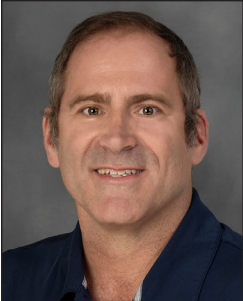


Market Outlook Seminar features Paul Otto



Paul Otto, Meteorologist with Freese-Notis Weather, will be the featured speaker on Thursday, March 14 at 6:15 p.m. at Lavender Crest Winery, 5401 US Highway 6, Colona. Dinner will be served followed by an update from Tom Parchert, River Valley Cooperative. Reservations are required

and must be made by March 7 to guarantee your attendance.

Paul Otto grew up in Green Bay, Wisconsin and then moved to St. Louis, Missouri, when he was a child. He was that child that was always looking out the window to study the geography while taking car trips with his family throughout the eastern two-thirds of the U.S. He used these trips as an opportunity to figure out how the land and water features changed with every mile and how these features working in tandem and sometimes against one another.

As a teen, his focus narrowed to studying the weather for selfish purposes as any approaching winter storm could mean that he did not have to complete that evening's homework, if he could just figure out its severity for his area. In college, Paul studied Meteorology at the University of Missouri-Columbia and took every opportunity to get involved in radio, television, and agriculture. In agriculture, he filled in for the State Climatologist over holidays so that atmospheric measurements could still be carried out at the campus research farm.

On television, Otto was brought on as the weekend Meteorologist after serving as an intern. He honed his radio skills through the University of Missouri's Journalism School as part of KBIA's Morning Edition. Before graduating, he was fortunate that Freese-

Notis Weather in Des Moines reached across what was then the BIG 8 boundary to interview a Missouri Tiger.

When Paul Otto started working for Freese-Notis Weather, early in the summer of 1993, I quickly realized that he was right in time to witness the unfolding of the Flood of '93'. It started innocently enough as slow moving, but intense thunderstorms over small lakes in northern Iowa each afternoon, day after day, that built over the course of a month to overwhelm the river basin. The situation reached levee breaking potential when the thunderstorms became a nightly ritual as well that ultimately became the Flood of '93'.

As a Meteorologist, Otto looks forward to providing short- and long-term forecasts that are exact and therefore serve a purpose for his listeners. He aims to give them all of the information they need in order to carry out and develop their own plan of action.

Cost for the single session is \$35.00 (if not pre-registered cost will be \$40.00). To make reservations, please call the Rock Island County Farm Bureau (309) 736-7432.

The Market Outlook Series is sponsored by the Henry, Rock Island and Mercer County Farm Bureau Marketing Committees in conjunction with: Gold Star FS; BankORION; COUNTRY Financial - Alan Davis, Crop Insurance; Central Bank; COUNTRY Financial - Brent Bigham, Tracy Bigham, Chad Nelson, John Waugh; Big River Resources; River Valley Cooperative; Diamond Ag; Wyffels Hybrids; Compeer Financial (Aledo & Geneseo offices); COUNTRY Financial - Dan Kniss, Mike Geuns, Eric Henderson, Julie Hessler, Tom McKie, Jerry Samuelson, Erin Spivey, Katie Spivey, Cassie Stahler; Blackhawk Bank & Trust; Hertz Farm Management.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 8 Emergency Planning for your Farm seminar
- 15 IAA Foundation scholarship application deadline
- 19 RICFB Board of Directors meeting
- 20 Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference
- 23 Deadline to register for Rules for the Road seminar
- 27 Rules for the Road seminar
- 29 Last day to register for Women in Agriculture Conference at the \$70 discounted rate (fee goes up March 1!)

MARCH

- 1 Women in Agriculture Conference fee increases to \$90
- 1 Bushels for Hunger check presentation to River Bend Food Bank
- 6 RICFB Foundation Board of Directors meeting
- 7 Deadline to register for Market Outlook
- 14 Market Outlook featuring Paul Otto with Freese-Notis Weather
- 16 Women in Agriculture Conference fee increases to \$100
- 18 RICFB Board of Directors meeting
- 22 Women in Agriculture Conference
- 22 Deadline to apply for RICFB Foundation Scholarships

Want to stay up to date with upcoming events? Send us your email to accounts@ricofarmbureau.org and like us on Facebook!

Women in Ag Conference Registration Open

Dr. Annie Kinwa-Muzinga to Headline Women in Agriculture Conference

The Women in Agriculture Conference committee is excited for the 2024, Women in Agriculture Conference. Dr. Annie Kinwa-Muzinga will headline for the annual Women in Agriculture Conference in Rock Island on Friday, March 22, 2024. Dr. Annie Kinwa-Muzinga is a Professor of Agribusiness in Agribusiness in the Regina Roth Applied Agricultural and Food Studies Department at Morningside University since August 2018. Dr. Annie Kinwa-Muzinga's research on Gender Assessment of the Agricultural Sector in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in 2012 helped her understand that the fight against hunger and malnutrition of one widow and her children.

Leader Tony McCombie will be the featured mid-day speaker. In January 2023, Leader McCombie began

her fourth term of office as State Representative and first term as Leader of the House. She is also the first woman to serve as House Republican Leader in Illinois. Please join Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton and House Leader Tony McCombie for a listening session.

Closing out the conference is Annaliese Wegner. Also known as Modern-day Farm Chick, is a dairy farmer, mother, wife and AGvocate. Through social media, speaking, workshops, retreats and events, Annaliese helps others in agriculture effectively share their farm story in an effort to bridge the gap from farm to table.

Registration for the event is now open. More details can be found at womeninagricultureconference.com. This Conference is sponsored by the Farm Bureau Women in Agriculture Conference Committee.

Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference Registration Open

The 2024 Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference "Building for Success" will be held Tuesday, February 20th at the Bank of Springfield Center, Springfield, IL. Keynote speakers include Martha McSally, Former U.S. Senator,

Congresswoman and Fighter Pilot; and Kirk Bado, managing editor of The Hotline. Registration is required. Contact the Rock Island County Farm Bureau at 309-736-7432 to register and for more information.



Learn more about trucking regulations to help you stay legal and safe when you hit the road.

FEBRUARY 27TH AT 10 AM
HOSTED BY: ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

CAMDEN CENTRE
2701 1st St East, Milan IL 61264
Doughnuts provided • Door opens at 9:15am

Attendance is open to all Illinois Farm Bureau Members. Please contact your local County Farm Bureau to register by February 23rd

