Duck Race Brings In $600 for AITC

Congratulations to Krista Gray of Lewistown; the winner of the 2020 Duck Race! Krista’s duck was the first to reach the finish line in the inaugural AITC Duck Race. We ended up with 85 racing ducks and raised $600 for our program! Krista received a lovely gift basket of locally-produced items, valued at a total of $100.

THANK YOU to everyone who purchased a duck, going all the way back to our County Annual Meeting in February. If you’ll remember, our original plan was to race the ducks at the pre-Fair Pool Party at Big Creek Park in July. When that was no longer an option, we pivoted and were hoping for a little rain to make it possible to do the race in the creek at Big Horse Vineyard at the end of August. When we hadn’t had rain FOR WEEKS, late one Sunday afternoon at the end of August, we went to plan C and raced them in a residential swimming pool.

We hope to bring it back next year, bigger and better. We’re sure we’ll be able to do our next one at a community event and celebrate with our contestants.

Krista Gray had the winning duck at the AITC Duck Race.

GROWMARK Announces 2021 Essay Contest Theme

The theme for the 2021 GROWMARK Essay Contest is: “If you could invent a new technology to improve agriculture, what would it be?” The contest is open to all high school FFA members in Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. This is the 28th year for the program, sponsored by the GROWMARK System and FS member cooperatives, in conjunction with state FFA leaders, to help young people develop their writing skills, learn about current issues affecting agriculture, and understand the unique role of cooperatives.

Students will describe a problem within the agricultural industry, and a creative way to provide a solution. Students are encouraged to be creative with their ideas, whether or not the solution they propose is currently possible. Essays will be submitted online at www.bit.ly/GMKEssay2021. The deadline for all submissions is midnight Central time on November 6, 2020. Additional program details have been sent to agriculture teachers and are online at growmark.com.

About GROWMARK:

GROWMARK is an agricultural cooperative with annual sales of $8.7 billion (FY 2019 data) providing agronomy, energy, facility planning, and logistics products and services, as well as grain marketing and risk management services throughout North America. Headquartered in Bloomington, Illinois, GROWMARK owns the FS trade-mark, which is used by affiliated member cooperatives. More information is available at growmark.com.

ACTIVATOR Needs Your Support

Dear Farm Bureau (Members),

As we get to the closing days of this election cycle, I want to take the opportunity to ask that each and every one of our County Farm Bureaus help work to get the Friends of Agriculture and other endorsed candidates in open seats elected. The Illinois Farm Bureau ACTIVATOR® program is a vital part of our political engagement and helps build solid relationships with candidates seeking election. The future of agriculture depends on making sure our Illinois Congressional Delegation and the Illinois State General Assembly have “friends” who support agriculture.

The campaign process is never easy but encouraging our members to vote for the candidates who are endorsed is crucial. We need to focus on taking the candidates seeking re-election who have been endorsed as Friends of Agriculture based on their past voting actions and newly endorsed candidates seeking office for the first time and getting them elected. Our actions in support of these endorsed candidates is paramount to sending a clear message that we want to see them elected.

We need to work together in delivering the message to our members that the endorsed candidates need to be elected. Please work with ACTIVATOR in seeing that we support the following candidates in the upcoming election: US House of Representatives District 17 Cheri Bustos - Friend of Agriculture. Illinois State Senate District 47 Jil Tracy Mid-Term - Friend of Agriculture. Illinois State House of Representatives District 93 Norine Hammond – Friend of Agriculture. 91 Mark Luft – Endorsed. I would like to thank each and every one of our County Farm Bureau’s for your support in working to get these Friend of Agriculture recipients and endorsed candidates in open seats elected. If you have any questions, please reach out to me, Kevin Selmow (309-557-2308 / kselmow@ilfb.org) or Adam Nielsen (309-531-1950 / aneilson@ilfb.org).

