



Messenger

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

Nutrient Management Seminar

Every Acre Matters - Join Us & Build Your Strategy!

Check out ways to boost yield, save money and reduce nutrient losses with a Nutrient Management Seminar Wed., Feb. 13 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the McLean County fairgrounds.

Cost to attend is \$15 for Farm Bureau members or \$20 for non-members.

Registration includes breakfast pastries, lunch and all materials. To sign-up, visit www.mcfb.org or call (309)663-6497.

Check out the latest research and tools to maximize your fertilizer use.

Plus find out what's at stake for farmers and how to get involved

in the Lake Bloomington and Lake Evergreen Watershed Plans, scheduled to be updated starting in 2019.

- Agenda includes:
- Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy
 - Using Data & Technology for Nutrient Management
 - Getting N Rates Right
 - Watershed Planning - Lake Bloomington & Lake Evergreen
 - Ten Ways to Reduce Nitrogen Losses

The Nutrient Management Seminar is sponsored in part by an Illinois Farm Bureau Nutrient Stewardship Grant.

Annie's Project Offers Training, Risk Education for Farm Women

Women involved in farming as active partners, operators or landowners are invited to participate in Annie's Project starting March 5.

Annie's Project is an educational program that aims to foster problem solving, record keeping, and decision-making skills in farm women.

Over the course of six sessions, the training will focus on five areas of risk for farming operations: financial, human resources, legal, marketing and production.

The 2019 program will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings March 5 - 21 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Bloomington. A light supper will be provided before each session at 5 p.m.

Cost is \$75 per person and includes all materials.

Space is limited and the registration deadline is Feb. 26.

For more information and to sign-up for the program, contact the University of Illinois Extension office at (309) 663-8306 or visit web.extension.illinois.edu/lmw/.

Annie's Project provides participants with:

- A safe harbor for sharing and open discussion
- Connection with classmates and professionals in the agriculture field
- Shared experiences and shared expertise
- Discovery and ah-ha moments

Learn more at www.anniesproject.org.

Upcoming Events

February		
Wed. 13	8 a.m.	Nutrient Management Seminar
Wed. 20	5:30 p.m.	Ag After Hours - MCFB Office
Thurs. 21	5:30 p.m.	Chamber Ag Awards Dinner
Sun. 24		Young Leader ISU Basketball Game
Thurs. 28	11:30 a.m.	Prime Timers' Meeting at Denny's
March		
Tues. 5	5:30 p.m.	Ag After Hours - Little Beaver Brewery
Fri. 15	5:30 p.m.	MCFB Foundation Trivia Night
Tues. 19		MCFB Board Meeting
Wed. 29	6:30 a.m.	Chamber Ag Breakfast



MCFB Board Elects Officers

The McLean County Farm Bureau Board of Directors selected officers Jan. 24, 2019. Mark Hines, Downs, was elected President and Brian Dirks, Ellsworth, was elected Vice President.

J.C. Zimmerman, Saybrook, was re-elected secretary and Carl Neubauer, Downs, was re-elected treasurer.

Upcoming Young Leader Activities

McLean County Farm Bureau Young Leaders are invited to attend these upcoming events:

Ag After Hours - Feb. 20

Joins us Wed., Feb. 20 for Ag After Hours at the McLean County Farm Bureau Office.

We will be talking trade and international agriculture with a panel discussion at 6:30 p.m. Tasha Bunting, Fred Grieder and Doug Schroeder will share insights from their ag-related trips abroad.

Appetizers will be provided and families are welcome to attend. A kids activity will be provided during the program. Guests age 21 and older can join us for drinks afterwards.

ISU Basketball - Feb. 24

Watch Illinois State University take on Drake Sun., Feb. 24 at Redbird Arena.

Game time will be 1 p.m. or 3 p.m. pending final scheduling. Families are welcome to attend and pizza will be provided either before or after the game.

Cost is \$10 per person for pizza and a ticket to the game.

Ag After Hours - March 5

Joins us Tues., March 5 for Ag After Hours at Little Beaver Brewery, 16 Currency Dr Unit B, Bloomington.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and our speaker will be at 6:30 p.m.

Hear a market outlook and tips for your marketing strategy with Rodney Connor, Indigo Ag.

Appetizers will be provided. Guests must be age 21 or older.

For more details and to sign-up, visit www.mcfb.org or call (309)663-6497.

McLean County Farm Bureau Foundation



Join us for a fun night to benefit ag education!

Team Spirit Theme:

BACK TO THE 80S

Celebrate the music, movies, fads & fashions of the 1980s with your team name, attire & table decor!



Fri., March 15

New Lafayette Club

107 E Lafayette St, Bloomington

5:30 p.m. - Doors Open

Light supper/snacks provided

6:30 p.m. - Trivia

\$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



Erik Wilcox (left), GROWMARK Equipment Manager, sets up a simulation for Normal Community FFA member, Nick Mathey to test drive a self-propelled sprayer. The FS Applicator Simulator served as a hands-on station for students to explore ag-related careers.

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. 17.

About 75 sophomores from eight local high schools participated in the annual event.

Students heard presentations from Dr. Lucas Maxwell, Illinois State University Ag Department, and Paula Kaler, COUNTRY Financial.

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.