

# The Newest “Talk of the Town” in Agriculture

By Adrienne DeSutter

Farmers love to talk. Some like to talk about the weather. Some like to talk about economics. Some talk marketing, others talk policy, and they all talk numbers. But for the past few years in agriculture, there’s been a new “talk” in town. It’s largely uncomfortable, slightly awkward, and generally misunderstood. Maybe you guessed it: it’s the mental health talk. “Mental health? That’s not a talk for me. It’s super weird, I don’t have depression, so why would I need to learn about mental health?” Here’s the thing: this talk isn’t just for those with depression, or those who we think “need help.” It’s for all of us. It’s for the farmers, whose neverending pressure to succeed- despite an enormous amount of uncontrollable variables- is a heavy weight that impacts their entire family. With their fields and livestock always on display, it’s easy to compare their farms to others’, and hard to feel like they measure up. It’s for the spouses, knowing

that “busy season” doesn’t just mean overtime for the farmer, but also overtime for them taking care of the home. Everything falls on their shoulders, and they’re left to tackle life alone for a while. It’s for the farm kids, who play a ballgame without dad in the stands, or ache to be out running equipment on mom’s lap. It’s worrying about whether or not there will be room for them on the farm when they’re older, and feeling the daily stress that seeps down from the adults in the family. It’s for the neighbor, concerned with the distant and downhearted way a farmer’s been acting recently. Is he ok? Should she say something? How could she possibly help? It’s for those living with a condition- like anxiety or depression- who spend their entire lives fighting an invisible enemy, and feeling completely misunderstood. They know it’s not just sadness, not just worry, and the “simple advice” from others (who often mean well but don’t know enough about the condition) feels shameful and minimizing. It’s for the farm family, exhausted by the juggle of trying to be the best parent, spouse, farmer, leader, volunteer, and professional...and the feeling of inevitable inadequacy when the balls start dropping. Mental health talk isn’t just about “having an illness.” It’s about the chaos in all of us. It’s learning how to respond to stress in a healthy and productive way, how to cultivate an environment where it’s ok to ask for and accept help simply to enhance our efficiency as humans, and how to convince ourselves and our communities to make a life instead of just making a living.

When we strive to be better people, we become better farmers, and our mental health is at the core of it all. Farm life is the best life. It can also be a hard life. And that’s ok, as long as your mental health is ok, too. It’s your best defense against the tough stuff, and your best chance at staying in control when so many things feel out of control. There’s so much we can do to “be better,” no matter how mentally fit we are. So let’s keep having this talk, and continue to grow healthier, smarter, and stronger, together.

## Haag Hired as Assistant Farm Bureau Manager

Kacie Haag of Emington, IL was hired as the new CCFB Assistant Manager effective in early April! She fills the position most recently held by now CCFB Manager, Bailey Conrady. Kacie grew up on a grain and swine farm in Livingston County. She was an active FFA and 4-H member and showed sheep growing up. Kacie now has a small flock of Shropshire sheep that is housed on the farm at home. She attended Lake Land College and received her Bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she majored in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications. In May of 2020, Kacie started as a trainee for Illinois Farm Bureau and was hired as the Manager for the Lawrence County Farm Bureau in December, 2020. She’s been in Lawrence County ever since and was instrumental in growing the Young Leaders and reinvigorating the Ag in the Classroom program in that county. We are so excited to have Kacie join our team in Champaign County!





# May Report

**President, Paul Hunsinger**



Paul Hunsinger, CCFB President

We sure got a great start to planting back in the middle of April. There was a lot of machinery rolling and dust flying. The warm dry weather was awesome to get a jump start on getting the crop in the ground. I am grateful we got started as early as we did to give the crop its best potential and I can't wait to see it start germinating and popping up out of the ground. Hopefully we will get another great window and we can continue to get the crop in and finish planting.

There has been some more news on the Waters of the US rule. Biden vetoed a resolution from congress that would have returned us back to the previously written WOTUS ruling that gave us some clear definition. There are now 26 states that have enjoined the latest WOTUS ruling but unfortunately Illinois isn't one of them.

I hope everyone enjoys this nice spring weather and stays safe while we are finishing up planting.

