

# Champaign County Farm Bureau News

Vol. 85 No. 4

801 N. Country Fair Drive, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821

April 2007

Phone (217)352-5235

E-mail: ccfb@ccfarmbureau.com / Website: www.ccfarmbureau.com

Fax (217)352-8768

## Members visit lawmakers in Washington and Springfield

As an organization, Farm Bureau realizes the importance of having personal relationships with lawmakers at the local, state and federal levels. To establish and maintain those relationships, Farm Bureau members regularly take time away from their work and family to travel to Springfield and Washington, D.C. to meet with their legislators.

Every fall and spring the Illinois Farm Bureau Leaders to Washington program takes a group of Farm Bureau members to Washington, D.C. The program gives members an opportunity to experience national government "behind-the-scenes." The group meets with legislators and their staff to talk about issues important to Illinois agriculture. They also receive briefings from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

About two dozen county Farm Bureau leaders from around the state, including Betty Clasey, Robin Cruse and Marguerite Zahnd of Champaign County, participated in the March Illinois Farm Bureau Leaders to Washington trip.

It was the first time each of the Champaign County members had participated in the trip and

all said it was an unforgettable experience.

"We didn't stop going from the moment we landed until we got back on the plane," Zahnd said.

The group walked the halls of Congress March 6-8 to talk up the need for a strong safety net in the next farm bill, modern locks and for an extension of presidential trade promotion authority.

They met with Representative Tim Johnson and Senator Dick Durbin as well as staff members from representatives Bobby Rush and Rahm Emanuel and Senator Barack Obama.

In addition to meeting with members of the Illinois congressional delegation, the group visited the Canadian Embassy for a briefing on U.S.-Canada trade issues including an update on Canada's WTO challenge of the U.S. corn program. The group also received updates from USDA on soybean rust, the agriculture economy and farm programs.

The ladies reported on their trip to the Women's Committee and the Champaign County Farm Bureau Board of Directors during their March meetings. All three said they left with a new appreciation for the way govern-

ment really functions and how citizens can be part of it.

At the state level, a group of seven Champaign County Farm Bureau members made a trip to Springfield during National Agriculture Week to visit with state legislators who represent parts of Champaign County as well as CCFB's Adopted Legislator from Chicago.

The group met with senators Dale Righter, Michael Frerichs and Dan Rutherford and representatives Greg Harris, Bill Black, Chapin Rose, Shane Cultra and Naomi Jakobsson.

CCFB members expressed concerns about the governor's revenue proposal that includes a gross receipts tax. This proposal would tax all revenue received by a business without any deductions for the costs of doing business. It is not based on an ability to pay and the tax is imposed whether a business is profitable or not.

Even though businesses that gross less than \$1 million annually are exempt, the gross receipts tax (GRT) would impact all grain farmers by increasing their input costs.

For example, according to the



Marguerite Zahnd, Robin Cruse and Betty Clasey participated in the Illinois Farm Bureau Leaders to Washington trip in March. They visited several members of the Illinois Congressional delegation to talk about issues important to agriculture.



A group of seven Champaign County Farm Bureau members made a trip to the state capitol in Springfield to visit with the county's legislators. Above are (left to right) Paul Compton, Brad Uken, Robin Cruse, Kyle Krapf and Gerald Henry. (Karen Hertz and Scott Bidner not pictured.)

Continued on page 2



## Farmers exchange ideas at Viewpoint meeting

The Viewpoint Committee held its annual gathering with Champaign County farmers on March 9 at the Philo Tavern. Nearly 40 Champaign County Farm Bureau members came to share their opinion on issues and hear information from other members and local officials. Discussion topics included ethanol and biofuels, the governor's tax proposal and local land use.

The Viewpoint Committee periodically holds events that address current issues affecting local agriculture.

## Group to address school funding

Education funding reform is once again in the news as Governor Rod Blagojevich campaigns to pass his recent proposal to fund education and healthcare through a new gross receipts tax.