Sincerely,

Dennis Green Chairperson, Illinois Farm Bureau ACTIVATOR®

*Letter was edited to include only voter districts within Fulton County.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUTS &amp; CANDIES</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peanut Halves, 1 pound</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Cashews, 1 pound</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Peanuts, 1 pound</td>
<td>$9.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gummi Bears, 1 pound</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit &amp; Nut Trail Mix, 1 pound</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEESES</td>
<td>Price</td>
<td>Price</td>
<td>Amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pound Farmer Cheese</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pound Baby Swiss</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pound Cranberry Cheddar</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pound Mild Cheddar</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pound Longhorn</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pound Colby</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pound String Cheese</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pound Blue Cheese Wedges</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL | | | |
| 2020 CHEESE AND NUTS SALE | | | |
| | | | |

| GET SETS | Price | Price | Amount |
| A. Couple’s Delight | $17.25 | Member/$20.25 Non-Member | |
| B. Family Pack | $16.50 | Member/$19.50 Non-Member | |
| C. Guest Pleaser | $12.25 | Member/$15.25 Non-Member | |
| D. Tailor’s Treat | $22.00 | Member/$25.00 Non-Member | |

| TOTAL | | | |

*Letter was edited to include only voter districts within Fulton County.

Payment must accompany order. Orders due by November 6th to Fulton County Farm Bureau, 1501 A N IL 139 Hwy, Lewistown, IL 61542. Make checks payable to Fulton County Farm Bureau. Items can be picked up at the Farm Bureau Building on December 16th between 9am and 5pm, unless special arrangements are made.

Name _ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ ____
September Board Highlights

The Fulton County Farm Bureau Board of Directors met in regular session on Thursday, September 10, 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 President Barry Fisher. Other board members present were Julie Serven, Wes Strode, Robin Fisher, Linda Rock, Seth Vohland, DeLson Wilcoxen, Keely Egelhoft, David Tolley, Bob Vohland and Levi Porter. Rob Janssen was absent. Also present were Manager Elaine Stone, Tony Laesch and Lance Moring from COUNTRY.

There were no correspondence messages this month.

In Affiliates Reports: Barry gave a quick West Central FS update. For Country, Tony said that the agents’ production has been good during COVID. Tony introduced our new agent, Lance Moring, who is currently working out of the Lewistown office and will be transitioning to Canton in the future. Country had 6700 non-crop claims from the August 10thiindstorm in Iowa and Illinois.

The minutes from the August meeting were email and mailed out before the meeting for the board members to read. The minutes were reviewed and the financial reports were placed on file for Audit.

When a hunter fell from an elevated tree stand, according to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Choosing a Sturdy Tree. Sinclair has taught hunter safety for 30 years and leads the Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports program, which includes a hunting and outdoor skills curriculum for youth that emphasizes safety and responsibility.

Deer hunters use stands, usually attached 10 to 18 feet up a tree, for a variety of reasons. The elevated position allows a clear line of sight over brush and the angle of projectiles is directed toward the ground.

“Being up in a tree is one of the most dangerous parts of deer hunting which is why you can’t learn too much.” Hunters should pick a tree that is sturdy and straight with no obvious signs of disease or damage such as hanging limbs that could fall. Oak trees with a trunk 8 to 16 inches in diameter are a good option.

Tree stands are most dangerous during the installation and take down. Whenever you’re off the ground, even if it’s 1 foot, you need to wear a safety harness that is attached to the tree, Sinclair says. “If you don’t have a harness on and you’re using both hands to work on something, you’re in a dangerous situation.”

Tree stand safety tips:

1. Leave enough time, do not install a stand the day you plan to hunt.
2. Select a sturdy, straight tree with a trunk 8-16 inches in diameter.
3. Always wear a safety harness.
4. Have a partner.
5. Use a haul line to pull up gear instead of climbing with it.

To help hunters, Sinclair demonstrates how to safely install a ladder stand, a hang on stand or a climbing stand in a series of videos available on YouTube at go.illinois.edu/TreeStand-Videos.

University of Illinois Extension 4-H Natural Resources and Shooting Sports Specialist Curt Sinclair has taught hunter safety for 30 years and leads the Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports program which includes a hunting and outdoor skills curriculum for youth that emphasizes safety and responsibility. Sinclair says anytime a hunter is in a tree, they should wear a safety harness.

