



Messenger

2242 Westgate Drive, Bloomington, IL 61705 (309) 663-6497 www.mcfb.org Hours: M-F, 8 AM - 5 PM

ARC/PLC Packets Available at FSA

Primary operators listed for each farm should visit the USDA Farm Service Agency office to obtain their 2018 Program Packet.

The FSA office is located at 402 Kays Drive in Normal. No appointment is needed for pickup.

Included in the packet will be 2018 contract(s) for every farm number(s) associated with that primary operator for the 2018 year.

The primary operator will be responsible for obtaining all necessary signatures for the 2018 ARC/PLC contracts. A signed 2018 cash rent lease may be returned with contracts to cover the owner(s) signature if needed.

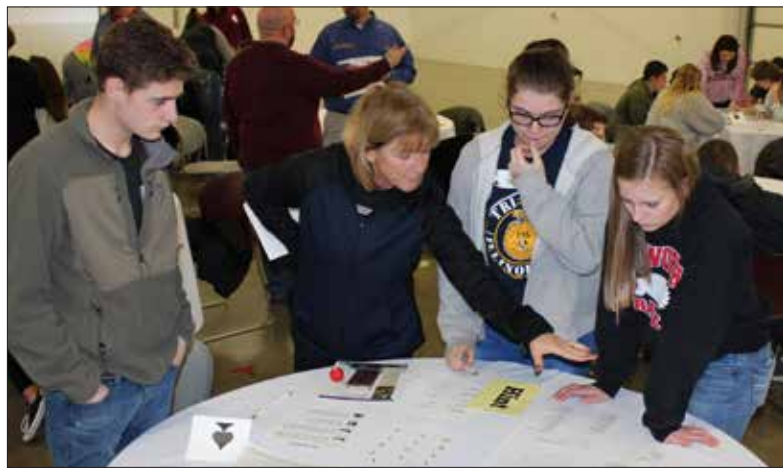
Contracts should be reviewed in detail to make sure shares, owners and operators are listed correctly on the farm(s) for the 2018 year. If changes need to be made, do not sign the contract until supporting documentation has been provided to the office and the contracts are updated.

Also included in the packet will be a CCC-941 average adjusted gross income certification (AGI). Each individual/entity that will be receiving a percent of the contract will need to complete one of these forms.

Keep in mind FSA-211 power of attorney does not work on the AGI form.

Failure to enroll a farm during the 2018 enrollment period will prevent a farm from being eligible for assistance for the ARC or PLC programs should crop prices and farm revenues fall below the historical price or revenue benchmarks established by the programs.

For more information, call McLean County FSA at (309) 452-3848.



McLean County Ag in the Classroom Coordinator, Bridget Caldwell, (center) assists FFA members in solving clues for the combinations to unlock a Breakout Box challenge during Acquaintance Day.

FFA Members Explore Careers, Teamwork at Acquaintance Day

Local FFA members explored agricultural careers and learned about teamwork at McLean County Farm Bureau's Acquaintance Day program held Jan. 23.

About 80 sophomores from eight local high schools participated in the annual event.

Students heard presentations from GROWMARK Corporate Programming Manager, Cliff Dolbeare, and from leadership coach, Robbie Osenga.

Career Fast Track offered a look at the variety of careers in

agriculture from Ag Professionals and Collegiate Farm Bureau students.

Students also had the chance to drive a tractor or combine, courtesy of Birkey's Farm Store.

Team building activities facilitated by 4-H Memorial Camp staff provided the opportunity to learn about communication, collaboration and leadership.

Acquaintance Day introduces FFA members to the purpose of McLean County Farm Bureau and its programs.

Landowner 101 Classes Offered

Expand your understanding and skills for managing your farmland with a series of Landowner 101 classes. Topics to be covered include:

- Feb. 15 - Farmland Leasing
- March 1 - Basic Agronomy
- March 8 - Grain Marketing

Classes will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the McLean County Farm Bureau building, 2242 Westgate Drive in Bloomington.

