



Advocating the Ubice of Agriculture through Education and Grassroots Legislation Phone: (217) 753-5200 • www.sangamonfb.org • farmbureau@sangamonfb.org Springfield, IL • Volume MMXVII Number 3

UpcomingCommittee Meetings & Events

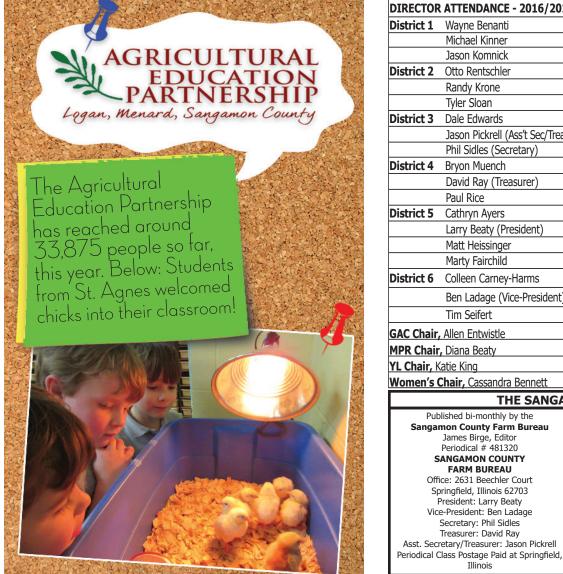
MAY

]st	Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
8 th	Young Leader Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
14 th	Happy Mother's Day
15 th	Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
18 th	
29 th	

JUNE

5 th	Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
7 th	Women's Committee Bus Trip, Staved Rock
12 th	Young Leader Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
18 th	Happy Father's Day
	Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
22 nd	
28 th	SCFB Annual Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
	All events take place at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau

Front page photo: Illinois Farm Bureau



DIDECTOR	ATTENDANCE 2016/2017	1	1	•	6		NI		1	-	M
	ATTENDANCE - 2016/2017	J	J	A	S	0	N	D	J	F	M
District 1	Wayne Benanti	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	Х
	Michael Kinner	n/a	n/a	X	-	-	Х	Х	Х	X	Х
	Jason Komnick	Х	-	Х	-	-	-	-	-	Х	Х
District 2	Otto Rentschler	-	Х	X	-	-	Х	Х	-	-	Х
	Randy Krone	Х	Х	-	-	-	Х	Х	X	Х	Х
	Tyler Sloan	Х	-	-	-	-	Х	-	-	-	-
District 3	Dale Edwards	Х	Х	-	-	-	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
	Jason Pickrell (Ass't Sec/Treas)	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
	Phil Sidles (Secretary)	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	-	Х	Х
District 4	Bryon Muench	Х	Х	-	-	-	Х	Х	Х	Х	-
	David Ray (Treasurer)	Х	Х	Х	-	-	-	Х	-	-	Х
	Paul Rice	Х	Х	-	-	-	Х	-	Х	Х	Х
District 5	Cathryn Ayers	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
	Larry Beaty (President)	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	Х	-	Х
	Matt Heissinger	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	Х	Х	χ
	Marty Fairchild	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
District 6	Colleen Carney-Harms	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
	Ben Ladage (Vice-President)	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	-	Х	Х	Х
	Tim Seifert	-	-	Χ	-	-	Х	Х	χ	Χ	-
GAC Chair,	, Allen Entwistle	-	Х	Χ	-	-	-	-	Х	Χ	Х
MPR Chair	, Diana Beaty	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	-	-	Х
YL Chair, Katie King		-	-	Х	-	-	Х	Х	Х	-	Х
Nomen's Chair, Cassandra Bennett			Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	-	-	-
THE SANGAMO FARMER											
Published bi-monthly by the Postmaster:											

Send Address Changes To:

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2631 Beechler Court

Springfield, Illinois 62703

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Individual membership fee of the

Sangamon County Farm Bureau includes

unless otherwise noted.

