



Champaign County Farm Bureau News

Vol. 93, No. 8 801 N. Country Fair Drive, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821 August, 2015

“Champaign County Farm Bureau will strive to assist families in agriculture by recognizing and responding to issues of concern while strengthening partnerships and improving farm family life for this and future generations.”

Conservation and Nutrient Loss Reduction with Steve Stierwalt

By: David Fulton



Steve Stierwalt is a farmer in the Sadorus/Ivesdale area of Champaign County. Stierwalt is the Vice President on the State SWCD (Soil and Water Conservation District) Board. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District Board. Stierwalt is involved with the Earth Partners and their Ag literacy effort and is also a past President on the Champaign County Farm Bureau Board. Stierwalt says “the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy is going to be one the most significant developments that are actually happening in agriculture on the conservation side”.

The problem, or call-to-action, has been the response to the Gulf Hypoxia. Due to this environmental issue, farmers in the country (especially the Mid-West) have been asked to come up with strategies to reduce nutrient loss. “Ivan Dozier is to thank for getting the word “Loss” in our strategy title.” The issue is not over application, says Stierwalt, it is losing the nutrients applied. Stierwalt said that we need to make progress over the next five years

to “move the needle” and achieve the goals we have set, before these voluntary actions become mandatory regulations. “It is important to be able to make these changes on our own farms”, said Stierwalt. SWCD, Champaign County Farm Bureau, Illinois Corn Growers, University of Illinois and CCFB’s Land Use Committee make up the Nutrient Loss Reduction Task Force.

Some practices can be implemented without drastic changes. Not applying phosphorus on frozen ground, adding a stabilizer, spring field testing and strip tillage. Farmers need to have a plan before the end of harvest - nutrient management plans are not costly practices, but take time to establish. The FSA county committee is open to helping the task force develop a survey to capture the data on current practices: split-nitrogen, cover crops etc (with no identifiers to farmers).

The recent Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy plan has been released. Stierwalt gave some words on the strategy plan and mentioned that we can always do better, it will take a long time to get there and we are a long way from it, but we can always do better to achieve this goal. The lawsuit in Iowa has challenged us to make progress.

Continue Stierwalt on page 3.....

Ask your elevator how you can Invest An Acre to benefit the Eastern Illinois Foodbank

Notice:
New office hours at Champaign County Farm Bureau
New hours of business: 8:00a.m. - 4:30p.m.

Rural Route Safety With Captain Shane Cook

By: David Fulton

Captain Shane Cook, Champaign County Sheriff’s Department, was able to provide some tips and suggestions with rural route safety and “corn corners” during this growing season and the upcoming harvest. Blind corners, or “corn corners” as you may have heard them called, have always been a dangerous factor on the rural roads.

These corners are any intersection where there is corn on either side of the road, preventing you to see oncoming traffic. Cook says when approaching these corners be sure to come to a complete stop, where there is a stop sign, and yield cautiously if there is not a sign present. Most accidents happen because of the failure of stopping the vehicle and scanning the surroundings before proceeding. Cook mentioned that some farmers are helping the situation by cutting the corners off their fields at these dangerous intersections. As we approach harvest, it is important to remember that we need to share the

road, not only as farmers operating machinery, but as motorists too. A great tip offered by Cook to farmers would be instead of letting a motorist decide when the right time to pass equipment would be, try to offer hand signals to motion to a following motorist that is safe/clear for them to pass.. A tip to motorists, stay on roads that you are familiar with and do not use country roads as shortcuts. Do NOT shut off lights at blind corners – slow down and yield cautiously.

When asked about rural crime, Captain Cook said to pay close attention to details, unfamiliar faces or vehicles that may be in the area. Cook also pointed out to lock your house, car, shed and fuel pumps. Anhydrous tanks, scrap metal and copper are hot items for a thief to steal these days. “If they got away with it once, they will mostly likely try to succeed again at the same place.” Said Cook
Stay Safe

An Afternoon with your Congressman !



