

MARCH 2023

‘Growing a Climate for Tomorrow’ this year’s Ag Day theme

LEAWOOD, Kansas – The Agriculture Council of America will host National Agriculture Day on March 21. This will mark the 50th anniversary of National Ag Day, which is celebrated in classrooms and communities across the country. The theme for National Ag Day 2023 is “Growing a Climate for Tomorrow.”

On March 21, the ACA will host a virtual Ag Day event and events in Washington, D.C. Additionally, the ACA will bring college students to Washington “virtually” to deliver the message of Ag Day to the Hill. A core leadership team of college students will attend events in D.C. Other Ag Day events in D.C. will be announced soon.

These events honor National Agriculture Day and mark a nationwide effort to tell the true story of American agriculture and remind citizens that agriculture is a part of all of us. Many agricultural associations, corporations, students and government organizations involved in agriculture are expected to participate.

National Ag Day is organized by the Agriculture Council of America. The ACA is a nonprofit organization made up of leaders in the agricultural, food and fiber community, dedicating its efforts to increasing the public’s awareness of agriculture’s role in modern society.

The National Ag Day program

encourages every American to:

- Understand how food and fiber products are produced;
- Appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products;
- Value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy;
- Acknowledge and consider career opportunities in the agriculture, food and fiber industry

In addition to the events March 21, the ACA will again feature the Ag Day Essay Contest. The winning essay will be presented on National Ag Day.

Sponsorship opportunities for Ag Day 2023 are available. Visit www.agday.org for more information.



Freezer meal orders
are due March 15

The Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation is hosting its Spring Freezer Meal Fundraiser. Proceeds benefit the Foundation for scholarships and Ag In The Classroom programming. Meals are prepared by Custom Catering & BBQ.

All 10 meals will be frozen – all you have to do is cook them!

A meal set (10 meals) includes one of each item on the menu – no substitutions. Each meal feeds three to five people, depending on your eaters. Menu includes the following items:

- Pulled pork
- BBQ pulled chicken

- Hickory smoked pork loin
 - Teriyaki chicken
 - Smoked pork chop sandwiches
 - Chicken bacon ranch pasta
 - Pulled pork mac and cheese
 - Cowboy casserole
 - Chicken and biscuits
 - Lasagna
- Cost per meal set is \$180 with checks made out to the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation. Orders and payment must be received by March 15. Pickup will be April 10 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Office. For more information call our office at 309-736-7432.

Calendar of Events

MARCH

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| 1 | WIA Conference registration fee increases |
| 1 | Virtual Rules for the Road seminar |
| 2 | Bushels for Hunger check presentation at River Bend Food Bank |
| 2 | Deadline to register for Market Outlook Seminar |
| 6-10 | Ag Safety Awareness Program Week |
| 9 | Market Outlook featuring Dr. Trent Ford at Lavender Crest Winery |
| 15 | Freezer Meal orders due |
| 15 | Rules for the Road in-person seminar at Knox CFB |
| 20 | RICFB Board of Directors meeting |
| 21 | National Ag Day |
| 21-27 | National Ag Week |
| 22 | RICFB Foundation Board of Directors meeting |
| 24 | Deadline to apply for RICFB Foundation scholarships |
| 24 | Women in Agriculture Conference, Bally’s Quad Cities |
| 27-31 | Stand Up 4 Gain Safety Week |

APRIL

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| 10 | Freezer Meal pickup |
| 17 | RICFB Board of Directors meeting |

There’s still time to register for this year’s Women in Agriculture Conference! We have a great conference planned, so register today! For agenda, speaker and travel information, and to register, visit www.womeninagricultureconference.com/

WOMEN
IN AGRICULTURE
CONFERENCE

Friday, March 24, 2023
Bally’s Quad Cities



Pictured are State Rep. Gregg Johnson of the 72nd House District; Sen. Mike Halpin of the 36th Senate District; Jenna Preston, Mercer CFB manager; Chad Bell, Mercer CFB president; Tara Mayhew, Rock Island CFB manager; and Jeff Kirwan, IAA District 3 director.

Building bridges to lawmakers

Members who attended the Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference in Springfield on Feb. 14 had the opportunity to visit with state representatives and senators as part of the Legislative Reception. Every representative and senator serving Rock Island County attended.

With new maps and new districts, the reception was an ideal time for members and staff to meet with new elected officials in their counties.

Topics included estate tax and increasing the Illinois Estate and Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax Act exemption to an amount equivalent to the federal estate tax and credit level, opposing a house bill that grants unlimited

access to waterways that would violate current private property rights, and negotiating a bill regarding several concerns with the new wind and solar siting law.

In addition to the Legislative Reception, attendees heard a variety of topics including livestock, improving broadband, national and state legislative updates, and comments from Jonah Goldberg (political commentator, nationally syndicated columnist and best-selling author) and Rod Snyder (Senior Adviser for Agriculture – Office of the Administrator US EPA).

The Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference is held each February at the Bank of Springfield Center.

REMINDER:

RICFB Foundation Scholarship Applications are due by 4 p.m. Friday, March 24. Don’t wait until the last minute! Guidelines, application and more information can be found at www.ricofarmbureau.org/scholarships.html



Scholarship
INFORMATION

THE ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION IS PROUD TO AWARD THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS:

- RICFB FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS
- KEPPY SCHOLARSHIPS
Awarded by the Wilbert and Carol Keppy Charitable Foundation
- KENNETH BUSH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Awarded by Marilyn Bush Family
- GEORGE & IRENE STULZ FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP
Awarded by George & Irene Stulz Family

Application Deadline is Friday, March 24, 2023 at 4pm.
For more information, guidelines and application, visit www.ricofarmbureau.org/scholarships.