



THE FARM POST

The Official Publication of the Pike and Scott County Farm Bureaus

Vol. 8 No. 4

January 2014

Farmers' Efforts Provide Strong Start to New Year

By Erin Anthony

Congress is hardly any more predictable than the weather, but the legislative forecast for early 2014 looks pretty good to farmers and ranchers. Just like a bumper crop though, there's a lot that's been done over the past 12 months to get a farm bill and waterways infrastructure legislation well on the way to the president's desk.

The Senate took the lead with both the Water Resources Development Act and the farm bill, passing those bills in May and June, respectively. The House caught up a few months later, but its late-fall passage of the measures set the conference wheels in motion a little too late to finish work before Congress' year-end adjournment. Lawmakers working on each of the bills are optimistic their measures will be enacted not too long after we ring in

the new year.

Still, that these bills are as close as they are to being ready for the president's signature is proof of farmers' and ranchers' dedication to educating their congressional delegations and being satisfied with nothing less than action.

One of the best examples of that in 2013 was Farm Bureau's Bring the Heat campaign, through which Farm Bureau members made sure Congress was working through the August recess.

As part of this grassroots effort, farmers and ranchers spoke out at town hall meetings, had one-on-one conversations with lawmakers and their staff and made quite a few phone calls to get legislators fired up about finalizing the farm bill and moving waterways transportation legisla-

tion. While the weather cooled down in September and October, farmers and ranchers refused to take the pressure off, yielding a House-passed farm bill and a House-passed Water Resources Reform and Development Act, putting both bills on the path to conference with the Senate.

On both the farm bill and the waterways legislation, Democrats and Republicans came together to get the job done. With the farm bill, the bipartisan effort was almost exclusively on the part of farm-state lawmakers, but members of both parties overwhelmingly supported the waterways legislation passed in each chamber. In fact, out of the more than 500 votes related to final passage of the legislation in the House and Senate, only 17 votes were against the bill.

Lawmakers realized farmers and ranchers were on to something: modernized waterways are key to helping buoy the economy.

Another big issue for farmers is immigration reform legislation that meets agriculture's labor needs.

The Senate in June passed a balanced, Farm Bureau-supported immigration reform bill that includes a fair and workable farm labor provision. The House, on the other hand, stalled after committee approval of a series of immigration reform bills, each tackling a different aspect of reform.

Yet, farmers and ranchers pressed on. Immigration reform was not only a central part of the Bring the Heat campaign, but farmers and ranchers continued to rally around the issue, joining hundreds of business owners, faith leaders, law enforcement officials and conservatives in meeting with members of Congress in October and making a compelling case for action.

"Considering how charged and complex the issue of immigration reform is, the chances of congressional action during this upcoming midterm election year are slim, but that does not minimize farmers' and ranchers' success in coming together to work with Senate lawmakers to draft and pass a bill that would meet all of agriculture's labor needs," noted Dale Moore, American Farm Bureau Federation executive director of public policy.

Despite the chilly winter temperatures that will have most of the U.S. shivering in early 2014, farmers and ranchers will be turning up the temperature on Congress, calling for action on immigration reform and many other important issues, such as tax reform, renewable fuels, the Clean Water Act and food safety.

Erin Anthony is the editor of *FBNews*, the American Farm Bureau Federation's official e-newsletter.

"Alternative Funding for Inland Waterways: A Long Lost Solution?"

By Mike Steenhoek

Unfortunately, we are a spending nation, not an investing nation. As government at the federal, state, and local levels continue to struggle to find the resources and, perhaps even more scarce, the will to devote much needed investment to upgrade and enhance our infrastructure, a growing segment of stakeholders are exploring the potential of engaging alternative sources of funding – including the private sector and foreign capital – to address many of our transportation challenges.

When examining this concept further, it becomes quickly evident that many policymakers and proponents of private or foreign investment in infrastructure are of the opinion that many of our transportation problems will evaporate simply because private and foreign investors will become involved. If only it were that easy. As we set foot on this path, it is essential that we perform some needed due diligence so that our eyes are open and receptive to the potential benefits and, very likely, tradeoffs that will result from such a concept. Soybean farmers possess both the standing and credibility to call greater attention to this important discussion.

The Soy Transportation Coalition recently initiated a research project – funded by the soybean checkoff – to further examine the feasibility of such an approach for our nation's inland waterway system. Scheduled to be completed at the end of December, the analysis will highlight examples of lock and dam sites where alternative sources of funding could be applicable and where they are not.