Join the Champaign County Farm Bureau
&
Congressman Rodney Davis and
Congressman John Shimkus
as they discuss agricultural issues
August 21, 2:00-3:00 p.m.
at
John Reifsteck's Farm
1007 CR 900 E, Champaign
(corner of Duncan & Monticello Rd.)

Please RSVP by calling the CCFB office at 352-5235
by Tuesday, August 18

Sidney Dairy Barn Ice Cream will be served



HAUL IN A
WINNER!





CCFB President's Report
Eric Suits

August 5, 2015

2015 will probably become the year of the extremes. After 5 weeks of immense moisture over the entire county limiting the opportunity for replant of drowned out areas, making spray applications, or even getting opportunity to harvest wheat, the rain valve has started to shut off and we now have many areas that are starting to suffer from too little rain. Corn in many areas is tipping back from initial pollination potential we saw in early July and some bean fields are struggling to close rows as growing conditions change. It will be extremely interesting to see what we experience in yield levels this fall after the roller coaster of planting and growing conditions that this crop has had to experience.

July presented the opportunity for me to represent the county at IFB President's conference in Bloomington towards the end of the month. Much of the content of this meeting focused on the "Future of the Organization" stimulating thought around how we deal with the changes that are occurring in the Agriculture Industry and how Farm Bureau will have to approach these changes to more effectively serve members as we prepare for the future. Please share any perspective you may have on the changing climate within CCFB as this effort will intensify as the task force on the "Future of the Organization" will convene and share gathered information towards the end of August. Illinois Commodities Conference rounded out the month on July 29 providing information on a multitude of current topics in Agriculture.

Considering sharing perspective on key issues impacting the farm, August will provide opportunities for members. Toolshed meetings with Mark Gebhards, IFB Director of Governmental Affairs have occurred at three sites across the county on August 4 and on Friday August 21 at 2pm, CCFB members will have the opportunity to share perspective with Congressmen John Shimkus and Rodney Davis at the John

Reifsteck Farm south of Champaign. Please take advantage of this opportunity to both get informed and share perspective on key legislative issues at both the State and National levels.

Have a wonderful end to the summer and safe travels to families who are traveling before sending children back to school in a few weeks.

- Eric Suits

The Challenge
Are YOU Up For It?

-This month's challenge is to sharpen your leadership skills
The Champaign County Farm Bureau is looking for
candidates to join the 2015-2016 Leadership Academy
Do you want to accept the challenge?

Call today! 352-5235
Champaign County Farm Bureau

"Check Your Calendar!"
August

| | | |
|----|--|---------------|
| 10 | Women's Committee- Presence Hospital after | 9:30 a.m. |
| 10 | Ben Louis Open (8th and final) | noon |
| 11 | Land Use | 6:30p.m. |
| 13 | Prime Timers | 10 a.m. |
| 13 | ALOYTT - RIBEYE DEADLINE | 4:30p.m. |
| 17 | Lady Landowners | 9:30 a.m. |
| 20 | Farm Illinois - CCFB Auditorium | 3p.m. |
| 20 | Full Board | 7 p.m. |
| 21 | Legislative - lunch provided | noon-1:30p.m. |
| 21 | Afternoon with your Congressman - see flyer on pg. 1 | 2p.m. |
| 23 | ALOYTT - THE RIBEYE | 6p.m. |
| 24 | District 12 Meeting Paris, IL | 6:30p.m. |
| 25 | Drainage/Water Meeting | 6:30p.m. |

September

| | | |
|------|---|-----------|
| 2 | Premier Ladies Marketing (open to CCFB) | 9a.m. |
| 3 | Young Ag Leaders | 6:30 p.m. |
| 10 | Prime Timers | 10 a.m. |
| 7-10 | Bike Ride | |
| 14 | Women's Committee | 9:30a.m. |
| 14 | Marketing Club | 6:30p.m. |

****Different Scheduling has been made due to Labor Day****

Save the Date
September 7-10, 2015
Bike Ride

To benefit Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom



Do Your Driving Skills Need a Tune-Up?
Register for a Defensive Driving Course
at Champaign County Farm Bureau!



