



THE SANGAMO *Farmer*

JULY/AUGUST 2020



*Advocating the Voice of Agriculture through Education
and Grassroots Legislation*

Phone: (217) 753-5200 • www.sangamonfb.org • farmbureau@sangamonfb.org

Springfield, IL • Volume MMXX Number 4

Upcoming Meetings & Events

JULY

3rd.....Observance of Independence Day, Office Closed
 6th.....Governmental Engagement & Policy Committee Meeting (Tentative), 6:00 p.m.
 10th.....Foundation Golf Outing, Auburn, 8:30 a.m.
 13th.....Young Leader Committee Meeting (Tentative), 6:30 p.m.
 16th.....Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
 20th.....Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

AUGUST

3rd..... Governmental Engagement & Policy Committee Meeting (Tentative), 6:00 p.m.
 10th.....Young Leader Committee Meeting (Tentative), 6:30 p.m.
 12th.....Market Outlook & Steak Fry, 5:30 p.m.
 17th.....Tailgate Talk, 5:00 p.m.
 17th.....Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
 20th.....Women's Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m.

* All events occur at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau unless otherwise noted

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP
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Register for the second half of the Online Summer Ag Institute at iaitc.co/teacher

DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE - 2020		O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J
District 1	Brent Johnson	-	X	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	
	Michael Kinner (Treasurer)	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	
	Anna Stone	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	
	Jason Pickrell	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	
District 2	Otto Rentschler	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	X	-	
	Kevin Foran	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	
	Dale Edwards	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	
	Ethan Krone	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	X	
District 3	Ben Ladage	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	
	Mike Borgic	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	
	Adam Bailey (Ass't Sec/Treas)	-	X	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	
	Cathryn Ayers Seifert (VP)	-	X	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	
District 4	Phil Sidles (President)	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	
	Diana Beaty (Secretary)	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	
	Matt Heissingner	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	
	Marty Fairchild	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	X	-	
At-Large	Pam Neuman	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	
	Gary Reavis	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	
	David Ray	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	X	
GEP Chair , Allen Entwistle	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-		
M&PR Chair , Janet Edwards	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X		
YL Chair , Stephen Prather	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	-		
Women's Chair , Cassandra Bennett	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	X	X		

THE SANGAMO FARMER

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 Individual membership fee of the Sangamon County Farm Bureau includes payment of \$2 per year for a subscription to the Sangamo Farmer.

President's Report



Phil Sidles

I want to start this report off by saying thank you and what an honor it has been to serve as your county Farm Bureau President for the last three years. It is an experience I will forever cherish. It's funny, when I started this Farm Bureau journey I was really interested in how I could get larger culverts put in our county ditches to gain easier access to our fields, little did I know what I was getting into. I have learned so many things along the way and believe it or not, not all about farming. Like if your leaving a cattle sale and someone asks you if you would be interested in running as a director for some board and you tell him you'll think about and then later find out your name is already on the ballot, you don't really have an option, or things like you don't get dinner recommendations from a skinny guy. Those are both a couple of inside jokes with a couple of great friends that have been an enormous influence in my Farm Bureau path that wouldn't want to be named, but they know who they are, and that is what it has all been about, the relationships created. I have gotten to meet so many people along

the way from farmers, and auctioneers, politicians, and activists. Those last two, some would argue, are one and the same, down to the Secretary of Ag himself. I have made countless friends and some of the best acquaintances anyone could ask for.

There is no way that I could have done any of this alone. I have always had the support of a great board of directors, past presidents, and some of the greatest staff personnel ever. Jim has helped me along the way more than anyone will know and on that rare occasion when I was in the right place at the right time and said something that sounded right and looked like I knew what I was doing, chances are Jim and the other great staff members were behind me making it all happen. I could always count on them to go above and beyond whenever asked, like waiting an extra day or two for this very report or staying a few extra minutes after work to help keep an eye on my tag along, Peyton, so I could finish up a meeting. I can't say it enough; Thank you all so much.

To our members, you truly are what makes this organization so great, and It has truly been an honor to serve. The heart and passion that this industry is made up of is second to none, and I have the opportunity to experience it on a daily basis, the good the bad and the ugly. We in Ag have faced many challenges, and we seem to continue to overcome all; though we may not win them all, the resilience of the organization is strong as is the future!

I would also like to say a special thank you to my family, without the support from my Uncle and Grandparents on the farm, it would not have been possible to do this. To my wife Lindsey and our children, Peyton and Paxton, thank you for the sacrifices you've made and putting up with me and my "Farm Bureau drama" right Peyton? You kept me focused through it all, and were a constant reminder of why we all do it, so someday our children will have the same and more opportunities than we had.

