

Randolph County FARMER

www.rcfb.org

*Serving the interests of Randolph County Farm Bureau
Members both Farmers and Non-Farmers*

Official Publication Of The Randolph County Farm Bureau - Sparta, Illinois 62286

Volume 89 • Number 2 • April/May 2011

Your Farm Bureau Membership Dues were due April 1st

THANK YOU for Renewing Your Membership!!!

Your annual Farm Bureau dues were due by April 1, 2011. A cancellation notice will be sent out May 14 if you haven't paid by that time. This will affect your Country Financial insurance and will also cost you \$10 to reinstate your dues. If you haven't already paid, please pay ASAP to avoid these penalties. If you have moved recently, your dues notice may not have been forwarded to you and you need to call the Randolph County Farm Bureau office at (618)443-4511 to inform us of an address change.

Pinochle Night

Randolph County Farm Bureau Prime Timers Committee sponsors a monthly pinochle game for its members. There is a \$3.00 per person entry fee to pay for prizes and refreshments.

The upcoming pinochle nights will be held on Tuesday, April 26th & May 31st @ 7:00 p.m.

Due to the limited space available, only the first 40 members to sign in will be able to play and you must be a member of Randolph County Farm Bureau.

Legislative Appreciation Program held March 7th

Farm Bureau board members and committee members, GROW-MARK local service company board members and staff from Monroe, Randolph, and St. Clair Counties held their Legislative Appreciation Banquet on March 7 at Annbriar.



Congressman Costello addressed the 75 FB members in attendance at the Legislative Appreciation Banquet. He talked about the budget, EPA regulations, Kaskaskia River, and other issues relating to the Federal Government.



Representative Dan Reitz agreed with Senator Luechtefeld about Illinois's Financial woes; he did lessen the worries of local farmers by saying the sunset provision on agriculture inputs was not in jeopardy.

Our legislators work closely with the county farm bureaus and this is an opportunity to thank them for their support of agriculture.

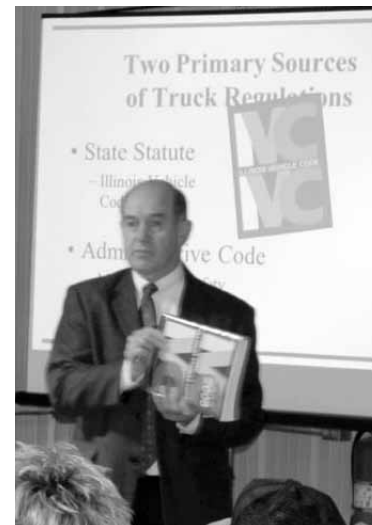
Congressman Jerry Costello, Representative Dan Reitz and Senator Dave Luechtefeld provided an update on issues and answered questions.



Representative Dan Reitz agreed with Senator Luechtefeld about Illinois's Financial woes; he did lessen the worries of local farmers by saying the sunset provision on agriculture inputs was not in jeopardy.



IFB Vice President Rich Guebert gave an Illinois Farm Bureau update including information on EPA regulations.



Kevin Rund, IFB Sr. Director of Local Affairs, presented information on new and current regulations relating to agriculture vehicles during at On the Road Seminar held at Gateway FS Structures in Red Bud.



Monroe County Engineer, Aaron Metzger, gave an update on local roads including funding, projects, and working relationship with County Road Commissioners during the On the Road Program.

On the Road Regulations meeting

The Randolph County Farm Bureau teamed up with the Monroe County Farm Bureau and Gateway FS to offer an informational meeting to local producers on the new on the road regulations.

Kevin Rund, Sr. Director of Local Government was the featured speaker for the event.

He informed the 50 producers about changes in the UCR & US-DOT# regulations, New Entrant Safety Assurance Audit, CDL requirements, Compliance Safety Accountability program, Truck

and Trailer Size and Weight, and ATV's on Public Roads.

Kevin did an excellent job deflecting rumors and correcting false information that has been presented by various divisions of regulatory authority.

If you would like more information about any of these issues, please call the Farm Bureau office at 443-4511.

After a great BBQ lunch provided by The Butcher Block, the producers discussed local road with the Monroe County Engineer.

The New 2011 Randolph County Land Atlas & Plat Books are now available for sale at the Farm Bureau Office.

The price remains the same, \$26.69 (this includes tax). The price for one to be mailed would be \$30.

RANDOLPH COUNTY FARMER

The Randolph County Farmer (USPS 455-120) is published bi-monthly for one dollar from the individual membership fee per year by the Randolph County Farm Bureau, 1403 Hillcrest Drive, PO Box 504, Sparta, IL 62286. Periodicals Postage paid at Sparta, IL.