Tuesday, September 16 and
Wednesday, September 17
8 a.m. to Noon
BOTH days!

Cost: \$17
Your Instructor:
State Police Officer Tracy Lillard

Farm Bureau Auditorium
801 N. Country Fair Drive

RESERVATION DEADLINE: Sept. 8
call: 352-5235 to reserve your spot
today!



As We
SPRINT TOWARD
HARVEST,
What Should Our
Marketing Strategy Be???

WILL Radio - AM 580
Fall Outlook Meeting
Monday, September 14th

(one week later than normal due to the Labor Day holiday)

6:30 p.m.
Farm Credit Illinois

Bring your questions for our panel of
experts to tackle - let's plan some strategy
to use with challenging commodity prices!

Stierwalt has introduced some of these nutrient loss reduction practices on his own farms. Some practices he has been utilizing have been: No fall anhydrous before the ground is below 50 degrees, using a stabilizer in the fall, corn is planted with strip-till with displacement of phosphorus (so it isn't place on top of the ground) corn is done with split application, less than half of nitrogen is applied in the fall. Stierwalt mentioned he has tried some covers crops on 90 acres to gain experience and he does not apply on frozen ground. There is an initial cost of the strip-till tool bar, but the return is higher than the cost, said Stierwalt. Stierwalt has adopted these changes for the past 10 years. "Don't ever expect to be done, we can always do things better", said Stierwalt. Stierwalt is proud that Champaign County has multiple resources to succeed with a plan. In Stierwalt's opinion, the best way to complete this process is locally, and Champaign has the right "tools" to do it.

"We all look at our farms and do a good job, but we have to raise the bar to that next notch – Farmers do a good job".

Grain Handling Safety Workshop

STOP

Lockout all moving equipment
Guard or cover all floor openings

Avoid engulfment - Use a harness and lifeline
Do not 'walk down' grain
Stay clear of waist deep grain

Check Atmosphere: Oxygen= 20.9%
Evaluate for oxygen deficient, flammable and toxic atmospheres
Eliminate and control all hazards!



Dave Newcomb, Ag Rescue Program Manager with Illinois Fire Service Institute, explains how their safety harness was recommended by an Iowa farmer at their Ag Rescue Safety Conference. The piece of metal, close to him, is a section of a grain bin that he has made into a training simulator. The Grain Handling Safety Coalition gives training and workshops on grain bin accidents (Illinois leads in injuries and deaths).

The evening had an overview of grain bin safety, lock out/tag out and a simulation of the life line.



The life line that would be used in the top of a grain bin with two people

The Great One Steak Place

1701 S. Neil Street

Champaign, IL 61820

Agriculture Leaders of Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: ALOYTT invites YOU to: **Dinner at The Ribeye** (dutch treat!) **Sunday, August 23rd 6 p.m.**

Reservations Required by: Wednesday, August 13
Call 352-5235 to RSVP and plan to JOIN US for a GREAT MEAL and an evening of FUN!

PRIDEPlus

means the pride of Farm Bureau® membership plus exclusive members-only savings.

IFB® MEMBERS SAVE 20% AT

Choice Hotels®

Enjoy the Extras

Rest & Refresh

Get More Value

Stay Anytime

Travel Simply

Earn Rewards

TO LEARN MORE: VISIT WWW.ILFB.ORG/MEMBER

On August 4th, the Champaign County Farm Bureau Viewpoint Committee hosted a day of Toolshed Meetings to share state agricultural issues that impact our industry. Mark Gebhards, from Illinois Farm Bureau, was our special guest. Issues covered were:GMO food labeling, state budget, WOTUS, RFS changes, Trade, Infrastructure, Glyphosate's future and Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. THANK YOU: Zahnd Family, Rice Family and Waters Family - for hosting us

Above: Dick Miller talks with President, Eric Suits after the 2nd toolshed meeting

INVITE YOU TO AN EXCLUSIVE ROLL-OUT BRIEFING ON

The Food and Agriculture RoadMap for Illinois (FARM Illinois)

PRESENTATIONS BY:

Leland Strom
Director, FARM Illinois
Former Chairman and CEO,
Farm Credit Administration

Dr. Robert Easter
Chairman, FARM Illinois
President Emeritus,
University of Illinois

AUGUST 20, 2015

3:00 – 4:30 PM

FARM Illinois was created to develop a comprehensive strategic plan to enable Illinois and the Chicago region to become the leading global hub for food and agriculture system innovation and ensure their leadership in sustainably meeting the 21st-century challenge of global and local food security.

