

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

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Join Us For A
Ladies Day Out
July 13th
More Details to Follow!

Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference



From left to right: Charles Schupbach, Michael McConachie, Tim Harle, Kenny Hecht, Gerald Cox, Diane Schoenbeck, Senator Terri Bryant, Representative David Friess, Braylee Finck, Jared McCormick, Derek Uffelmann, Nathan Salger, Rich Guebert.

Thank You for Renewing Your Membership Investment

Your annual Farm Bureau dues will be due the same as last year.

All M (Farming) members were due on or before April 1, 2024 (if you have not already paid them); dues notices were in the mail around the first of March. You can pay your dues by credit or debit card if you prefer. The payment form is on your dues notice.

Dues for A (Associate) members who are also COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company® or COUNTRY Preferred In-

urance Company® customers will again be included with your insurance premium or billed separately.

All members are now able to join and renew online. Please visit myilfb.org and set up your account today. From the member center, you will be able to update your information, renew your dues payments, get contact information for your County Farm Bureau, and more.

Also, on your dues you can choose to donate to the Foundation, Ag in the Classroom, or Activator. The Foundation provides thousands in scholarships every year to members and dependents of members. Agriculture in the Classroom uses your donations to teach over 3500+ students about agriculture in Randolph County. Activator is a federal and statewide program through Illinois Farm Bureau to support candidates that are friends of agriculture. A team of Illinois Farm Bureau members will provide you with the right sources to pick a candidate at elections.

Please feel free to give us a call if you have any questions with any membership dues changes; we are here to help you. The Randolph County Farm Bureau can be contacted by phone at (618)443-4511 or email contact@rcfb.org. Thank you for your membership.

Members of the RCFB Board and Governmental Affairs Committee attended the Illinois Farm Bureau Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference that was held on February 20th in Springfield, IL. Attendees had the opportunity to listen in on two outstanding Keynote Speakers: Senator Martha McSally to speak about Leadership and Kirk Bado from The Hotline to speak on National Political Insights. Along with the keynote

speakers, breakout rooms were offered for attendees to sit in and learn more about the importance of Governmental Affairs within the Illinois Farm Bureau and the Ag Industry as a whole. To

wrap up the night, the members of the RCFB Board and Governmental Affairs Committee had to chance to get a picture with State Representative David Friess and Senator Terry Bryant.

Membership Appreciation Giveaway

We're excited to bring back our membership meat giveaway that was so highly received last year.

To thank you for your continued membership with Randolph County Farm Bureau, we are giving away meat bundles to a few lucky MM or PM members. To enter, just pay your membership dues by April 30th. You will be entered into a drawing to win packages of brats and bacon. After April 30th, winners will be notified, and prizes can be picked up at our office in Sparta.

Thank you for your continued support and membership to this organization.

SAVE THE DATE
JULY 20, 2024
PULL FOR AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

World Shooting & Recreational Complex • Sparta, IL

The Pull for Ag Education is designed to provide participants with a fun and exciting day of shooting while raising funds for the Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) programs in Perry and Randolph Counties.

RANDOLPH COUNTY FARMER

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OFFICERS OF THE FARM BUREAU

PRESIDENTTIM HARLE
 VICE PRESIDENTMICHAEL MCCONACHIE
 SECRETARYCHRISTINE SMITH
 TREASURERDIANE SCHOENBECK

Randolph County Farm Bureau BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2023-24 ATTENDANCE				SINCE
DIRECTORS	REGION & SEAT	Feb'24	Mar'24	Dec'23
Timothy Harle	Region 1 Seat A	P	P	4/4
Michael McConachie	Region 1 Seat B	A	P	3/4
Christopher Fullerton	Region 1 Seat C	P	A	3/4
Jared McCormick	Region 2 Seat A	P	P	4/4
Kenneth Hecht	Region 2 Seat B	P	P	4/4
Christine Smith	Region 2 Seat C	P	P	4/4
Nathan Salger	Region 3 Seat A	P	P	4/4
Mike Coop	Region 3 Seat B	P	P	4/4
Derek Uffelmann	Region 3 Seat C	P	P	4/4
Diane Schoenbeck	Region 4 Seat A	P	P	4/4
Ronald Kothe	Region 4 Seat B	P	P	3/4
Danny Brewer	Region 4 Seat C	P	P	3/4

COMMITTEE	CHAIRPERSONS
Ag-in-the-Classroom Coalition.....	Andrea Kohring
Finance Committee	Diane Schoenbeck
Foundation Committee	Jack McCormick
Governmental Affairs Committee	Tim Harle
Livestock Committee	Steve Uffelmann
Marketing Committee	David Gramenz
Membership & Executive Committee	Tim Harle
Public Relations Committee	Retha Meyerhoff
Viewpoint Committee	Tim Harle
Women's Committee	Christine Smith
Young Leaders Committee	Kayla Cowell

