

Membership Minute

“Pulling for Agriculture” Raises Over \$9,000

What just started out as a suggestion at a monthly Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) board meeting back in January, has come full-circle and raised over \$9,000 to support a new Ag Mechanics scholarship program through the organization’s charitable Foundation.

Our first ever “Pulling for Agriculture” tractor pull event on Saturday, September 14th took months of planning, an overwhelming amount of support from local sponsors and pullers, and an army of volunteers. As we look back on our first ITPA Truck and Tractor Pull, and the “King of Clinton County” tractor pull, we want to extend our gratitude to everyone who helped make the event successful.

First and foremost, to our



Josh Diekemper competes during the “King of Clinton County” tractor pull during the day.



Darin Ratermann of Bartelso driving his “Full Boar” International on the way to a 1st place finish in the 9,500 lb. Limited Pro Stock class during the ITPA Tractor Pull portion.

sponsors.... We truly could not have done this without your support!

To the “Pulling for Agriculture” planning committee.... **THANK YOU** for the countless hours you invested to make sure the event was a success!

Our volunteers... you made sure everything ran smoothly on the day of the event, jumping in to help wherever needed. We appreciate your dedication to the future of agriculture in our community! Thank you to all the pullers that came out and supported

our fundraiser.... you were the stars of the show! To all our local FFA Chapters.... thanks for stepping up to handle the concessions! It was great to see members of all the chapters working together.

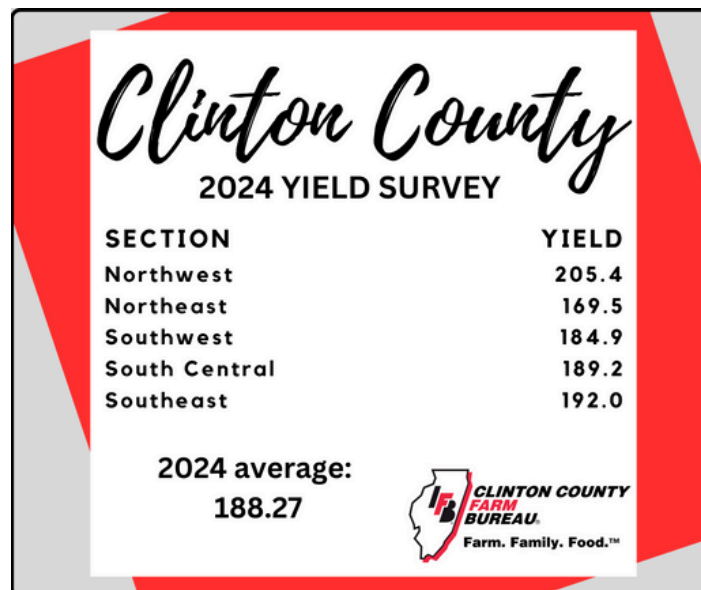
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2024 YIELD SURVEY RESULTS

The Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) completed its annual Yield Survey of the county’s corn crop on Wednesday, September 11th. A total of 5 teams of surveyors consisting of Farm Bureau members, Agri-business representatives, and Ag students from Wesclin and Carlyle High Schools surveyed Clinton County for the annual yield check.

The county was divided into 5 areas with 10 samples taken in each area. Average corn yields calculated for each area are summarized in the table that

Continue on page 4 - Survey



Classroom Grants available

The Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) Foundation is once again offering grants of up to \$350 to Clinton County teachers for activities relating to agriculture. These grants can be used to fund any project promoting agriculture awareness. Project funds can be

Continue on page 4 - Grants

“King of Clinton County” Pull Winners



7,500 lb Farm Stock class winner

Kevin Voss of Carlyle was the winner of the 7,500 lb Farm Stock Pulling Class at the Sept. 14 “King of Clinton County” tractor pull held in conjunction with the “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Truck and Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured with Voss is Brian Becker with the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Grapperhaus Metal was the sponsor for this event.



10,500 lb Farm Stock class winner

Kevin Kampwerth of Marydale was the winner of the 10,500 lb Farm Stock Pulling Class at the Sept. 14 “King of Clinton County” tractor pull held in conjunction with the “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Truck and Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured with Kevin is Brad Conant, Clinton County Farm Bureau Manager. Grapperhaus Metal was the sponsor for this event.



