



Tyne Morgan to headline ag conference

Farm women and all those involved in the agriculture industry should plan to attend the Women in Agriculture Conference, scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2019, at Jumer's Casino and Hotel in Moline, Illinois. This conference is a one-day seminar to help women become empowered in agriculture.

The conference, in its eighth year, will feature keynote speaker Tyne Morgan, host of U.S. Farm Report, presenting "Bullish Agriculture 2019 & Beyond." Morgan is doing what she calls her "dream job."

After spending two years on the road as AgDay and U.S. Farm Report National Reporter, in 2014 Tyne was named the first female host of U.S. Farm Report.

At age 29, she became only the fourth host of the show, following Orion Samuelson, Max Armstrong and John Phipps. Tyne works each

week to bring viewers the latest agriculture and market-related news by diving into stories impacting not only farmers and ranchers, but rural America. Growing up in rural Missouri, Tyne attended the University of Missouri-Columbia, where she majored in agriculture journalism, with an emphasis in broadcast. Today, Tyne's greatest title is "Mom," as she and her husband James are enjoying life with two little girls, ages 2 and 3.

The Women in Agriculture Conference will begin with registration at 8 a.m. The keynote address will be followed by a variety of breakout sessions. A lunch break will be included between the morning and afternoon breakout sessions.

The conference will wrap up around 3 p.m. with Erin Brenneman, farmer and farrowing manager, Brenneman Pork, presenting "We mend more fences when we meet in the middle." Raised in the suburbs of Chicago, it was only after

Brenneman married and moved to her new family's hog operation that her eyes were opened to what she calls "the beautiful world of farming."

She's since become a strong advocate for the industry and for her own family's products. Erin and her husband are part owners in TJAC Pork and both work at Brenneman Pork in Iowa.

Erin works full time at the home farm sow unit as the farrowing manager, and while most of her time is spent caring for the sows and newly born piglets, she also hosts groups visiting the farm. She takes the time to explain their modern production practices to groups like Florida FFA officers, retail food companies, students and recently a group of "mommy bloggers."

Erin was recently selected as one of the Faces of Farming by the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance and has traveled extensively throughout the U.S. promoting the pork industry and talking

to students with no experience in farming about modern production methods and technology.

As an active member in the social media community via Twitter, she strives to correct the vast amounts of misinformation about farming that she finds circulating.

Included in the day is an exhibit area, with many businesses and organizations offering materials, promotional items, and give-away drawings. The cost of the program, which will include a breakfast and a luncheon buffet, as well as a mid-day snack break, will be \$75 if paid March 1-13. Walk-ins the day of the conference will be \$100.

To register, contact any of the sponsoring County Farm Bureaus in Illinois or register online at womeninagricultureconference.com.

The conference is sponsored by the Farm Bureau Women in Agriculture Conference Committee.

McClellan featured at Outlook

Mike McClellan, Mobile Weather Team, will be the featured speaker on Thursday, March 14, at 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 7 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 KTTT-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



Mike McClellan

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 website and Met On-Call service, where you can talk directly with a forecaster.

Cost for the series is \$75 and a single session is \$25 (if not pre-registered, cost will be \$30). To make reservations, please call the Henry County Farm Bureau 309-937-2411 or 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 BankORION, Compeer Financial, Gold Star FS, Steve Sim — Country Financial, Wells Fargo and Blackhawk State Bank.

Deadline March 29 for scholarships

The Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation is proud to announce the 2019 Foundation Scholarship Program. Applications for the scholarships are due to the Farm Bureau office in Moline by 4 p.m. March 29, 2019.

Applications will be available at www.ricofarmbureau.org.

We are fortunate to offer several scholarships this year.

The RICFB Foundation scholarships are available only to high school seniors.

These scholarships have been established by the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation and are supported through generous contributions from local families. Applicant must be a member or dependent of a member in good standing of the Rock Island County Farm Bureau since January 2018. Applicant can be majoring in any field; major does not have to be ag-related.

The **Wilbert and Carol Keppy Scholarship** is open to graduating high school seniors as well as college students. 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.

The **Bernice E. Fowler Scholarship** is open to a Rockridge High School graduating senior or graduate who is pursuing a degree 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 the 2nd year, the RICFB Foundation is pleased and honored to facilitate the **George and Irene Stulz Family Scholarship**. This scholarship is designed for students who will be entering their junior or senior year of a four-year university. Current RICFB members who have dependents pursuing a degree in an agriculture-related field are encouraged to apply. The family wishes to assist and support a student who demonstrates financial need, strong involvement in the farm and/or agriculture field, while also fulfilling a full academic course load. All applications available for download on our website.

For more information, please contact the RICFB office at 309-736-7432 or email accounts@ricofarmbureau.org.



Lauren Lurkins of Illinois Farm Bureau was one of the keynote speakers at the "Know Your Ag Environment" workshop.

Turnout strong for February workshop

Members from Henry, Mercer and Rock Island County Farm Bureaus gathered at the Camden Center in Milan on Monday, Feb. 25, for a "Know Your Ag Environment" workshop.

The event kicked off with registration and an exhibit area for attendees to browse. IAA District Director Jeff Kirwan gave a brief welcome and then released attendees to the breakout sessions. Breakout speakers were Tim Maiers of Maiers Ag Consulting and Alisha Bower of Practical Farmers of Iowa. Tim presented "A Livestock Farmer's Guide to Complying with Manure Regulations" and Alisha spoke about "Innovations in Supply

Chain Sustainability Impact." At the conclusion of the breakout sessions, guests reconvened for a buffet dinner and introduction of the keynote speakers. Keynote speakers were Lauren Lurkins and Adam Nielsen of Illinois Farm Bureau. Lauren is the director of natural and Environmental Resources and presented an update on the Clean Water Rule. Adam is the director of national legislation and policy development and presented an update on trade and the farm bill. Jeff Kirwan gave closing remarks and thanked everyone for attending.

The program was sponsored by Henry, Mercer and Rock Island County Farm Bureaus.

Calendar of Events

MARCH

| | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14 | Women in Ag Conference – 8 a.m., Jumer's Hotel & Casino, Rock Island |
| 14 | Market Outlook with Mike McClellan – 6:15 p.m., Lavender Crest Winery, Colona |
| 18 | Farm Bureau Board Meeting – 7 p.m. |
| 29 | Deadline to apply for RICFB Foundation Scholarships |