To read the FARM Illinois plan, please visit www.farmillinois.org.

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

RSVP TO
info@farmillinois.org

Additional questions:
Tyler Strom (FARM Illinois)
(847) 254-2886
tyler@farmillinois.org

MEMBER SPECIAL

FARM BUREAU MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE:

\$200 OFF

all full size Sportsman® ATVs and ACE™ vehicles.

\$300 OFF

all full size RANGER® RZR® and Brutus® UTV's.


\$300 OFF

all GEM® electric vehicles.

Learn more about models at Polaris.com.

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CCFB FOUNDATION
Nurturing the Scholarship of Tomorrow's Ag Leaders
www.ccfbfoundation.com

**With THANKS to
all of our 2015 Pull 4 Ag Sponsors!**

*Thank you to all of our
2015 participants!*

**Lunch by Our Friends at
Farm Credit Services**



Farm Credit Services
OF ILLINOIS



**5 Stand
Competition
Sponsored by:
LG Seeds**

**The Ben Louis
Golf Open**


**Monday,
August 10, 2014**

**Registration available at
www.ccfbfoundation.com**

**Congratulations to:
Sue Parkin**





**Raffle Winner
Browning Citori
Maple Lightning
12 Gauge!**



8th & Final Ben Louis Open
Proceeds benefit the CCFB Foundation Ag Education Programs

**Monday, August 10, 2015
Urbana Country Club, Urbana, IL
Shotgun start at Noon
4 person scramble**

**Dinner
provided by**



CCFB FOUNDATION

☐ **I would like to sponsor a tee (\$200 per tee)**

Name of Company _____ Contact _____
Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____
Email _____ Phone# _____
Gift In-kind _____

☐ **I would like to make a personal donation** _____

Save the Date!!!
**Harvest Our Youth
Scholarship Gala**
**Friday,
November 20, 2015**
5 p.m. - Pear Tree Estate






Earth Partners

Working Wisely with our World

Ag Summer Camp Recap

Champaign County Farm Bureau, Earth Partners and the Champaign Park District once again partnered up to bring agriculture education to more than 200 youth this summer. As part of the Champaign Park District's summer camp schedule, volunteers and staff from Farm Bureau and Earth Partners taught two weeks of activities focused on educating campers, and in some cases their counselors, about the value of agriculture! Youth from both the Leonard and Douglass locations learned over the course of the week through hands-on activities, interactive games and field trips. Each day the campers learned about a different topic related to agriculture. The first day was all about soybeans and harvest, corn and corn products, machinery and technology and also water and natural resource conservation. By incorporating lessons created from Illinois Ag in the Classroom, the campers learned new information in a fun and exciting way!



The second day of camp was all about apples, soil, wheat and horticulture. One of the best ways to get kids thinking about agriculture is to relate it to food and that's just what we did! Campers learned about how apples grow, the importance of pollination by bees and then made 'Apple

Smiles'. Each group of campers also had the chance to mix up their own wheat tortillas and sampled them still warm from the griddle! It was a toss-up if the tortillas or the soil profile pudding cups were the bigger hit of the day...



Campers visited Sola Gratia, a four acre local produce farm, during their week of Ag Camp. At Sola Gratia the youth rotated between stations learning how to create healthy snack**, bees and the importance of pollinators, MyPlate food guidelines and also got to walk out amongst the vegetables and see them growing! **Check out the recipe from Dish Passionate Cuisine, Zucchini and Squash Tacos!

Try this Recipe at Home!

