

Scholarships help support agriculture

BLOOMINGTON — Agriculture students and Illinois Farm Bureau members, spouses and children are eligible to apply for 84 college scholarships offered by the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm.

The scholarships, ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500 and totaling \$164,500, will be awarded for the 2022-23 school year.

"We are pleased to recognize students through our growing scholarship program," said Jennifer Smith, development manager, IAA Foundation. "It is a privilege to support the next generation of leaders and encourage degrees in agriculture-related fields."

Students may apply for a variety of scholarships, including three IAA Foundation Top Scholarships, where winners will each receive \$5,000 awards. Another \$7,500 award goes to the Illinois Farm Bureau Legacy of Leadership scholarship winner. In addition to family scholarships often established to honor the memory of a loved one, the IAA Foundation offers scholarships on behalf of organizations such as Prairie Farms Dairy. For 2022, the IAA Foundation is honored to administer the newly created Alvin Eigenrauch Memorial

Scholarship, Six Generations Illinois Farming Scholarship and Steve Willits Memorial Scholarship. Additionally, three new Fellowships have been added to support students pursuing advanced degrees.

All applicants must be current high school seniors or students already enrolled at an accredited college or university. Scholarships are awarded based upon academic performance, leadership experiences, involvement in activities and community service. Previous winners of an IAA Foundation scholarship are eligible to apply again if the scholarship allows.

A full listing of available scholarships and eligibility guidelines is available on the foundation website, www.iaafoundation.org. The application opens Jan. 1, 2022, and must be completed online by Feb. 15, 2022.

For more information, contact your county Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation at 309-557-2232, or email Jennifer Smith at jsmith@ifb.org.

The mission of the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm, is to fund education, research and charitable activities that benefit Illinois farm families and agriculture.

RICFB scholarships

The Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation is pleased to announce the 2022 scholarship lineup. Available scholarships include RICFB Foundation Scholarship, Keppy Scholarship awarded by the Wilbert and Carol Keppy Charitable Foundation, Kenneth Bush Memorial Scholarship awarded by the Marylin Bush family, and

the George & Irene Stulz Family Scholarship awarded by the George and Irene Stulz family. Applicants must be a current member or dependent of a member in good standing of the Rock Island County Farm Bureau since January 2021.

More information and the online application are available at www.ricofarmbureau.org/scholarships.html.

Governmental affairs conference in February

The 2022 Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference will be Tuesday, Feb. 15, at the Bank of Springfield Center, Springfield, Illinois. The conference will hold workshops on the following topics:

- ▶ Unlocking the Mystery of the General Assembly
- ▶ Livestock in Illinois
- ▶ Programs and Services Aiding the Illinois Livestock Industry

▶ Rules for the Road Conservation, Climate Change and Carbon Markets: The Latest Developments

- ▶ Communication Strategies
- ▶ ACTIVATOR 101
- ▶ Water Policy Developments

To register, contact the Rock Island County Farm Bureau by Feb. 4 at tmayhew@ricofarmbureau.org or call 309-736-7432.



Pictured, from left: RICFB Manager Tara Mayhew, RICFB Secretary Dennis VanDaele, IFB President Richard Guebert Jr.

RICFB honored by IFB

Rock Island County Farm Bureau was recently recognized during the 107th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Farm Bureau for their outstanding programming during 2020 and 2021.

The Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for recognition of outstanding achievement by individual members and county Farm Bureaus (CFBs). Counties compete for awards with other counties of similar membership size. Awards are given for five county groups:

- ▶ **Group I** — counties with 1,350 and fewer members
- ▶ **Group II** — counties with 1,351 to 1,900 members
- ▶ **Group III** — counties with 1,901 to 2,800 members
- ▶ **Group IV** — counties with 2,801 to 5,500 members
- ▶ **Group V** — counties with 5,501 or more members

Awards given have been evaluated under the County Activities of Excellence (CAE) program. The goals of the CAE program are to recognize CFBs for program excellence, encourage and assist CFBs in setting goals and priorities, inspire and promote

innovative programming to meet member needs, promote programming in key areas, and to provide a resource to counties for developing new programs.

The Excellence Award is given to the county with the most outstanding project for each program area. Excellence Awards encompassed 10 program areas: Ag Literacy, Farm Income and Development, Health and Safety, Advocacy, Local Affairs, Engagement and Outreach, Membership Value, Multi-County, Membership Value, Foundation and Young Leaders.