12,500 lb Farm Stock class winner

Kurt Voss of Bartelso was the winner of the 12,500 lb Farm Stock Pulling Class at the Sept. 14 “King of Clinton County” tractor pull held in conjunction with the “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Truck and Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured with Voss is Brian Becker with the Clinton County Farm Bureau who is sponsoring the event. Grapperhaus Metal was the sponsor for this event.



SI Pullers 12,500 lb Hot Farm Stock Class Winner

Philip Diekemper of Carlyle was the winner of the Southern Illinois Pullers 12,500 lb Hot Farm Stock Class at the Sept. 14 “King of Clinton County” tractor pull held in conjunction with the “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Truck and Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured with Diekemper is Brian Becker with the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Grapperhaus Metal was the sponsor for this event.



SI Pullers 5,500 lb Top Cut Class Winner

Brian Trame of Lebanon was the winner of the Southern Illinois Pullers 5,500 lb Top Cut Class at the Sept. 14 “King of Clinton County” tractor pull held in conjunction with the “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Truck and Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured with Trame is Brad Conant, Clinton County Farm Bureau Manager. Grapperhaus Metal was the sponsor for this event.

“Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Class Winners



11,000 lb Pro Farm Class

Curt Goeckner, of Dietrich, was the winner of the 11,000 lb Pro Farm Pulling Class at the Sept. 14 “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured with Goeckner is Brian Becker with the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Beck’s Hybrids was the sponsor for this pulling class.



8,500 lb Limited Pro Stock

David Dougherty of Paris, Mo., was the winner of the 8,500 lb Limited Pro Stock Pulling Class at the Sept. 14 “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured is Bonnie and David Dougherty along with Brian Becker with the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Jansen Auto Centers was the sponsors of this pulling class.



9,500 lb Limited Pro Stock

Darin Ratermann, of Bartelso, was the winner of the 9,500 lb Limited Pro Stock Pulling Class at the Sept. 14 “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured is Brian Becker with the Clinton County Farm Bureau, Darin Ratermann, Jared Ratermann, Tyler Ratermann and Trent Ratermann. Ratermann Brothers was the sponsor for this pulling class.



2WD Truck Class winner

Craig Corzine, of Assumption, was the winner of the 2WD Truck Pulling Class at the Sept. 14 “Pulling for Agriculture” ITPA Tractor Pull hosted by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Pictured with Corzine with Quinton Huelsmann with the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Country Financial was the sponsor for this pulling class.



BATTLE OF THE BRANDS Winners

Winners of the “Battle of the Brands”
Pedal Tractor Raffle
John Deere – Brad Toennies (pictured left)
Case IH – Riley Boatwright (no photo available)
New Holland – Margie Mills
(pictured is Lexi Mills right)

Silas Allen won the \$100 bonus drawing as John Deere sold the most tickets and won the “Battle of the Brands”





Blaine Gardner and Caleb Eversgerd, Ag students from Carlyle High School, worked with Clinton CFB Director Ron Holevoet to make yield estimates on the 2024 corn crop during the Farm Bureau's annual Yield Survey on September 11th.

Survey

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accompanies this article.

Corn samplings ranged from a low of 52 to a high of 244 bushels per acre, with an overall county

average calculated to be 188.27 bu./acre. The committee did not attempt to make an estimate on soybeans, but instead made more general observations of pod counts and conditions that indicated an overall average soybean crop for 2024.

Pull

Continued from page 1

And to all the spectators who came out and enjoyed the day with us.... Thank you all for being a part of our first "Pulling for Agriculture" fundraiser. We look forward

to awarding some Ag Mechanic Scholarships in the future and hope to see everyone at next year's event!

Additional pictures, videos, and coverage of this year's event can be found on the Clinton CFB Facebook page and website (www.clintoncofb.org).



Tony Huels pulls in the "King of Clinton County" pull that was held in conjunction with the "Pulling for Agriculture" event.

CLASSROOM GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Clinton County Farm Bureau Foundation is offering classroom grants to area teachers for any project promoting agriculture awareness.