Zucchini and Squash Tacos

Ingredients:

- 1 large onion, peeled, quartered and sliced thin
- 2 zucchini, sliced thin
- 2 summer squash sliced thin
- 1 15oz can of black beans rinsed
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 Tb. butter
- 1 Tb fajita seasoning
- 2 tsp. cumin
- 1/4 chipotle chili powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 1/2 cups Mexican Cheese
- 1 package corn tortillas

Directions:

1. Chop the veggies and leave in separate piles. Mix the salt and spices in a small bowl and sprinkle evenly over all the veggies.
2. Place 1 tablespoon of butter in a large skillet and heat to high heat. Once the butter is melted, add the onions and garlic. Sauté for 1-2 minutes until just barely soft. Remove from the skillet and add 2 tablespoons of butter. Once the butter is melted, add the zucchini, summer squash, and black beans to the skillet. Sauté and stir for 2-3 minutes until golden, but just barely cooked through and still firm.
3. To serve, place a tortilla on a plate (you can double them up for extra stability) and load it with veggies. Top each taco with a generous sprinkling of Mexican cheese. Serve warm with fresh salsa.

Homemade Salsa

- 1 cup diced fresh tomatoes
- 1 cup canned petite diced tomatoes
- 1/2 cup finely diced red onion
- 2 T diced cilantro
- Lime juice and salt to taste.

Combine and serve



Myla Munro, Earth Partners Coordinator



On the fourth and final day was all about livestock! The campers got to get up close and personal with sheep, chickens, goats, cows and even a horse! Our volunteers told the kids all about the animals, from what they eat to what products (like milk, wool or hamburger, just to name a few) that we get from them.





Vann Parkin
Country Financial Agency Manager



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AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT



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THE SMART WAY TO ROAD TRIP

By COUNTRY Financial

The Great American Road Trip. Windows down singing along to the oldies as you wind through cornfields and over mountains. Some families make it an annual event, others enjoy the Lampoon's vacation from the comfort of their living room instead.

For you adventurous folks, you might want stop and think before you hop in the car and take off for your next trip. Vacations can be a lot of fun, but remember to be SMART about your travels and use these tips to stay safe on your Great American Road Trip: S – Stock up! Make sure you're fully equipped with everything you'll need for the long haul. First and foremost: an emergency kit. This should include items such as jumper cables, first aid kit and tools to change a tire.

In addition to emergency items, make sure you bring a car charger for your cell phones and other electronic devices. And, of course, make sure you have good tunes for the necessary road trip sing-alongs.

M – Map Your Route

You might have a general idea of what highways you plan on taking, but make sure you know the route and have detailed directions to guide you to avoid getting lost. Plan out where you're taking a break ahead of time so you know what is coming up and an approximate timeline of your traveling.

“Construction season” will likely be in full-swing by the time you're packed-up and headed out, so be aware of those delays and route your map to avoid them if possible. If unavoidable, make sure you break before heading in to those congested areas as delay times could get long.

A – Alert

Stay alert and actively pay attention to where you are and your surroundings. If something happens, you'll need to be able to tell roadside assistance or emergency responders where you're located, including what mile-markers you're between and where the nearest exit is. Knowing your surroundings is also helpful for safety reasons. If you need to make an unplanned stop or overnight stay, lodge at a more populated area or stop at a secure rest area to ensure you and your family are in a safe situation.

Another part of being alert is eliminating distractions. As the driver, focus on the road and driving safely while the passengers can take care of music, getting snacks out, double-checking the map and, most importantly, texting and/or calling. Lastly, make sure you check the weather forecast along your route as that plays a crucial part in the safety of your trip. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, weather-related crashes account for 23% of all crashes each year totaling over 1 million. If you're driving in bad weather, don't use cruise control and leave plenty of space between yourself and the vehicles around you.

R – Re-charge

Keep an eye on your car to assure all levels are where they should be. Your gas tank should never dip lower than ¼ tank in the case of unforeseen accidents, traffic delays, car problems, etc. Know how many miles per gallon your vehicle gets and consider how many stops you'll have to make and when.