Prior to the governor's proposal, two bills were introduced in the Senate that would restructure education funding to make it less reliant on property taxes. Senator James Meeks of Chicago introduced SB 750 and Senator Michael Frerichs of Gifford introduced SB 508. SB 750 has been proposed and debated several times in the past, but has so far not been passed.

Senator Frerichs' bill would not be as far-reaching as SB 750, according to the senator's chief of staff, Zach Koutsky. However, it would provide property tax relief and a stronger focus on higher education. Neither bill is expected to be called for a vote as long as the General Assembly is considering the

governor's plan.

Illinois's education funding structure with its heavy reliance on property taxes has long been viewed as unfair by groups such as the Illinois Farm Bureau. However, farmers are not the only ones who see problems caused by the current education funding structure.

A group called the Coalition for School Funding Reform formed about four years ago in response to the difficulties being experienced by the Urbana school district because of their dependence on property taxes for school funding. The group was comprised of parents, educators and other interested citizens, including Farm Bureau members.

Champaign-Urbana provided an example of the iniquity of school funding through property taxes, according to Lin Warfel, a Champaign County farmer and member of the original coalition. As Champaign

grew and property values increased, the Unit 4 School District's budget grew as well. However, Urbana was not experiencing the same growth and had therefore not experienced the same funding increase for their schools.

The Coalition held a series of public meetings to educate the public and raise support for legislation that would amend the education funding structure. The group worked with then state Senator Rick Winkel and State Representative Naomi Jakobsson.

In light of the current proposals to reform education funding, the Coalition has begun to reorganize. The group has now met again for the first time in about three years to begin to look at the current situation and how to approach it.

"The needs are still huge," Warfel said. "The iniquities are

Continued on page 2



# President's Report

By Scott Bidner

## CCFB Members to Springfield

As noted in an article on page 1, a group of CCFB members traveled to Springfield at the end of March to talk to our representatives and senators. We need to give our elected officials credit for being able to discuss, in detailed terms, an impressive number of pieces of legislation.

Senator Dale Righter wins the contest for the most quotable quote regarding the Governor's ill advised proposed Gross Receipts Tax. To wit the senator, when asked whether he would support or oppose the Governor's GRT said: "It is possible I could be more against it....but I don't see how". In short, the plan is a huge tax increase that has been tried and abandoned by other states, including Indiana. It is a bad idea.

## Thoughts on 1031 Exchanges

I would assume that most people involved in Champaign County agriculture are aware that a 1031 land exchange is an aspect of tax law that allows a person to avoid capital gains tax from the sale of land by using that money to purchase like-kind property. Most people would also have an opinion, either to the good or to the bad, of 1031's impact. Proponents of 1031s say that they have been around for a long time and are used for equipment trades and can help farmers trade for land closer to home. Those statements are true, but perhaps overlook the bigger picture.

The Young Farmers and Ranchers organization (YF&R) of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) recently gathered for their annual meet-

ing. The YF&Rs answered survey questions regarding their optimism about the future and the challenges they face. The young respondents' largest concern was access to land and profitability. The first half of that answer sounds a lot like the statement of one young farmer debating on the floor of a past IAA annual meeting when the question of 1031 exchanges came up.

He said in brief "We are just asking for the same opportunity to buy and own land that you (older established farmers) had." There is a whole generation of young farmers, and those that would like to farm, that must now compete to buy land with 1031 money.

Illinois Farm Bureau policy addresses the question of 1031 exchanges' impact by calling for a comprehensive study by AFBF. That study has recently been completed and is currently being reviewed by the Illinois Farm Bureau Board of Directors. The study includes a survey of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers (ASFMRA) that states the percentage of buyers using 1031 money in 2005 Illinois land sales was over 50%. In 2006 that figure was 40%. More than statistically significant.

Some of the best people and farmers I know have benefited from 1031s. However, the overall effects of the policy on land prices and farm profitability should be explored further.