Sincerely,  
Paul Hunsinger

## Prime Timers Meeting

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by May 8**

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

Meeting Date: May 11, 2023  
Program: Brooke Watson, Cunningham Children's Home  
Entertainment: Wayne Acton & Friend  
Meal cost: \$8 per person

### Important Information

#### • FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET

- No walk-ins
- Call to reserve your spot

## Women's Committee

*The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's Committee is open to all women interested in agriculture.*

### Calendar of Events

**May 8 @ 9:30 a.m.**

**Autumn Fields Retirement Community  
Tour, Savoy, IL**  
**Lunch to follow @ Old Orchard Lanes,  
Savoy, IL**

## CCFB Calendar of Events

### May 2023

|        |   |           |
|--------|---|-----------|
| May 8  | Women's Committee @ Autumn Fields/Savoy | 9:30 a.m. |
| May 11 | Prime Timers                            | 10 a.m.   |

**Most committees do not meet in May due to planting!**

## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

### AFBF Rural Resilience Training Program

The Rural Resilience Training Program was developed by Michigan State University Extension and designed for individuals who interact with farmers and ranchers to help recognize signs of stress and offer resources.

The online training program is now available at no cost for all Farm Bureau members and staff. It provides participants with the skills to:

- Learn the warning signs of stress and suicide
- Understand the sources of stress
- Identify effective communication strategies
- Reduce stigma related to mental health.

State/County Farm Bureau staff and members can register for the online training at

**[https://www.canr.msu.edu/managing\\_farm\\_stress/rural-resiliency-online-course-afbf](https://www.canr.msu.edu/managing_farm_stress/rural-resiliency-online-course-afbf)**

The timeline to complete the training is estimated at 4-5 hours and does not need to be completed in one session.

Developed in partnership with Farm Bureau, Farm Credit Council and National Farmers Union this program recognizes the need to address high levels of stress affecting America's farmers and ranchers.

**\*\*\*Notice: Use one of the following browsers to access the online training: Chrome, Firefox, Safari or Edge. \*\*\***

May 2023

**Celebrate NATIONAL BEEF MONTH**

**We are thankful for our cattle farming members!**

**RURAL NURSE PRACTITIONER**

**Scholarship PROGRAM**

**DEADLINE IS MAY 1**

**RIMSAP.com**  
Helping to meet the needs of primary care in rural Illinois.



# Might I have Lung Cancer?

By Robert G. Good, DO, MACOI, Carle Health Mattoon, Carle IL College of Medicine

Lung cancer is the most common cause of cancer deaths in the US. It is usually associated with cigarette smoking, although there are types of lung cancer that are genetic and others that can be caused by radon gas or other environmental chemicals.

Early detection is critical in the treatment and potential cure of lung cancer. Because there are no symptoms of the initial tumor growth, you should have a screening low dose CT scan of the chest if you:

- Are age 55-80 years
- Have a 30 pack-year smoking history
- Are current smoking or have quit in the past 15 years.
- Have a 10 life expectancy
- Willing to have curative surgery if lesion is found

Symptoms of lung cancer include:

- Cough – particularly if coughing up blood
- Increased shortness of breath

- Weight loss that is not intentional – usually loss of appetite
- Hoarseness
- Chest pain that is worse with deep breathing, laughing, or cough
- Fatigue or weakness

The diagnosis is made by a biopsy that can either be done by a needle with CT guidance or by bronchoscopy (a scope that is passed into the lungs and direct biopsies are done). Because there are multiple types of lung cancer and each may have different treatment options, it is important for a full tissue analysis including genetic testing in some tissue types.

Treatment varies related to the type and staging of the cancer. The key to successful treatment is early detection and surgical cure.

If you have questions, please see your physician.

For more information, visit [Carle.org](http://Carle.org) or the Carle Center for Rural Health and Farm Safety at (217) 902-3117.

## Maggi's Membership Corner

By Maggi Maxstadt, CCFB Membership & Outreach Coordinator

Well, another month flew by here in Champaign County. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate Brenda's 22 years of service to the members of the Champaign Farm Bureau. Photos from her celebration will be in the June newsletter.


We are continuing with our communications campaign for all CCFB members. If you need to update your phone number, email, or mailing address, call the office or do it online at [myIFB.org](http://myIFB.org).