FARM BUREAU STAFF

Braylee Finck, Manager
 Mandy Wandro, Administrative Assistant
 Tammy Little, Office Assistant/Bookkeeper
 Andrea Kuehner, Ag in the Classroom Coordinator

RANDOLPH COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Mission Statement

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

Notice:

Current RCFB staff email addresses are as follows:

randolph@rcfb.org – General (manager)

manager@rcfb.org – Manager

adminassistant@rcfb.org – Office (secretarial)

tammy.little@rcfb.org – Bookkeeping

aitc@rcfb.org – Ag in the Classroom

information@rcfb.org – General (secretarial)

contact@rcfb.org – General (member & committee)

Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow



From left to right: Larry Dallas, Jared McCormick, and Steve Koeller.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Jared McCormick graduated from Illinois Farm Bureau's Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow (ALOT) program, a comprehensive leadership development course, on March 20.

McCormick, a member of Randolph County Farm Bureau, joined 18 other graduates in 2024. Now in its 45th year, ALOT has graduated more than 1,200 leaders since 1979. The eight-session course featured experts in communication skills, political process, ag economics and global issues. Through a broad range of process and content skills, graduates enrich leadership abilities and enhance agriculture's voice in Illinois. Past graduates have included past and current Illinois state legislators and agricultural influencers across Illinois. Various leaders of the Illinois Farm Bureau have graduated from the ALOT program, including past President Rich Guebert and current Vice President Evan

Hultine.

McCormick farms in partnership with his grandfather and father on about 1,500 acres where they grow corn, soybeans, wheat and barley for cattle. Jared also has a small cow-calf herd and they make around 600 round and hay square bales a year. Jared received his high school diploma in 2020. After high school, he became a full-time farmer working alongside his father and grandfather. Jared was recently elected to the Randolph County Farm Bureau Board of Directors and he is also active in the RCFB Young Leaders. When Jared gets some free time away from the farm, he enjoys volunteering for the local fire department, going on road trips and hanging with his friends.

"I'd recommend ALOT to someone who hasn't completed the program because I've learned a lot of information that I didn't know about and can use what I have learned on my fami-

ly farm," McCormick said. "My hopes for the ALOT program going into it were to become a better leader and now that I have completed it, I feel as if I can become a better leader in the farming community. Overall, it was a great experience, learned a lot of new things, and met a great group of people."

The 2024 ALOT graduating class heard from nearly 30 speakers, with topics ranging from ag economics to state and local government policy to communication and professionalism and more. Graduates from 17 Illinois counties attended sessions across the state in Edwardsville, Mt. Vernon, Springfield, Salem, Bloomington, Ina and two virtual sessions on Zoom. Sessions are designed to give participants a head-start on tackling tomorrow's leadership responsibilities.

If you are interested, reach out to the Randolph County Farm Bureau for an application for the 2025 ALOT program.

2024 Spring Market Outlook Meeting

The RCFB paired up with the Washington and Perry County Farm Bureau's to host the 2024 Spring Outlook meeting at Pistol City in Coulterville. They were joined by guest speakers, Keith, Justin, and Devin Maschhoff from COUNTRY Financial to speak on crop insurance. Along with Phil Saale from Gateway FS to speak on the current and future looks on the market prices. Thank you to all those who attended, from all three counties and to the four guests' speakers for taking the time to come and put on a successful event!



Keith Maschhoff from COUNTRY Financial speaking on Crop Insurance.

RCFB Ag in the Classroom Hosted Annual Ag Expo at Coulterville Elementary School



Coulterville Elementary School

The RCFB Ag in the Classroom program hosted an Ag Expo at Coulterville Elementary on Friday, March 1st. All classrooms in the school attended. The presenters in the seven booths are volunteers that shared their

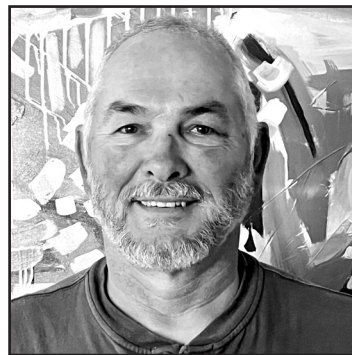
knowledge about agriculture with the students. The Ag Expo allows the presenters 10 minutes with each group to give a brief lesson on the following topics: Planting & Harvesting, Livestock, Safety, Soil Conservation, Dairy, and

Pizza. Gateway FS also kindly attended to present a booth to share their part in agriculture and why it's important to have a company like them in the Ag Industry. This is a chance to share where food and fiber begin.