Most farmers I know are ready for a little time off from winter meetings and are looking forward to a little quality time planting the 2007 crop - Have a safe spring.

# D.C., Springfield

continued from page 1

Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association, corn producers would pay an extra \$3.31 per acre and soybean producers would pay an extra \$1.69 per acre for fertilizer, seed, chemicals and application.

The GRT and proposed taxes on services and payroll would also affect local grain elevators. The Illinois Grain and Feed Association estimates that an average grain elevator would pay about \$185,000 per year. As a result, a 2,000 acre farm that is 75 percent corn and 25 percent soybeans will lose \$7,655 per year just from lower grain prices.

The group also discussed bills addressing anonymous complaints to the IEPA, overweight permits for agricultural inputs and commodities, and recreational land use.



Marguerite Zahnd (right) talks with Senator Dick Durbin during the Illinois Farm Bureau Leaders to Washington trip in March. Zahnd was one of three participants from Champaign County.

# School funding

continued from pg. 1

still not tenable. We need to recognize that our world has changed and need to bring our structures up to date."

The Illinois Farm Bureau has once again made education funding reform one of its legislative priorities for 2007. The priority states that Illinois Farm Bureau supports "legislation to reform education funding in Illinois that implements the principles of accountability, adequacy and equity."

This issue has periodically come to the forefront during the last twenty years. One difference now, according to Warfel, is that many legislators believe reform is possible.

The Coalition will be holding their first public meeting on April 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Champaign County Farm Bureau auditorium. The speakers will be Jim Nowlan and Senator Mike Frerichs.



Women's Committee members Carol Erb, Betty Clasey and Barb Esworthy work on putting together the agricultural "flower pots" the group distributed last month. More than 30 classrooms in Champaign County received the pots and an information packet to help them learn about agriculture.

## Women's Committee spreads agriculture literacy to local schools

The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's Committee recently completed a project to help area elementary students make the connection between agriculture and the food they eat. The ladies made and distributed 34 baskets to Champaign County classrooms along with a packet of information about local commodities. The baskets featured "flowers" made of common food items that include corn, soybeans, wheat or oats as ingredients. The women put paper leaves on the stems that listed these ingredients.

## CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS

(USPS 099-840)

P.O. Box 3098 Champaign, IL 61826

Published Monthly by the Champaign County Farm Bureau  
801 N. Country Fair Drive, Ste. A, Champaign, IL 61821

Periodicals Postage Paid at Champaign (ISSN 1078-2966)  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to "Farm Bureau News"  
P.O. Box 3098 Champaign IL 61826  
SUBSCRIPTION RATE -- \$3 PER YEAR

### OFFICERS

Scott Bidner, Mahomet.....President  
Doug Hansens, Condit.....1st Vice President  
Paul Compton, S. Homer.....2nd Vice President  
Jeff Place, St. Joseph.....Secretary  
Paul Berbaum, Scott.....Treasurer

Mark Luedke, Ayers; Todd Weitekamp, Brown; John Widick, Champaign; Joe Klein, Colfax; Jeff Suits, Compromise; Doug Hansens, Condit; Eric Rund, Crittenden; Esther Flessner, East Bend; David Hood, Harwood/Kerr; Don Wood, Hensley; Luke Rogers, Ludlow; Scott Bidner, Mahomet; Kevin Babl, Newcomb; Jim Esworthy, Ogden; Shirley Schroeder, Pesotum; C.J. Decker, Philo; David Wolken, Rantoul; Dennis Riggs, Raymond; Gerald Henry, Sadorus; Paul Berbaum, Scott; Steve Messman, Sidney; Roger Grace, Somer; Paul Compton, South Homer; J.C. Reitmeier, Stanton; Jeff Place, St. Joseph; Jeff Fisher, Tolono; Nancy Moser, Urbana; Joe Burke, Marketing Committee; Bonnie Compton, Women's Committee; Ken Roellig, Prime Timers; Josh Kamerer, Young Ag Leaders.

### CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Manager -- Bradley Uken  
Administrative Assistant -- Brenda Cole  
Membership Director -- Deidra Gibson  
HMO Administrator -- Donna Huxtable  
Bookkeeper -- Amanda Hesterberg  
Information Director -- Karen Hertz  
Foundation Director -- Debby Rehn  
Contact us at (217) 352-5235  
www.ccfarmbureau.com

# Young Leaders tour Texas agriculture

Earlier this Spring, forty-one Young Leaders, including Ben Moye and Marguerite Tan of Champaign County, participated in the 2007 Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leader Ag Industry Tour to South Texas and Mexico from February 28<sup>th</sup> through March 4<sup>th</sup>. The tour allowed the participants to enjoy a warmer climate while experiencing South Texas agriculture first hand in the valley.

The group made several different stops in Texas before crossing the border in Nuevo Progresso the last afternoon to get a taste of Mexico's culture.

The Old Hidalgo Pumphouse was the first destination where the group learned about the beginning of irrigation in the

Rio Grande Valley of Texas. It is the only remaining example of a steam powered irrigation pump.

In addition, the Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leaders toured the sole citrus processing cooperative and the only sugar cooperative in the state of Texas - Texas Citrus Exchange and Rio Grande Valley Sugar Growers, Inc. Other sites included a farming and feedlot tour of King Ranch in Kingsville, a visit to Port Isabel Historic Lighthouse, a dolphin watch and Eco-tour in South Padre Island along with a stop at the Coastal Studies Laboratory. A-W Produce Company near Weslaco, which is a family-owned and operated grower and shipper of fresh produce, was the last tour.



Champaign County Farm Bureau Young Ag Leaders Ben Moye and Marguerite Tan participated in the IFB Young Leaders Ag Industry Tour to Texas and Mexico.



# Foundation Corner



By Debby Rehn

Contact: [debby@ccfarmbureau.com](mailto:debby@ccfarmbureau.com)

April is a busy month around Champaign County and things do not usually slow down until at least November! Many of you are anxious to get into the fields and also quite thankful for the land you till. The Foundation is thankful for our donors and the opportunity they provide for Champaign County youth to pursue degrees in food and agriculture. One way of expressing our appreciation is by hosting Lunch with the Bunch, which will be held on April 5<sup>th</sup>. This allows our Named Scholarship donors, Foundation Board members and scholarship recipients from the past school year to come together for food and fun. Thank you to every single donor – your generosity is overwhelming. April is also when the Foundation selects its scholarship recipients for 2007-08. As always, feel free to contact me to discuss gift options. I wish you all a safe and healthy planting season!

■ Shopping for a unique gift for that special person? Looking for something that will show Mom just how appreciative you are on Mother's Day (May 10<sup>th</sup>)? The Farm Bureau office is one-stop shopping! We have a new collection of **note cards** that include photographs of agriculture and floral scenes, the University of Illinois campus, and our current best seller—Chief Illiniwek. The Foundation is

also selling a new cookbook entitled *The Farm Family Cookbook*. The cookbook has been receiving rave reviews from throughout the state for its quality recipes (which come from Illinois farm families), easy read style, and its interesting "Ag Facts." Of course proceeds from the note cards and the cookbook support the scholarship program, which is the best reason of all to purchase many of each!

■ I would like to alert high school seniors to another scholarship opportunity. The Illinois State Treasurer is once again awarding five \$2,500 Excellence in Agriculture scholarships. Applicants must be: a high school senior with a 2.75 GPA in 2006-07, a resident of Illinois, accepted at an accredited higher education institution in Illinois by May 15<sup>th</sup>, and pursuing an agriculture or related degree. Applications will be available at the CCFB office or by visiting [www.state.il.us/treas](http://www.state.il.us/treas).

