

# Randolph County FARMER

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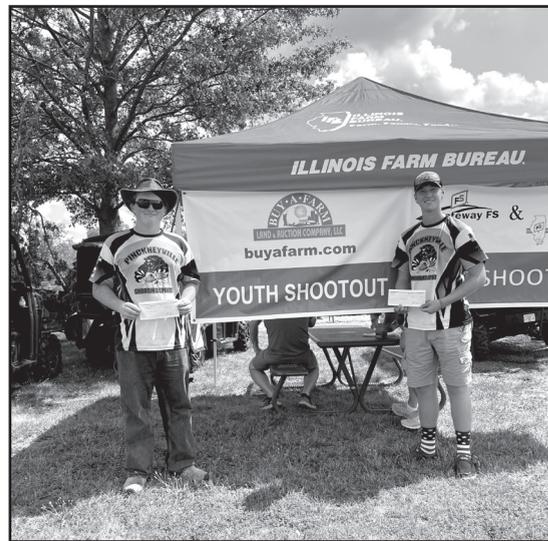
Serving the interests of Randolph County Farm Bureau  
Members both Farmers and Non-Farmers



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

Volume 101 • Number 4 • August / September 2023

## 2023 Pull for Agriculture a Success



### Defensive Driving Course

The Randolph County Farm Bureau Women's Committee is sponsoring an **AARP Driver Safety Program on September 19 & 20**.

The two-day course (all classroom setting, NO driving) will be offered **Tuesday & Wednesday, September 19 & 20, 2023 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Randolph County Farm Bureau Building in Sparta.** Please park be-

hind the Farm Bureau building at 1403 Hillcrest Dr in Sparta and enter through the back door. This course is designed to help you learn how to avoid driving hazards. Those 55 and older who qualify (have a driving record free of accidents and moving violations for a continuous 12 month period) and attend the entire two-day course are eligible for a discount on their auto insurance. Check with your insurance agent for the amount of discount that would apply to you.

The enrollment fee (cash or check only) is \$20 per person if you are currently an AARP Member and have your card with you; or \$25 if you do not have an AARP membership card with you. You must pre-register to attend. For more information or to enroll, contact the Farm Bureau Office at (618) 443-4511. Space is limited, maximum capacity will be observed to provide social distancing, and a minimum attendance must be reached in order to hold class. So, sign up today. **Deadline for registration is September 12th.**



97 shooters gathered at the World Shooting and Recreation Complex on July 15th to raise money for the Randolph and Perry County Farm Bureaus Agriculture in the Classroom programs. The Randolph and Perry County Farm Bureaus team up to host this event to fund their programs that reach over 8,000 students and teach-

ers in our local area.

Over \$4,000 was awarded in prizes. A pork burger lunch, prepared by the volunteers, was served with homemade ice cream for dessert. Attendees that pre-registered also received a t-shirt. Our top shooters in the FS Adult Shootout were 1st place: Warren Sherman and 2nd Place tie of Larry

Jones and Drew Feig. The winners of the Buy-A-Farm Youth Shootout were 1st place: Aiden Hubler and 2nd place Wyatt Ritter.

Thank you to those who participated, volunteered, or sponsored this event and congratulations to the winners! Official rulings will be available to view on the website.

## THANK YOU

### Randolph & Perry CFB 2023 PULL FOR AGRICULTURE



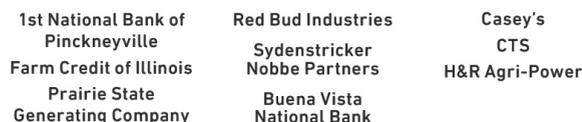
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# RANDOLPH COUNTY FARMER

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## OFFICERS OF THE FARM BUREAU

PRESIDENT .....KENT LIEFER  
 VICE PRESIDENT .....TIM HARLE  
 SECRETARY .....MICHAEL MCCONACHIE  
 TREASURER .....DIANE SCHOENBECK

## Randolph County Farm Bureau BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2022-23 ATTENDANCE				SINCE
DIRECTORS	REGION & SEAT	Jun'23	Jul'23	Dec'22
Timothy Harle	Region 1 Seat A	P	P	7/8
Retha Meyerhoff	Region 1 Seat B	P	P	8/8
Dean Campbell	Region 1 Seat C	A	A	6/8
Jared McCormick	Region 2 Seat A	P	P	8/8
Kenneth Hecht	Region 2 Seat B	P	A	7/8
Christine Smith	Region 2 Seat C	P	P	6/8
Nathan Salger	Region 3 Seat A	P	P	7/8
Kent Liefer	Region 3 Seat B	P	P	8/8
Derek Uffelmann	Region 3 Seat C	P	A	7/8
Diane Schoenbeck	Region 4 Seat A	P	P	8/8
Michael McConachie	Region 4 Seat B	P	A	7/8
Danny Brewer	Region 4 Seat C	A	P	5/8