Alternative sources of funding – whether private or foreign – could be helpful if it results in more efficient and less bureaucratic project execution and delivery. Such an approach could also decrease the likelihood of cost overruns since funding would be provided in a more certain, predictable manner.

On the other hand, just because one opens the door to private and foreign sources of funding does not mean these sources of funding will want to walk through the door. For such investment to occur, the potential investors must be confident that a positive return on investment can be achieved. Does our lock and dam system provide that level of optimism among potential investors? If not, what changes need to be made to make it an attractive investment opportunity? Will that require our nation and the stakeholders who depend upon the inland waterway system to accept trade offs? In other to gain an enhancement in one area will that require giving something up in another area?

As this discussion proceeds, it is essential for soybean farmers and others who rely on well-maintained locks and dams to be realistic and provide quality feedback to ensure any new funding paradigm will result in a system that enhances, and does not diminish, our competitiveness in a dynamic marketplace.

Appeared in Fall 2013 *American Soybean*

The Pike and Scott County Farm Bureaus
Supporting Agriculture
Supporting Our Communities
Supporting Our Future

THE PIKE AND SCOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAUS

OUR MISSION is to lead our members in their pursuit of prosperity. We will advance programs and public policies that promote a strong agricultural economy and benefit our members and their communities.



David Gay accepts Pike County Farm Bureau's Achievement Award from then Vice President Rich Guebert at the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting in Chicago on December 8. Guebert was elected IFB President later in the meeting.



Jeff Schone accepts the Scott County Farm Bureau Achievement Award from then IFB President Philip Nelson. Schone also accepted a Liberty Bell award later in the ceremony.

HOWDY!

by Blake E. Roderick

DESPERADOS WAITING ON A TRAIN

"And I played the Red River Valley, and he'd sit in the kitchen and cry, run his fingers through seventy years of livin', wondering Lord has every well I drilled run dry..." Ouch! Now that one is going to bleed for a while.

Maybe I should back up a bit.

As I write this, my last Howdy! of 2013, my morning started as usual with my last morning shower of 2013.

I suspect I do what most men do, I shave in the shower. This morning, as with most mornings through 2013, I lathered up with my 98-cent bargain brand.

Of course, my morning routine includes singing in the shower. This morning, as with many mornings, I sing some of the standards of my formative college years. This morning, it was "Desperados Waiting for a Train." I suppose I'm getting myself psyched up for another meeting and trip to Texas.

I really don't know if I have a decent singing voice. The only known recording of my singing would have been either from a Theatre Guild show from 1982 or a sixth-grade choir concert from 1968. Either way, I'm sure the years have had a detrimental effect on my voice.

Now I'm not saying I'm a bad singer. In fact, the songs, softly crooned in the sound chamber that is the shower stall are probably quite excellent. I say softly crooned as I don't want to wake up my bride, disturb the girl, upset the cats, and make Guinness howl.

In any case, I know I can sing the song better than Guy Clark who wrote it in the early '70's.

When I travelled down to Texas in 1975, one of the cultural differences I discovered was Texas music. My shower song was made popular by Jerry Jeff Walker on his album, *iViva Terlingua!* that was recorded at the Mecca of Texas music, Lukenbach in 1973.

The music scene around town included several bands that I'm sure gave a stab at the song. Some of those included classmates Lyle Lovett

and Robert Earl Keen. Later, the song was covered and again made famous in 1985 by the Highwaymen—Johnny Cash, Chris Kristofferson, Waylon Jennings, and Willie Nelson.

Well, anyway. Usually when singing and shaving, I'm always careful when scraping my neck around the Adam's Apple. The song usually turns into a hum at that point. This morning, I successfully negotiated shaving there for the last time in 2013.

Another place to be careful is the ears. One of the genetic traits inherited by Great Grandpa Andrew Jackson Summerfield is ear hair. I'm sure that one day, I'll stop worrying about shaving my ears but on this the last day of 2013, I successfully gave them a good razoring.

Last night, Betsy and I went out for supper and a little shopping. While out, I picked up enough razor blades to last me through the first half of 2014. Unfortunately, those new blades didn't make it upstairs last night. Before stepping into the shower this morning, I almost walked downstairs to get the new blades.

Razor blades have an effective life which is about two-weeks on my face. Now when the razor is being used to shave women's arm pits and legs, the useful face-life is exponentially decreased. And when the effective life of the razor blade ends, it just ends.