Deadline to apply is Oct. 31, 2024

Online applications are available on our website: www.clintoncofb.org



Scan the QR Code to go directly to the online application

Any questions can be directed to the Farm Bureau office at 618-526-7235 or by emailing Susan Kleiboeker at cacait@clintoncofb.org



Grants

Continued from page 1

requested for field trips, resources, supplies, books, special projects, etc..., as long as the applicant can relate their activity back to agriculture.

Projects should FOCUS on integrating agriculture into a variety of curriculum areas. Teachers are encouraged to be creative in developing a valuable agricultural experience for students. Applications outlining the project, goals, objectives, and desired outcomes must be submitted online by October 31, 2024.

Final grant amounts will be determined by the Clinton CFB Foundation

Board of Directors but will not exceed \$350. All monies must be spent by the end of the current school year. Grant recipients will be notified by email and receive a link to a final report that will be due to the Clinton CFB Foundation by May 31, 2024. Reimbursements for grants can be done at any time after project completion and submittal of the final report/receipts. To-date, the Clinton CFB Foundation has awarded over \$ 83,652 in classroom grants to county teachers. Contact the Clinton CFB office at (618) 526-7235 or clintcfb@clintoncofb.org for more information or to obtain a link to the grant application.





Parts runs keep the farm running

The farmer's wife handed my husband a stick-style drawing. "He told me you will know what he needs," she said of her farmer husband while my husband paused at the brain teaser before him.

At the time, my husband worked behind a parts counter for a farm equipment dealership. The era pre-dated smart phones with capabilities of taking and sending photos, but we did have flip phones. So with a phone call to talk through the drawing, my husband figured out the farmer's need.

'Tis the season for the inevitable parts run. In Grubhub style, the run includes a designated person driving to a retail location to pick up a part and deliver it to the farm. The act's level of urgency generally falls into one of two categories.

The "rainy day parts run" includes less-urgent parts related to general maintenance or fixing something non-critical to the machine's function while the rain prevents farmers from harvesting. It likens the pre-harvest repair and maintenance intended to prevent down-time.

The "emergency parts run" indicates a machine-down situation. The parts runner immediately abandons what they're doing to fetch a part with no opportunity to piggy-back extra errands on that trip to town. You get there. You get back. And then hope the part fixes the problem.

Getting there could take 20 minutes or it could consume a four-hour roundtrip that's still faster than Next Day Air. In the meantime, our mechanically minded team members prepare the machine to receive the part. If that repair exceeds our expertise, we call a professional technician for help.

Ideally, the fix is as simple as fetching the part. But sometimes, parts runners return with the wrong parts due to human error in the ordering process. Occasionally, runners unknowingly retrieve an incomplete order that requires a return trip. Worse yet, the fetched part doesn't fix the problem.

Technology generally improves the accuracy of parts orders as farmers can review web-based parts schematics to identify the exact part numbers. Sharing smartphone photos helps parts departments with diagnosis and identification. Bringing in the broken part is almost a sure win for an identical replacement, so blown hydraulic hoses often make the trip.

My husband recalls an unusual parts pickup in which a farmer who lived hours away by car landed a helicopter in the dealership's parking lot. The farmer ran inside for his parts and left within seconds. It's an extreme case, but machine-down times call for machine-down measures to keep the farm running.

Pod to Plate: The journey of Illinois soybeans

From pod to plate, soybeans are a multipurpose commodity. Follow the journey of soybeans from the moment a seed is planted into the ground.

Enter: The Farmer

The farmer will use a tractor and planter to plant the soybean seeds. To make sure seeds are planted at the right depth and spacing, farmers use settings on the planter and computers in the planter.

As the Soybeans Grow

Soybean plants grow very quickly. In the heat of the summer, they can grow up to an inch per day! Plants need four things to grow: air, water, sunlight and nutrients from the soil. In the summer, small flowers, called blossoms, bloom on the plants. Once pollinated, these blossoms will turn into pods. Each plant will have 60-80 pods and each pod typically contains three soybeans.

As the soybeans grow, farmers watch for pests that can damage the plants. Insects eat the leaves, stems and roots. Weeds steal nutrients and water away from the soybeans. Plants can even get diseases. To keep plants healthy, farmers can use insecticides to control insects, herbicides to control weeds, and fungicides to control disease. A healthy plant produces more soybeans!

