

Be sure to vote Nov. 8 -- or sooner

Big changes likely at various levels

The 2022 general election will bring significant changes to all of our local, state and national districts. Maps have been redrawn, incumbents have shifted into new districts, and new candidates are running for office. It is more important than ever to have a voice in the upcoming election. Our county board downsizes from 25 districts to 19, our state House districts increase from two to four, our state Senate districts increase from one to three, and we remain in the newly redrawn 17th Congressional District that will lead to new representation.

While we see lots of changes coming on Nov. 8, we are ready and excited to work with our new elected officials to keep the voice of our farmers in Rock Island County at the forefront. We will forge relationships with new leaders and have even more opportunities to discuss topics and issues that are important to our membership. Take time Nov. 8 to cast your vote; after all, it is our civic duty.

For more information on voting in Rock Island County, visit [www.rockisland-county.org/Elections/Home](http://www.rockisland-county.org/Elections/Home).



**U.S. GENERAL ELECTION**

<b>Sept. 29</b>	Early voting begins, vote by mail ballots mailed	<b>Nov. 3</b>	Last day for VBM applications by mail
<b>Oct. 12</b>	Grace period registration and voting begins	<b>Nov. 7</b>	Last day of early voting
<b>Oct. 23</b>	Last day for online voter registration	<b>Nov. 8</b>	General Election Day

**HOW TO LOOK UP YOUR NEW DISTRICT**

NEW CONGRESSIONAL, STATE SENATE, & STATE HOUSE MAPS HERE: [on.ilfb.org/ILDistrict](http://on.ilfb.org/ILDistrict)

Make your opinions known via FB ACT

From <https://ilfb.org/get-involved/fb-act>:

Engaged members make us stronger. By enrolling in FB ACT you can use your voice on issues important to you. Get involved today and help strengthen Illinois Agriculture for your farm and for future generations.

Every day, politicians and regulators in Washington, D.C.; Springfield; or your local community make decisions that impact the way you farm.

In today's world, your voice can be easily drowned out by other interest groups. We need you to speak out and advocate to protect your interests. That's where our grass-roots advocacy program, FB ACT, comes into play. With the world at your fingertips, we make being an advocate for Illinois Farm Bureau the easiest thing you'll do all day.

When you join FB ACT, we'll call on you to act when it is most necessary. You'll be asked to contact your elected officials or submit a comment into a federal docket on key ag issues.

Your involvement in legislative and political activities will help to build your relationship with your elected officials and continue to keep agriculture pro-

**FB ACT CONTEST**

**The member with the most Action Request submissions at the end of the '22-'23 program year will win a \$200 gift card.**

**Contest runs 9/1/22 – 8/31/23.**

perous in Illinois. Without your voice and your stories, our message can't always reach lawmakers.

FB ACT allows you to act whenever and wherever you're ready. Whether it's from the cab of the combine, or between farm chores, your voice matters and joining FB ACT will make sure it is heard. Whether you are already an FB ACT member or just curious about the program, call your county Farm Bureau and learn what new opportunities await you. Learn how you can act today and win tomorrow. Your farm. Your future.

What is FB ACT?

FB ACT (Farm Bureau Agricultural Contact Team) is a program helping you take back your influence in Washington, Springfield, and your local community. FB ACT is our way of putting you in instant contact with policy makers on priority ag issues.

How will I know when to act?

When we need you to act, you'll be contacted by email and/or text message alerts. A link will be sent, and you can act within an instant. Not an FB ACT member? Join by texting "FARM" to 52886.

Market Outlook features Blohm

Naomi Blohm, senior market adviser with Total Farm Marketing, will be the featured speaker on Thursday, Nov. 10 at 6:15 p.m. at Lavender Crest Winery, 5401 US Highway 6, Colona.

Dinner will be served, followed by the local grain market update from Tom Parchert of Big River Resources. Reservations are required and must be made by Nov. 3 to guarantee your attendance.

Blohm is a specialist at helping farmers understand how to manage their cash marketing needs. In addition, she helps them understand the importance of managing basis, delivery point considerations, cash flow needs and storage capacity. She also assists with explaining, implementing and managing futures and options strategies for clients.



Naomi Blohm

She earned her bachelor of arts in political science with a minor in agriculture business at the University of Wisconsin in Platteville.

She has a master of science in adult education with an emphasis in ag economics, University of Wisconsin, Platteville, and a master certificate in global education, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh.

Additional dates and speakers for the 2022-2023 series include: March 9, Dr. Trent Ford, Illinois State climatologist; July 6, Clayton Pope, Clayton Pope Commodities.

Cost for the series is \$85 and a single session is \$30 (if not pre-registered, cost will be \$35).

To make reservations, please call the Henry County Farm Bureau at 309-937-2411, Rock Island County Farm Bureau at 309-736-7432 or Mercer County Farm Bureau 309-582-5116.

The Market Outlook Seminar Series is sponsored by the Henry, Rock Island and Mercer County Farm Bureau Marketing Committees in conjunction with: Gold Star FS; Country Financial: Brent Bigham, Chad Nelson, John Waugh; Compeer Financial; River Valley Cooperative; Wyffels Hybrids; Big River Resources; BankORION; Blackhawk Bank & Trust; and Central Bank.

Bushels for Hunger drive enters 13th year

The Bushels for Hunger program is kicking off its 13<sup>th</sup> year of area farmers helping local families.

Farmers can donate bushels of grain at participating elevators from Oct. 1, 2022, until Jan. 31, 2023. Proceeds from grain sales will benefit River Bend Food Bank and food pantries throughout the Quad City area. Since 2010, area farmers have donated a total of \$277,000 and provided over 1.4 million meals to those in need.

Mercer County farmer and Illinois Farm Bureau District 3 Director Jeff Kirwan is excited about this year's campaign.

"It's exciting to see the Bushels for Hunger campaign still going strong 13 years after it began. Our local farmers continue to generously donate thousands of bushels of grain to help fight hunger in the Quad City communities,"

Kirwan says.

Mike Secymore, grain merchandiser with Gold Star FS said, "I believe that the Bushels for Hunger program is a good way for the local farmers to give back to the community. It is nice that the money stays here locally and is helping neighbors who may be struggling to put food on the table."

The Bushels for Hunger program is a joint program coordinated by the following three Illinois County Farm Bureaus: Rock Island, Henry and Mercer, in conjunction with the following area grain elevators and ethanol plants: Atkinson Grain, Big River Resources, Cargill, CHS, Gavilon, Gold Star FS, Hillsdale Elevator, River Valley Cooperative and Rumbold & Kuhn.

For more information, contact your local County Farm Bureau.

**DON'T FORGET!**

If you ordered freezer meals from our Foundation, pickup is Monday, Oct. 10 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the RICFB office!

Want to stay up to date with upcoming events? Send us your email to [accounts@ricofarmbureau.org](mailto:accounts@ricofarmbureau.org) and like us on Facebook!

Calendar of Events	
OCTOBER – PORK MONTH	
1	Bushels for Hunger campaign begins
10	Freezer meal pickup
17	RICFB Board of Directors meeting
NOVEMBER	
8	General election
9	RICFB Foundation Board of Directors Meeting
10	Market Outlook featuring Naomi Blohm, Lavender Crest Winery
15	Section 3 FFA Leadership Training School – Farm Bureau Acquaintance Day
21	RICFB Board of Directors meeting
24-25	Office closed for Thanksgiving