The benefits being offered are always changing. When Brenda left at the end of April, she took her notary public certification with her. Now CCFB does NOT have a notary on staff. Illinois Farm Bureau continues to add new benefits like Great Hearing Benefits! Receive up to 50% off retail pricing and a 3-year warranty and service plan. More details can be found at: [www.greathearingbenefits.com/farmbureau-il](http://www.greathearingbenefits.com/farmbureau-il)



With the new staff in place at the Farm Bureau office, we are busy filling up their calendars for ALL of the events this summer! (I don't think they know what they signed up for...) Between the membership picnic, trips and tours, toolshed meetings, Foundation Gala, and more programs, staff will be able to meet with a lot of the Champaign Farm Bureau membership. What events have you attended? What would you like to see more of? Let us know!



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



**greathearingbenefits.com/farmbureau-il**

**Latest consumer electronic and hearing aid technology at significantly discounted prices.**

*Call now to schedule your appointment*  
**877-683-3387**





May 29, 2023

Memorial DAY

Remembering All Who Served





**community education**  
AT PARKLAND COLLEGE

**CERTIFIED FIBER OPTIC TECHNICIAN TRAINING**

Learn the basics of fiber optic networking and become a certified Fiber Optic Technician. Parkland College Community Education's course is recognized by the US Department of Labor and is sanctioned by the Fiber Optic Association.

In partnership with BDI DataLynk, we offer three fiber optics network certification courses and Fiber Optic Association exams. Discover the necessary skills to build, test, troubleshoot, install and repair fiber optic networks, and prepare to take:

- Certified Fiber Optics Technician (CFOT) exam
- Certified Fiber Optics Testing & Maintenance Specialist (CFOS/T) exam
- Certified Fiber Optics Splicing Specialist (CFOS/S) exam



**Date**  
July 17 - 21, 2023  
**Time**  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. CST



**Course Tuition**  
\$3,085

Financial and academic support may be available. This program qualifies as a registered apprenticeship with the Department of Labor. Contact 217/351-2235 for more details.

**Register online at [parkland.edu/ceRegister](http://parkland.edu/ceRegister) or call 217/351-2235.**



Feeding our Future.  
Fueling our Industry.

CCFBFOUNDATION.COM

f /CCFBFOUNDATION

t /CCFB\_FOUNDATION



## Ag in the Classroom

2022-23



### Sugar



What kid doesn't love sugar? We introduced where sugar comes from, sugar cane and sugar beets. They watched how it is processed and packaged. Then we took a closer look at them through a magnifying glass and yes, we tasted the differences.



### Strawberries



Students discovered how strawberries grow through an adorable story written by Shannon Anderson. The book is written in a journaling style.



Change the world  
& have fun as an  
Ag Field Scout!



### Ag in the Classroom @ Parkland College for Kids

Students 3-5th can sign up to become an Ag Field Scout this summer at Parkland College for Kids. They will explore what they eat, wear, and use everyday through an AgBadging Field Guide. Through engaging, hands-on activities, learn about plants and the importance of bees. Conduct experiments on growing food, write and produce a crop commercial, engineer a barn for livestock, and discover foods from other countries, earning five badges along the way to become an Agriculture Field Scout.

June 19-29 Monday - Thursday 3-5pm

Register @ <https://parkland.augusoft.net/>



[www.ccfbfoundation.com/aitc](http://www.ccfbfoundation.com/aitc)



Champaign County Ag in the Classroom



you're invited  
16TH ANNUAL  
CCFB FOUNDATION GALA



you're invited  
16TH ANNUAL CCFB FOUNDATION GALA

Planting a Legacy  
THURSDAY 8TH JUNE 2023

Pear Tree Estate | 2150 CR 1000 E | Champaign, IL 61822



5:30pm Silent Auction & Cocktails

7:00pm Dinner by L.A. Gourmet

7:30pm Live Auction

[www.ccfbfoundation.com](http://www.ccfbfoundation.com) | 217-352-5235



GOLF  
CART



RAFFLE

GRAND PRIZE

2023 E-Z-GO RXV ELECTRIC GOLF CART

48V Trojan Batteries  
Street Legal Lights  
Rear Flip Seat  
Windshield & Mirror  
Motor Braking System

20" Tires w/ Custom Hubcaps  
Dual Weather Resistant USB Port  
Sound Extreme 26" Bluetooth Soundbar

LED Underbody Lighting  
Premium Seat Upgrade  
Warranty & Charger

#### ADDITIONAL CASH PRIZES:

(1) \$250 | (1) \$500 | (1) \$1,000

SPONSORED BY:



SCAN TO PURCHASE

ONLY 300 TICKETS BEING SOLD

Drawing at the CCFB Foundation Annual Gala on June 8<sup>th</sup>

Do not need to be present to win.  
Purchase tickets online or at the CCFB Office

Visit our website or scan the QR code to purchase your lucky ticket!  
[www.ccfbfoundation.com/golfcart](http://www.ccfbfoundation.com/golfcart)





KORY KRAUS,  
GENERAL MANAGER

# Illini FS Agronomy Update

This past month the spring planting season for many officially started the week of April 10th. Many producers know that the greatest genetic potential for corn or soybeans is long before the seed is planted and is freshly bagged by the basic manufacturers of that seed. From that concept, once the seed is loaded into the planter and planted, countless stress events begin to occur that ultimately impact the final yield. From my observations for much of the area, those stress events likely started when we received our first rainfall event on Saturday, April 15th. Shortly after much of the rainfall moved through, we observed daytime temps below 50°F and nighttime lows below 30°F for a few nights. Likely these stresses were not greatly impactful because soil temps were not impacted much. After all, soil temps had risen into the 70s and received rain which acted as a buffer to dropping temps. Nonetheless, environmental stress events have begun within less than one week of planting for some growers.

For the rest of the growing season, growers that can manage stress events effectively may see the highest yields. Managing stress events effectively starts with understanding which hybrids and varieties may better handle stress events earlier in the season vs. some that thrive better in optimum growing conditions. Cold germ test of seed is often the best gauge for how hybrids and varieties may handle early season stressors. However, many seed-producing companies do not provide this, and it's up to the individual grower to perform these tests. From there, how well growers manage seed placement, depth, singulation, compaction, and pests are areas that need to be effectively managed and are in the producer's control. Every year there seems to be that "one time" we should not have resumed planting operations or planted more acres. However, using all the tools at our disposal will help minimize those bad days and hopefully maximize those good days.



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

Recognizing which stressor may be occurring or likely to occur may help producers maximize harvestable yield this fall. Stressors that I observe most years include may include any of the following items. Temporary nutrient deficiencies due to slow root growth, purpling in corn due to low phosphorus content in corn plants, or yellowing in young soybeans due to lack of nodulation. Soil compaction that might include any one of the following or multiple items: tire compaction from any single trip across the field (often first shows up around V5 in corn), sidewall compaction from planters, or tillage implements (there is a time and place for all tillage implements but not all work well in the springtime). However, in other years, we seem to get thrown the kitchen sink of stress events during spring planting operations. It's important to scout fields to avoid costly stressors impacting harvestable yield.



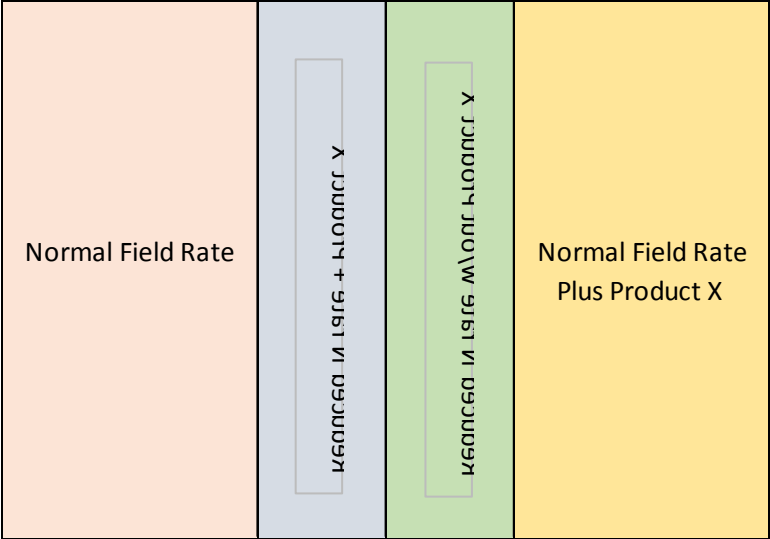
Figure 2. Uneven corn growth caused by injury to the plant's mesocotyl (vascular tissue connecting seed to the growing point and seedling plant)



