



# THE SANGAMON *Farmer*

JULY / AUGUST 2022



Advocating the Voice of Agriculture through  
Education and Grassroots Legislation

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# Upcoming Meetings & Events

## July

- 4th.....Independence Day (Office Closed)
- 8th.....Foundation Golf Outing; Edgewood Golf Club, 8:30 a.m.
- 11th.....Governmental Engagement & Policy Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 11th.....Young Leader Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 16th.....Sangamon County Youth Expo; Sangamon County Fairgrounds, 9:00 a.m.
- 18th.....Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 24th.....Ag-Stravaganza; Sherman Village Park, 1:00 p.m.
- 25th.....Ag-Stravaganza Daycare Day; Sherman Village Park, 9:00 a.m.

## August

- 1st..... Governmental Engagement & Policy Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 8th.....Sangamon County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 10th.....Young Leader Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15th.....Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 27th.....Volunteer Appreciation; Buffalo Hart Community Club, 5:30 p.m.

\* All events occur at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau unless otherwise noted



Hello all! It has been a busy last few months in the news of Ag in the Classroom. The end of the school year approached quickly! The last few months of Ag in the Classroom activities included Water and a review game of agriculture commodities the students had learned throughout each of my

monthly presentations. They blew me away with the amount of agriculture knowledge they retained!!!

The last week of April, we had our AgVenture Barn Tour! It was a remarkable success, and everyone enjoyed the animals! I would like to thank my boss, colleagues, volunteers, and Sangamon County Farm Bureau members who let us borrow their animals for the week. Without their help, we would not have had a successful AgVenture Barn Tour. The Ag in the Classroom program will have a busy summer helping with summer activities, along with prepping for this next school year's agriculture educational activities!



DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE - 2021-22		J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
<b>District 1</b>	Brent Johnson	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	
	Michael Kinner	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	
	JD Sudeth	n/a	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	
	Jason Pickrell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>District 2</b>	Otto Rentschler	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Kevin Foran (Secretary)	X	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	
	Janet Edwards	n/a	-	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	
	Ethan Krone (Ass't Sec/Treas)	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	
<b>District 3</b>	Katie King	n/a	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	
	Mike Borgic (Treasurer)	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	
	Adam Bailey (President)	-	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	
	Cathryn Ayers Seifert	X	X	X	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	
<b>District 4</b>	Kyle Beutke	n/a	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	
	Kirk Mendenhall	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	X	X	-	-	
	Matt Heissinger	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	
	Marty Fairchild	X	X	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	
<b>At-Large</b>	Charles Mayfield	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
	Gary Reavis (VP)	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	
	George Sergot	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	
Committee Chairs:													
	<b>GEP Chair</b> , Phil Sidles	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	X	-	X	-	-	
	<b>YL Chair</b> , Stephen Prather	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	
	<b>Women's Chair</b> , Cassandra Bennett	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	

**THE SANGAMO FARMER**

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**Adam Bailey**

Hello everyone. I would first like to start by saying congratulations to Wes and Cathryn Siefert on the birth of their baby boy. I hope that the young leaders had a very successful tractor drive in June. Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation will be holding its Golf Outing at Edgewood Golf Course on July 8th. We hope for a great turnout. Our committee's have been hard at work, working on their programs of work and budgets. I want to encourage all who want to get active or stay active in any of our committees. We have a great group, and they are looking for new members. A few other things we have going on in July are our Youth Expo Show and Ag-Stravaganza. We are always looking for volunteers to help out. I hope everyone has a great summer, and be on the lookout for what we have going on at the Farm Bureau throughout the year.

## Committee Reports

### YOUNG LEADERS



**Stephen Prather**

Summer is finally here, and the young leaders are busy with activities. We collected non-perishable food items during the annual Pork Chop Lunch at the Farm Bureau office. We appreciated the community's support to provide for local food pantries in the county. The Sangamon County Fair was a busy time for the young leaders. We know it is important to support our youth as they will be our future young leaders. We provided popsicles to entries of the pig show on Wednesday, June 15th. We hosted our annual antique tractor drive on Saturday, June 18th. We were able to honor a great supporter of the drive and antique tractor enthusiast by naming the drive the "Russel Miner Memorial Antique Tractor Drive." We were honored to have him be a part of our 1st drive and appreciated his presence with his grandkids and other family members being a part of the drive. We especially appreciated them hosting our break-stop halfway through the drive. Thank you to all our participants of this year's memorial drive. We finished the fair with the cattle show by providing doughnuts to participants. It was our pleasure to be able to provide something back to the fair and young exhibitors.

The Sangamon County Youth Expo will be held on July 16th. The young leaders will be providing Kona Ice to all participants of this great event put on by our members for the youth in livestock of our county.