COMMITTEE	CHAIRPERSONS
Ag-in-the-Classroom Coalition.....	Andrea Kohring
Finance Committee .....	Diane Schoenbeck
Foundation Committee .....	Jack McCormick
Governmental Affairs Committee .....	Tim Harle
Issue Management Committee .....	Kent Liefer
Livestock Committee .....	Steve Uffelmann
Marketing Committee .....	David Gramenz
Membership & Executive Committee .....	Kent Liefer
Prime Timers Committee .....	Group
Public Relations Committee .....	Retha Meyerhoff
Viewpoint Committee .....	Tim Harle
Women's Committee .....	Christine Smith
Young Leaders Committee .....	Brett Wilson

## FARM BUREAU STAFF

Allyson Lintker, Manager  
 Kendra Beattie, Membership Secretary/Administrative Assistant  
 Tammy Little, Office Assistant/Bookkeeper  
 Andrea Kohring, Ag in the Classroom Coordinator

## RANDOLPH COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Mission Statement

Promoting agriculture with a unified voice through education, information, and legislation.

# Farm Bureau Entertains Evening in the Country Guests



On Thursday, July 13th, Randolph County Farm Bureau® Governmental Affairs Committee hosted the 16th annual Evening in the Country event. Attendees enjoyed socializing and the view of the river at Fork Kaskaskia Pavilion in rural Ellis Grove. Despite the heat, state and local officials met with committee members to discuss hot topics in agriculture and throughout the community.

To kick off the night, the welcoming of guests and opening remarks were made by Farm Bureau President, Kent Liefer.

After enjoying a catered meal from Butcher Block in Sparta, President Kent Liefer gave a brief overview on Randolph County and Illinois Farm Bureau's influence on the state and national side. Manager Allyson Lintker followed up with a discussion on local issues and reminded everyone that Farm Bureau is a resource that is

willing to help and work with all local officials.

State Representative David Friess delivered an update on the damage to the covered bridge in the latest set of storms. It is an urgent issue, however, working with IDOT and the Historical Society will take time. Friess also gave an update on the Chester Bridge construction after some questions were raised. County Commissioner Dr. Marc Kiehna also touched on the construction and said the county courthouse is considering a timelapse camera at the courthouse to document the construction.

Both Commissioner Kiehna and Holder discussed the car center updates and timeline. After that discussion, members asked questions about tax revenue on solar farms, which Treasurer Justin Jeffers and Supervisor of Assessments Chris Koester touched on.

Sheriff Jarod Peters, Cir-

cuit Clerk Julie Carnahan, and State's Attorney James Kelly all talked about a new app coming soon to get information about jail bookings, notifications on major accidents closing roads, missing persons, press releases, and more. Peters also touched on his goal of getting officers involved with county youth through the schools.

Other attendees for the night included: Public Health Representative Constantine Charalab, County Clerk Melanie Johnson, Emergency Management Director Lynn Thies, and Kaskaskia Regional Port District General Manager Ed Weilbacher.

The Randolph County Farm Bureau Governmental Affairs Committee would like to thank all those to attend and the local officials for always supporting and considering agriculture. Anyone with questions or wanting to join the committee can call 618.443.4511.

ILLINOIS WHEAT ASSOCIATION

# SUMMER FORUM

Sponsored by:  
ILLINOIS SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION

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AUGUST 23<sup>RD</sup> | 4 PM – 9 PM

World Shooting Recreational Complex

1 Main Event Lane | Sparta, IL

SPECIAL GUEST | Machinery Pete

Cost: IWA Members \$25 | Non-Members: \$50

## Notice:

Current RCFB staff email address are as follows:

[randolph@rcfb.org](mailto:randolph@rcfb.org) - General (manager)

[allyson.lintker@rcfb.org](mailto:allyson.lintker@rcfb.org) - Manager

[kendra.beattie@rcfb.org](mailto:kendra.beattie@rcfb.org) - Membership

[tammy.little@rcfb.org](mailto:tammy.little@rcfb.org) - Bookkeeping

[aic@rcfb.org](mailto:aic@rcfb.org) - Ag in the Classroom

[information@rcfb.org](mailto:information@rcfb.org) - General (secretarial)