COLLEEN CARNEY-HARMS SHARES HER

sle Banana Bread

1 1/2 RIPE MASHED BANANA (3) 1-2 CHOPPED APPLES (PEELED) 2 CUPS SUGAR 3/4 CUPS SOUR CREAM 1 CUP BUTTER (2 STICKS) 4 EGGS 2 TEASPOONS VANILLA 1 TEASPOON SALT 1 CUP CHOPPED NUTS 4 1/2 CUPS FLOUR

2 TEASPOONS BAKING SODA

BAKE AT 350 FOR 1 HOUR AND 15 MINUTES. MAKES TWO LOAF PANS OR 15X15 PAN GREASED AND WITH WAX PAPER.

DO YOU HAVE A RECIPE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH US? EMAIL YOUR RECIPE TO AKAUFFMAN@SANGAMONFB.ORG OR MAIL THEM TO 2631/BEECHLER CT. SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703

Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation

Beretta Nano 9mm with LaserMax

Caliber: 9mm. **P** Capacity: 6 rounds (8 with extended magazine) Centerfire Laser (LaserMax Series)

Tickets: \$10/cach

Only 500 tickets will be sold

Drawing to be held on July 7, 2017 Need not be present to win.

Foundation Trivia Night



Left: The winning team at the 2017 Foundation Trivia Night hosted at the DelRay Reception Hall in Auburn on March 25th. The event welcomed 15 tables of trivia enthusiasts.



President's Report



Larry Beaty

The end is drawing near! This will probably be my last article as President of Sangamon 📕 County Farm Bureau. I will tenure off the board in May. I am not sure where that 9 ½ years went to. I have enjoyed and learned much in those years while serving as a Director. I was Vice President for 3 years and was President for 4 years. It was a privilege for me to serve as President. I want to thank all of the folks who have helped me while I was President.

I would ask that you as Sangamon County Farm Bureau members support our new Board and officers, help them to make Sangamon County Farm Bureau the best county in Illinois.

Thank you to each member for your support while I served as your President.

May God Bless each of you and our Great Organization.



Paul Rice

ur committee has put together a summer cookout with the Illinois Farm Bureau Vice President, David Erickson. The cookout is an open invitation to all voting members to come hear some updates from Illinois Farm Bureau. It's also the time to provide an opportunity for our members to voice their concerns or ideas so that we may try to get the idea into our policy and therefore ensure we address them. The cookout will

be on July 17 from 5:30 - 7:00pm. Make sure to mark your calendars and contact us if you wish to attend.

Our committee also wants to help our members to know what our policies are and what we're working for. In that light, I'd like to present you with one of our policies that seems fitting for state government as it stands.

Illinois Farm Bureau policy # 99: Business

Illinois Farm Bureau policy # 99: Business Climate in Illinois. To regain a prosperous climate in Illinois in which to live and work, we will support legislation: 1. Moderating the increasing cost of unemployment compensation 2. Reducing costs involved in providing Worker's Compensation benefits. 3. Repealing the prevailing wage laws relating to public

3. Repealing the prevailing wage laws relating to public works projects. Failing to repeal, we will support legislation reducing the burden of the prevailing wage on public bodies outside of major metropolitan areas.

4. Bringing Illinois' minimum wage law in line with federal minimum wage law.



>> UPCOMING EVENTS

Our Annual Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 28th at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau. More information will be coming soon!

WATER TESTING PROGRAM

This program is designed to engage farmers in the nutrient and water quality issues facing agriculture by providing information on possible nutrient losses from their production operations.

Contact the office at 217-753-5200 for more information and to schedule a time to test your nitrate levels.

Allen Entwistle: Land, cattle and the Illinois State Fair

Holly Spangler, Prairie Farmer

Allen Entwistle remembers exactly when he got into the cattle business.

He was 12 years old, and he hired a teenager to drive him to town one day. He walked into Mason City National Bank, sat down with his dad's banker and borrowed \$1,800 — to buy six cows and six calves.

"I didn't tell my dad until

that night at dinner!" he says,

laughing. "I always loved cows, even then. And I paid 'em off in a year and a half."