POSTMASTER: send all address changes to Randolph County Farm Bureau, PO Box 504, Sparta, IL 62286. Phone Number (618)443-4511

OFFICERS OF THE FARM BUREAU

PRESIDENT JACK MCCORMICK
 VICE PRESIDENT KIRK LIEFER
 SECRETARY GENE KORANDO
 TREASURER DAVID GRAMENZ

**Randolph County Farm Bureau
 BOARD OF DIRECTOR**

2010-2011 ATTENDANCE	REGION & SEAT	Feb11	Mar11	DEC 10
DIRECTOR				
Gerald Cox	Region 1 Seat A	P	P	4/4
Richard Tanner	Region 1 Seat B	P	P	3/4
Charles Schupbach	Region 1 Seat C	P	P	4/4
Glenn Meyer	Region 2 Seat A	P	P	4/4
Steve Stallman	Region 2 Seat B	P	P	4/4
Jack McCormick	Region 2 Seat C	P	P	4/4
Kirk Liefer	Region 3 Seat A	P	P	4/4
Gene Korando	Region 3 Seat B	P	P	4/4
David Gramenz	Region 4 Seat A	P	P	4/4
Ron Deterding	Region 4 Seat B	A	P	2/4
Kevin Luthy	Region 4 Seat C	P	P	4/4
Steve Uffelmann	Region 3 Seat C	P	P	4/4

COMMITTEE

Ag-in-the-Classroom Committee
 Finance Committee
 Governmental Affairs Committee
 Legislative Sub-Committee Chair
 Local Affairs Sub-Committee Chair
 Issue Management Committee
 Livestock Committee
 Marketing Committee
 Membership & Executive Committee
 Plant to Power
 Prime Timers Committee
 Public Relations Committee
 Sports Committee
 Viewpoint Committee
 Women's Committee
 Young Farmers Committee

CHAIRPERSONS

Kendra Beattie
 David Gramenz
 Glenn Meyer
 Dean Campbell
 Steve Stallman
 Gerald Cox
 Ron Deterding
 Kirk Liefer
 Jack McCormick
 Charles Schupbach
 Group
 Steve Stallman
 Glenn Meyer
 Kirk Liefer
 Christine Smith
 Christine Smith

FARM BUREAU STAFF

Ryan Ford, Manager
 Kendra Beattie, Administrative Assistant/AITC Coordinator
 Tammy Little, Office Assistant/Bookkeeper

**RANDOLPH COUNTY FARM BUREAU
 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

To promote and protect the development of a permanent and profitable system of agriculture in Randolph County, while promoting and maintaining the economies of the rural towns and communities encompassed in the County.

Farmers from 22 Counties meet with St. Louis buyers

Nearly 70 farmers from 22 counties registered for the Meet St. Louis Retail and Foodservice Buyers Meeting held at the World Shooting Recreation Complex in Sparta, Illinois, on March 11th, 2011. Randolph County Farm Bureau hosted the event.

The one-day workshop provided farmers with information that will assist them in marketing to retailers and foodservice industries. St. Louis retail and foodservice organizations visiting with the farmers included Dierberg's, Schnucks, Sunfarm Food Service, Ole Tyme Produce Inc., and Sappington Farmers' Market, a retail market owned by farmers.

"The event served as a great venue for farmers to make a connection with buyers," stated Ryan Ford, Randolph County Farm Bureau Manager. "Making connections can open the door for possible business relationships."

Buyers provided an overview of their organization, produce specification requirements, and provided ample time for farmers to ask specific questions in addition to discussing transportation options.

"The day was packed with information that farmers wouldn't typically be accessible to," stated Cynthia Haskins, Manager of Business Development and Compliance for Illinois Farm Bureau and coordinator of the event. "The day was a win-win situation," continued Haskins. "It provided buyers with an opportunity to meet Illinois specialty growers and it gave the growers the opportunity to meet buyers."

Both Director Tom Jennings,

Illinois Department of Agriculture and Director Warren Ribley, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, attended the meeting

in addition to representatives from USDA Rural Development and U of I Extension.

Plans are underway for future meetings throughout Illinois.



Cynthia Haskins, Manager of Business Development and Compliance for IFB, worked with Randolph County Farm Bureau to set up the first ever IFB sponsored producer/retailer meeting at the World Shooting and Recreational Complex in Sparta.



Sunfarm Produce president John Pollaci, informed the local producers about their very successful business that supplies both local and seasonal produce to major restaurants in the St. Louis area.