[contact@rcfb.org](mailto:contact@rcfb.org) - General (member & committee)

### AGENDA:

**4-5:30 pm**  
Exhibitor Booths  
Machinery on Display

**5:30-7:30 pm**  
Welcome | Panelists & Dinner

**7:30-8:30 pm**  
Keynote Speaker Greg Peterson  
AKA Machinery Pete

**9:00 pm**  
Conclusion

The IWA summer forum will take on a new format this year as an evening event. Exhibitor booths will be open from 4:00-5:30pm along with various equipment on display. The attendees will then be gathered inside for a guest speaker, the announcements of our state yield contest winners and then dinner. Following dinner we will have a special guest speaker, Greg Peterson, AKA Machinery Pete for an hour presentation to conclude the evening.

*We hope to see you there!*

Scan the QR code to Register Today!

For More information visit: [illinoiswheat.org](https://www.illinoiswheat.org)

Or register at: <https://web.illinoiswheat.org/events/IWA-Summer-Forum-20229/details>



# Sparta Community Hospital Announces Diabetes Education Series

(Sparta, IL) - Those who want to discover new ways to better manage their diabetes should check-out 'Hands-On Diabetes: An Educational Series' offered by Courtney Johnson, Registered Dietitian at Sparta Community Hospital.

"Between lifestyle changes, medications, and testing, living with diabetes may seem overwhelming, and we want to help," states Johnson. "Through this series, we hope to not only

empower individuals to be hands-on with their care, but to provide a space for attendees to support each other."

This free series kicks off Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. in Auxiliary Room A at Sparta Community Hospital's Broadway Plaza.

"During this session, we'll cover basics about diabetes, including facts and risk factors. We'll also talk about medical and lifestyle management,"

shares Johnson. "Each month we'll cover a new topic as it relates specifically to diabetes, such as nutrition, heart health, physical activity, and so much more."

Individuals are invited to attend as many or as few sessions as they wish. As seating is limited, individuals are asked to call Johnson at 618-443-1435 to register for this first session by NOON on Monday, July 24, 2023.



## New Board Member Spotlight: Nathan Salger

Nathan started with the Randolph County Farm Bureau Board of Directors in December of 2022. He lives in Red Bud with his wife Patty, and their children, Jenna and Dustin. Their family has livestock that include beef cattle, ostriches, sheep, chickens, and donkeys. They also farm wheat, soybeans, corn, and alfalfa. Nathan works at Zanders Sporting

Goods as well. He is a member of St. John's Lutheran church in Red Bud and the Treasurer for the Red Bud Rural Fire Board. He hopes to gain knowledge in the different areas Farm Bureau supports. He also is a rain reporter for the National Weather Service in St. Charles Mo and in spare time can be found doing projects on the farm and spending time with his family.

## AITC Book Grants for Local Teachers

The Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom program is offering special topic grants to teachers across the state of Illinois to award and ship the books listed online.

To apply for project funding, please complete the grant application (found at <http://iaitc.co/bookgrants>) outlining the project, goals, and desired outcomes of incorporating the books chosen. The total book value requested cannot exceed \$250.00.

- Classroom teachers and librarians in the state of Illinois are eligible to apply.
- Each educator may submit only one grant but grants may be awarded to more than one

educator per school.

- For accepted grants, books will be shipped directly to the teacher at their school.
- The teacher will complete a Final Report by Friday, May 31, 2024.
- You may contact the Randolph County Farm Bureau office for help with this application at [randolph@rcfb.org](mailto:randolph@rcfb.org).
- You can find the application at <http://iaitc.co/bookgrants>.
- Application deadline is Friday, October 20, 2023.
- Teachers selected for a book grant will be notified via email on November 10, 2023.
- A Final Report and project evaluation is due by May 31, 2024.

