**Fulton County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship Winners**

The Fulton County Farm Bureau Foundation recognized their 5 scholarship recipients during the County Annual Meeting. Each of them will receive $1500 in a “one-time” award after their first semester of college.

Emma Earthington is the daughter of Kevin and Patricia Earthington and will graduate from Spoon River Valley High School this spring. She is going to the University of Illinois/ Urbana Champaign campus to study animal science. She plans to work in the field of animal nutrition.

Amelia Perrilles is also a senior at Spoon River Valley High School and is the daughter of Scott and Mary Perrilles. She plans to start her college education at Western Illinois University, majoring in Animal Science, and later pursuing a career as a veterinarian.

Amy Shaeffer is also a senior at Spoon River Valley High School and is the daughter of Bruce and Charlene Shaeffer and plans to go to Spoon River College and prepare for a career as a veterinary assistant.

Rachel Slater is a senior at Cuba High School and is the daughter of Roy and Barbara Slater. She will continue her education at Spoon River College, transferring to Western Illinois University to complete her Registered Nurses degree, and plans to eventually become a Nurse Practitioner practicing in Fulton County.

Tysin Stone is a senior at Lewistown High School and is the son of Jeff and Elaine Stone. Tysin plans to study ag engineering or ag business, starting at ICC, possibly playing baseball, later transferring to the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana campus.

The FCFB Foundation was established with the intentions of helping young people interested in agricultural careers finance their educations. Since its establishment in 1995, it has helped 105 students by providing over $95,000 in awards to high school seniors.

Selection is based on academics, extracurricular involvement, and community and volunteer services. Applicants must be children of Fulton County Farm Bureau members and MUST be going into a study leading to an occupation that benefits our rural communities. Award amounts vary each year.

The contributions of our members and ag businesses make these awards possible. Each year the Foundation collects about $9000 in donations, with dues and through memorials. Please consider donating this year with your dues payment, so that we can continue to help our Farm Bureau kids with their plans to serve our rural communities in the future!

**FCFB Annual Meeting Recap**

The Fulton County Farm Bureau’s 103rd COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING from was celebrated Monday, February 10th at Big Horse Vineyards near Lewistown. Nearly 150 members and guests attended the dinner and meeting.

Todd Jones of Lewistown received this year’s Leo Sharp Agricultural Service Award. FFB Vice President Brian Duncan of Polo, Illinois, was with us and addressed the group. The 5 FCFB Foundation Scholarship recipients were with us. Barry Fisher was re-elected as President for his second year. Retiring Director Leighton Rector of Table Grove was recognized for his 6 years on the Board, most of that time as Business Service Chair. Seth Vohland finished the remaining one year terms of Barry Fisher, and was elected to a new 3-year Directorship on the Board.

The evening was capped off with entertainment from the Lewistown High School Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Band Instructor Justin Haynes. MANY great door prizes were awarded at the end of the evening, with ALMOST EVERYONE in attendance going home with something. Thanks to all who donated door prizes (listed elsewhere in this issue).

**FCFB Policy Development Meetings**

Fulton County Farm Bureau members are encouraged to attend either of the Policy Development and Issues meetings being held in the coming weeks. Staff from Illinois Farm Bureau Governmental Affairs and Commodities Division will give a presentation and lead the discussion. In addition to supper and the chance to visit with fellow Farm Bureau members, the Viewpoint Survey will be presented.

The meeting times and locations are as follows:

- Bernadotte Café, Bernadotte, Monday, March 9th.
- American Grille, Canton, Monday, March 30th.

Both meetings will begin with dinner at 6:30pm. Please make your reservation for the meeting by calling the Farm Bureau office at 547-3011, or emailing to fultonfb@att.net. Be sure to say which meeting you will be attending. There is a $5 charge. Please make your reservation at least 4 days before you wish to attend. Please help us manage our costs by keeping your reservation.

FCFB President Barry Fisher presents a retirement plaque to Leighton Rector. Leighton completed his 6-year tenure on the board, serving most of that time as Business Service Chair.
January

The Fulton County Farm Bureau Board of Directors met in regular session on Thursday, January 9, 2020, at the Farm Bureau office in Lewistown, starting at 7:00 p.m. pursuant to due notice given. The meeting was called to order and presided over by Vice-President Barry Fisher. Other board members present were Wes Strode, Julie Serven, Del- son Wilcoxen, Robin Fisher, David Tolley, Linda Rock, Leighton Rector, Bob Vohland, Seth Vohland and Katelyn Wickert. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 12th.

Correspondences, we received several thank you notes from 4-Hers for sponsoring the awards program. The notes were from Clayton Klafter, Jesse Young, and Abby Kemp. We also received a note from Katelyn Wickert for buying her lamb this summer.

There is a report on the Country Agency’s anhydrous on. Currently they are running 7 from the previous year. They are trying to get on Fulton FS’s fiscal year, income was down ing her lamb this summer.

We gave the Membership Report. In to- tal, we have 981 Regular Members, 7 Profes- sional Members, 1541 Associates for a total of 2529 members. The report was approved and placed on file.