Most importantly, re-charge yourself. Driving drowsy is dangerous – like alcohol, it delays your reaction time, affects your awareness, impairs judgment and increases your risk of crashing. Always rotate drivers (if possible) to assure the driver can stay awake and alert the entire time – it's a good idea to pull over and sleep (or nap!) at a hotel if needed.

T – Tune-up

Before you even pull out of the driveway, there is preparation you can take to ensure safe driving. Your car is obviously one of the most important parts of the road trip so give it the attention it needs and deserves. A professional inspection and maintenance would check the car for all faults and ensure it is ready for the road.

After you're on the road, pay close attention to your car and check a few times throughout the trip that everything under the hood is still in good repair. When in doubt, don't hesitate to take your car to a mechanic to check and make repairs as needed. In addition to a tune-up, make sure your car insurance is ready to go too. Know your policy, what's covered and how to make a claim out-of-state. Don't forget to have important numbers, such as your insurance agent or roadside assistance, saved in your phone or written down for quick access if you need them.

Whether it's just one state over or you're traveling coast to coast, remember to be SMART about your road tripping this summer, and most importantly, have fun!



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ILLINI FS



Left: Tanna Petersak, Westville
Right: Avery Stoddard, Monticello

Follow the Interns ILLINI FS INTERNSHIP

By: Lesley Gooding

CCFB has been following Illini FS/ GROWMARK interns, Avery Stoddard and Tanna Petersak, throughout the summer. According to Matt Hoose, Illini FS Crop Insurance Specialist/ Intern Supervisor, Avery and Tanna have been exposed to all aspects of Illini FS. Avery and Tanna have obtained hands on experience over the summer and will wrap up their 2015 internship on August 7.

Interns finish their summer work experience with a project presentation to the Growmark Board of Directors in Bloomington, IL. Avery and Tanna will each present on a topic of their choosing for 10-15 minutes, with a 5 minute question and answer session. Avery's project is focused on soybean planting, the issues that arise and how to fight problems. Tanna is presenting on a program called the "Pilot Program." The "Pilot Program" is a collaboration among Wal-Mart, Monsanto, and Growmark studying the fields of growers. The fertilizer, nitrogen, seeds, etc. are compared to inputs used in 1985. Findings through the "Pilot Program" include reduced chemical use and increased economic and human health benefits.

Avery and Tanna are spending time in the Illini FS area crop scouting. Current conditions are pretty good overall, but according to the interns they have seen some "disease pressure in corn. Primarily corn leaf blight and corn gray leaf spot in Champaign and Douglas Counties." Tanna says she "found Physoderma Brown Spot which is a minor disease in corn and not usually harmful to yields." Avery has "seen some damage from Japanese beetles in soybeans, but for the most part beans look good." The interns have also seen downy mildew, white mold, and septoria brown spot in soybeans.

Avery and Tanna both encourage others to apply for the Growmark Internship program. They both said their experience has "been fantastic!"

Tanna says she "I definitely agree that the Growmark internship program is one of the top agriculture internship programs in the nation!" Avery said "I wasn't treated like an intern, I was treated like family. The Illini FS family was always ready to drop what they were doing and help me!"

Matt Hoose will miss the interns when their time is up, but will remain busy with yield checks, pollination reports and will still be looking for disease in soybeans. He also says he will spend time in Bloomington providing support to Avery and Tanna as they finish up their internship with their board of directors/project presentation!

More about the internship program Growmark is in its 56th year of the internship program providing 57 interns from 18 different colleges with real world, agriculture experiences. The Growmark internship program is the oldest, continually run agriculture internship program in the Midwest. Interns will be exposed to all sides of agribusiness including agronomy, structures, nutrient management, facility planning, energy, marketing, commodities, IT and more. Interns participating in the 12 week, paid internship, work at a Cooperative, attend three meetings at Growmark's Corporate Office, and must complete a special project. The special project is an individualized project decided upon by the intern and supervisor. It is tailored to utilize the intern's skills, experience and special interests. At the completion of internship, the project is presented to Growmark's CEO, Board of Directors and other peers.