It has been a great experience that I will remember for a lifetime. Thank you all so much!! And In case anyone is wondering about those culverts, they still haven't gotten any bigger.

Congratulations!



Rachel Fishburn was selected as the first recipient of the Willam N Etherton Memorial Scholarship. She graduated from Tri-City High School and will be attending Lincoln Land Community College pursuing a degree in Ag Education. Rachel was very active in her FFA Chapter, senior class president and on the basketball team. Congratulations Rachel!

July/August 2020



Photo by Rhonda Bosgraaf Cole from Shelby County, IL

Farm Corps is designed to pair furloughed or unemployed veterans with agricultural producers who have an immediate need for on-the-farm labor. Visit <https://www.illinoisfarmerveterans.org/farmcorps> for more information.

Committee Reports



Stephen Prather

This year has been like no other for all of us. We will get through this, in the ag industry we push through adversity. We were hopeful to host many different events this year, but our plans were changed. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel many different things this year due to restrictions

on the number of participants we can have at an event. Although we aren't hosting any events at the moment, we do have the opportunity to improve upon our plans for 2021, with better displays and great events. Continue to stay safe and healthy through these times and be on the lookout for more events in the future.

YOUNG LEADERS



Janet Edwards

Have you ever procrastinated over doing something that you just really didn't want to do? Well, that was me for this issue of the Sangamo Farmer. I thought I would be able to share with our members some things that we were going to be doing in Farm Bureau. But, I'm going to be letting the members know what

is being cancelled for 2020 and rescheduled for 2021.

Trivia Night will not be held this year. We will reschedule for early 2021. As soon as we have a date set, we will let you know. So, plan on attending this evening of testing your knowledge and fellowship for a good cause next year.

AgStravaganza is also cancelled for this year as the venue we had it scheduled at is not allowing any activities with more than 50 attendees during the dates we had set.

Other activities will be scaled back. The annual meeting of the Sangamon County Farm Bureau will be just for Board Members and their spouses. The Foundation Golf Outing, as of now, is still going to happen on July 10th.

On the brighter side of all of this, crops are planted and growing. Hopefully, you have had time to get some things done around your home that you have been putting off and have been able to enjoy some of the things God has given us that we don't always take the time to notice. As our lives slowly begin to get back to what we will now call "new normal", remember to be kind to others and help when you can. God Bless!!

MEMBER & PR

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture the average farm's income for 2018 was projected to be 35 percent below what it was in 2013.

IT'S OKAY TO NOT BE OKAY.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, call the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or dial 911

You'll Flip

over Your Summer Savings



Cassie Bennett

Hello SCFB members! This has been one of the most interesting years to say the least! Unfortunately we don't have a whole lot going on right now. Our next meeting will be held in August to gear up for Healthy Harvest and begin planning for next year's events. We had the hopes of

rescheduling our bus trip but due to the uncertainty of the rest of the year, we decided not to move forward with those plans. We will be back bigger and better next year. I wish everyone a great and safe summer!

WOMEN'S

GOVERNMENTAL ENGAGEMENT & POLICY



Allen Entwistle

Between COVID, protests, and Dicamba rulings, things have been busy on the governmental front. It seems that things just keep coming at us from nowhere. Of course, adversity is no stranger to farmers, and like all the other hurdles farmers face, we'll prevail and adapt to our changing landscape.

Many farmers have started receiving grants and loans from SBA, EIDL, PPP, and CFAP programs. While farmers want to receive their income from the marketplace, there's no avoiding the situation our markets are in and all that is weighing them down. The government programs will hopefully help provide some immediate relief and help farmers to market their commodities and livestock from a position of maximizing income rather than from necessity to sell low just to pay bills.

The other blow to the gut we received recently was the Ninth Circuit Federal Court decision to immediately strip farmers from using Dicamba products. That action by the court was irresponsible and unwarranted. Although legal proceedings are still underway, we're hopeful that judges with common sense will prevail, especially if this gets all the way to the US Supreme Court. Unfortunately, while other state departments of agriculture were giving their farmers rules and guidance to continue use, our department of agriculture was all too quiet and absent of providing direction for days after other states had taken action.

Perhaps, we'll get these issues addressed before another bomb is thrown our way. Sangamon County Farm Bureau has been and will continue to strongly advocate for our members. We appreciate the hard work our members do and want to ensure they can continue without having their hands tied.

MARKETING



Matt Heissing

Since I last wrote, the rains have stopped, and planting was able to get done. I hope they come back when we need them. Warm weather and relaxation of the COVID rules have given some resemblance of life before the outbreak, although there's plenty of room for further improvement.