Harvesting the Beans

In the fall, the soybean plants reach the end of their lifecycle. They turn from green to brown and the leaves fall off. The beans inside the pod begin to dry and harden. When this happens, the soybeans are ready to

harvest! Farmers use large machines called combines to cut the stems and separate the soybeans from the pods.

Where Do Soybeans Go?

Once the soybeans are harvested, semi-trucks or large wagons take the soybeans to grain bins that hold the beans. These bins can be on a farm or at a grain elevator. From there, the soybeans are sold to companies that will make them into things we use every day!

Many of the soybeans grown in the U.S. are sold and exported to other countries. Trains, barges and ships carry soybeans from where they are grown to countries all over the world. The rest of the soybeans are used here in the U.S.

Soybeans are usually broken apart, or processed, before they are used. Soybeans are a renewable and environmentally friendly ingredient in many things including Soybean meal (a popular high-protein animal feed made from heating and grinding soybeans), soup, bread, cheese, yogurt, peanut butter, salad dressing, snacks, chocolate, tofu, soy burgers, soy milk, soy sauce, crayons, paint and ink.

Soybeans also provide useful oil. The soybean oil is squeezed out of the meal. Large trucks, busses, tractors and combines use fuel made from soybean oil called biodiesel. Biodiesel is better for the air because it burns cleaner than regular diesel.

Illinois farmers take pride in growing food, fuel and fiber for other people. They work hard to protect the land around them for their families and yours.

Helping you protect what matters most

Marvin Gerdes
New Baden
(618)588-7112

Aaron Haag
Haag Breese
(618)526-4541

Travis Huels
Huels Carlyle
(618)594-8700

Keith Rensing
Rensing Carlyle
(618)844-7010

Theresa Richards
Richards Breese
(618)526-1100

Anne Marie Toeben
Toeben Breese
(618)526-4541

Brendan Wilkwn
Wilkwn Breese
(618)526-1179

Keith Wilken
Wilken Breese
(618)526-1179

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Bookmark contest open for kids ages 12 and under

Attention all Clinton County children up to age 12! Enter our bookmark contest and have your artwork on display!

Your task is to design a bookmark showing what agriculture means to you. Maybe it's eating food pollinated by a bee, enjoying dairy milk from a

cow, eating locally grown popcorn, planting a seed, coloring with a soy-based crayon, wearing clothes made from cotton, eating bagels made from wheat or taking a bus fueled with biodiesel, we want YOU to show us how farmers impact our lives.

Two lucky winners will receive a family 4 pack of tickets to the St. Louis Magic House to enjoy any time before Dec. 31, 2024, as well as an agriculture age related book.

Deadline to enter is November 1, 2024.

Entry forms are available in the Farm Bureau Office in Breese or on our website: www.clintoncofb.org



How IFB Served YOU in September

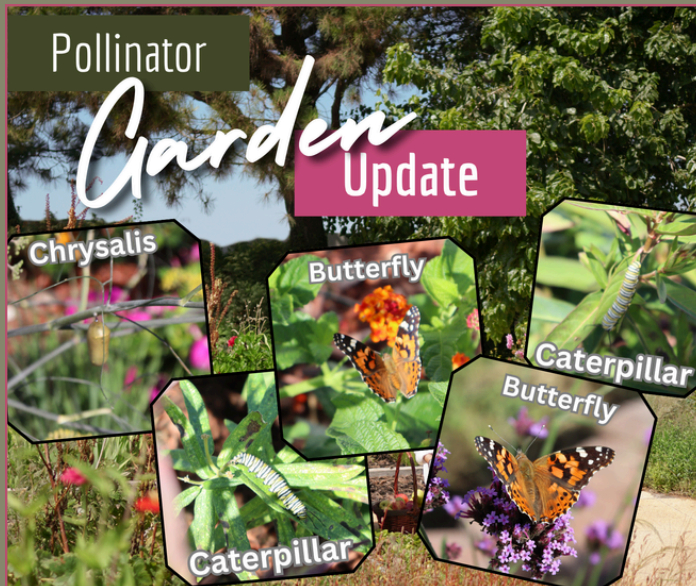
- Illinois Farm Bureau's Environmental Advisory Team brought farmers together with all stages of the value chain during a Sustainable Ag Exchange in Chicago, building on relationships with regulators, businesses and researchers and sharing farmer perspectives around sustainability programs, climate-smart scoring and agriculture technology.
- Four first-year agricultural teachers were awarded grants from the IAA Foundation as part of the Illinois Agricultural Education Teacher Grant Program, which provides funding across five years to help support and retain new ag teachers in the classroom.
- IFB showcased the diversity of southern Illinois agriculture during a six-stop tour around Randolph and St. Clair counties, offering career development and networking opportunities for members.
- Forty-eight student officers and three advisers from 12 Collegiate Farm Bureaus participated in a daylong leadership training event hosted by IFB, the largest event to date with every chapter represented.