Interns are from the Northeast, Midwest, and Ontario, Canada. Interns must be attending a four year college, completing their junior year and entering their senior year of college.



illinifs.com

FACES of Illini FS Chris Hausman, Illini FS Board of Directors, Vice-President

By: Lesley Gooding



Chris Hausman has been involved in Champaign County agriculture since he was born. He is currently a 4th generation farmer living in southern Champaign County. Chris is a long time Illini FS board member, currently serving as Vice-President and is also a Past President of Illini FS. Chris began serving on the Champaign County Farm Bureau board in 1994 and in 1996 moved into the role of interlocking board member for Illini FS. After stepping down from the Champaign County Farm Bureau Board in 2000, he remained on the Illini FS Board. He has seen a lot of changes in the Illini FS systems including seeing them through a merger with Growmark in 2006. Chris is a big believer in term limits for board members, allowing to keep things fresh and keep new ideas flowing. He also believes part of leadership is to seek out the next set of leaders, encouraging others to step up! Chris will be finishing his tenure on the IAA Board of Directors in 2016. He began serving as District Director in 2006.

Chris says over the years as an Illini FS board member he has "seen Illini FS struggle with perception more than anything. Are we priced competitive? I believe we are! When you look at the total package including LP, Sales, Crop, etc. our people bring expertise to the field. The value the consultant brings to my operation is worth it. My best example of this is when my consultant suggested I use a split application of nitrogen. This has been critical to my operation and to my role on the Illinois Council for Best Management Practices. I do a better job of managing my nutrients. The relationship with my crop salesmen has helped with my nutrient reduction. I have also been able to get behind and utilize N-Watch Tracking. My crop salesman has been driving me in the right direction and I now know how much available nitrogen is left in my soil."



Mike Turner
ILLINI FS GENERAL MANAGER

Chris is a product of Unity High School and the University of Illinois. After graduating Chris was an agriculture teacher at Armstrong High School for two years before moving into the role as FBFM Field Staff for 9 years. Chris said working for FBFM "was the best training ground for going into farming!" He was able to work with farmers and get ready for his first crop year of 1991.

Chris and his wife Evonne really enjoy life on the farm. Evonne is retired from the University of Illinois and is the right hand woman on the farm. Chris and Evonne raised three sons on the farm and now enjoy visiting one son in California, one son in Chicago and one son is still local. Chris and Evonne are also proud grandparents of a grandson named Archer. A family goal over the next 5 to 10 years is to transition the farm to the 5th generation.

Chris is very involved in the agriculture community, but he does take some time to kick back and relax. Chris is planning to ride his bicycle in the upcoming Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Bike Ride coming to Champaign County in early September. Chris and Evonne also enjoy getting away to Northwest Wisconsin, where they have a cabin. Chris has been traveling to this area of Wisconsin known for the Lumberjack World Championships, Burkebeiner cross country ski marathon, and also known as the Musky Capital of the World, since he was a child. Chris plays the drums, loves music (especially the Canadian group Rush), and recently met Glen Phillips of Toad the Wet Sprocket (another favorite group). Little known fact about the Hausman's: They are both dog lovers and have a five year old, golden retriever named Carmel and a five year old, mixed black lab named Story. The Hausman's have started a fun tradition of taking Story and Carmel to Sonic to enjoy corn dogs when the family finishes planting and finishes harvest!

Celebrate Summer with Prime Timers on August 13 starting at 10 a.m.

Program:

Ginger McKee,

Cunningham Children's Home

Entertainment by: Christy Rigsby



Ken Roellig, Prime Timers Chairman

- Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month
 - Cost is \$5 to attend
 - Call 352-5235 ahead of each meeting to reserve your spot
- Mark your calendar - Don't miss a single Prime Timer date!