Sadly, the CCFB Foundation family lost Eric Stonner, a former scholarship recipient, this past month. Carol Keiser, former Foundation Director, knew Eric well through his volunteerism with the Foundation and wished to include the following in this Foundation Corner:

*In my years as your CCFB Foundation Director, I had the*

*pleasure to work with several if not all the scholarship recipients. Eric Stonner was the one recipient whom I could count on whenever I needed a hand. For instance, he assisted in selling Beef Sandwiches at Jerry's IGA with my granddaughter, selling raffle tickets, completely managing the CCFB Foundation Coke Stand at the fairgrounds and pick up and delivering auction items for the annual meeting. His warm personality and genuineness together with his natural leadership qualities were far beyond what many would expect from a young man his age. Sadly, Eric died on February 25, 2007, leaving us all for a better place. True to his heritage, Eric had an interest in the Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation and a special appreciation in agriculture business. Thanks to his supportive Mother, Ellen Stonner, and his precious Grandmother, Marguerite Winston, for being the special connection between the CCFB Foundation, Eric and I.*

*I ask my friends and colleagues to celebrate the life of Eric Stonner and to join me by recognizing his legacy in a gift to the CCFB Foundation for a perpetual scholarship. Although Eric's life here on Earth was too short, the great work he started can be continued.*

## Now You're Cooking!



With nearly 1000 already sold, the *Farm Family Cookbook* is receiving rave reviews. The recipes come from Illinois farm families; many have been handed down through several generations.

\$15

Includes Special Section on 'Quantity' Cooking!

**Don't miss out! They are going fast.**

**Pick yours up at the Farm Bureau office. Proceeds benefit the Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship Program.**

Looking to buy or sell items related to your horses?

## Come to the Equine Garage Sale

Saturday, April 14

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

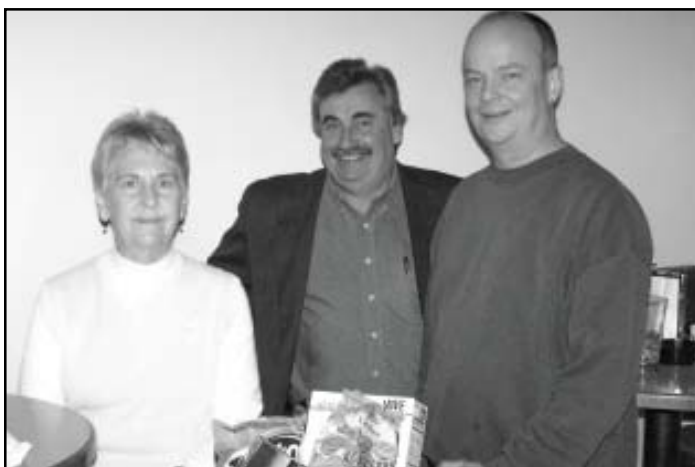
Farm Bureau auditorium

A 20% commission will be charged on consigned items. Please mark items for sale with your name, address, phone number and price. Items can be brought to the Farm Bureau on: Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 3:00-6:00PM Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00-8:30 AM

Sponsored by the Champaign County Farm Bureau Equine Committee and the Old People's Riding Club

Special thanks to Mahomet Chairperson Chris Karr.

The Mahomet stop of the Coffee Shop Tour brought in the amount of contributions!



The Philo Tavern hosted Thursday's stop on the Earth Partners Coffee Shop Tour. Above, Peggy Kaye, Dave Gentry of WDWS Newstalk 1400 Radio and Dick Miller, chairperson of the Philo stop, show off the basket of Illinois products that was auctioned.

## Coffee Shop Tour another success

Earth Partners would like to thank all of the contributors and volunteers responsible for organizing their communities for the annual Coffee Shop Tour. This year was the tenth coffee shop tour and was the most successful tour yet, raising nearly \$10,000. This is very important as grants from the state have decreased significantly, yet the teacher requests for materials and workshops continue to grow. Thank you for helping Earth Partners to increase support to our ever-growing teacher base. This support allows the next generation to understand the importance of agriculture.