That blade that served you so well for the previous two-weeks is now an almost lethal weapon. It is like a snake waiting in the leaves; striking without warning.

Well, here on the last day of 2013, my razor got me on the chin. I was somewhere between, "we was friends, me and that old man" and the refrain, "We was like desperados waiting on a train..." when bitten.

To the best of my recollection, this was the first and last razor cut in 2013. It was a heck of a way to end the year.

I suppose it could have been worse and a lesson was learned—something about procrastinating I'm sure. It is surprising how many lessons I've learned dealing with razor blades; but that is another story for another day.

As it is, I will spend the last day of 2013 wearing a bandage on my chin; a testament to how my day started and my year ended.

In 2014, I will have a new blade to cut afresh and with better care.

All the best on a prosperous and fruitful New Year 2014!



the AG AGENDA

Bob Stallman
President, American Farm Bureau

Farmers Have a Full Plate in 2014

The old expression "The more things change, the more they stay the same," is fitting as we ring in the new year.

As we begin 2014, farmers are facing down many of the same legislative issues we were a year ago: farm bill, immigration, waterways infrastructure, taxes and the list goes on. But, while on the surface it looks like not a heck of a lot was accomplished in the past year, in spite of what was a contentious political year, solid progress was made on several of Farm Bureau's priority issues.

Moving the Needle

As the popular Christmas/New Year song goes: "What have you done? Another yearover, and a new one just begun," I can't help but look back at 2013 and think that Farm Bureau definitely moved the needle on our key issues. A farm bill will likely be completed early in the new year, the Senate and House passed a waterways bill and the labor issue progressed further than it has in its history. I daresay that the issues on our agenda moved as far, or farther, than those of any other policy advocacy organization.

Further, Farm Bureau had a huge judicial win with the Lois Alt case. We joined Mrs. Alt in standing up to the Environmental Protection Agency when it threatened her with enormous fines for ordinary storm water runoff. Unfortunately, agriculture is increasingly going to have to use the judicial branch to stop agencies like EPA from overreaching and trying to make political hay by targeting farmers. And rest assured that Farm Bureau will keep working to protect farmers and ranchers on these important issues.

On the Horizon

Looking ahead, farmers and ranchers will have a full plate in 2014. In addition to completing the farm bill and implementing a new five-year law, passing waterways and port infrastructure legislation out of Congress and continuing our work on ag labor, a lot more work remains on other important issues.

Tax reform and the federal budget will take center stage as we continue pushing for rational budget reforms and prioritized spending cuts to put America's fiscal policy back on track. Instead of continually plunging off of one budget cliff and shooting down the rapids to the next, we must look for fair and balanced solutions. In doing so, we need to make real progress on individual and business tax reforms that affect farmers' and ranchers' profitability. This, too, will help bolster economic recovery.

Farmers and ranchers will continue to battle perennial regulatory creep in 2014, particularly as it relates to waters of the U.S. Current proposed regulations that we know are under review completely ignore repeated U.S. Supreme Court decisions that uphold congressional intent and deny EPA the right to create law on a regulatory whim. If these regulations are adopted and enforced, farmers and ranchers can expect that nearly everything they do pertaining to water on their farms and ranches will be regulated by EPA.

On a separate note, another year has passed and we are still awaiting Food and Drug Administration clarity on how various proposed food safety rules will affect farmers. With the complexity inherent in each of these rules, Farm Bureau is joining the call with other farm groups and state regulatory officials urging FDA to provide an adequate period of time to thoroughly review all of the "final" proposals together in order to avoid unnecessary, and potentially unfair, regulatory requirements that do little to improve food safety.

So, while we have a lot on the horizon this coming year, Farm Bureau stands ready to take these challenges and opportunities head on. It's time to clean our plate.

YOUR FIRST CHOICE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.



1st Farm Credit Services is committed to lending a hand to people in agriculture and rural Illinois. One way we help is with \$1,500 Scholarships for high school seniors who are pursuing a higher education in agriculture or a rural life-related field of study. Details can be found at www.1stfarmcredit.com or by contacting your local 1st Farm Credit Services office.



APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 17, 2014

1ST FARM CREDIT SERVICES
YOUR FIRST CHOICE

2000 Jacobssen Drive, Normal, IL 61761
(309) 268-0254 • Karen Blatter • Scholarship Program
www.1stfarmcredit.com • Some restrictions may apply.
Equal Credit Opportunity Lender. Equal Housing Lender.



