

From the *Ground UP*



Vol. 40, No. 3

May/June 2024

Fulton County Fair Queen Candidates



Cadie Churchill



Carlee Belless

FCFB Young Leader Committee QUEEN CANDIDATE CADIE CHURCHILL - Our Committee is proud to introduce Miss Cadie Churchill for Miss Fulton County Fair. The Queen Pageant will be held on the opening night of the Fulton County Fair, Monday, July 22nd. Cadie is the 17-year-old daughter of Jason and Christy Churchill of Ellisville. She will be a Senior this fall at Cuba High School. She has been active in volleyball, track, and cheerleading.

FCFB PROMOTION & EDUCATION COMMITTEE QUEEN CANDIDATE CARLEE BELLESS-Our P & E Committee is proud to introduce Miss Carlee Belless for Miss Fulton County Fair. The Queen Pageant will be held on the opening night of the Fulton County Fair, Monday, July 22nd. Carlee is the 17-year-old daughter of Deanna Dueshane, Jason Stambaugh, and Coty and Mandy Belless. She will be a Senior this fall at Astoria High School. She currently works at Wilson's Dog Training. She has been active in 4-H, FFA, and cheerleading.

FCFB Public Relations Report

By Director Leah Brown

Fulton County Farm Bureau members continue to be busy! For the month of May we had a couple of Ice Cream making dates at local schools and hosted our Adopted Classroom, St. Germaine Catholic School from Oak Lawn, on May 15th. The number of kids from our adopted school doubled because we not only hosted this year's 4th graders, but also the 8th grade class that would have been 4th graders in 2020. Covid caused us to cancel the tour that year so they joined the fun this year! Please look at our Facebook page to see all the fun pics. Thank you to everyone that helped that day. This is a very successful program and we not only educate the children, but the parents and supervisors as well!!!

We helped sponsor Dr. Steve Johnson when he spoke in Macomb in June and some of our Fulton County Farm Bureau members attended those sessions. Dr. Johnson never fails to entertain us even when he doesn't bring good news of high grain market prices, however, he does help educate us on how to create a Marketing Plan and what to look for. If you have not attended his events before, please consider attending one in the future.

Elaine and I have also been attending our individual OMS Subcommittee meetings. OMS stands for Organizational Member Strategy and is a IFB state-wide project. Elaine is part of the Membership subcommittee and I am on the Programming and Engagement Committee. Each of our groups have met in person and have had a few Zoom calls. We are working on how and what our Farm Bureau will look like in the future. There is also a County Farm Bureau Structure/Staffing Committee. Don't be surprised if you get a phone call in the near future asking your opinions!

Upcoming Events:

June 28: Grazing Workshop

July 12: Blood Drive

July 16-18: Summer Ag Institute

July 24: Fulton County Farm Bureau at the Fulton County Fair

Be watching our Facebook page for more information on these events and join us when you can!

Defensive Driving Class Aug. 16

We have scheduled an AARP Smart Driving Course for Friday, August 16th at the Farm Bureau Building in Lewistown. The course will run from 8am to 4:30pm. There is a \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-AARP members.

There will be a 30-minute lunch break during the class. (Soup and sandwich provided or you can "brown-bag" it!). Charge for the provided lunch is \$6 for Non-Farm Bureau members, and free of charge to members. Kenneth Cole is the presenter and there is no testing requirement.

When you take the AARP Smart Driver™ course, you could be eligible for a multi-year discount on your auto insurance.* Plus safer driving can save you more than just money. The course teaches proven driving techniques to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road.

Additionally, you'll learn important facts about the effects of medication on driving, how to reduce driver distractions, how to maintain the proper following distance behind another car. Also, proper use of safety belts, air bags, anti-lock brakes and new technology found in cars today, techniques for handling left turns, right-of-way, and roundabouts, and age-related physical changes and how to adjust your driving to compensate.

The class will qualify senior drivers for preferred rates on some insurance policies. Please check with your Insurance Rep/agent to see if this class qualifies for any discounts. Our office cannot confirm nor guaranteed these discounts. Anyone interested in the class is asked to call the Farm Bureau at 547-3011 to register. Entrance to the building will be available at 7:45am that morning.



Please note
NEW
location!

**Fulton County Farm Bureau
Blood Drive
Lewistown Carnegie Library**

Community Room
1126 N Main St
Lewistown, IL 61542

Friday, July 12, 2024
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Call 547-3011 to schedule appointment or
go to www.redcrossblood.org or scan:



Scan to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to RapidPass®



JUNE BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Fulton County Farm Bureau Board of Directors met in regular session on Thursday, June 13, 2024, 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 Robin Fisher, Delson Wilcoxon, Nick Cleer, Seth Vohland, and Leah Brown. David Tolley and Levi Porter attended via Zoom. Also present was Manager Elaine.