The annual Ag-Stravaganza will be held at the Sherman Village Park this year on July 24th & 25th. Sunday, July 24th, will be the family day from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., followed by daycare day on July 25th. All are welcome to come out and participate in the fun on Sunday, and if you are interested in volunteering on Monday, please get ahold of the office and let them know. We enjoy showcasing the Ag industry to the public and helping educate the youth of our county on the importance of agriculture in their daily lives.

# THE BUREAU ACCORDING TO JIM



**Jim Birge**

If you haven't noticed, summer activities are in full tilt. County Fairs, livestock shows, summer baseball leagues, and so much more! Whew, it's great to have all these summer activities, but it gets a little hectic, doesn't it? Look at it this way, at least we live in a free nation where we have so many opportunities to stay active, whether it's for work or enjoyment. When I talk to the general public, they all think that Farm Bureau is busiest when farmers are most active, in spring and fall. But that's not the case at all. When farmers are in the field, Farm Bureau is wrapping up items from the winter and planning for summer activities or vice versa. And for most Farm Bureaus, winter is the busiest time of all; meetings, meetings, meetings. That's because most farmers have more time to attend these activities during the winter. Just between you and me, I think farmers go back to the fields so early these days just to get away from all the Farm Bureau meetings. But, in reality, it does get a little tiring after the long winter. But then we move into the summer, and, for whatever reason, Sangamon County Farm Bureau is busier than most other County Farm Bureaus during that time. In fact, the staff and leaders usually go in so many different directions during summer that it's hard to keep up with each other. I feel like I need a nap just thinking about all those activities. But I'll leave that for the occasional Sunday afternoon. The real reason for mentioning all these events is that I want you to know that Sangamon County Farm Bureau is working extremely hard to cover all the bases and provide maximum benefit to all our valued members. That isn't possible without Farm Bureau being blessed with some really awesome

staff and equally awesome volunteers. These people have the love and drive for what Farm Bureau stands for and are not to be underestimated as it relates to our success. Our volunteers, committee members, and specifically our committee chairs give many hours of their time throughout the year. I want to thank each of them for their time, talents, and friendship. And make sure that you take time to participate in the events they've put together just for you. They're fun, educational, and social, all wrapped up in one. And, when you see our volunteers working at one of our events, please take a second and thank them. Without their hard work, there wouldn't be all the great events. I wish everyone a fun-filled summer with family and friends and the good Lord's blessing on everyone's livestock and crops.

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## WOMEN'S



**Cassie Bennett**

Hey there farmers! I hope the planting season treated you well. I hope you were able to stop by the HAYLOFT at the Sangamon County Fair and check out the activities we had available! Also, be on the lookout for AG-Stravaganza coming up on July 24! It's always a great time with the family!

## Committee Reports



**Janet Edwards**

WOW, I can't believe it is time for another issue of the Sangamo Farmer. The crops are finally all in the ground, growing and looking very good for right now. I like this time of year when everything is green, and the weather is warm!

I am writing this from the Sangamon County Fair office as fair time is upon us. By the time this issue comes to you, the Sangamon County Fair will be over, and we will be getting prepared for the Illinois State Fair. Summer has all of a sudden sped up. Let's look at upcoming activities in July that you might be interested in attending! The committees have been working hard to put these together for you, the members.

On Friday, July 8th, the Foundation Golf Outing will be held at Edgewood Golf Course. If you like to golf or would like to support the foundation in some way, please contact the office at (217-753-5200), and Arika or Madison would be happy to help you. The Youth Expo Show will be held on Saturday, July 16th, at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds. This is where the youth of Sangamon County will come to "show off" their prize animals. This is a fun day where family and friends can watch the kids show and visit with each other. While you are at the show, maybe get lunch from one of the vendors who will be there.

Last but not least, July 24th and 25th will be Ag-Stravaganza which again will be held at the Park in Sherman. Sunday is open to the public from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday is Daycare Day, where we have a full slate of daycare's coming to learn about agriculture from our volunteers, Young Leaders, and FFA members. For a while, we thought it would NEVER get warm again, but it has, and we should all get out and enjoy some of the activities available to us through Sangamon County Farm Bureau. Who knows, you might make a memory or two!! Till the next issue, please be safe, and GOD BLESS!!

### *Pork Chop Lunch & Fundraiser*

**\$560 raised to benefit the Illinois Harvest for All Campaign to fight against food insecurity in our local community.**

**Donations were given to Auburn Food Pantry!**





**Phil Sidles**

As I write this note, we are preparing for the whirlwind of a June primary. By the time you read this, we will know the results. One thing is for sure; I'll bet the mail carrier will be glad it's over for a while.