Prime Timers 2014:

September 10

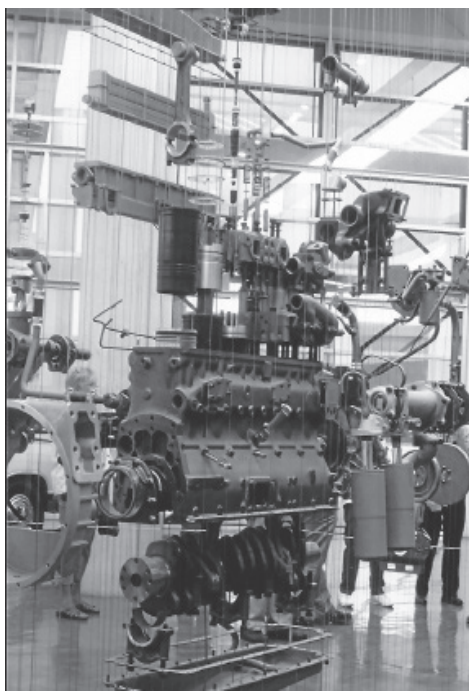
October 8

November 12

December 10

Join a Trip Today with Lois Wood!

By: Lesley Gooding



Exploded engine from Cummins
tour in Columbus, IN
(one of many trips in 2015)

all over the world that they still keep in touch with. Lois' love for traveling and friendly disposition has made her a natural fit for the Trip Coordinator. Lois just returned from a 2 day/ 1 night trip to Indiana. The CCFB group toured the Cummins Engine Plant in Columbus, saw an exploded engine, rode around the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on a bus and also visited the museum. Lois said it was a "great trip and people loved it!"

Lois has been on several wonderful trips with the Farm Bureau group. One of her all-time favorite trips was a trip to Charleston, South Carolina. The Farm Bureau group also really enjoys visiting Branson, MO and Shipshewana, IN.

Lois is currently planning trips and tours for 2016 including a trip to Mackinac Island, MI, in June and a fall trip to a cranberry farm in Wisconsin.

Lois likes the theatre and has plans to check out Half-Stitched The Musical in Arcola, IL, at the Green Mill Village Theatre. If the show goes well, Lois is hoping to feature a Farm Bureau trip to the Green Mill Village Theatre in the future.

Trips and tours are open to Champaign County Farm Bureau members, costs vary. For more information contact the CCFB Office at 217-352-5235.

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2015

4-H Livestock Auction

Champaign County Farm Bureau

Young Ag Leaders



The 4-H Livestock Auction: Looking Forward

From the Champaign County Farm Bureau Young Ag Leaders

Last month, the annual 4-H Livestock Auction was held at the Champaign County Fairgrounds. This year’s auction was yet another successful fundraiser for the participating 4-H members, raising thousands of dollars to benefit these students in their future endeavors. We were very glad to see many new 4-H members participating in the auction this year and are hopeful to see them return next year.

After over thirty years facilitating the annual 4-H Livestock Auction, the Young Leaders 4-H Auction Committee will dissolve following this year’s auction to allow for building of new committees to better assist a larger group of future agricultural leaders within 4-H and FFA. Throughout the evolution of the auction over the past three decades, Young Leaders has been able to facilitate financial support to hundreds of 4-H members. We greatly appreciate the continued support we have had from the Young Leaders volunteers, past and present buyers, 4-H families, the auctioneers, Champaign County Fairgrounds and all others who have helped to make the auction possible. The Young Leaders 4-H Auction Committee has enjoyed the opportunity to serve this group of 4-H members and looks forward to working alongside them in the future with other events.

Looking forward, a new committee is currently being forged to begin working on next year’s 4-H Livestock Auction. We are confident that the auction will be in good hands with this new committee of individuals with a great desire to get involved with 4-H youth. Young Leaders will continue to offer volunteers for the day of the auction, but will be substituting the time normally used to plan and perform accounting procedures with donating more time to alternate events for 4-H and FFA members in the area. As Young Leaders moves forward with this transition, we again want to thank those who have helped to make the auction possible and successful in the past, are helping in the present and those who will continue to help in the future; this fundraiser would be impossible without the help of every person who donates (or has donated) their time and effort to the event.

- Constance Herriott

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