New Board Member Spotlight! Mike Coop

Mike Coop joined the Randolph County Farm Bureau Board of Directors in December 2023. He resides in Evansville with his wife, Kelly and has two children, Trevor, and Amanda. They have a grain farm where they farm corn, wheat, and beans. Off the farm, Mike works for Red Dot Construction and is a member of the Evansville Knights of

Colombus Council and active at his church, St. Pius Catholic Church. During his free time, he enjoys hunting and golfing. While serving on the RCFB Board of Directors, Mike is excited to learn more about what the Randolph County Farm Bureau is and looking forward to being part of an organization based around its members.



Mike Coop

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, APRIL 2ND

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

MONDAY, APRIL 8TH

Solar Eclipse

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

Young Leader Bonfire @ 6:30 p.m.- RCFB Office

MONDAY, APRIL 15TH

Tax Day

TUESDAY, MAY 7TH

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

SUNDAY, MAY 12TH

Happy Mother's Day

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15TH

Farmer's Exchange Ads Deadline

MONDAY, MAY 27TH

Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday

We have the buyers !!

We need the land !!

196 Acres	Carroll Co MO	Tillable/Hunt
70 Acres	Clinton/Washington	Wooded/Creek Bottom
730 Acres	Franklin Co	Excellent Hunt Property
22 Acres	Franklin Co	SOLD! Hunt/Home
57 Acres	Jefferson Co MO	Online Auction! Apr 17
75 Acres	Perry Co	Online Auction! Apr 18
67 Acres	Pope Co	SOLD! Online Auction
82.5 Acres	Randolph Co.	SOLD! Online Auction
236 Acres	Union Co.	5 Lakes/Home/Tillable

Call The Farm Team ...

Jamie Keller - Mg Broker 618-713-7677
Wayne Keller - Mg Broker 618-407-1679

buyafarm.com



STRONGER together

As farmers, we are great at taking care of our land and livestock, but not always great at taking care of ourselves. It's time to put yourself first. A healthy farm is nothing without a healthy YOU. If you or someone you know is struggling with daily stress, anxiety, depression, addiction or other mental health challenges, you are not alone. Reach out and ask for help. Your mental health and wellness are important to us.

We are Stronger Together.

How does stress affect you? For signs and symptoms, as well as wellness tools, resources and hotlines, visit www.ifb.org/mentalhealthwellness

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- Renew or Reinstate your membership
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- Manage your membership & information
- And much more!

For more information contact
 Illinois Farm Bureau
 309-557-2689
membership@ifb.org
www.myifb.org

#MyIFB

Be Prepared this Planting Season

As temperatures increase and soils dry, farm equipment will soon hit the pavement. So, Randolph County Farm Bureau reminds motorists to take extra precaution to keep everyone safe on the road.

Farmers can ensure roadways remain safe by following five tips:

- Understand local laws. There are rules and regulations around which pieces of equipment can and can't travel on public roads. Before you hit the road, make sure you check these guidelines.
- Check your equipment. It's important to know how wide and tall your equipment is, so

you're prepared when you come to an under or overpass. Also, make sure your turn signals, headlights and flashers work properly. If you're hauling a trailer, double-check to ensure the signals on the trailer work.

- Add a slow-moving vehicle (SMV) sign. Most farm implements are required to have a reflective SMV sign attached. Make sure yours is properly attached and visible to cars traveling behind you.

- Don't drive distracted. There are a lot of distractions in your cab, but it's important to keep your eyes on the road.

- Check your insurance coverage. Unfortunately, frequent

accidents occur involving farm equipment on rural roads. So, make sure you have proper coverage to help pay for repairs and get your equipment back where it belongs - in the field.

- Roadway safety is a two-way street, so nonfarmer drivers should remember to decrease speed and approach agricultural equipment with care. Maintain a safe following distance. Never pass farm equipment in a no passing zone.