The COVID rules are beginning to let the Marketing Committee and other committees make some plans to salvage some of our programs and activities. Currently, we are still a go to have our Market Outlook Steakfry on August 12th. While we'll have to limit attendance to 50 people, we're excited to see everyone, enjoy a great steak together, and hearing from our favorite market analyst, Brian Burke from John Stewart and Associates. See the ad in this edition of the Sangamo Farmer for more information and to reserve your spot.

Hopefully, 2021 will be more forgiving on our programs and we can have many more opportunities to provide our members with enjoyable and beneficial activities. Keep your fingers crossed!



The Bureau According to Jim



Jim Birge

I'm happy to be back at the office daily and seeing my workmates. With all the pent up tidbits to share, it's been pretty chatty around here. It really does make you appreciate spending time with ones that you haven't had in-person interaction with for some time. And while the number of allowed attendees for in-person meetings are still going to be a challenge for some time, much of the rest of our daily routines feel somewhat normal.

It has been quite a rollercoaster ride for everyone over the last few months. And just when you think you see light at the end of the tunnel, you realize that's the train coming at you in the form of racial protests/riots and issues like the Ninth Circuit Court Ruling to immediately ban the use of dicamba products.

Well, at least we've finally had good weather for everyone to get field work done. And dicamba products were finally able to be utilized, at least they were until June 25th. I'm afraid we'll continue to tackle that issue for some time to come, especially as it relates to new herbicide chemistries coming online.

During everything that farmers have faced both last year and this year, we've utilized many different platforms to keep the conversation alive regarding mental stress and mental health. It seems that folks are tuning in a bit more regarding this subject and the stigma of mental health is waning some. Still, it's every bit as important as one's physical health. They work together and must both be cared for. If you or someone you know is experiencing mental stress that is getting worse, contact your pastor/priest, a close friend, or Farm Bureau. We're all here to listen, help, and be non-judgemental.

By the time you're reading this, I hope we'll be seeing Phase Four of the Restore Illinois Covid-19 plan. We'll be able to have slightly larger meeting sizes and businesses will be able to return to more normal operations. Each phase has helped my mental health. Bring on number four and five!

Easy Crockpot Lasagna

Recipe Provided by Pam Neuman

Ingredients:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 45 oz. jar of Ragu spaghetti sauce | 3 cups mozzarella cheese |
| 2 cups ricotta cheese | 1 lb ground sausage or beef |
| 2 cups cottage cheese | 3/4 pkg lasagna noodles, uncooked |

Instructions:

1. Cook meat and drain.
2. Add cooked meat and spaghetti sauce into a bowl and stir.
3. In a separate bowl, combine cheeses and set aside.
4. Pour enough spaghetti sauce mixture to cover the bottom of your crockpot so the noodles don't stick.
5. Break lasagna noodles in half and line your crockpot, overlapping as little as possible.
6. Spread some of the cheese mixture on top of the noodles. Then put another layer of spaghetti sauce mixture over that.
7. Repeat until there is no more spaghetti sauce mixture.
8. Cook on low for about 4 hours. Add additional mozzarella cheese about 10 minutes before serving.



SANGAMON COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK SHOW

August 1, 2020
Sangamon County Fairgrounds
New Berlin

Open to exhibitors ages 21 & Under. Must reside in Sangamon County or a child of a Sangamon County Farm Bureau Member
For more information and to enter, visit sangamonfb.org/events



Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation



Henry Lever Action .410

\$10

Gun Raffle

Only 250 Tickets
Will Be Sold!

Drawing will take place July 10, 2020
at the Foundation Golf Outing

Proceeds benefit the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation in order to provide scholarships to local students and funding for agricultural education programs.





**Sangamon
County Farm Bureau®
Foundation**

10th Annual Golf Outing

Friday, July 10, 2020

Edgewood Golf Club • Auburn, IL



\$300/foursome • or •

\$75/individual golfer

includes lunch, beverages on the course, cart rental, and 18 holes of golf

7:45 AM: Registration

8:30 AM: Shotgun Start

Lunch & Prizes

immediately following play

Not a golfer? Join us for lunch!

The goal of the SCFB Foundation Golf Outing is to raise funds for our scholarship program. This year we were proud to award five \$1,250 scholarships to outstanding local youth!

