



Don't miss the next Market Outlook!



Angie Setzer to kick off new 2017-2018 Market Outlook on Sept. 13 at Lavender Crest

Angie Setzer, vice president of Grain for Citizens, LLC, will be the featured speaker on Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017, at Lavender Crest Winery, 5401 U.S. Highway 6, Colona. The evening will begin with a buffet dinner at 6:15 p.m. Setzer has been working in the grain industry for over 11 years. After beginning her career as a cash grain broker, she transitioned into a position as vice president of Grain for Citizens Elevator in Charlotte, Mich. At Citizens, she manages five elevator locations as well as a state-of-the-art, on-farm program bringing the company's overall yearly handling to over 11 mbu. Angie's main focus is on maximizing farm margins; while pulling the curtain back on marketing fundamentals and tools in a fun, but informative manner. In addition to her weekly "Cash is King" column with Pro Farmer, she has been seen on AgDay, U.S. Farm Report and the Weather Channel, as well as regular appearances on Market Rally Radio, Benzinger's Pre-Market Prep show and AgriTalk.

REGISTER EARLY!!! Sign up for the entire series for \$75 – get one meeting free!!! Cost for a single session is \$25 (if not pre-registered cost will be \$30). Reservations must be made by Sept. 6 to guarantee a meal. To make reservations, please call the Henry County Farm Bureau (309) 937-2411 or the Rock Island County Farm Bureau (309) 736-7432.

*Additional speakers for the series will include: Nov. 15, 2017 – Jamie Kohake;
and the 2018 speakers will be announced at a later date.*

Reflections on a county fair

By Rylee Derrer

RICFB/FOUNDATION INTERN

Like many people, I used to have the same thoughts — "*Oh it's just a county fair.*" However, this year was the first time in **11 years** that I stepped foot on the Rock Island County Fairgrounds without any animals or other 4-H projects to exhibit. Instead, I spent the week watching from an entirely new perspective that gave me a whole new appreciation for what I used to consider "*just a county fair.*"

More and more, society has begun to question the relevance and value of a county fair when less than 2 percent of the population is actively involved in production agriculture. This question alone proves to me that county fairs are more **important** than ever. Fairs and livestock exhibitions are the foundation for agriculture promotion in our society and, as our population continues to shift towards an urban demographic, it is the responsibility of a county fair to remind the public of the key role that agriculture, and rural communities, will continue to play in our economy and daily lives.

Fairs not only promote agriculture, but also supply jobs; support rural economic development and local commerce; and provide opportunities for youth and adult education. The success of a fair is dependent on its volunteers and youth through programs like 4-H, whether they're exhibiting livestock, crops and clothing or newer projects like film making. Speaking from my own personal experience, I am so thankful for the opportunity to show livestock at the fair.

My experiences aided in providing me with hands-on learning about the realities of food production as well as gaining major life skills, such as **communication** and **responsibility**, that molded me into a well-functioning member of society.

Many years ago, a simple gathering for commodity trade began as a way to bring friends and neighbors together to showcase hard work and effort. **These things still matter.** Fairs are the connecting point of the people and products that showcase our heritage. I wholeheartedly believe in fairs and what they can do for a community and even the participants.

I encourage everyone to take time this summer to visit your local county or state fair. Stroll through the barns, strike up a conversation with a young exhibitor about his, or her, project. Watch the 4-H auction, maybe bid on an animal, and see how the hard work put in by the owner truly pays off. Experience a demolition derby, a concert, or play some carnival games with your family. Whether you are lifetime attendee, or have never set foot on a fairgrounds, now is the best time to get involved in one of our country's oldest traditions.

You will not regret it.

Calendar of Events

AUGUST 2017

10	District 3 Meeting
14	Ballots returned to office
17	Celebrate Agriculture Night at Modern Woodmen Park; Farm Bureau members receive \$3 off their ticket
18	Nominating Committee meets to count ballots
21	Board meeting and Annual Meeting/Election of Directors and Officers
	6:30 p.m. – Annual Meeting
	Regular board meeting and Election of Officers takes place immediately following adjournment of Annual Meeting

SEPTEMBER 2017

4	Labor Day; office closed
13	Kickoff to 2017-2018 Henry Rock Island Market Outlook with Angie Setzer
18	Board meeting; 7 p.m. exec; 7:30 p.m. full board
19-21	AgXPerience 2017

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The 102nd Annual Meeting of the Rock Island County Farm Bureau will be Monday, Aug. 21, 2017, at the Rock Island County Farm Bureau office located at 1601 52nd Ave., Suite 3, Moline, Ill., and will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. No meal will be served. Only a business meeting will take place.

SAVE THE DATE CELEBRATE AGRICULTURE NIGHT

Presented by:



**THURSDAY, AUG 17TH - 6:35PM
GATES OPEN AT 5:35PM**

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for \$3 off Admission!



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