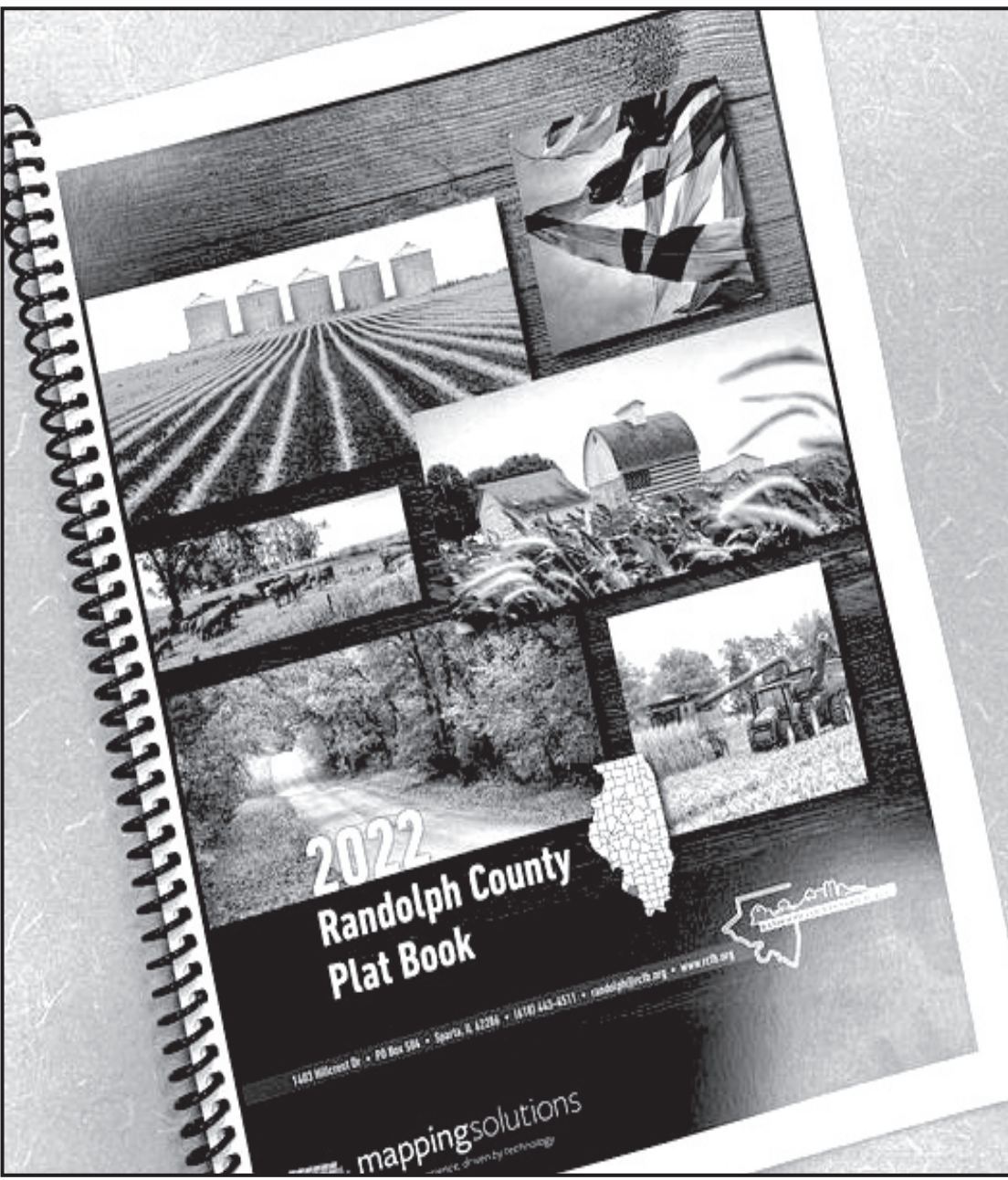
Further, consider taking an alternative route during peak commuting times, such as sunrise and sunset. This planting season stay safe and be prepared to reduce the risk of an accident.

2024 RCFB Trivia Night a Success

On February 10, fourteen trivia teams gathered at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Evansville to raise funds for the Randolph County Farm Bureau Foundation. Attendees not only played trivia, but they also had a silent auction

and a 50/50 raffle. A total of almost \$1,687 was raised throughout the night. Those funds go towards the Ag in the Classroom program which reached over 3,000 people in Randolph County last year. It also funds the Foundation

scholarship program. Last year, the Foundation awarded \$5,000 in scholarships to local students interested in agriculture. Thank you to everyone that supported the Foundation at our trivia night, and we look forward to next year!



FARMER'S EXCHANGE

Items for this column need to reach our office by May 15, 2024 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 - information@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: Homegrown hulled-out Pecan Halves, \$5.50 per Qrt-size ziplock bag

(approx. 1 lb.) 618-965-3008.

FOR SALE: Brillion Transport Cultipacker, 13'8 ft, \$3,500; 2 Flatbed Wagons (flatbed 6 x 14 ft width) 27" sides, both have five ton hoist, \$1,200 ea.; JD 670 - 9 ft Bar Rake, \$2,000; Pull-type Allis-Chambers 1630, 12 ft Chisel Plow, \$1,000; JH 475- 17 1/2 ft - 7 1/2 Spacing Disc, \$6,000; Allis-Chambers 14 ft - 10 in. spacing heavy Disc, \$1,750; 8 ft 2 seat Fiberglass Bass Boat, 30 lb trolling motor, \$1,000. Percy, IL. 618-497-4029.

FOR SALE: Hydraulic Mo-Jack for lawn mower, used very little, like new, \$125 FIRM. Leave message 618-282-6184.

Randolph County Farm Bureau Member Local Benefits



\$20 off a demand service call or \$20 off an air quality product

1941 State St, Chester, IL 62233
618-826-2151 or
24 hour emergency service 618-615-5485
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