## RAIN FALL (INCHES) REPORTS FOR MAY / JUNE 2023

	May	Jun
Baldwin - Gerald Cox home	1.6	2.3
Chester - Mike & Janet Vasquez home	1.8	0.5
Coulterville - Sherwood Burns home	1.9	2.1
Ellis Grove - JoAnn & Anthony Meyer home	2.9	0.8
Modoc - Rose Curten home	N/A	1.4
PrDuRocher - Arnold Donjon home	2.0	2.0
Red Bud - Vernon & Jane Lucht home	1.91	2.26
Sparta - Farm Bureau Office	2.1	1.6
Steeleville - Keith Meyer home	N/A	1.0
Walsh - Clarence & Marcia Kloth home	2.3	N/A

**Welcome  
Rose  
Curten  
and  
Keith  
Meyer,  
our  
new  
monitor  
volunteers.**

## Calendar of Events

### JULY 28TH - JULY 31ST

The AIM Championships @ WSRC

### AUGUST 1ST - 12TH

The ATA Grand American @ WSRC

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 1ST

People Speak on WHCO @ 9:20 a.m.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2ND

Membership Day @ WSRC

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2ND

District 16 Young Leader Discussion Meet 6:00 p.m. @ Madison CFB

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 10TH

Women's Committee Ladies Day Out 9:00 a.m. @ Peach Blossom Hill, Salger's Ostrich Farm, and Lieferbrau

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 15TH

RCFB Board of Directors Meeting @ 8:00 p.m.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 19TH

RCFB Young Leader Meeting and Outing 9:00 a.m. @ Kinkaid Lake

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 22ND

IWA Wheat Summer Forum 4:00 PM @ World Shooting Recreational Complex

### AUGUST 29TH - 31ST

Farm Progress Show @ Decatur

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

Office Closed for Labor Day!

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

People Speak on WHCO @ 9:20 a.m.

### SEPTEMBER 6TH

Women's Committee Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER 19TH & 20TH

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Defensive Driving @ RCFB office

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

RCFB Board of Directors Meeting @ 8:00 p.m.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

Fall Farm Fest  
Magic House - St. Louis

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

Farmer's Exchange Ads Deadline



# Farm provides summer education

Having braved a gravel road, a long driveway and an unleashed outdoor dog, a college intern approached our front steps ready to give his pitch. He worked door-to-door selling books and digital resources that supplement school coursework in math, science and language arts. I kindly shared some time with the business major on the front porch, where he quickly learned that supplemental education of a different sort defines our kids' summer days.

Our 15-year-old son works on the family farm. Our 17-year-old daughter operates small businesses selling baked goods and home-grown sunflowers. Together, the kids maintain a flock of hens and sell eggs to family, neighbors and our daughter's home-based bakery. With poultry in view, the San Diego native wondered what it meant to "show chickens," as the kids had done that morning

at the fair.

The farm offers a summer classroom filled with opportunities to gain life skills in problem-solving, management, organization and efficiency. The kids learn to work in heat, identify approaching rain and witness the implications of drought. We hope they gain responsibility, a sense of self-sufficiency and a work ethic through a combination of disappointment, triumph, energy and exhaustion.

Because classroom experiences don't teach how to handle a calf that escapes the pasture fence. Or that drought means feeding winter stores of hay to the cows when the summer grass doesn't grow. Our daughter reconciles bank statements, communicates with adult customers, and studies the bloom habits of various sunflower varieties. Our son changes oil in tractors, understands the functions of a planter meter and

can operate more than a dozen pieces of farm equipment.

The farm work shifts to maintenance of harvest machinery by mid-summer. Sunflowers bloom and roadside sales ensue. Planning work accelerates for the kids' biggest community service event just after Labor Day. Their summers are spent unrelatable to their peers at times, but I hope they enter society as responsible, self-driven citizens who can express compassion, exhibit common sense and make a difference.

The intern left with a tip in lieu of a sale and a glimpse into a farm-inspired approach to education. Like us, he desired to make the most of the opportunities presented to him.

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



## FARMER'S EXCHANGE

Items for this column need to reach our office by Sept. 20, 2023 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: 1946 2N Ford Tractor with 5 ft. belly mower and 1950s John Deere 14T hay baler. 618-282-2445



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### THINKING ABOUT SELLING THE FARM ?????



There are lots of things to consider...

Is now the Right time? Would next year be better?

What is it worth in today's market? What kind of taxes would I owe? Should I put a sign along the road? Or Should I call a Real Estate agent??? OR, Maybe an Auction????

There are a lot of things to consider. Call Wayne or Jamie Keller for a free, confidential, no pressure market evaluation. Jamie and Wayne have sold nearly 80,000 acres of Illinois and Missouri farms & recreational properties. We know the market and have the experience...

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## Randolph County Farm Bureau Member Local Benefits



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[www.korandoheatingandcooling.com](http://www.korandoheatingandcooling.com)



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