In correspondences, thank you letters were received from our St. Germaine students for the Field Trip. There were no affiliate reports.

The minutes from the April meeting were emailed and mailed out before the meeting for the board members to read. These were placed on file with no changes.

Treasurer Linda Rock discussed the financial statements for April and May. She noted that a CD had come due at MidAmerica National Bank and was renewed at a rate of 5.8%. One will come due in a couple of weeks at Tompkins State Bank. Elaine will

check on rates for that one. The financial reports for April and May were placed on file.

Elaine gave the Membership Report: In total, we have 969 regular members at the end of previous month, 11 professional members, and 1549 associate members for a total of 2529 members. She reminded Directors to reach out to members who did not renew their dues this year.

Committee Reports were given:

Young Leaders – The Farmer’s Tan contest will be held at the county fair again. On June 26th they will be shopping for a donation to the Fulton County Humane Society.

Ag in the Classroom- We made plastic bag ice cream in several classrooms and learned about farmer’s markets during the last months of school. The AITC freezer meal fundraiser raised about \$3,000.

Local Issues – no report

Legislative – Carbon capture pipeline topic has resurfaced. The current push is that if 75% of the landowners say yes to the pipeline footprint, the pipeline will go through and the other 25% will get zero compensation.

Marketing – no report

Business Service – We had the kitchen sink garbage disposal replaced. Copier rental expired and Xerox did not respond to requests for renewal. Arrangements have been made with a different company at a lower rate.

Promotion and Education – Leah provided a report. (Detailed elsewhere in this issue).

DIRECTOR SCOREBOARD	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	June 2024
Barry Fisher	✓	N	✓	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	✓
Robin Fisher	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Linda Rock	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
David Tolley	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Seth Vohland	✓	M		M			✓	✓		✓	M	✓
Levi Porter	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Nick Cleer	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Jeff Shelby	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Jason Chatterton	✓				✓	✓		✓		✓		✓
John Lock	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Leah Brown	NA				NA	NA	NA	NA	✓	✓		✓
Delson Wilcoxon	NA				NA	NA	NA	NA	✓	✓		✓

Manager’s Report – Since the last meeting, Elaine has been working on Farm Safety Camp, Summer Ag Institute, Grazing Workshop, Blood Drive, and preliminary County Fair activities. Important upcoming dates: June 18 – Landowner Education Meeting, June 28 – Grazing Workshop, July 12 – Blood Drive, July 16-18 – Summer Ag Institute, July 21-27 – County Fair, July 24 – Board works the gates, July 30-31 – President’s Conference, August 12 – Country Appreciation Night

In Old Business, Directors discussed the Adopted Class Visit. The visit went well. All comments were positive and the kids enjoyed their selves. Directors decided to continue the project as it’s a good link to educate urban families about the realities of farming. Country Appreciation Event set for Monday August 12th at the Bistro in Canton at 6 pm was discussed.

The Grazing Workshop planned for Fri-

day, June 28th was discussed. Everything is ready to go. So far several people are signed up.

New Business was discussed. Directors will be working the County Fair entrance gates and grandstands on Wednesday, July 24th. Linda Rock & Sandy Bonny will bid for us at the livestock auction. Elaine will have the watermelons and water to be served after the livestock auction.

Activator Trustee Appointments were discussed. We need at least three trustees to cover the representatives and senator. Leah Brown will be the trustee for Hammond, Anderson, and Sorenson. Barry Fisher will be the trustee for Weaver. We still need one trustee from southern Fulton County.

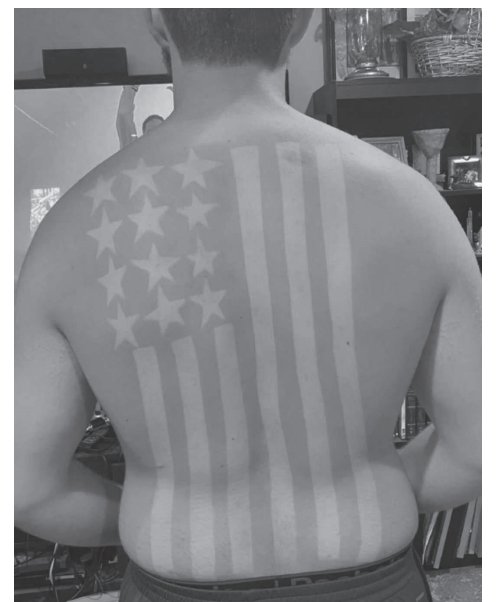
Directors discussed a letter from IAA recommending CFB’s engage outside counsel. Signing the agreement was tabled. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 11.

Calling All Farmer Tans!

Our Farmer Tan Contest is back! Whatever the line of demarcation—crop top stripes, white bands beneath wristwatches, semi-scorched scalps, or just the standard milky bicep adjoining a florid forearm—email fultonfb@att.net or message us here with your pictures by July 12th. (No late entries accepted). We’ll select the 6 sweetest Farmer Tans, slap your photo on a can in our booth in County Fair Merchant Building and let folks vote by adding money to your can. All money collected will be used for Young Leader future programming.