59 FarmWeek Read FarmWeek's e-edition

Members don't have to wait at the mailbox for the latest edition of FarmWeek. The e-edition is available online after 6 a.m. every Monday morning.

POLLINATOR GARDEN Update

A visit to the garden last week showed some very exciting things! In the first year we spotted a chrysalis, several caterpillars and a few butterflies too! Funding for a portion of the project came from a \$2,000 grant through the Illinois Farm Bureau's Pollinator Conservation Grant program. The waystation provides milkweeds, nectar sources, and shelter to sustain monarch butterflies as they migrate through North America.



No one represents Illinois Farm Bureau or its policies better than the members themselves.

That's the value of FB ACT.

Members enrolled in FB ACT on or before November 1, 2024, will be entered to win an all expense paid 3-night stay in Chicago to attend the Illinois Farm Bureau's Annual Meeting December 7-10, 2024.

Text the word "FARM" to 52886 to sign up and receive text messages when we need you to act.

FB ACT
Your Farm. Your Future.
SIGN UP

FARM BUREAU CONTINUES TO ADVOCATE FOR CHANGES TO ESTATE TAXATION

The Family Farm Preservation Act (FFPA) makes the following changes for estates that are 'eligible' for the IRS agricultural Special Use Valuation Rule (regardless of if the estate actually claims the federal rule or not):

- Changes the current Illinois \$4 million dollar threshold in three ways: increases it to \$6 million. Make it an actual exemption, not a threshold. Only dollars over \$6 million will be taxed, as opposed to the current law where the entire estate is taxed if the \$4 million threshold is breached. Ties the \$6 million exemption to

inflation.

- Allows any unused exemption amounts to be transferred to the surviving spouse, thus ensuring the doubling of the exemption amount for a family to \$12 million plus inflation.

- Updates the agricultural special-use valuation, for Illinois Estate Tax purposes, to reflect modern farm estates and farm family descendants.

These changes are limited to farms only.

The Agricultural Special Use Valuation Rule (2032a) is a tool to help farm families preserve their businesses by allowing

family business owners to manage their estate tax liability. A brief summary of the rule unchanged at this time by the FFA provides that the provision allows farmers to pay estate taxes on the value of farmland based on agricultural use, rather than what it would be worth if it were sold for development. To be eligible for the rule, an estate must follow these conditions:

- The farm operation must make of 50% of the value of the estate.
- At least 25% of the estates value has to be the land (including improvements) which

had to have been used for farming by the decedent or family member for 5 of the previous 8 years before the decedent's death.

- The heir must continue to farm for 10 years.

Farm Bureau, along with our sponsors and allies of the Family Farm Preservation Act, are continuing to pursue passage. The FFPA has strong bi-partisan support. We believe there is a path to eventual passage, but we must keep pushing the issue with our legislators, communicating how much of need there is for the FFPA.



Pumpkins and Halloween

Have you ever carved a face into a pumpkin? Many people associate Halloween with the tradition of carving jack-o'-lanterns. Did you know that this tradition actually started centuries ago in Ireland? People carved frightening faces into turnips, put a candle in them, and placed them in their windows to scare away an evil ghost called "Jack of the Lantern."

When colonist from Ireland arrived in America, they found pumpkins. Pumpkins are larger and easier to hollow out than turnips. A new American tradition was born!