Henry Lehmann, Director of Produce Procurement for Dierbergs, presented important information on how they buy local produce at the Meet the Local Retailer Meeting held at the WSRC.



Tom Jennings, Director of Agriculture, welcomed the producers and retailers to the WSRC then gave a report on how much specialty crops and farmer's markets effects the overall capital of the state.

Weather Radios

For Sale at Farm Bureau Office
Midland WR-100 Desktop Weather Alert Radio

Features:

- Weather/All Hazard alert radio
- S.A.M.E. Localized reception
- 7 N.O.A.A. Channels
- 25 County Programmable
- User selectable warning system
- Choice of Voice, Siren, or Tone Alert
- Emergency power back-up

Member price is \$42.00

Non Member price is \$45.00

(prices include tax)

This model can automatically alert you by specific county or area. False alarms are eliminated. This model receives all seven weather channels.

*Specializing in
 Rural Real Estate & Auctions
 Farmland, Recreational, Hunt,
 Investment, plus much more!
 Visit Our Website!*

buyafarm.com / 800-443-1998

— 2011 Ag Expo Highlights —

120 students from Prairie Du Rocher Elementary School lived in a world of agriculture for a day during the 2011 RCFB Ag Expo.

Getting agriculture into classrooms is a priority that all of us strive to achieve. However, limitations of funds and volunteers seem to divert our intentions.

Thanks to AITC grants and 22 wonderful volunteers, we were able to put together a program that is a step above anything we thought would be possible.

A traveling Agricultural Exposition in which an agricultural experience is brought to the local schools. This program serves a multitude of purposes.

First, a feeling of accomplishment and gratitude fills our volunteers, because they make a difference in children's lives. The students interact with the volunteers, staying focused and interested throughout the day. Children take the words, visual effects, and message to heart truly changing their mindset

toward agriculture.

Second, the children, K-6th grade, get to experience the entire realm of agriculture in a one-day event. There are nine booths that included information, demonstrations, and hands-on experience for the students. The booths include dairy, planting & harvesting, corn & soybeans, nutrition (pizza), livestock, soil conservation, safety, and precision farming & biotechnology. The students received packets of info, including workbooks, stickers, pencils, and various features, along with refreshments that relate to various Ag products.

Finally, the teachers not only learn a great deal from the experience, but they are also well prepared to bring agriculture into their classroom on a regular basis. Each teacher is given a packet of information corresponding with their grade level that can be utilized in his or her lesson plans with very little effort.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Tues., Mar. 29: Pinochle Night, RCFB; 7 p.m.
- Thurs., Apr. 7: Regional Managers Meeting, Mt. Vernon; 10 a.m.
- Tues., Apr. 12: St. Louis Agribusiness Club Meeting, West Port Plaza; 11 a.m.
- Tues., Apr. 12: RCFB Board Meeting, RCFB; 8 p.m.
- Tues., Apr. 26: Pinochle Night, RCFB; 7 p.m.
- Wed., Apr. 27: LKSI, New Athens; 12 p.m.
- May 3-5: Manager's Conference, Bloomington
- Tues., May 10: St. Louis Agribusiness Club, St. Louis; 11 a.m.
- Tues., May 10: RCFB Board Meeting, RCFB; 8 p.m.
- Fri., May 13: Deadline for June/July Issue of FARMER
- Tues., May 31: Pinochle Night, RCFB; 7 p.m.

AGRICULTURE...IT'S ALWAYS ON OUR MIND



When all you think about and all you do centers around one thing, you get pretty good at it.

In fact, very good!

Call Today!

800.261.3522
618.282.6673

redbud@fcsillinois.com



**Farm Credit Services
OF ILLINOIS**

We Understand

111 Kennedy Dr • Red Bud, IL

www.fcsillinois.com



The students at Prairie Du Rocher Elementary School learn about planting and harvesting from RCFB volunteers Mark Hornbostel and Ron Deterding during the 2011 Ag Expo.



K-6th grade students enjoyed the ice cream treat as they listened to Christa and Sondra Mahnken talk about Dairy farming.



Steve Stallman, volunteer from Chester, taught students about the numerous products that can be made from corn and soybeans during his presentation at the Prairie Du Rocher Ag Expo.

Food Checkout Day

The Women's Committee sponsored a Food Check Out Week celebration at local grocery stores.

Food Check Out Week is the week that the average American has earned enough money to pay

for their entire years food bill. This year we celebrated Food Check Out Week from February 20-26th.