### Special thanks go to:

Dave Gentry of WDWS NewsTalk 1400 Radio; Esther Flessner, Fisher area chair; Chris Karr, Mahomet area chair; Andy Busch, Mahomet auctioneer; Dick Miller, Philo area chair; Jerrett Clem, Philo auctioneer; David Hood, Gifford area chair; and Jim Hannagan, Gifford auctioneer.



The last stop of the tour was at the Main Street Cafe in Gifford. Above, David Hood (left), chairperson of the Gifford stop, introduces auctioneer Jim Hannagan. Hannagan auctioned a basket of Illinois products to the group gathered at the cafe. This year's Coffee Shop Tour raised nearly \$10,000 for agriculture literacy.

### Comments from teachers:

"I am excited about incorporating the information and ideas into my Illinois unit. Agriculture is an important part of our Illinois economy and my students will now be aware of this."

"As a farm wife, I thought I knew a lot about agriculture; however, I soon discovered that production was only one facet. Rest assured, my students will learn more."

## Health Screenings Rescheduled

For those who attended the Health Fair on March 22, a representative from Carle Occupational Medicine will be at the Farm Bureau on **April 12th from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.** to screen cholesterol and blood sugar. No appointment is necessary.

### 2007 Plat Books have arrived!

2007 plat books are now available in the Farm Bureau office.

**\$15 for Farm Bureau members**  
**\$25 for non members**

While you're in, pick up a copy of the Barns of Champaign County as well.

## Defensive Driving Class

The Champaign County Farm Bureau is offering a defensive driving course May 15 & 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with an hour lunch break at the Farm Bureau auditorium. The cost is \$12.00.

To sign up for the course, please call the Champaign County Farm Bureau at 352-5235 by May 7. Payment is due at the time of registration to guarantee a spot.

Space is limited to the first 30 participants. Individuals who sign up and do not take the course will be charged \$12.00 unless they cancel prior to the May 7 deadline.

## GM offers FB member rebate

# PRIVATE OFFERS.\*

For members only.

Eligible Illinois Farm Bureau members\* can get a \$500 private offer toward the purchase or lease of most new GM vehicles or a \$750 private offer toward the purchase or lease of any GM E85 FlexFuel vehicle. (E85 is a blend of 15% gasoline and 85% ethanol). Visit [livegreengoyellow.com](http://livegreengoyellow.com) to find an E85 fuel station near you. GM's extensive vehicle lineup with 70 models from its eight divisions includes the all-new 2007 Chevy Silverado and GMC Sierra, both redesigned to help you tow more than before. As the exclusive automotive manufacturer of IFB, GM is proud to provide these private offers which are compatible with many GM consumer incentive programs. For details, visit [gmfleet.com/ifb](http://gmfleet.com/ifb).

CHEVROLET BUICK PONTIAC GMC SATURN HUMMER SAAB CADILLAC

\*You must provide your membership card and be a member of IFB for at least 30 days prior to date of delivery to take advantage of these private offers. \$500 or \$750 private offers valid toward the purchase or lease of eligible new 2006, 2007 and 2008 GM passenger car and light-duty truck models. Excludes Cadillac XLR, XLR-V and STS-V, Chevrolet Corvette Z06 and Z06R, HUMMER H1, Saturn ION, Persimmon Deluxe and medium-duty trucks. Incentives are subject to change and these offers are not available with other private offers. These private offers are in addition to most eligible consumer incentive programs in effect at time of delivery. Incentives are subject to change. \*Vehicles sold or leased to qualified fleet customers are eligible for the National Fleet Purchase Program (NFP), plus the \$500 or \$750 private offer. Not available with other private offers. These private offers may not be received as cash. Not available on prior purchases. See your dealer for complete program details. © 2007 GM Corp.

## Branson trip details finalized

The Champaign County Farm Bureau will host a trip to Branson, Mo. November 15-18, 2007. This trip will be jam-packed with shows and entertainment. Following is a brief summary. For complete information, please pick up a flyer at the Farm Bureau office.