Committee Reports:

- Young Leaders – No report tonight.
- Ag in the Classroom – In November Ja- mie talked about pumpkins and will dis- cuss Christmas trees. Four ladies visited our adopted class while in Chicago for annual meeting.
- Local Issues – We discussed some of the emcees that board members attended at annual meeting. The Fulton County Engineer is resigning after the first of the year.
- Legislative – We discussed the new tax law on vehicles.
- Marketing – Delson discussed the local grain and livestock markets.
- Business Service – The non-working wa- ter fountain was removed; a toilet was replaced, and the elevator was recently inspected.
- Promotion and Education – Ideas were discussed for co-sponsoring with Coun- try an electronic recycling drive and an Accounting/Business 101 type one day class. Possible “adopt” a stuffed farm ani- mal to raise money for Ag in the Class- room. Ideas were discussed to collect change for Harvest for All to be donated at Annual Meeting next year.
- CRP sign up with FSA started Monday and will con- tinue until February or funds are used up.
- Manager’s Report – Elaine has been pre- paring for County Annual Meeting and the Audit. She reminded Directors of upcoming meetings.

Old Business:

- IAA Annual Meeting was recapped. Ful- ton County placed 2nd in the IAA Foun- dation Tiesa Fundraiser. The resolution sessions were pretty uneventful.
- Directors discussed County Annual meeting, which is February 10th at Big Harre, the cost per person is set at $12. Board members were asked to get door prizes.
- Nominating Committee – Leighton has a replacement in mind.
- Winter Policy Meetings – keep the same format as in the past year.
- New Business:

- Program ideas for this winter were talked about.
- Support Staff hourly wage was discussed.
- A membership bonus for the Member- ship Secretary was discussed and ap- proved.
- An honorarium for the CFB President for the previous year’s work was discussed and approved.
- The 2020 holiday building closure sched- ule was discussed and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.
Stroke Detection Plus Screenings and EKG

On Wednesday April 1 from 9:00-3:30 Stroke Detection Plus will be conducting ultrasound screenings for members at the Fulton County Farm Bureau in Lewistown. Screenings include: Stroke Screening, Atrial Fibrillation, Peripheral Arterial Disease, and Osteoporosis. They will also offer an EKG for those that sign up. Cost to Farm Bureau members is $100 for all four screenings plus $35 for the EKG add on. The non-member price is $170. Atrial Fibrillation puts you at 5 times greater risk to suffer a stroke. Atrial fibrillation, or AFib, is the most common type of irregular heartbeat. It occurs when one or both of the upper chambers of the heart—called the atria—don’t beat the way they should. This can cause blood to pool in the left atrium, where a blood clot can form. If that clot breaks away, it can travel to the brain, where it can cause a type of stroke. AFib affects more than 2 million people in the United States. The odds of developing AFib go up with age. In fact, the American Heart Association states that AFib is the most common type of irregular heartbeat in people over the age of 65. Our simple EKG screening can detect AFib before it causes a stroke. This screening is a $35 add on. A comparable test in the hospital setting costs up to $1200, so this is a quick and cost effective screening and is an effective way to detect this condition before it causes disability. To schedule an appointment, call Stroke Detection Plus at 1-877-732-8258 and indicate you are a Farm Bureau member to save $35 on all four of the screenings.

“Faces of Ag” Campaign is Back!

The Fulton County Farm Bureau is bringing back the “Faces of Ag” this year! We want to do something BIG to celebrate National Agriculture Week (March 22-28) so we’re celebrating all MONTH long! Each day during the month of March, we’ll be spotlighting an individual or family involved in farming or the ag industry. Follow us, like and share our stories and encourage others to follow us on the Fulton County Farm Bureau Facebook page as we celebrate the diversity, dedication, and passion of our “Faces of Ag”.

We will be taking a break from our “Monday Morning Moment” for the duration, and we will not be making any other posts on our page. To keep up to date on FCFB happenings, check out our website fultoncfb.org.

FCFB to sponsor showing of grain safety Movie “Silo”

Inspired by true events, “Silo” follows a harrowing day in an American farm town. Disaster strikes in a small American farm town when teenager Cody Rose becomes the victim of a grain entrapment incident. As grain turns to quicksand inside a 50-foot tall silo, the town locals must put aside their differences to save Cody from drowning in the crop that has sustained their community for generations.

Developers of the movie worked for five years to develop, research, and connect with farmers and talk to them about farm safety. They also reached out to rural fire departments that work with grain bin safety. Farm safety is a serious topic that deserves national recognition. This movie is based on a true events and tells the story of small town America. Organizers said, “We want every farmer to see this. It is such a good reminder, that no matter how careful you think you are going to be, you can still get into a world of trouble.

When weather threatens your livelihood, we’re ready to help

Prevented Planting claims by the numbers*

In 2019, farmers experienced a year like no other. A rainy spring kept thousands of farmers from planting their fields, far surpassing previous Prevented Planting claims records from 2013.

Contact a local COUNTRY Financial Representative to ensure your Federal Crop policy covers everything you need.

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Kory Schmidt
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*COUNTRY Financial’s crop claims data as of October 1, 2019
Farm and crop insurance policies issued by COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company®, Bloomington, Illinois, 1991922A.
Please support your local FS. Each provides funding for this publication and other Farm Bureau activities. Show your appreciation!

Please remember their generosity when shopping at their establishments in the future!