Sessions will be led by Don Meyer and Dr. Maria Boengen of the Illinois State University Department of Agriculture.

Cost for each class is \$20 per farm or \$50 per farm for all three Landowner 101 sessions. Farm Bureau members will receive a discount on registration fees.

To sign-up, call (309) 663 - 6497 or register online at www.mcfb.org.

McLean County Farm Bureau Foundation

TRIVIA NIGHT

Join us for a fun night to benefit ag education!

Team Spirit Theme:
Winter Olympics

Go for the Gold! Celebrate your favorite Olympic winter sport or team with costumes or table decorations!



Sat., Feb. 24
GE/Union Park Clubhouse
1750 GE Road, Bloomington
6 p.m. - Doors Open
Light supper/snacks provided
7 p.m. - Trivia Starts
\$160 per team
(up to 8 people)
All participants must be 21+

Cash Bar • 50/50 Raffles • Silent Auction & more!

Register at www.mcfb.org or call (309) 663-6497

JOIN US!

@ AG AFTER HOURS

Young Farmers & Agribusiness Professionals

Tues., Feb. 13 @ GROWMARK Learning Center

2908 County Road 925 North, Bloomington

Speaker: Eric Wilcox, GROWMARK

FS Custom Applicator Training Simulator

Sponsored by Evergreen FS

Thurs., March 22 @ Evergreen FS

402 N Hershey Road, Bloomington

Speaker: Sean Arians, The Climate Corporation

Precision Ag Technology

DOORS OPEN @ 5:30 P.M. • SPEAKER @ 6 P.M.
Appetizers Provided • Cash Bar

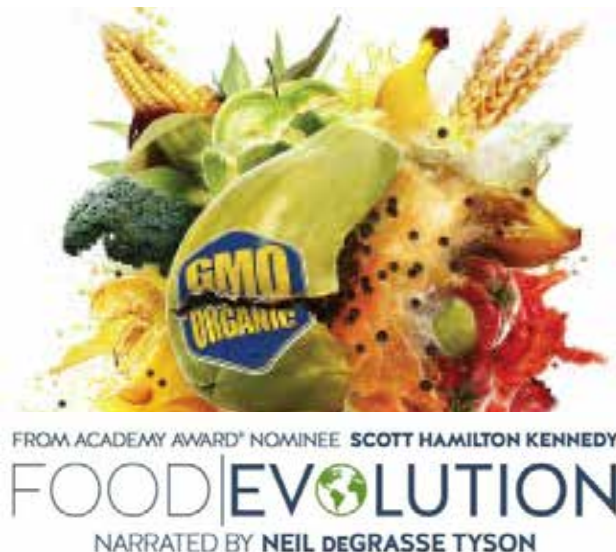
Upcoming Events

February

Tues. 13	5:30 p.m.	Young Leader Ag After Hours
Thurs. 15	6:30 p.m.	Landowner 101 - Farmland Leasing
Tues. 20		MCFB Board Meeting
Thurs. 22	11:20 a.m.	Prime Timers Meeting at Denny's
	6:30 p.m.	Food Evolution Screening at ISU
Sat. 24	6 p.m.	MCFB Foundation Trivia Night

March

Thurs. 1	6:30 p.m.	Landowner 101 - Agronomy Basics
Thurs. 8	6:30 p.m.	Landowner 101 - Grain Marketing
Tues. 20		General Primary Election
		MCFB Board Meeting
Thurs. 22	7 a.m.	Chamber Ag Breakfast at Double Tree
Thurs. 22	5:30 p.m.	Young Leader Ag After Hours



FROM ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE SCOTT HAMILTON KENNEDY
FOOD|EVOLUTION
NARRATED BY NEIL DEGRASSE TYSON

FREE Showing

& panel discussion
of acclaimed documentary

FOOD EVOLUTION

Thurs., Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m.
Braden Auditorium
Illinois State University

Hosted by McLean County Farm Bureau & Illinois State University Collegiate Farm Bureau