All genders, ages, and professions allowed. Please; use good taste. We DO reserve the right to prohibit any inappropriate photos. And PLEASE be sensible; do NOT risk skin cancer for a “minor” award.....

Bring on those FARMER TANS!



2024 YOUNG LEADER

DISCUSSION MEET Topics for District

Districts 7&8 (That includes Fulton CFB!)
 Tuesday, August 13, Tazewell County FB, Pekin
 Check in @ 6:30 PM Starts @ 7:00 PM
 Please email Elaine fultonfb@att.net if you wish to participate. Deadline for registration is August 1st.

Discussion Meets:

Young farmers and ranchers are finding they need to diversify their farm portfolio. What are some ways that young farmers and ranchers can utilize diversification to explore new revenue sources? How can Farm Bureau support young members as they strengthen their farm and ranch businesses?

Farmers and ranchers are reliant on multiple energy sources to run equipment, heat livestock barns and power storage and maintenance facilities. How can Farm Bureau work with energy companies, local governments and rural communities to increase domestic energy production, minimize loss of agricultural land and protect private property rights?

FROM THE GROUND UP

UPSC No. 53 Standard Not For Profit

From the Ground Up is published by the Fulton County Farm Bureau, 15411-A N IL 100 HWY, Lewistown, IL 61542. Entered as standard class non-profit matter, February 1, 2017, in the Post Office at Lewistown, Illinois 61542. Membership fee paid to Fulton Farm Bureau includes \$1.00 subscription price to Farm Bureau Publications.

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FULTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Summer Ag Institute: Exploring IL Ag

Jul 16, 2024, 8:00 AM – Jul 18, 2024

TEACHERS - Spend 3 days learning about agriculture in our backyards. There will be farm visits and industry tours in McDonough and Fulton Counties, presentations from IL Ag in the Classroom and commodity experts, and A LOT of fun.

2024 Summer Agricultural Institute

Scan to
register!



Sprouting Success in the Classroom

AITC REPORT

Julie Werland, Coordinator

During April, my topic in area grade schools was Soil and the Wonderful World of Worms! I was in 43 classrooms that month and reached 779 students. During the month, I also spoke to the Retired Teachers group about our program. The Freezer Meal fundraiser we conducted on April 26th raised \$3300 profit! A HUGE thank you to all who helped prepare and assemble the meals, and especially to those who patronized our sale.

In the waning days of the school year throughout May, I presented to 50 classes, reaching a total of 953 kids! The main topic was Farmer's Markets. The Canton Chamber of Commerce collaborated

with us to collect coupons for \$1 additional on produce with a \$5 purchase at Canton Farmers Market June 1 thru Aug 15th. AITC is providing funds to reimburse the Chamber for monies



advanced to sellers. Students learned about specialty crops, what part of plant food comes from, the purpose of Farmers Market, and about pricing. They "made" their own Farmers Market and were given a chance to sample foods offered at Farmers Markets that perhaps they had not tried before like turnips, asparagus, broccoli, peppers, as well as ones like blueberries, strawberries, grapes, apples, carrots, green beans, and lettuce.

I attended the Ag in the Classroom Coordinator meeting on May 21st at Richland Center in Bloomington. We have planned for and sent notices to Fulton County teachers for our Summer Ag Institute being held July 16 thru 18th, 2024. I'm signed up for 3 Continuing Education seminars in June, and will be working on our FCAE Grant report and application for the next program year.

I will be presenting at the Canton YMCA Summer Program again this year. Every other Tuesday I will provide Agriculture learning to their day. Our first program was earlier this month on their theme "Community Day's." I used our large game wheel and a bingo card to discuss agricultural jobs in our community. I gave leftover rock candy (from our soil presentations!) for prizes. I will give 2 presentations each month this summer, reaching about 70 kids each time.

So even though "school's out for the Summer," we can't have a day without AGRICULTURE!



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Buy the orchard business and accompanying 18 +/- acres or own the entire 120 +/- acres! Orchard Hill is a Fulton County landmark and has been in business 90 years. The entire property consists of 42 acres tillable; 4 acres in CRP; and 74 acres in timber, apple & Peach trees, and the business areas. The apple cider produced there has won State and National cider competitions twice in the last 5 years. The deer hunting on this farm is amazing. A large creek runs through the timber. There are also multiple food plots on the property to draw in large amounts of deer. Mushroom hunting on the property is great, and the turkey population is making a comeback. Countless arrowheads and artifacts have been found here as well. The house is a 2400 sq ft, brick, 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath home with a finished walkout basement. You will enjoy stunning views of Emiquon and the Illinois River Valley every season! This is a very special property! Agent owned.

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