Fun Fall Facts

FROM 

- Most hayrides use straw instead of hay. Hay is green, includes seed heads, stalks and leaves, and is often fed to livestock. Straw is golden yellow, is the dried stalk of cereal plants once the grain and chaff have been removed, and is used as animal bedding, mulch, building material, and biofuel.
- Morton, Illinois, where 85% of the world's canned pumpkin is processed, is considered the Pumpkin Capital of the World.
- The heaviest pumpkin on record in the United States was 2,528 pounds. The heaviest pumpkin in the world was 2,624 pounds.
- Most pumpkin varieties are orange in color. The orange color is a clue that they are full of the antioxidant beta-carotene. Carrots, sweet potatoes, and apricots also have high amounts of the antioxidant.
- Apple trees can live for more than 100 years.
- It takes 36 apples to create one gallon of apple cider.
- The world record for the tallest corn stalk is more than 35 feet.
- The largest pumpkin pie ever was baked on September 25, 2010 and weighed in at 3,699 pounds! It was 20 feet in diameter. The pie was made with 1,212 pounds of canned pumpkin, 233 dozen eggs, 109 gallons of evaporated milk, 525 pounds of sugar, 7 pounds of salt, 14.5 pounds of cinnamon, and 3 pounds of pumpkin pie spice.
- Pumpkin pie filling is the best-selling pumpkin product on the market. Pumpkin spice lattes come in second and pumpkin flavored dog food comes in third!

For more fun facts about pumpkins visit www.agintheclassroom.org

Planting a Vision
ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU
Farm. Family. Food.™
2024 ANNUAL MEETING

featuring DREW BALDRIDGE

Join Us
December 7-10
Palmer House | Chicago

ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION™

2024 Progressive Agriculture Safety Day

On Thursday, September 26th, over 350 Clinton County 6th grade students participated in a Progressive Ag Safety Day sponsored by the Clinton County Farm Bureau's Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) Program. Ag Literacy Coordinator Susan Kleiboeker served as the program coordinator for the event, with the assistance of many other county groups and volunteers.

This was the 13th Annual Progressive Ag Safety Day in Clinton County. This year students from Albers, All Saints Academy, Aviston, Bartelso, Breese District 12, Carlyle, Damiansville, Germantown, Wesclin and Willow Grove rotated through 10 of 13 different safety-themed stations from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. New this year, a mock accident demonstration, was held with help from volunteer firefighters from Beckemeyer, Carlyle, Hoyleton, and Huey/Ferrin/Boulder, plus MedStar Ambulance and AirEvac out of Mt Vernon.

Stations included: Hunter Safety, Electric Safety, ATV Awareness, Chemical Lookalikes, Grain Safety, Fit to be a Farmer, Animal Safety, Water Safety, Plant Safety, Life's Misfortunes,



Students learned about hazards associated with manure pits and lagoons that are common in Clinton County with Erick Monken from the Maschhoffs.



At the ATV Awareness Station, students placed an egg in-side on a container packed with shredded paper to demonstrate the importance of wearing a helmet. Students tossed the container in the air allowing it to land on the road then went to see if their egg survived the accident.



Students were able to test their reaction time at the PTO Safety Station. Students were also able to see just how quickly someone can get entangled in a PTO with the use of a straw dummy.

811 Julie, Confinement Safety (Manure Pit), and PTO Safety.

The goal of the program is for each of the 6th graders to go home and talk to their families about how to stay safe and when a situation arises to hopefully make

good choices. Although safety around the farm was stressed, many stations focused on general safety items that can apply to everyone whether involved in farming or not.

Students attending the event received free Farm Safety t-shirts provided by the Progressive Ag Safety Foundation as part of a nationwide program teaching kids about farm

safety.

This program is only possible with the large number of local volunteers giving their time to educate students about safety. FFA Chapters from Breese Central, Carlyle, and Christ Our Rock also assisted with the program. Over 75 students and others volunteered to make this day possible. A special thanks to all those local volunteers!

Harvest Season is Now!

www.ilfb.org/safetyandhealth



The mock accident scene showed students the importance of wearing a seatbelt. One of the passengers in the vehicle was thrown from the vehicle and had to be flown from the accident scene, while other passengers in the vehicle had to be cut out of the vehicle using the Jaws of Life.



THANK YOU *sponsors*



KING OF CLINTON COUNTY



PULLING CLASS



8,500 lb Limited Pro Stock



11,000 lb Pro Farm



2 WD Trucks



9,500 lb Limited Pro Stock

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER

1NB BANK
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JANSEN FARM EQUIPMENT INC.
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