FROM THE GROUND UP

UPSC No. 53 Standard Not For Profit

Does your Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) emblem look like this? Say it isn’t so! As you head to the fields this fall, make sure your harvest safety check includes cleaning and/or updating your SMV. This item is the single most important hazard warning on your tractor and implements. This recognizable symbol is the first warning to non-farm motorists that you are travelling at a speed much less than they are.

If you are in need of new or replacement SMV’s, PLEASE call us at 547-3011 and we will deliver to you!
Butler Donates Golf Balls

Steve Butler, COUNTRY Financial® Representative from Astoria, donated golf balls for the 12th annual South Fulton Football Golf Outing, which was held Sunday, Aug. 9.

Lance Donates Golf Balls

Lance Moring, COUNTRY Financial® Associate from Lewistown, IL. The best way to reach Lance is through relationship building and supporter of the community and its small town life in Fulton County.

Supporting The Mental Health of Farmers

A virtual conference will be held for mental health providers on Friday, November 6th, from 8:30am-4:30pm. There is no cost for Peer & Family Peer Support Specialists and a $50 fee for Mental Health providers. Mental Health providers are encouraged to contact our office at 547-3011 to receive reimbursement from the FCFB for taking the course.

Recipe:

Pork and Pineapple Stir-Fry

Ingredients:
- 1 can (8 ounces) unsweetened pineapple chunks, un-drained
- 3 Tbsp. Cornstarch, divided
- 1 Tbsp. plus 1/2 cup cold water, divided
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 1 pork tenderloin (1 pound) cut into thin strips
- 1/2 cup low sodium soy sauce (Can also use regular soy sauce)
- 3 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp ground ginger
- 2 Tbsp. canola oil, divided
- 4 cups fresh broccoli
- 1 cup fresh baby carrots, cut in half lengthwise
- 1 small onion, cut into wedges
- Hot cooked rice

Recipe:

1. Drain pineapple, reserving 1/2 cup juice; set aside. In a small bowl, combine 2 Tbsp. cornstarch, 1 Tbsp. water, garlic powder and 1 Tbsp reserved pineapple juice. Pour into a large resealable bag; add pork, Seal bag and turn to coat.
2. In a small bowl, combine the soy sauce, brown sugar, ginger, remaining water, cornstarch and reserved pineapple juice until smooth; set aside.
3. In a larger skillet or wok over medium-high heat, stir fry pork in 1 Tbsp canola oil until no longer pink; remove and keep warm.
4. Stir-fry the broccoli, carrots and onion in remaining oil until tender. Stir cornstarch mixture and add to pan. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Add pork and Pineapple; heat through. Serve with rice.

6 servings

Terri’s two cents: You could add bean sprouts, water chestnuts or any vegetable(s) that you like to make it even more delicious. I have made this many times and it is a great go to meal for a fast week night dinner.

Prevent Combine Fires This Harvest

Combine fires are one of the most common and expensive types of fire incidents in production agriculture. They can also cause substantial setback during harvest.

“Combine fires often start behind the operator’s view, so it may be difficult to easily or quickly extinguish,” says Josie Rudolph, University of Illinois Extension associate research scientist. Several preventative actions can reduce the chance of fires.

The major cause of combine fires is the ignition of trash and debris, such as leaves, chaff, stalks, and other organic material, that build up around the engine, exhaust, or other machine parts. When those get hot during operation, they may combustion.

To prevent a debris fire, frequently blow debris with a portable leaf blower or air compressor, Rudolph says, and inspect the engine compartment where chaff may have accumulated around bearings, belts and other moving parts.

Another potential cause of fires is from a leak in the combine’s fuel or hydraulic system. Fuel or hydraulic fluid can ignite when it comes in contact with something hot, such as an engine’s muffler and exhaust system.

To prevent a fire in the fuel or hydraulic system, check lines before harvest and replace any leaking, cracked, or worn-looking lines. Keep fuel and hydraulic lines away from sources of heat.