"THE FARM POST (USPS 432-460) is published monthly by the Pike and Scott County Farm Bureaus, PO Box 6, Pittsfield, IL 62363."

Periodicals Postage Paid at Pittsfield and Winchester and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to THE FARM POST, PO Box 6, Pittsfield, IL 62363.

Blake E. Roderick, Editor/Publisher
www.tworiversfb.org

PIKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Gay, President; Kim Curry, Vice President; Jeremy Thomas, Secretary; Brandon Gerard, Treasurer; Adam Lawson, Assistant Secretary; David Barton, Brady Borrowman, Fred Bradshaw, Brad Dehart, Edwin Harpole, Daniel Heavner, Rich Hoover, Kevin Keithly, Bryan Koeller, Jim Koeller, Roger Liehr, Bret Lipcman, Curt Moffit, Steven Myers, Mark Nation, Andrew Sprague, Mark Sprague, Jim Swartz, and Jim Van Dyne

PIKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
PO Box 6
Pittsfield IL 62363
217-285-2233
217-285-2421 (fax)
pikectfb@pikectfb.org

SCOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wayne Brown, President; Jeff Hurrelbrink, Vice President; Andy Sellars, Secretary; Paul Stice, Treasurer; Will Andras, Ben Coon, Jim Freeman, Barb Mathews, Jeff Schone, and Chris Smith

FARM BUREAU STAFF

Blake E. Roderick, Executive Director
Wanda Cody, Executive Assistant
Nancy Wood, Scott CFB Secretary

SCOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAU
PO Box 50
Winchester IL 62694
217-742-3351
217-742-3184 (fax)
scottcfb@scottcfb.org

KEY TAX EXTENDERS SET TO EXPIRE

More than 50 tax provisions, many of which are important to farmers and ranchers, will expire as revelers ring in the new year, but lawmakers are resolved to revisit the issue in early 2014. These provisions are collectively known as "extenders" because they've been extended a handful of times beyond their original expirations.

Among the provisions most critical to farmers and ranchers is one related to small business expensing. Currently, under the Section 179 small business expensing provision, the maximum amount that a small business can immediately expense when purchasing business assets instead of depreciating them over time is \$500,000. On Jan. 1, that maximum

plummets to \$25,000.

"If the maximum is allowed to drop to \$25,000, farmers and ranchers will lose a valuable income averaging tool that could result in higher taxes," said Pat Wolff, American Farm Bureau Federation tax specialist.

As part of tax reform proposals, the House Ways and Means Committee has recommended a \$250,000 expensing limit. The Senate Finance Committee proposed a one-year extension of current law followed by a \$1 million limit. Both the House and Senate levels are permanent and would be indexed for inflation.

Another cash flow-related tax provision set to expire is bonus depreciation, which can be used immediately

when new equipment is purchased. This improves cash flow and allows farm and ranch businesses to better match income and expenses.

A number of expiring provisions are related to farmer-supported renewable fuels, such as cellulosic fuels and biodiesel. These tax incentives, like those for biodiesel produced from biomass, electricity produced from wind and alternative fuel refueling property, are designed to boost renewable technologies and support development of the necessary market infrastructure.

Time is also running out on food donation and farmland preservation incentives, as well as deductions for state and local sales taxes and tuition and fees for higher education.

While lawmakers can usually be counted on to reinstate tax extenders retroactively, not knowing if and when this will happen makes it very difficult for farmers and ranchers to make important business decisions, Wolff pointed out. "For example, not knowing the maximum allowable Section 179 small business deduction could make farmers feel like they should delay or even refrain from making an equipment purchase."

NEW LAWS FOR 2014

Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) works hard to keep you at the forefront of what's going on in agriculture and in general news. Please be aware of new laws taking effect in Illinois after January 1:

No cell phones while driving unless they're completely hands free. Starting in 2014, drivers caught holding cell phones up to their ears could be subject to a \$75 fine. Using a Bluetooth headset or speakerphone are both still acceptable as long as they can be activated by a voice command or single-button touch.

No more tanning for persons under 18. Under previous Illinois law, young people were allowed to tan with their parent's permission. The new law prohibits all commercial tanning facilities from allowing people younger than 18 to tan unless they have a doctor's permission.