It was the start of a lifelong endeavor for the 2017 Master Farmer from Riverton, who operates J&W Farms in partnership with his son, Jayson, farming land across Logan, Menard and Sangamon counties. Allen grew up on a farm near Middleton, attended Lincoln Land College and started as a salesman for Lincoln Land FS. He met Sharon, a high school senior, and four years (and one teaching degree) later, they were married in 1970.

Sharon spent her career in education, and today is a director for Funshop, an early childhood program with the Springfield Park District.

After his wife and family, Allen has three great loves: land, cattle and the Illinois State Fair.

Throughout the '80s and '90s, Allen raised polled and horned Herefords, winning champion banners all over the country. He helped bring a Hereford junior national show to Illinois in 1999 and secured a \$50,000 grant from the state of Illinois, which was disbursed in scholarships to class winners. Even today, Allen loves a good livestock show. "I love to go watch the grandkids exhibit their animals at different events." And while Allen recently bought a Hereford bull, the red cattle have mostly given way to black. He and Jayson operate an 80head cow-calf herd, with half calving in the fall and half in the spring.

The land

Allen doesn't mince words: "I like to buy farms. I like to buy farms that need fixed -— tile, waterway, dry dams. I document with pictures to see the accomplishment over a twoto three-year period.

"It's the idea of taking something and making it better," he says.

Indeed, he and his son have done a lot of that. Allen says when he buys a piece of ground, the first thing he does is



assess necessary conservation practices and work with his local soil and water conservation district to develop a plan.

"I'm the caretaker for the land, and it's my sole responsibility to ensure its continued health and fertility," he adds. "The public has the right to have safe water, and I'm doing my part to provide it. It's not a matter to take lightly."

Allen was an early adopter of spoon-feeding nutrients to crops, having spent 36 years working in feed and crops at Lincoln Land FS. He farmed part time during those years and retired from FS 17 years ago to farm full time with his son.

He and Jayson apply 80 units of anhydrous in the fall and another 80 units in the spring, both with stabilizer. Last year, they tested a plastic-coated, time-released urea on part of the farm where additional nitrogen was needed. In continuous corn, they chisel stalks in the fall with precision chisel points from 360 Yield Center.

Most of their rented ground is secured with variable cash leases, which lets them avoid excessive rent in poor economic periods and lets the landowner share risks and rewards during better periods.

The Entwistles employ part-time labor in the fall, mostly as truck drivers. Allen says finding skilled labor is a challenge.



The Entwistles are early adopters of technology. Allen laughs as he describes the things they've tried that didn't work, and credits his son with their technology successes. Among them: a high-speed John Deere planter that plants at 11.5 mph. "It's the most accurate planter we've ever had," he says. *Ag is back*

Allen does all of this with a little more effort than the average farmer. From his father, he inherited Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, a degenerative neurological disorder that damages the nerves in the arms and legs. He's dealt with the effects of CMT since his mid-40s, and in recent years gets around on scooters -— one for inside and one for outside. A forklift gets him into the combine.



Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation Golf Outing Friday, July 7, 2017

Edgewood Golf Club • Auburn, IL



\$300/foursome • or • \$75/individual golfer includes lunch, beverages on the course, cart rental, and 18 holes of golf 7:15 AM: Registration 8:00 AM: Shotgun Start Lunch & Prizes immediately following play

Please register by Friday, June 30th • 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!

Co	mpany/Individual Name:	Golfers:					
Ac	one: dress: nail:	 # 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) 					
GOLFERS	Name: Name: Name: Name: Please mail this form and payment by June 30 th to:	(includes lunch) Dinner: # of additional dinners @ \$25/each # of hole sponsorships @ \$100/each Games: Individual Mulligan \$5 Team Mulligan \$20 Chip in Hula Hoop \$5/ 3 chances (50/50 payout) Buy Your Drive (Hole 16)					
	Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation 2631 Beechler Court Springfield, IL 62703	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 (Or purchase games at the event)					

Committee Reports



Spring is here and activities are becoming more and more! We kicked off the spring with our Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation Trivia Night on March 25th and it was a huge success.

