



McClellan to speak at Market Outlook

Mike McClellan, president of Mobile Weather Team Inc., will be the featured speaker on Wednesday, March 8, at the 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 1 to guarantee a meal.

Mike McClellan, is owner/president of Mobile Weather Team, Inc., a Washington, IL-based company specializing in on-site weather forecasting, advance storm warning, lightning prediction and detection, plus long-range AG weather forecasting.

McClellan earned his bachelor of science degree in meteorology from Northern Illinois University in 1983. McClellan has been the

chief meteorologist at KTTC-TV in Rochester, Minn.; WICS-TV in Springfield, Ill.; WXII-TV in Winston-Salem, N.C.; and at WMBD-TV, the CBS affiliate in Peoria, Ill.

In 1995, he earned the award for Best Weathercast in the state of Illinois from the Illinois Broadcasters Association. As a broadcast meteorologist, McClellan holds the American Meteorological Society's Seal of Approval and was the 2001 National Chairman of the Board of Broadcast Meteorology of the American Meteorological Society.

In 1991, McClellan combined his passion for both weather and golf by creating the Mobile Weather Team, which provides forecasts, lightning detection and prediction for outdoor events

around the world. The main focus has been with the PGA Golf Tours around the world but Mobile Weather Team meteorologists also have provided weather coverage and consultation for the Daytona 500, Texas and Oklahoma State Fairs, numerous Illinois radio stations and airports. However, in February 2008, McClellan sold its North American golf operations but expanded its operations around the world.

Today, the Mobile Weather Team continues to grow its agricultural forecasting division by providing valuable weather information via its popular daily newsletter called "WeatherView Online" and mid-day Podcast, which targets Midwest farmers and all Agri-business. In 2016, we partnered with AgriVisor to launch "My Rain Gauge," which

accurately measures rainfall remotely in each of your farm fields without using on-site rain gauges.

REGISTER EARLY! Reservations must be made by March 1 to guarantee a meal. Cost for a single session is \$25 (if not pre-registered, cost will be \$30). To make reservations, please call the Rock Island County Farm Bureau (309) 736-7432.

Additional speakers for the series will include: July 13, 2017 – Chip Flory, Pro Farmer. (Lavender Crest Winery will be the location for all market outlook seminars.)

The Market Outlook Series is sponsored by the Henry and Rock Island County Farm Bureaus, 1st Farm Credit Services, BankORION, CHS Annawan, Gold Star FS, Steve Sim-Country Financial, Wells Fargo.

Jolene Brown to headline Women in Ag conference

Are you a woman who is involved in agriculture? Are you actively farming, working in the industry, or married to a farmer? If so, then we have the conference for you! Join us for a one-day seminar for women in agriculture. The Women in Agriculture Conference is scheduled for Friday, March 17, at Jumer's Casino & Hotel located at 777 Jumer Drive in Rock Island, Ill. This conference is a one-day seminar to help women become empowered in agriculture.

The conference, now in its sixth year, will feature keynote speaker Jolene Brown. Brown is a professional speaker, author, and family business consultant. She will be presenting, "If We Huff and Puff, Will We Blow Your House Down?"

The keynote address will be followed by a variety of breakout sessions that



Jolene Brown

participants may choose among. These include "Fresh and Natural Photography on the Farm" — Christy Lee; "Consumer Engagement" — Janice Person; "Playing Offense — Agriculture in the Trump Administration" — Adam Nielsen; "Podcasting Primer" — Emily Webel and Holly Spangler; "Tough Questions in Tough Situations" — Jolene Brown; and "Grain Marketing Strategy and Contracting Alternatives" — Joe Camp.

The conference will wrap up with Brown's presentation "The Balancing Act: 10 Ideas to Relieve Stress and Bring Renewal to Our Farm and Family

Life."

The conference will begin at 8 a.m. and will conclude around 4 p.m. Cost of conference registration is \$50 through Feb. 28.

Registration increases to \$75 beginning March 1. Walk-ins the day of the conference will be \$100. Cost of registration includes a light breakfast and a luncheon buffet.

To register, visit womeninagriculture-conference.com or contact your County Farm Bureau.

The conference is sponsored by the Bureau, Carroll, Fulton, Henry, Knox, Lee, Mercer, McDonough, Rock Island, Stark, Warren-Henderson, and Whiteside County Farm Bureaus in Illinois as well as Illinois Farm Bureau, Country Financial, River Valley Cooperative, John Deere, River Gulf Grain, and 1st Farm Credit Services.

It's time to apply for scholarships!

The Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation is proud to announce the 2017 Foundation Scholarship Program. Applications for the scholarships are due to the Farm Bureau office in Moline by 4 p.m. March 31.

Applications are available at www.ricofarmbureau.org.

These scholarships have been established by the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation and are supported through generous contributions from local families. The applicant must be a high school senior. Applicant must be a member or dependent of a member in good standing of the Rock Island County Farm Bureau since January 2016.

Applicant can be majoring in any field; major does not have to be ag-related.

Applicants may apply for the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship, as well as, the Keppy Scholarship. 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.

Keppy Scholarship applicants may be a graduating high school senior or currently enrolled in an undergraduate college degree program.

Attention, Rockridge students!

This scholarship is open to a Rockridge High School graduating senior or graduate who is pursuing a degree of study 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. Preferred candidates will be pursuing a degree in education. For more questions, please contact the RICFB office at 309-736-7432 or email dbloomberg@ricofarmbureau.org.

NEWS & NOTES

FB to host Prep, Freeze, Cook Party

The Mercer and Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundations are hosting a Prep, Freeze, Cook Party on Tuesday, March 7, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Reynolds American Legion, at 501 N. Main St. in Reynolds, Ill. Join us for an evening of meal preparation for a great cause! The cost per person is \$150. In less than two hours, you will help assemble 10 different delicious meals to take home. Each meal you will take home serves five people, allowing

you to feed your family of five for only \$15 per meal! All meal preparation supplies will be provided. All you need to do is bring a fun attitude and a laundry basket to put all of your meals in at the end of the evening.

The 10 meals that you will take home with you will be creamy Italian chicken, chicken taco casserole, pineapple salsa pork roast, bacon cheeseburger tater tot casserole, Philly cheesesteak sloppy joes, sausage breakfast burritos, ham

breakfast casserole, zuppa Toscana soup, cheesy Southwest chicken soup, and parmesan honey pork roast. All net proceeds will go to the Mercer and Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundations supporting scholarships and Ag in the Classroom. Save your spot and register by March 1. To RSVP or for more information, call the Rock Island County Farm Bureau at 309-736-7432 or email accounts@ricofarmbureau.org. Payment is due in advance.

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2017

- 15 Bushels for Hunger Donation Announcement 11 a.m.
- 18 District Young Leader Social at Bent River Brewing Co.; reservations required and current membership
- 20 Board Meeting

MARCH 2017

- 1-2 IFB Governmental Affairs Conference
- 7 Prep, Freeze, Cook Party; 6-8 p.m.; payment required in advance
- 8 Market Outlook with Mike McClellan; reservations by March 1
- 9 Young Leader meeting
- 16 Farm Bill Work Session at Camden Centre
- 17 Women in Agriculture Conference
- 20 Board Meeting

PRIDE *Plus*

means the *pride* of Farm Bureau® membership plus exclusive members-only savings.

IFB® MEMBERS SAVE 20% AT

Choice Hotels®

CHOICE HOTELS™



TO LEARN MORE: VISIT WWW.ILFB.ORG/MEMBER