Volunteers created a display and welcomed patrons to the Red Bud IGA. Customers were



Stacy McCormick and Annette Hornbostel, members of the RCFB Women's Committee hand out free recyclable grocery bags, food, and information at Rozier's Country Mart to let people know how cheap and safe food is in America.

Want to help local schools earn credit?

We do too! Sparta Schools earn credit for supplies by recycling old cell phones and empty toner and printer cartridges for laser printers. The Farm Bureau office will be taking their old cell phones and empty toner and printer cartridges for laser printers to the schools and anyone is welcome to drop any of these items off at the office to add to the effort.

shipping box for the cartridges.**

Just a reminder that most schools collect cell phones, ink cartridges, Campbell's Soup Labels, General Mills "Labels for Education" & "Project A+ Labels" on Tyson Products. You can help out by taking your labels to the school of your choice or bring them into our office at 1403 Hillcrest Dr, Sparta.

**Please include the entire

FARMER'S EXCHANGE

Items for this column need to reach our office by May 13, 2011 in order to be included in the next issue. Ads may be submitted by phone 618-443-4511, by mail @ PO Box 504, Sparta, IL 62286, or by email - tammy.little@rcfb.org. Only one free **25 word** ad per membership per issue (for members' belongings only, using phone # on record in ad). Advertisements are \$5.00 for non-members. We thank each member who puts in an advertisement and/or purchases from a member.

FOR SALE: Ferris IS 1500Z Zero-turn Riding Mower, 25hp, 52"deck, like new, only 42 hrs. 618-615-9192

FOR SALE: Hotpoint Washer & GE Dryer, both white, \$150 for both. 497-2167

FOR SALE: JD Sabre riding lawn mower, 16 hp, 46" cut, \$175. 618-615-0930

FOR SALE: Running boards for Ford pickup; Pickup truck trailer hitch; 120 gal fiberglass sprayer tank, \$50 ea. 826-2491

FOR SALE: Square Straw Bales 282-4265

FOR SALE: Queen-size waterbed w/frame, new heater, \$50. 618-521-3039

FOR SALE: 490 IH Disk, 24 ft, new 20" front blades, \$5000. 826-5190

FOR SALE: Wurlitzer Piano; 20 gal Parts Washer, new; 1992 Cub Cadet garden tractor, 18 hp Kohler with 50" cut, model 1862; Oak Roll-top Desk; Solid 6 panel interior door. 618-713-0682

FOR SALE: One Single Bed \$100 obo; one Hand Crochet Afghan 42x72 \$50 obo; also house Windows, standard size, make offer. 965-3115

FOR SALE: Two horse trailer, 2 axle, good shape, \$1200 or make offer. 859-5002

FOR SALE: Woods RM306-3 Finish Mower 3 pt \$775; Craftsman Jointer Planer 4" w/ 1/2 h.p. motor \$125; 12 Treated Round Posts, 7' & 8' long 5" & 6" diam. \$60; 20" Push Mower \$25.

FOR SALE: Lg round bales 2010 Wheat Straw \$15 per bale; additional charge for delivery. 965-3594 Leave message will return call.

greeted by Dianne Schoenbeck, Annette Hornbostel, Ryan Ford, and U of I Extension Nutritionist, Anita Hille.

They were given a free recyclable grocery bag, free food, nutritional information, and other general ag brochures and flyers. Everyone had the opportunity to register for \$50 in free food. Pat Byer was the winner of the Red Bud Drawing. Anita prepared an easy wholesome soup that warmed everyone up

on the chilly day. She had copies of the recipe available also.

Next everyone loaded up the display and headed south to Chester. They set up a display in the front of Rozier's Country Market. Again customers were greeted by friendly hello's and a brief message about Food Check Out Day from Annette Hornbostel, Stacy McCormick, Kendra Beattie, Ryan Ford, and Anita Hille.

At each location customers

were given a free recyclable grocery bag, free food, nutritional information, and other general ag brochures and flyers. Anita prepared an easy wholesome soup that warmed everyone up on the chilly day. She had copies of the recipe available also. Everyone also had the opportunity to register for \$50 in free food. Pat Byer was the winner of the Red Bud Drawing and Robin Waltemate won the \$50 in free groceries in Chester.



Anita Hille, University of Illinois Extension Nutritionist, and Kendra Beattie, RCFB Ag in the Classroom Coordinator, serve homemade soup and talk to customers during the Food Check Out Week celebration at Rozier's Country Market in Chester.



Women's Committee members, Dianne Schoenbeck and Annette Hornbostel greet customers at the Red Bud IGA during Food Check Out Week.