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

Last month I introduced key items that growers should be implemented into their farming operations to maximize harvestable yield if not already doing so. Those items included boron, sulfur, zinc, foliar fungicide, and planter box nutrition. Setting up On-Farm Discoveries is key to evaluating how indi-

vidual operations are performing and where areas of improvement need to be implemented. Successful On-Farm Discoveries may implement a single item into the operation and split the field treated vs. untread. Then observe how the field reacts to that treatment throughout the growing season and key growth stages and finally take accurate account of harvestable yield. There has been a tremendous amount of advertising campaigns this past year and even recently for nitrogen fixing biologicals. Some of these nitrogen-fixing biologicals claim to reduce the overall amounts of synthetic nitrogen applications to complement existing nutrient plans with various product(s) applications. Before growers commit to whole farm operations of these products, On-Farm Discovery needs to implement to evaluate the performance of these products and their claims fully. Remember that many of these advertising campaigns are a broad stroke of the brush and may only partially represent your farming operation. With that being said, I'm also not suggesting there isn't any merit to these products, "Trust but Verify." If growers are interested in implanting an On-Farm Discovery project with nitrogen-fixing biologicals, be sure to implement a true comparison of each variable(s) vs. an untreated check(s) or standard grower portion of the field. An example of an effective On-Farm Discovery may look like the example below.



This On-Farm Discovery design will ensure that Product X is evaluated at a normal field rate of nitrogen application vs. a reduction of nitrogen application from the normal field rate. Make strips wide enough for application equipment, planters, and harvesters. The untreated and treated portions of the field should also accurately represent the field and normal operations to account for the product's true performance. Beyond setting up and implanting this On-Farm Discovery, growers will best understand how these products perform by implanting NuTracker Plus sampling sites across each treatment. This treatment design would need four NuTracker Plus sites for each variable. NuTracker Plus sampling will account for all plant-available nutrients at the time of sampling, including plant-available nitrogen. The NuTracker Plus sampling will include three sampling dates starting with pre-emerge (soil only), then early/mid-vegetative growth (soil and tissue), and last sampling at VT (soil and tissue).

For ease of implementation On-Farm Discovery projects like the one outlined above, I encourage growers to map out seeding operations while planting, implement planned nitrogen prescriptions as applied data from planters and applicators, and map harvest data from a properly calibrated combine. Following these guidelines will help to ensure that On-Farm Discovery projects like the one above are implemented properly and evaluated. Only then can we make an accurate recommendation for product performance. If growers are interested in implementing On-Farm Discoveries or have concerns this spring planting season, I will encourage you to contact me directly.

Eric Beckett, CCA 4R NMS  
217-318-911  
ebeckett@illinifs.com





**Nathan Hubbard**  
COUNTRY Financial  
Agency Manager



**Dan Punkay**  
217-328-0023



**Keith Garrett**  
217-485-3010



**Austin Beaty**  
217-352-2652



**Jordan McDaniel**  
217-352-9817



**Barry Karuzis**  
217-655-7176



**Tanna Suits**  
217-892-4479



**Tony Wesselman**  
217-352-3466



**Rhonda Wagner**  
Administrative Assistant  
Champaign Agency



**Bret Kroencke**  
217-359-9391



**Kolby Jackson**  
217-586-5030



**Chris Greenwold**  
217-355-8675



**Robert Lalumendier**  
217-352-3341



**Steve Derry**  
217-352-2655



**Andrew Deedrich**  
217-359-3941



**Tim Osterbur**  
217-469-2033

# Public Adjusters and Your Insurance Claim

*by Kristin Smith @countryfinancial.com*

From a hailstorm to a catastrophe like a hurricane or wildfire, public adjusters often solicit business after weather events. These independent adjusters aren't associated with your insurance company, but you can hire them to help with a loss, schedule inspections of damaged property and negotiate the settlement amount with your insurance provider. But should you?

When considering whether to hire a public adjuster, keep these things in mind:

- Always check an adjuster's qualifications with the department of insurance in your state. Many states require public adjusters to be licensed.
- Watch out for individuals going door-to-door using high pressure sales tactics after a storm.
- Ask about fees and get a written contract that includes a detailed list of the repair work to be done, along with costs, materials, start and completion dates, and warranty information.
- Carefully read the contract terms and never sign a contract you don't understand.
- Know how long you have to cancel the contract if you change your mind.
- Don't provide any type of payment before the work is completed and inspected.
- Avoid public adjusters that claim to be part of a government agency.
- Be mindful of potential conflicts that may prevent the public adjuster from doing their best for you. For example, ownership or association with a contractor hired to do repairs.