Elections are the backbone of this country, but it's a shame at what lengths some will go to win an election. I hope that with the primary out of the way, some candidates can forget the name-calling and trash and focus on the actual issues facing this county, state, and country. But unfortunately, I doubt it. As a committee, we try to focus on the issues: good ones, bad ones, and everything in between. And often, that's where some of our grassroots policy is derived. When you have any ideas or things you would like to see changed, it all starts with a conversation. And the staff and I are always available to have those discussions.

We as a committee also focus on relationships on all levels of government, whether on a local level with county officials, a state level with all branches of state government, and working with congressional representatives and federal agencies. It is neat to see the reach a little committee in little Sangamon County can have. I encourage everyone to be involved in doing the best we can, not just for ourselves, but for our children and our children's children, because those are the ones that will be facing the consequences of our actions and decisions.

## *Congratulations!*

### To Our New Certified Directors



**Gary Reavis**



**Charles Mayfield**

The County Farm Bureau Certified Director Program was created by Illinois Farm Bureau to further the knowledge and professional skills of County Farm Bureau Boards of Directors. The program is voluntary and therefore shows the level of dedication of those leaders who choose to complete it. The certification program requires directors to complete five modules, each of which teaches topics such as issue management and advocacy. Successful completion of the certification takes a moderate investment time and commitment.



**Janet Edwards**



# 2022 Scholarship Winners



*Josephine Brunner*



*Luke Boesdorfer*



*Amber Mies*



*Caitlin Lauwerens*



*Wyatt Buckles*

*Josephine Brunner, daughter of Thomas & Amy Brunner, graduated from Lutheran High School this spring. Josephine will be attending Olivet Nazarene University, majoring in Zoology with a minor in Business for Pre-Veterinarian Studies. Josephine was also selected as the winner of the William N Etherton Memorial Scholarship. Congratulations to Josephine!*

*Luke Boesdorfer, son of Benjamin & Tammy Boesdorfer, graduated from Auburn High School this spring. Luke will be attending Lincoln Land Community College, majoring in Agri-Business Management. Congratulations to Luke!*

*Amber Mies, daughter of Ted & Julie Mies, graduated from Waverly High School this spring. Amber will be attending Kansas State University, majoring in Industrial Design within the College of Architecture, Planning, and Design. Congratulations Amber!*

*Caitlin Lauwerens, daughter of James & Christina Lauwerens, graduated from Rochester High School this spring. Caitlin will be attending Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, majoring in Actuarial Science. Congratulations Caitlin!*

*Wyatt Buckles, son of Matthew & Lynn Buckles, graduated from Tri-City High School this past spring. Wyatt will be attending Lincoln Land Community College majoring in Ag- Business Management & Precision Agronomy. Congratulations Wyatt!*

# 2022 Spring AgVenture Tour Recap



**ANOTHER AGVENTURE BARN TOUR HAS COME AND GONE! THANK YOU TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME TO EDUCATE OUR LOCAL YOUTH! WE VISITED SIX ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTY AND HAD A BLAST SHARING OUR FARM ANIMALS WITH THEM.**



## MEET THE ANIMALS



**HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS FOR ALLOWING US TO USE THEIR FARM ANIMALS TO TEACH THE YOUTH OF SANGAMON COUNTY ABOUT AGRICULTURE!**

12th Annual  
**Golf Outing**  
FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2022

Edgewood Golf Club • Auburn, IL

**7:45 AM** Registration and **8:30 AM** Shotgun Start  
Lunch & Prizes immediately following play

**\$300** / Foursome or **\$75** / Individual Golfer  
includes lunch, beverages on the course,  
cart rental, and 18 holes of golf



**NOT A GOLFER? JOIN US FOR LUNCH!**

The goal of the SCFB Foundation Golf Outing is to raise funds for our scholarship program. This year we were proud to award five \$2,500 scholarships to outstanding local youth!



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**SANGAMON COUNTY  
YOUTH  
EXPO**  
July 16, 2022

Online entry forms can be found at  
[sangamonfb.org/events](http://sangamonfb.org/events)

*All entry forms must be  
submitted by July 1, 2022.*

Join us for a fun day learning about agriculture!

# Ag-Stravaganza

A **FREE** family event!

**July 24**  
**1:00 p.m.**  
**to 3:00 p.m.**

Sherman Village Park  
1200 Rail Fence Rd.,  
Sherman, IL

**Experience Agriculture**  
**Hands-on**

**Talk with Farmers**

**Learn about**

**PIGS, HONEYBEES, GARDENS, SOYBEANS,**  
**BEEF CATTLE, SHEEP, TECHNOLOGY, POULTRY,**  
**FARM MACHINERY ... AND MORE!**



## Questions?

Call Sangamon County Farm Bureau  
at **217.753.5200**

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