Diana Beaty

Foundation Trivia Night on March 25th and it was a huge success. I would like to thank a few people who helped to make this evening possible and the big success it was by making almost \$6000 for the evening.

Ben Ladage, thank you very much for opening your reception hall in Auburn to us for the evening to host our event, your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. Dave Ray for your donation of time for the evening, you are always there when needed for this great organization. Arika Mason and Ashley Kauffman, you ladies have unbelievable talents when it comes to organizing events. The time and commitment you both give is AWESOME, I personally thank you both and am always so amazed and speechless with your finished products, you are both AWESOME! We are blessed to have you both! There were many who were either sponsors for the evening, or basket raffle donors, Hy-Vee, Coble Animal Hospital, Myers-Rice Land Services, Andy Goleman, Don Gray-County Clerk, Lincoln Land Beekeepers, Sharon & Allen Entwistle, Mark Reichert-District 10 Director, Sloan Implement-Taylorville, David Mendenhall-County Board, RTS Farms, Becks Hybrid, Marty & Diana Fairchild, Garry Niemeyer Farms, TLT Construction, Craig Hall-County Board, Muench Farms, The Painted Ladies, Bank & Trust Company (Ag Lending), Jared Zueck-Country Financial, RCM Co-op, Marine Bank, Scheels, Otto Rentschler, Kerber Eck & Braeckel, John Beatty, Bank of Springfield, Cocoa Blue Chocolates, O'Charley's, Bob Evans, Larry & Diana Beaty, Dale & Janet Edwards, Arika Mason, SCFB Young Leaders, SCFB Women's Committee, Lindsey Sidles-Rodan & Fields, Sam's Club, Del Ray Reception Hall, Ben Ladage Auctions, David Ray, Walterfire BBQ, Mark Reichert-Channel, Dave Morrison and Colleen Carney Harms.

Many, Many Thanks to all these wonderful supporters! You helped to make our 2nd Foundation Trivia Evening a huge success and we 'Thank You Very Much'. The money raised from our evening will be used towards scholarships for some very appreciative young scholars in the coming months.

Future Foundation Fundraisers are in the plans for this year, including our Annual Foundation Golf U Outing which will be held on July 7th at Edgewood Country Club in Auburn. We are planning morning tee-times this year with a catered lunch to follow. More info is published elsewhere in this issue.



Hello SCFB members! The young leader group hopes your Spring has started off right. It has been a little wet, but field work is right around the corner.

On February 10th & 11th the YL's took a team building trip to St. Louis. Nine YL members attended this event. While down

Katie King

there they toured the Budweiser Facility and the Locks and Dams. It has been over 9 years since the YL group has taken a trip similar to this. This is a great time for members to get to know each other better and relax a little bit.

The group fixed a meal for those families who are staying at the Ronald McDonald house. Five members helped prepare the meal and the families were very grateful. This is a great opportunity to give back to those in need. The group also had a team for the Foundation Trivia Night. The team tried their best but didn't win, they were just happy to have the opportunity to help out the Foundation and its efforts with scholarships.

We are very excited to announce we have two members who will be attending the Ag Industry Tour this summer to Canada. Only 40 Illinois Farm Bureau members are able to attend this event. Mike Borgic and Katie King will have the opportunity to take part in this trip scheduled for July 9th-14th.

The YL's are trying to do their part in the Harvest for All project through Illinois Farm Bureau. The Sangamon County Young Leaders would like to challenge District 10 to a friendly wager. The group would like all district counties to plant a 1 ½ acre plot of sweet corn. Whichever county is able to produce and donate the most pounds to a location of their choice will win! We hope we can keep deer out of our plot this year!

The group is gearing up for summer activities. Some of the events we plan to assist with is the HAYLOFT at the Sangamon County fair, Ag-Stravaganza and Harvest for All Plot.

If you are interested in any of these events or would like to join the YL group, please contact the SCFB office at 217-753-5200.

Member & PR Continued...

We are also planning a Foundation Fundraiser at a local restaurant later this summer; more info will be published as the details are finalized.