If you decide to move forward with a public adjuster, know that:

- Adding parties to the claim process can potentially add time and cost to your settlement.
- An adjuster's fee may be taken from your settlement proceeds.
- It may take longer to get your settlement if the check is issued to both you and your public adjuster.

Before the unexpected happens, take some time to review your current insurance policies so you know what is, and isn't, included in your coverage. Your agent will be able to walk you through the details. Hiring a public adjuster is your decision but do your research first and be aware of your options. The more you know about your policies, the better you can protect yourself.



**Scott Jackson**  
217-359-9335



**Tim Bridges**  
217-586-6170



**Dawn Babb**  
217-892-4479



# Agriculture Jobs Outpace Graduates

Good news for the soon-to-be senior in our house: The nation’s largest employer is looking for applicants.

The agriculture industry comprises about 11% of the jobs in the United States, employing more citizens than any other industry at 22 million people across more than 250 career areas, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Contrary to popular belief, farmers are just a sliver of agriculture’s employment pie, and there’s plenty of pie available for anyone with the hunger to support the nation’s need for food, fiber and fuel. No farm background required.

The demand for agricultural engineers, agronomists, plant breeders, foresters, veterinarians, agriscience teachers, climate specialists and more will outpace the available college graduates in these disciplines. More than 59,000 job openings will be available – per year – in agriculture, food, renewable natural resources and related industries through at least 2025, according to the 2020-2025 Employment Opportunities Report by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Purdue University.

Students who enjoy biochemistry perhaps haven’t thought to consider a career in agronomy or biofuels. The mechanically minded may like a profession as an agriculture engineer or precision agriculture specialist. Writers may find fitting opportunities as agricultural journalists.

For good reason, the wall in our high school agriculture classroom says, “Your Career Starts Here.” In the last 10 years alone, I have watched students at our small school find their passions through agricultural education and the leadership and career-developing experiences of the FFA.

They now serve the agriculture industry as agronomists, farm financial officers, agricultural educators, agricultural engineers, livestock managers and diesel technicians. My husband has hired graduates to work with precision technologies and vehicle autonomy in agriculture. Some prepare for an ag-related career, training to



become agricultural accountants, veterinarians and horticulturists.

The Illinois Agri-Food Alliance, of which the Illinois Farm Bureau is a founding member, recently launched AGNITOR, a digital platform to connect agri-food professionals to classrooms for virtual chats about careers. The program intends to generate student awareness about career opportunities spanning agriculture, food and natural resources. The National FFA offers opportunities to digitally explore agricultural careers, too. These tools can help students like our daughter find their ideal fit in this diverse and necessary industry.

*About the author: Joanie Stiers farms with her family in west-central Illinois, where they grow corn, soybeans, wheat, hay and cover crops and raise beef cattle, backyard chickens and farm kids.*

## 2023 CCFB Trip Dates, Deadlines & Information

Questions? Call the Champaign County Farm Bureau at 217-352-5235.

**June 14, 2023**

### ***Moonshine Restaurant & Casey, IL*** ***BIG THINGS SMALL TOWN- CASEY, IL***

Just off Interstate-70, the town of Casey springs to life with larger-than-life objects.

Quaint shops, delicious eateries and unique attractions! Casey is an adorable little town with friendly folks. Perfect for a day trip or well-deserved weekend getaway with new businesses and big items being added every year. There is always something new to experience! Casey Illinois is home to certified world's largest items, which include: wind chime, rocking chair, mailbox, wooden shoes/clogs, golf tee, pitchfork, key, gavel, twizzle spoon, golf driver, barber shop pole, and teeter totter.

*Price per person: \$40.00 – Bus only – Lunch at Moonshine is on your own so please bring cash they do not except credit cards*

*Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: Monday, May 8*

**July 26,2023 (evening)**

### ***The Honky Tonk Angels, Beef House, Covington, IN*** ***Honky Tonk Angels: The Mystery of Bubba’s Revenge***

The hilarious final sequel in the Honky Tonk Angels series is a foot stomp-in’ gospel jubilee centering on the overbearing husband of Angela Bodine, the “physically sensitive” beer drinkin’ Bubba. From the creator of Always...Patsy Cline comes a spooky country-western style Halloween night séance including song such as “Jolene,” “Achy Breaky Heart,” and “Spirit in the Sky.”