### Branson for the Holidays

November 15-18

4 days/3 nights

Trip includes 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 3 dinners & 3 nights lodging.

Trip highlights include the following shows and stops:

- **Jim Stafford**
- **Daniel O'Donnell**, Irish performer, teams up with Mary Duff to perform a blend of traditional Irish ballads, country favorites and traditional gospel.
- The **Pierce Arrow Show** features music from the Statler Brothers and the Oak Ridge Boys.
- **The Hughes Brothers** astound all ages with their rich harmonies and foot-steppin' moves.
- **Happy Trails Theater & Museum** features the story of Roy Rogers and Dale Evans.
- **The Dutton Family**
- **Twelve Irish Tenors**
- **Veteran's Memorial Museum**
- **Lambert's Cafe**, Home of the Throed Rolls

For more details, including trip prices, contact the Farm Bureau office. Also, don't forget to sign up for the other Farm Bureau trips available.

## FREE CLASSIFIEDS

Two ads per membership per year. Ads will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Ads must be to the Farm Bureau by the 20th of each month. Commercial ads will not be accepted.

FOR SALE - 96 Case IH 1020 25' grain platform, oil bath, Tracker. \$8,000. Call 694-4108 or 344-3784.

FOR SALE - 16' Imperial Utility Trailer. 10,000 lb tandem axel, heavy duty ramps, steel floor, excellent shape. \$3800. Call 694-4108 or 377-8009.

FOR SALE - Neuton cordless electric mower. Complete with all attachments. Extra battery. Very good condition. \$350 complete. Call 469-7509.

FOR SALE - GE 40" gold electric range. Self cleaning double oven. Works well. \$75 obo. Call 892-4674.

WANTED - Blocking chute for 4-H steers. Call 586-4003.

WANTED - Office seeking typewriter in good condition. Call 352-5235.

WANTED - Lawns to mow in Champaign-Urbana area. Call 356-5478.

## Committee Happenings

### Lady Landowners

The Lady Landowners will meet at the Tony Noel Center on the Parkland College campus for a tour of the new greenhouses at 9:30 a.m. on April 16.

### Women's Committee

The Women's Committee will meet at 9:30 a.m. on April 9 at the Farm Bureau.

### Young Ag Leaders

The Young Ag Leaders will meet at 7 p.m on April 5 at the Farm Bureau. Dinner will be provided. Those able will meet at 6:15 p.m. to clean up Springer Drive.

### Marketing Club

The Champaign County Corn and Soybean Marketing Club will meet on April 2 at the Farm Bureau. The speaker will be Jacquie Voeks of Stewart Peterson.

On April 3 at 6:30 p.m., Jacquie will give a follow up to her November options course. Please call 333-7672 to register for this course.

### Prime Timers

The Prime Timers will meet at 10:00 a.m. on April 12. The speaker will be Kevin Ullestad, director of the Assembly Hall.

The entertainment will be the Martin Luther Choir.

The cost to attend is \$4.00. Call the Farm Bureau at 352-5235 to RSVP. The cost to attend is \$4.00. Call the Farm Bureau at 352-5235 to RSVP.

## Calendar of Events

### April

- 2 Marketing Club, 7:00 p.m.
- 3 Options review course with Jacquie Voeks, 6:30 p.m.
- 5 Young Ag Leaders, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Office closed for Good Friday
- 9 Women's Committee, 9:30 a.m.
- 11 Spring Fling, 11:00 a.m.
- 11 Coalition for School Funding Reform, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Prime Timers, 10:00 a.m.
- 14 Equine Garage Sale, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- 16 Lady Landowners, 9:30 a.m., Tony Noel Center at Parkland College
- 17 Legislative Committee, 7:30 a.m.
- 17 Land Use Committee, 9:00 a.m.
- 19 Board of Directors meeting, 7:00 p.m.

All meetings are in the Farm Bureau auditorium unless otherwise noted. Please call the Farm Bureau at 352-5235 with any questions.