Once again, many Thanks to all that have helped to support our Foundation whether it is this year or in the past, and hopefully we will see you at future fundraisers!

led rest ion SJEGVET DNNOA Says friend and banker John Slayton, US Bank, "I have spent hundreds of hours with Allen, and not once have I heard him complain about his health issues. This disorder on occasion might slow him down, but it does not stop Allen Entwistle!"

Allen is quick to share how the Illinois State Fairgrounds has always been a big part of his life. And indeed, he was a big part of the efforts to reintroduce agriculture to the Illinois State Fair in 2015. He helped secure more than a hundred pieces of equipment to display throughout the grounds. "That way the public can see each piece of machinery needed to farm, the cost of the equipment, and be reminded that it's not just some big machine slowing them down on the road," he adds.

Allen joined the ISF Advisory Board in 2015, and he's helped secure bidders for the Sale of Champions for decades. In 2014, he was named to the Lincoln Land Purebred Livestock Association Hall of Fame.

For Allen, the real prize for all of that work is singular: It's in the people he's met and the friends he's made. "Likeminded people who want to make agriculture better," he says.

People like Kendall County farmer Philip Nelson, who in

nominating Allen said, "He's a no-nonsense kind of guy! He gets the job done. He makes sure things get done, and he doesn't worry about who gets the credit for it! Allen is a strong man, and agriculture in the state of Illinois is better because of him."

Making the phones ring

Sen. Dick Durbin once told Allen Entwistle, "I only got a thousand calls from you, but I got 10,000 from someone else." His takeaway: The squeaky wheel gets the grease.

That conversation triggered something in Allen, who set out to increase the number of constituent phone calls placed by Sangamon County Farm Bureau members in favor of agricultural interests. If someone said they needed 10 more calls to an elected official about an ag position prior to a vote? Allen dropped everything and got 20 calls, just to make sure.

In short order, Sangamon County led Illinois in the number of contacts with elected officials. But he didn't stop there. "Allen focused on several issues he felt were so important that we should impact the issue relentlessly," says Sangamon County Farm Bureau Manager Jim Birge. "The result? We held the rank of No. 1 in the nation in Farm Bureau contacts, going so far as to have more contacts than many state Farm Bureaus."



The Bureau According to Jim ·····



Jim Birge

It's been great to see spring finally arrive, not that winter was all that terrible this year. Planters are ready to roll or are rolling. Even the little planters like my dear Mrs. Birge have been active in the dirt making our home brilliant with color from all the flowers and landscaping.

With all the beauty and renewal that spring brings, it also brings with it inherent legislative activity. Spring is the time when the General Assembly must submit all their bills for the year's consideration. Bills must be filed, assigned to committees and follow the path to be considered for passage from committee to the full House or Senate. With this process comes unbelievably tireless work from our phenomenal Illinois Farm Bureau Governmental Affairs staff who walk the halls of the Capital day and night meeting with legislators to ensure agriculture's interests are being addressed.

Another part of that process is the issuance of an action request to our membership when a bill of high importance, good or bad, makes its way into the process. Obviously, that's where you come in and the real power of the Farm Bureau is put into play.

As we look to this spring legislative season, we've seen several VERY troubling pieces of legislation that could irreparably harm every farmer in our state. Legislation has been introduced that would amend the Livestock Management Facilities Act. This act has been on the books for some years and was originally crafted by Illinois Farm Bureau and the commodity groups. The purpose of the act is to provide a framework for siting new livestock facilities and expansions to existing ones. Matters such as setback requirements, construction inspections, waste management, etc. are all regulated in the act. But some legislators want to amend the act to impose unrealistic and potentially duplicative requirements that would harm even the smallest of livestock operations. Whether you have livestock or not, this impacts the entire industry of agriculture. Be on the lookout for an action request asking you to contact your legislators. If the bills progress, we'll need livestock producers, grain farmers, landowners, and the entire industry to stand up to these misguided amendments.