Special Note from the Beef House\*\*This show is currently being revised by its author Ted Swindley. He has granted permission to advertise his show. If revisions have not been finalized by production dates, another show will replace this title.\*\*

*Price per person: \$110.00 – Gratuity NOT included in price*

*Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: Monday, June 19*

### **September 20, 2023 (Wednesday Matinee)** ***Outsider, CIRCA 21 Theatre, Rock Island, IL*** ***Outsider***

Ned Newley doesn’t even want to be governor. He’s terrified of public speaking; his poll numbers are impressively bad. To his ever-supportive Chief of Staff, Ned seems destined to

fail. But political consultant Arthur Vance sees things differently: Ned might be the worst candidate to ever run for office. Unless the public is looking for... the worst candidate to ever run for office. A timely and hilarious comedy that skewers politics and celebrates democracy.

*Price per person: \$112.00 – Gratuity included in price*

*Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: Monday, August 14*

**October 25, 2023 (Wednesday matinee)**

### ***The Mousetrap, Myers Dinner Theatre, Hillsboro, IN*** ***The Mousetrap***

After a local woman is murdered, the guests and staff at Monkswell Manor find themselves stranded during a snowstorm. It soon becomes clear that the killer is among them, and the seven strangers grow increasingly suspicious of one another. A police detective, arriving on skis, interrogates the suspects: the newlyweds running the house; a spinster with a curious background; an architect who seems better equipped to be a chef; a retired Army major; a strange little man who claims his car has overturned in a drift; and a jurist who makes life miserable for everyone. When a second murder takes place, tensions and fears escalate. This record-breaking murder mystery features a brilliant surprise finish from Dame Agatha Christie, the foremost mystery writer of her time.

*Price per person: \$98.00– Gratuity included in price*

*Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: Monday, September 18*

❖ **November 27 & 28, 2023**

**Blue Gate Theatre**

### ***Daniel O’Donnell Christmas and More & Salute to the Stars: Country Christmas – Shipshewana, IN***

Daniel O’Donnell Christmas and More: The show is a unique production that features the star entertaining his audience with a nostalgic trip down memory lane as he performs hit after hit in the first part of the show. Then, when the curtain is raised for the second half, the stage is transformed into a Yuletide setting which will feature Daniel singing many Christmas favorites, including "White Christmas", "Merry Christmas To You", and countless other festive classics from across the decades.

Salute to the Stars; Country Christmas: The Blue Gate Theater brings you the Las Vegas-style tribute show "Salute to the Stars". This installment of "Salute to the Stars" includes tributes to Elvis, Garth and Trisha.

And finally, as the King of Rock and Roll, Elvis Presley, is the man known worldwide as the TRUE Voice of Elvis, Doug Church.

*Price per person: \$445.00 -Single \$350.00 per person - Double*

*Cost includes: Motor coach transportation, hotel, tickets for two shows, meals include: 1-breakfast, 1-lunch and 1-dinner and gratuity.*

*Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: Monday, September 18, 2023*



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY  
FARM BUREAU NEWS

(USPS 099-840)  
801 N. Country Fair Drive, Ste. A, Champaign, IL 61821  
Published Monthly by the  
Champaign County Farm Bureau  
801 N. Country Fair Drive, Ste. A,  
Champaign, IL 61821

SUBSCRIPTION RATE -- \$3 PER YEAR  
Periodicals Postage Paid at Champaign  
(ISSN 1078-2966)  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to "Farm  
Bureau News" 801 N. Country Fair Drive,  
Ste. A, Champaign IL 61821-2492

OFFICERS

Paul Hunsinger, Mahomet Township ..... President  
Jason Watson, Crittenden Township ..... 1st Vice-President  
Greg Knott, St. Joseph Township ..... 2nd Vice-President  
Benjamin Rice, Sidney Township ..... Secretary  
Kaitlin Tharp, Colfax Township ..... Treasurer