“First, it’s important to perform routine inspections throughout harvest to ensure lines are not leaking,” Rudolph says. “Never refuel a combine with the engine running. Turn off the engine and wait 15 minutes to reduce the risk of a spill volatilizing and igniting.”

Combines should be equipped with at least two readily accessible fire extinguishers that an operator can reach and use before a fire becomes uncontrollable. Have additional fire extinguishers in the tractor, grain cart, and pickup truck.

“Most importantly, have an emergency plan in place so all employees know what to do in the event of a combine fire.” In the event of a fire, turn off the machine and exit the cab immediately, Rudolph says. Call 911 before attempting to extinguish the fire and maintain a safe distance while using the extinguisher.

Currently, services offered at Lance Moring – COUNTRY Financial include:
- Home, auto, life, and health insurance coverage
- Education on:
  - Historic trends and current challenges associated with Midwestern agricultural production
  - Stress management in the farming community
  - Providing mental health support to farmers
  - What farmers wish mental health providers would know
  - Connecting with farmers
  - The use of Peer Support to serve farmers and connect them with community-based resources

The conference is sponsored by the Iowa Peer Support & Family Peer Support Training Program. Registration is available via a link on Iowa State University Outreach and Extension Website. (Contact us at 547-3011 for the link or contact Dianne-Brenneman@iowa.edu 319-356-8637.)

For more information on mental health and farm stress, please visit the Midwest Outreach and Extension Website. (Contact us at 547-3011 for the link or contact Dianne-Brenneman@iowa.edu 319-356-8637.)
YES, WE HAVE A REWARDS PROGRAM. IT’S CALLED “HARVEST.”

At FS, we’re member owned. That means we spend our time developing seed—not marketing gimmicks. It’s why FS INVISION and FS HISOY continue to outperform the competition. Make no mistake; other seed companies will keep trying to buy your loyalty. But here at FS, we prefer to earn it.

www.prairieandfs.com

Fulton FS
309-547-2896
West Central FS
1-800-282-5242

“Please support your local FS. Each provides funding for this publication and other Farm Bureau activities. Show your appreciation!”

West Central FS, Inc.

WHAT’S NEXT:
FINANCE FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE

At West Central FS, Inc. our mission statement is to bring long-term value and profitability to our farmer owners. This is why for the 2023 crop season we are pleased to offer you FS Financing on both seed and crop protection.

This FS Agri-Financer program allows you to book your seed and crop protection needs early and take advantage of priority discounts without having to write a check. We hope you will take advantage of this money-saving offer.

For more information, contact:
Jennifer M Sparrow
Agri-Finance Specialist
309-221-9620

BRINGING YOU WHAT’S NEXT™

Farron, Shannon, or Chase
Lewistown (309)547-2896
Ipava (309)753-3253

Be sure you can rebuild your home.

If your home was destroyed by a storm, would you be able to rebuild the same home in the same location? Does your coverage level protect those marble countertops you put in last year? Make sure it does.

We’re just one of a few insurance companies that offers an Additional Replacement Cost policy that helps you rebuild your home if it’s destroyed by a covered loss — even if the cost to rebuild is more than the limits on your policy.

Call us to chat about Additional Replacement Cost.

If disaster strikes, we want to help you make sure you’re covered.

Tanya Laugh, Agency Manager
309-547-9945
Richard Sharpshair, Canton
309-547-9225
Kory Schmidt, Lewistown
309-547-2241
Ray Kiehna, Canton
309-547-8180
Lance Morling, Canton
309-547-2490
Shelley Puslin, Bushnell
309-775-3003
Walter Brown, Canton
309-547-8280
Steve Butler, Astoria
309-579-2722

*Coverage limits apply in the following counties: La Salle, Fulton
Please see your agent for more details.

Be sure you can rebuild your home. Contact your local COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company. COUNTRY Financial includes COUNTRY Financial Insurance Company’s COUNTRY Casualty Insurance Company, West Des Moines, IA.

EMB-00962-013010

COUNTRY FINANCIAL