, chopped fine
- 1/3 c. margarine, melted
- 6 to 8 oz. thin spaghetti, cooked & drained
- 1 c. grated Swiss cheese
- 1 lb. grated mozzarella cheese
- 2 or 3 large cans tomato sauce
- 1 can mushrooms, drained
- ½ tsp. oregano
- ½ tsp. basil

Directions

Brown hamburger and onion. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Put oleo in 11 X 7 baking dish (I use 13 X 9) and set in oven for oleo to melt. Toss cooked spaghetti in oleo. Cover spaghetti with 1 can tomato sauce. Layer rest of ingredients, ending with tomato sauce and cheese on top. Bake 20 – 25 minutes. Serves 6 – 8 people.

