



## Workshop on environment

The Henry, Mercer and Rock Island County Farm Bureaus invite you to join them for the workshop "Know Your Ag Environment."

The seminar will be Monday, Feb. 25, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the Camden Centre, 2701 First St. E, Milan, Illinois.

The event will include an exhibitor area, selection of two breakout sessions, dinner and will conclude with our keynote speakers.

The breakout sessions will focus on such topics as best management practices to help improve a farm's environmental performance and Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategies.

Keynote speakers will be Lauren Lurkins and Adam Nielsen of Illinois Farm Bureau.

Lauren is the director of Natural and Environmental Resources and will present an update on the Clean

Water Rule.

Adam is the director of national legislation and policy development and will present about the Farm Bill and Conservation Title.

There is no cost to attend, but pre-registration is required by Feb. 18 by contacting the Henry County Farm Bureau (309-937-2411), Mercer County Farm Bureau (309-582-5116) or Rock Island County Farm Bureau (309-736-7432).

## Mayhew named RICFB manager



Tara Mayhew

We have a new face at the Rock Island County Farm Bureau!

We hope you'll join us in welcoming our new manager, Tara Mayhew.

Tara grew up on her family grain and livestock farm in Mason County.

She is a graduate of the University of Illinois, where she earned a degree in animal science. She began her career with the Mercer County Farm Bureau in 2016 as the administrative assistant, and was hired in January 2019 as the manager of the Rock Island County Farm Bureau. She and her husband, Troy, reside in rural New Windsor, Illinois where they own and operate their beef cattle operation, focusing on cow-calf production.

Tara can be reached at [tmayhew@ricofarmbureau.org](mailto:tmayhew@ricofarmbureau.org).

## Snodgrass featured at Outlook

Eric Snodgrass, principal atmospheric scientist for Nutrien Ag Solutions and adjunct assistant professor at the University of Illinois, will be the featured speaker on Thursday, March 14, at Lavender Crest Winery, 5401 U.S. Highway 6, Colona. The evening will begin with a buffet dinner at 6:15 p.m., followed by an update from Gold Star FS Grain Merchandiser, Mike Schaver. Reservations must be made by March 7 to guarantee a meal.

At Nutrien Ag Solutions, Snodgrass develops predictive, analytical software solutions to manage weather risk for global production agriculture. He provides frequent weather updates that focus on how high-impact weather events influence global agriculture productivity. His current research uses machine learning to better understand field-level weather impacts on yields in the U.S. and to increase confidence in long-range weather prediction. He presents his research as a featured speaker at over 50 conferences annually, where he provides logistical guidance and solutions to weather-sensitive financial institutions, farmers, commodity traders, and other stakeholders.

Before transitioning to Nutrien Ag Solutions, Snodgrass was the director of undergraduate studies for the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-



Eric Snodgrass

Champaign from 2006-2019. Each year, he guided over 1,800 students through the wild side of weather in ATMS 120: Severe and Hazardous Weather.

He taught advanced courses on General Physical Meteorology (ATMS 201), Meteorological Instrumentation (ATMS 315), Economics of Weather (ATMS 491) and supervised numerous Capstone Research projects. Snodgrass also taught ENSU 310: Renewable and Alternative Energy for the Environmental Sustainability Program. He also advised all undergraduate

majors and minors in atmospheric science (about 100 students) and supervised graduate teaching assistants and master's students.

He won many prestigious teaching awards at the University of Illinois including College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Teaching Excellence award, the Campus Teaching Excellence Award, and the Campus Teaching Excellent Award in Online and Distance Education. Also, his online version of ATMS 120 was awarded the 2012 "Best Online Course" from the University Professional Continuing Education Association (a national organization). Eric is now an adjunct assistant professor for the Department of Atmospheric Science at the University of Illinois.

Cost for the series is \$75, and a single session is \$25 (if not pre-registered, cost will be \$30). To make reservations, please call the Henry County Farm Bureau (309) 937-2411, Rock Island County Farm Bureau (309) 736-7432 or Mercer County Farm Bureau (309) 582-5116.