Another evolving issue is an attempt by Senator Mulroe of Chicago to eliminate sales tax exemptions on many Illinoians. Agriculture would suffer as well through a tax placed on seed, fertilizer, chemicals, and machinery. For many moderate sized farms that could mean \$20,000 - \$40,000 in taxes each year. Depending on your farm size that number could be smaller or certainly larger. While this matter is more of a reaction to the budget stalemate and is relatively unlikely to move forward, Farm Bureau is not sitting back to wait and see. Leaders of Sangamon County Farm Bureau, Illinois Farm Bureau, and others have all taken turns to visit directly with Senator Mulroe and express our extreme opposition to his proposal. We'll keep the pressure on until we know for certainty that the proposal is off the table.

So, while you're in your tractor or truck please be prepared to act if an action request comes your way. One phone call could save you more money than anything else you'll do all spring.

Until next time, be safe and have an enjoyable, successful spring!



Committee Reports



Allen Entwistle

ur committee has been very active over the last couple of months. Spring is a very active time for local, state, and federal levels of government. We've been busy with meeting with elected officials of all three in order to keep issues affecting our members at the forefront of our elected officials' minds.

On the local level, our committee is working with county officials to review the county zoning ordinance as it relates to agriculture districts. Over time, the ag district has been the catchall for any zoning use that doesn't seem to fit well in any other type district (residential, commercial, industry, etc.) As a result we are working to create another zoning district to house those unique uses. This will clean up the ag district so it only contains uses relative to agriculture.

On the state front, we continue to work to encourage our lawmakers to get past the childishness ways of who can block who and finally get a state budget. The unpaid bills are north of \$12 billion currently and could hit \$25 by early next year. This is inexcusable and will lead to bankruptcy if we don't end this stalemate now. While we're on state issues, we've been working with our legislators and our adopted legislator

to stop the progression of two very dangerous pieces of legislation. The first is related to amending the Livestock Management Facilities Act (LMFA) with changes that would detrimentally affect livestock producers of all size.

While we're putting a lot of pressure on lawmakers for LMFA, we also have been working equally hard to stop legislation that would impose a sales tax on our seed, fertilizer, chemical, and machinery. I don't need to tell you how devastating it would be to farmers across the state if this were to pass.

At the federal level, we continue to play wait and see as we look toward the confirmation hearings for Secretary of Agriculture. Many positions at the USDA are unfilled until a new secretary is confirmed. These unfilled positions mean programs are not being fully executed and are therefore harming agriculture.

Be watchful for likely action requests to come out. If you receive a message from Farm Bureau asking you to make a call or write a letter, please take the few minutes to do so. We cannot afford to fail on these issues.

Have a smooth and safe spring season.

marketing committee he sponsored several seminars over the winter and now we are working on summer events. This winter we hosted Crop Insurance/Market Outlook with Country Financial, Marketing in the real world, Country Side Veterinary Clinic on VFD regulations and I also went to a seminar on Palmer

Matt Heissinger

Amaranth.

We have finalized our summer bus trip plans. On June 22, (save the date) we will visit the Saint Louis Agriculture Science Center, lunch in Grafton at the winery and finish the day visiting the Melvin Price Lock and Dam in Alton. More information and sign up details are included on page 5.

We are also working on a special event that I think will draw a lot of attention. Kim Bremmer, an expert speaker on GMO's. Kim travels around the country speaking on behalf of GMO products and pointing out the myths and truths about GMO products. We will finalize the details and try to make this a summer event. This is all for now, enjoy the spring and be safe this planting season!

If you have any question, please feel free to contact Sangamon County Farm Bureau.



SCFB members! The **F**ello women's committee held а wonderful spring fling back in March. There was a huge turnout and we also learned to make a yummy salad from the Lincoln Land Community College Culinary Institute.

Cassie Bennett

Our summer bus trip is all planned and we are accepting people to

sign up now! We are going to Starved Rock for a land and 🐓 water cruise and Ropp Cheese Farm! Spots are going fast 🚬 so call the office at 217-753-5200 and reserve yours today! Our next meeting is May 18th at 6:00 p.m. @ the SCFB! Hope to see you there! I Hope by the time everyone reads this article the corn is starting to come up in rows!

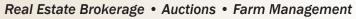
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