Craig Anderson, Newcomb; Bob Barker, Champaign; Maynard  
Birkey, East Bend; Paulette Brock, Women’s Committee Chair;  
Chandler Bruns, Urbana; Joe Burke, Marketing Chair; Doug  
Downs, Ayers; Jeff Fisher, Tolono; Meg Hansens, Condit;  
Gerald Henry, Prime Timers Chair; Casey Hettinger, Philo;  
Mark Hortin, Brown; Layne Ingram, Ogden; Greg Johnson,  
Rantoul; Mark Jones, Hensley; Greg Knott, St. Joseph; Byron  
Mackey, Scott; Lucas Meharry, Pesotum; Ryan Musson,  
Sadorus; Benjamin Rice, Sidney; Matt Schluter, Ludlow; Adam  
Sharp, Somer; Parker Smith, Raymond; Les Siuts, Stanton;  
Jeff Suits, Compromise; Kaitlin Tharp, Colfax; Jason Watson,  
Crittendon; Trent Wolken, Harwood/Kerr

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Hours: Monday – Friday  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Manager – Bailey Edenburn  
Communications Director – Lesley Gooding  
Administrative Assistant – Brenda Wood  
Membership & Outreach Coordinator – Maggi Maxstadt  
Ag in the Classroom Director – Sarah Kaper  
Ag in the Classroom Educator – Julie Adcock  
Foundation Director – Kirk Builta

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



# Farm Bureau Women’s Committee Tours Sidney Military Museum at Sidney American Legion

Post 433 Adjutant and military artifacts collector Bill McLane and his wife, Susan McLane, both museum curators, hosted eighteen members of the Champaign County Farm Bureau Women’s Committee on April 10th at the American Legion Post 433 in Sidney and led a tour of their military museum located inside the post.

After learning some history about the Post 433 building, the tour began. McLane began by talking about the many pictures of American Legion Post 433 members, Sidney veterans of the military, and Post 433 honorary members, that are hung in the meeting room and explained that the back wall contained Gold Star photos of Sidney members of the military who had been killed in action. In addition, many medals and other artifacts could be viewed in display panels on tables in the room.

Attendees of the tour then moved to the lobby of the post to view memorabilia from the Civil War and a very special painting by Billy Morrow Jack-

son. Following, the group moved in to the room that houses Bill and Susan McLane’s military museum, containing many, many artifacts that Bill has collected in over 50 years.

McLane estimated that about 60% of his total collection is located in the military museum at the Post as he spoke about items in the museum that include artifacts from his and his wife Susan’s family’s military service, military uniforms from past years, military medals, old military photos, flags, ship horns, the Navy bell, items from Pearl Harbor and the USS Arizona, and so much more.

Bill shared with the group that if anyone new of another group or family who would enjoy a tour to feel free to contact him any time at (217) 390-2196 or by email at [ussmclane@prairieinnet.net](mailto:ussmclane@prairieinnet.net) to schedule a tour.

By Marilyn Whalen and Ann Rhoton, SCCTP News Correspondent



DMC, USN, Retired, Post 433 Adjutant, and military artifacts collector Bill McLane points out different artifacts his and wife Susan McLane's military museum to Farm Bureau Women's Committee members during their April 10th tour. Photos by Marilyn Whalen



## WOMEN’S COMMITTEE RECIPE OF THE MONTH Submitted by Sandra Chestnut

### Vegetable Salad

- 1 can french green beans
- 1 can shoepeg corn
- 1 can Le Sueur Peas
- 1 medium diced red onion
- 1 cup celery
- Green pepper, red pepper, and yellow pepper

(Diced)

\*Add as many diced peppers as you want\*

### Dressing

Heat until boils. Pour over vegetables when cool.

- ¾ cup vinegar
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup salad oil

Regular **DAILY USE** of an **SPF 15** or higher **SUNSCREEN** **REDUCES** the risk of developing **MELANOMA** by **50%**.

**NATIONAL SkinCancer & MELANOMA AWARENESS MONTH**

**ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU**  
Farm. Family. Food.™

**ILLINOIS FARM FAMILIES**  
Growing your food with care.

**EXECUTIVE TRACK**

**WE ARE THE 96%**

Believe it or not, most folks think that farms in Illinois are run by big, faceless corporations. Truth is, 96% of the farms are actually owned and operated by families. Yep, 96%. And we're 100% committed to bringing you the most sustainably grown, healthiest food anywhere.

Scan or visit us at [wearethe96.org](http://wearethe96.org)