The Market Outlook Series is sponsored by the Henry, Rock Island and Mercer County Farm Bureau Marketing Committees, in conjunction with BankORION, Compeer Financial, Gold Star FS, Steve Sim - Country Financial, Wells Fargo and Blackhawk State Bank.

## Calendar of Events

### FEBRUARY

- 9 Area Young Leader Exchange, 6 p.m.; Sweet Peas Grill, Geneseo
- 18 Farm Bureau Board meeting
- 19 Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference – Springfield (register by Feb. 13 by calling the RICFB office)
- 25 Know Your Ag Environment, 4:30 p.m. – Camden Center, Milan

### MARCH

- 14 Women in Ag Conference, 8:30 a.m. – Jumer's Hotel & Casino, Rock Island
- 14 Market Outlook with Eric Snodgrass – Lavender Crest Winery, Colona
- 18 Farm Bureau Board Meeting
- 28 Deadline to apply for RICFB Foundation Scholarships

## Deadline is March 28 for RICFB scholarships

The Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation is proud to announce the 2019 Foundation Scholarship Program. Applications for the scholarships are due to the Farm Bureau office in Moline by 4 p.m. March 28, 2019.

Applications will be available at [www.ricofarmbureau.org](http://www.ricofarmbureau.org).

We are fortunate to offer several scholarships this year.

The RICFB Foundation scholarships are available only to high school seniors.

These scholarships have been established by the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation and are supported through generous contributions from local families. Applicant must be a member or dependent of a member in good standing of the Rock Island County Farm Bureau since January 2018. Applicant can be majoring in any field; major does not have to be ag-related.

The **Wilbert and Carol Keppy Scholarship** is open to graduating high school seniors as well as college students. Scholarship applications will be judged separately, however, applicant can only win one scholarship from the RICFB Foundation per year. NOTE: An applicant can only win one Keppy scholarship per year and previous Keppy Scholarship winners are ineligible from receiving future Keppy Scholarship funds. Criteria for selection will be achievements in agriculture activities, including an essay, leadership

in school and the community, scholastic achievement and financial need.

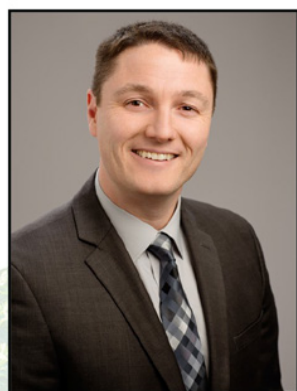
The **Bernice E. Fowler Scholarship** is open to a Rockridge High School graduating senior or graduate who is pursuing a degree in the education field. Bernice E. Fowler taught for 11 years in an Illinois City one-room schoolhouse. She continued teaching second grade at Grant School in Moline, where she retired with a 25-year teaching career. This scholarship has been established by her son and will yield a \$1,000 scholarship each year beginning in May 2013. This scholarship was established late in 2012, and the application can be downloaded at [www.ricofarmbureau.org/](http://www.ricofarmbureau.org/). Preferred candidates will be pursuing a degree in education.

For the 2nd year, the RICFB Foundation is pleased and honored to facilitate the **George and Irene Stulz Family Scholarship**. This scholarship is designed for students who will be entering their junior or senior year of a four-year university. Current RICFB members who have dependents pursuing a degree in an agriculture-related field are encouraged to apply. The family wishes to assist and support a student who demonstrates financial need, strong involvement in the farm and/or agriculture field, while also fulfilling a full academic course load. All applications available for download on our website.

For more information, please contact the RICFB office at 309-736-7432 or email [accounts@ricofarmbureau.org](mailto:accounts@ricofarmbureau.org).

Henry, Rock Island & Mercer County Farm Bureaus  
2018-2019

## MARKET OUTLOOK SEMINAR SERIES



**Thursday, March 14**  
**6:15 p.m.**

**Eric Snodgrass**  
*Atmospheric Scientist at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*  
*Co-Founder of Agribile, Inc.*  
(registration deadline March 7)