Company/Individual Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

G Name: _____

O Name: _____

L Name: _____

F Name: _____

E

R

S

Please mail this form and payment to:

Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation
2631 Beechler Court
Springfield, IL 62703

Golfers:

- ___ # of foursomes @ \$300/each
(includes 4 lunches)
- ___ Team Game Bundle \$75
(includes all games listed below, \$100 Value)
- ___ # of individual golfers @ \$75/each
(includes lunch)

Sponsor: ___ # of hole sponsorships @ \$100/each

Dinner: ___ # of additional lunches @ \$25/each

Games:

- ___ Individual Mulligan \$5
- ___ Team Mulligan \$20
- ___ Chip in Hula Hoop \$5/ 3 chances
(50/50 payout)
- ___ Buy Your Drive (Hole 16)
- Circle one: (\$20 drop across creek) (\$40 drop at cone on green)
- ___ Tee Shot (Hole 17)
(tee shot inside of ring on green \$5/chance, 50/50 payout)

\$ _____ TOTAL

PRE HARVEST MARKET OUTLOOK STEAKFRY

August 12th, 2020

It's hard to beat a great rib-eye steak on the grill especially when you're getting the scoop on where the markets are headed and how you can maximize your returns. Learn how you can position yourself to maximize your profit potential.

Join us in the comfort of the Farm Bureau building while you listen to the ever-popular Brian Burke of John Stewart and Associates. He'll provide details of the market reaction to the August 12th fall crop report. He'll also discuss how weather factors around the world and geo-political issues will likely affect the markets into and well after harvest.

The event is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau. You're welcome to arrive at 5:00 or after. The meal will be ready somewhere around 5:30 p.m.

The cost to attend this event is \$15.00 per person with a maximum capacity of 50 people. Seats for this event usually fill up fast so reserve your spot today. Please detach and return the reservation tab below along with your check payable to the Sangamon County Farm Bureau by August 10th to secure your reservations.

Pre-Harvest Market Outlook Steakfry - August 12, 2019, 5:30 p.m. @ Sangamon County Farm Bureau

Name: _____

Address: _____

Number Attending: _____ @ \$15.00 ea. = \$ _____ (Amount Remitted)

Please make payment to: Sangamon County Farm Bureau, 2631 Beechler Ct, Springfield, IL 62703
Reservations must be received by August 10th

-or-

Call our office to sign up and pay with a debit or credit card over the phone.

2020 Scholarship Winners



EMMA
WARWICK



RACHEL
FISHBURN



JOSILYN
SCHMEDEKE



ERICA
EGGER



GRANT
RIPPERDA

Emma Warwick, daughter of Christopher and Melissa Warwick, graduated from Auburn High School this past spring. Emma will be attending Murray State University this fall to study Nursing and pursue a life-long dream of becoming a Nurse Practitioner. Congratulations to Emma!

Rachel Fishburn, daughter of Brian and Jennifer Fishburn, graduated from Tri-City High School this past spring. Rachel will be attending Lincoln Land Community College this fall to study agriculture and pursue a bachelors degree in Ag Education. Congratulations to Rachel!

Josilyn Schmedeke, daughter of Duane and April Schmedeke, graduated from Rochester High School this past spring. Josilyn will be attending Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville this fall to pursue a degree in Nursing. Congratulations to Josilyn!

Erica Egger, daughter of Richard and Tina Egger, graduated from Williamsville High School this past spring. Erica will be attending Millikin University this fall to major in Commerical Music. Congratulations Erica!

Grant Ripperda, son of Keith and Amanda Ripperda, graduated from Williamsville High School this past spring. Grant will be attending Rose-Hulman majoring in Computer Science with a minor in Business. Congratulations Grant!

The objective of the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation's Scholarship program is to provide general scholarships to eligible post high school students of Sangamon County Farm Bureau members. The Foundation offered five \$1,250 scholarships for 2020 fall semester. Congratulations to all of our winners!

Look for our 2021 scholarship information this winter.



Sangamon
County Farm Bureau®
Foundation

FREE

Policy starts with you!

Join Sangamon County Farm Bureau for a Policy Development Tailgate Talk

AUGUST 17
5:00PM

THIS EVENT
IS LIMITED TO
50. REGISTER
EARLY!



TAILGATE TALK

AUGUST 17 5:00 PM Sangamon County
PM Farm Bureau

Learn more about current issues and have the opportunity to voice your concerns on topics that need to be crafted into policy. Illinois Farm Bureau Vice-President, Brian Duncan will kick the meeting off with a policy issue update including topics such as recent state tax issues, international trade, environmental regulations, and many more topics that affect your farm!

Since tailgating isn't complete without food, the Farm Bureau will be grilling burgers, brats, and other delicious summertime treats.

PLEASE RSVP THE OFFICE AT 217-753-5200 OR
EMAIL LBURRIS@SANGAMONFB.ORG ON OR
BEFORE AUGUST 14TH. LIMITED TO 50.

SANGAMON COUNTY FARM BUREAU
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