Additionally, three additional awards are given to recognize outstanding efforts by CFBs:

- ▶ **New Horizon Award** — to encourage new and innovative programs;
- ▶ **Liberty Bell Award** — to recognize outstanding efforts on issues of public policy impacting state and local Farm Bureau organizational priorities;
- ▶ **Pinnacle Award** — Highest-level award given to the most outstanding county in each membership group to recognize overall program excellence as it relates to the County Farm Bureau's goals and priorities.

Rock Island County Farm Bureau

was recently awarded the following:

- ▶ **New Horizon Award** (multi-county)
- ▶ **Multi-county Award**
- ▶ **Most Outstanding Harvest for All Program** (District 3 Young Leaders)

All awards were received for our Haircut For Hunger campaign. This campaign was hosted by Rock Island, Henry, Mercer, Stark and Whiteside counties. The campaign came to fruition after managers had joked with one of our district Young Leaders, Chad Bell, about how he hadn't gotten a haircut during the pandemic. We turned that joke into a reality and Haircut for Hunger was born! The campaign was promoted through Facebook's Network for Good and all proceeds went directly to River Bend Food Bank to help fight food insecurities in our communities. We set up the fundraiser as \$1,000 increments, with our end goal of \$5,000. Each \$1,000 increment was met with a different "celebrity hairstylist," and if we reached \$5,000, Chad's own children would cut his hair live on Facebook at the conclusion of the campaign. Not only did we meet that goal, but we far exceeded it, raising a total of \$7,160 for River Bend Food Bank.

Sign up now for health screening

Your Rock Island County Farm Bureau is inviting you to take part in a preventive health screening to be offered on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2022, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Rock Island County Farm Bureau office! These screenings include a blood draw with panels similar to a wellness draw at your doctor's office, but at a fraction of the cost!

Identify any health concerns early, while they're still very treatable, or give yourself piece of mind that you're on the right track with your health! It is recommended to have an annual blood draw after the age of 40 to track basic health values with focus on prevention first! Appointments are limited for this event, so call now!

Base Package Health Screening; \$100, includes blood draw and blood pressure check

Base Package Blood Draw to Include:

Comprehensive Metabolic Panel (CMP), Lipid Panel and Complete Blood Count (CBC) — these panels

test values such as cholesterol, glucose, protein counts, electrolytes, liver enzymes, white and red blood cell counts and much more. These tests can indicate risk for heart disease, diabetes and many other chronic conditions. Important: The blood draw requires a 12-hour fast.

Optional added tests

Prostate Specific Antigen, \$25 (PSA) — prostate health for men. Thyroid Stimulating Hormone, \$25 (TSH) — thyroid gland function. Hemoglobin A1C, \$25 (A1C) — provides 90-day average of blood sugar. Testosterone, \$25 — indicates levels of testosterone in the blood. Vitamin D, \$25 — indicates level of Vitamin D in the blood. C-Reactive Protein, \$25 (CRP) — indicates level of inflammation in the body.

Your screening the day of the event will take about 15 minutes, and you will receive your results in the mail in 2-3 weeks. You will have the option of scheduling a follow-up 1-1 consultation to review your results with a Certified Health Coach OR Nurse Practitioner.

For the typical farm family with insurance purchased on the marketplace or direct from an insurer, the above blood work in the Base Package Health Screening may cost upwards of \$750 to \$1,000! Your cost at this health screening through Thrive Wellness Inc. is \$100!

Thrive Wellness Inc. (Peoria, IL) is a workplace/professional organization wellness company providing health screenings and health education. We are backed by Northwestern Medicine / Health Lab out of Chicago, which performs testing on specimens, and Private Family Practice Nurse Practitioner, Tarah Gibbs (Pekin, IL) who serves as medical consultant to Thrive Wellness Inc.

TO SCHEDULE YOUR HEALTH SCREENING

Contact Bob Phillips, director of Thrive Wellness, at 309-550-9172 or bob@thrivewellnessinc.com.

We accept cash, check or debit/credit for payment.

Want to stay up to date with upcoming events?

Send us your email to accounts@ricofarmbureau.org

Calendar of Events

JANUARY

16-18	QC Farm Show
17	RICFB Board of Directors meeting
21-22	Young Leader Conference
25	Thrive Wellness Health Screenings, RICFB office
31	Bushels for Hunger Campaign ends

FEBRUARY

4	Deadline to register for Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference
15	Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference
21	RICFB Board of Directors meeting