Medical Marijuana is legal Recognizing that some conditions respond better to therapeutic qualities of cannabis than traditional medication, the General Assembly passed legislation allowing patients suffering from certain medical conditions use medical marijuana with their doctor's permission.

If you'll be 18 by the General Election, you can vote in the primary. The idea is that if you're going to be able to vote in the General Election, you should be able to help select the candidates you will be voting for.

Pick out a sick puppy? The pet store has to take it back and/or pay for your vet bills.

Tired of going 65 on Illinois interstates? Lawmakers are too, so now you can go 70. Counties in Chicagoland and suburban St. Louis have the ability to opt out.

Littering Fines Littering will net you a \$50 fine. Cigarette butts now count as litter. Think twice before flicking that butt out the car window.

Lower penalties when worksite is empty. Now there are higher penalties for speeding by workers and lower penalties when the worksite is empty.

School bus cameras Buses will have cameras to record if anyone passes them. These tapes will be shared with the police.

Tollway Hall of Shame Ever breeze through a tollway and not pay? Now if you do it too often your name could go on an online hall of shame. The Illinois Tollway will be allowed to post names of people with the highest outstanding tolls on its website. These are only a few of the new Illinois laws.

Check out all of the new laws here: http://tribwngntv.files.wordpress.com/2012/12/new_laws.pdf

Practice makes perfect when it comes to marketing decisions

Do you need to sharpen your skills when it comes to marketing decisions? The Illinois Farm Bureau, in conjunction with CME Group, can help. Practice buying, selling or trading at no expense to you and you might even win a little extra cash doing it. Illinois Farm Bureau members are invited to join Commodity Challenge '14, a free online marketing simulation where you'll trade commodities on the cash, futures and options markets in real time without losing a dime.

Participants make decisions including how to manage price risk and determining the best way to market crops. Each participant will be given fictitious 100,000 bushels of corn and 30,000 bushels of soybeans to market on the cash, futures and options markets. Following the harvest date of Sept. 1, 2014, established in-game storage costs will accrue at four cents, per bushel, per month for any bushels not previously sold. Cash prices will be based on the same grain elevator's daily bids.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners in four divisions, including Overall, Young Leaders, Women and Collegiate divisions. First place in each division will receive \$1,000, with second place receiving \$500 and third place receiving \$250. Winners will be determined by calculating the highest selling prices of their corn and soybeans net of any futures and options gains or losses, storage costs, and futures/options transaction fees.

The contest will begin Jan. 2, 2014 and runs through Nov. 28, 2014. Registration is open through March 15, 2014. For more information and details, or to participate in Commodity Challenge '14, visit www.ilfb.org/marketing/commoditychallenge, email Doug Yoder at dyoder@ilfb.org or contact your county Farm Bureau.

Fesler Earns CFP Designation



COUNTRY Financial Representative Jon P Fesler of Barry has earned the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ designation from the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc.

The CFP® program provides professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to assess a client's current financial status, identify problem areas, and recommend solutions.

During the program, professionals receive information about financial services and

planning. It also provides an understanding of the financial planning process, tax planning, employee benefits and retirement planning, estate planning, investment management and insurance.

Candidates for CFP® certification must complete a prescribed program of study and examinations plus fulfill experience and ethical requirements.

Fesler became a financial representative with COUNTRY in 2001. During his career, Fesler has been named an All American two times. This recognition is awarded annually for outstanding sales and service.

Fesler serves clients in Illinois and Missouri from his COUNTRY office at 1301 E Washington Street in Pittsfield, IL. The office phone number is 217-285-4427.

Insuring farmers since 1925, helping you Grow Your Own Way



Rick Rodhouse
Pleasant Hill, IL
217-734-2334



Mike Lonergan
Winchester, IL
217-742-3182



Mike Spann
Pittsfield, IL
217-285-4427



Jon Fesler
Pittsfield, IL
217-285-4427



Mick Webel
Griggsville, IL
217-833-2371



Matt Reynolds
Pittsfield, IL
217-285-5111



FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP

The Two Rivers Farm Bureau Foundation is offering the Rod Webel Memorial Scholarship to qualified high school seniors who are dependents of Pike County Farm Bureau members and attend high school in Pike County.

The \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a student pursuing an education at a technical school, community college, college, or university of their choice. There is no course of study restriction but a major in an agriculture field will be given preference over other majors in the selection process.

Applications and selection criteria are available at www.pikecfb.org/documents/, from guidance counselors, or at the Pike County Farm Bureau. Applications are due on or before March 31.

The Scholarship is endowed through gifts from Rod's family, friends, and the Pike County Farm Bureau.

The Two Rivers Farm Bureau Foundation was organized in 1994 to provide disaster relief to farmers following the 1993 Flood. In addition to this important function, the Foundation's mission is to assist Farm Bureau in providing quality educational, research, and scholarly programs that benefit its members in Pike and Scott Counties.

IFB Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference Feb. 26-27, 2014

"Finding Our Place in the New Political Landscape" is the theme for the 2014 Illinois Farm Bureau Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference (GALC) scheduled for February 26-27, 2014 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. With two days of general sessions and workshops, you will find your compass, along with timely information and tools you need to help advance our agenda and protect your bottom line.

GALC workshop sessions will focus on a number of issues including farm bill, renewable fuels standard, local government, rural development, transportation, environment, and legislative issue updates, just to name a few. One of the keynote sessions will help you navigate through the choppy political waters of Congress. Former Congressman Jerry Costello will discuss the new political scene and how we can be of importance in Washington. He will guide you in finding your way with your Congressman.

Again this year, you'll see firsthand what happens

when hundreds of farmers, just like you, partner together on issues during the Statewide Legislative Reception on Wednesday evening.

The cost of the conference is \$50 for Wednesday only, \$30 for Thursday only, or \$70 for both days (a savings of \$10). To register for the conference or to obtain additional information, contact your county Farm Bureau office or visit www.ilfb.org.

First Choice Agriculture Scholarship

Applications Now Available

1st Farm Credit Services is offering 24, \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors to further their education in an agriculture or rural life-related field of study.

The First Choice Agriculture Scholarship is for graduating high school seniors who have been accepted into an agriculture or agriculture-related curriculum at a university, college or community college and either reside or attend high school within 1st Farm Credit Services' service territory.

Agriculture-related fields include those that would contribute to the quality of rural life for people living in rural areas, or for those who want to return to a rural area to work in any field.

Selection will be based on a combination of academic achievement, community and agricultural youth organization involvement and brief essays. Applicants will be judged by a panel of independent agribusiness, education, youth and farm organization leaders.

Qualifying students may obtain an application online at www.1stfarmcredit.com or through a local 1st Farm Credit Services office. The deadline to apply is February 17, 2014.

SCOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAU OFFERS TWO \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for Scott County Farm Bureau scholarships are now available. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to successful applicants—one from Bluffs High School and one from Winchester High School.

The scholarship will be given to a graduating senior pursuing an education at a technical school, community college, college, or university of their choice. There is no course of study restriction but a major in an agricultural field will be given preference over other majors in the selection process.

Applications and selection criteria are available at the Scott County Farm Bureau, from guidance counselors, or at www.scottcfb.org/documents/. All applications must be returned by March 31.

ISA Crop Sciences Scholarships Available for 2014 College Juniors

Applications for the Illinois Soybean Association's (ISA) college crop sciences scholarships are now available. The scholarships, which are funded through the soybean checkoff, support the education of future soybean scientists. Students entering their junior year at specific Illinois universities in the fall of 2014, and who meet the scholarship's requirements, are eligible to apply.

ISA will offer up to 10 scholarships worth \$4,000 each for the 2014-15 school year to students majoring in crop sciences at Illinois State University, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Western Illinois University.

All applicants must be entering their junior year. Students must plan to follow an agricultural course of study with a major in crop production or a crop science discipline, including breeding, biotechnology, plant pathology, weed management or crop management, with an emphasis on soybeans. Recipients are encouraged to find on-campus employment in soybean research, attend graduate school and choose a career in soybean research. Recipients also can reapply to receive another \$4,000 for their senior year.

Awards are based on exceptional academic ability, leadership and financial need. The IAA Foundation administers the scholarship program. Guidelines and all application materials are available at www.iaafoundation.org. Direct any questions to the program administrator at the IAA Foundation at 309-557-2230 or smoore@ilfb.org. Completed applications must be postmarked on or before Feb. 1, 2014.





PRAIRIELAND FS, INC.

Want to reduce your risk, increase your profitability and make your life easier? Use Deselex Gold!

Deselex[®] Gold

Power ♦ Efficiency ♦ Protection

**Scott County Petroleum Specialist:
Dana Garrett 217-370-2139**

**Pike County Petroleum Specialists:
Steve Herron 217-242-4208 or
Jason Duke 217-473-9706**