News Release

For Release: July 20, 2015



John Phipps of U.S. Farm Report & Farm Journal to Speak Farmers Breakfast August 4 at the Morgan County Fair

Morgan County farmers and business owners are invited to enjoy a free meal, great conversation, and an engaging talk with John Phipps at the Seventh Annual Morgan County Farmers Breakfast hosted by the Community Foundation of Morgan County (CFMC). The event will take place in the *Morgan County Beef Cattle and Sertoma Pavilion* at the *Morgan County Fairgrounds* at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 4. Speaking this year will be John Phipps of the *U.S. Farm Report* and the *Farm Journal* magazine.

Phipps is, like most farmers today, not what you expect. He holds a degree in chemical engineering, studied economics, and served as a submarine nuclear engineer, all of which contribute to his unique perspective on rural culture. His farm of 2,200 acres of corn and soybeans is located in East Central Illinois and has been in the family for seven generations. His son Aaron returned to the operation in 2008.

Since 1994 he has written award-winning humor and commentary for Farm Journal and Top Producer magazines. From August 2005 until October 2014, John was the TV host of U.S. Farm Report. He now adds Farm Report commentary from his farm every week. In conjunction with his Farm Journal work, he speaks often to farm and rural groups on topics ranging from risk to professional development.

Farmers Breakfast attendance has grown in the past few years to include banking and financial institutions that serve our county. The relationship between Morgan County financial, business leaders and our county's farming community is an especially important one to cultivate and sustain. Everyone who attends can look forward to a hearty breakfast of biscuits and gravy, brats, eggs, fruit, juice, milk and coffee catered by the *Morgan County Beef Cattle Association*. CFMC board and staff will be on hand to share information on how families working in agribusiness can plan to reduce taxes and leave a lasting legacy.

The breakfast will kick-off the CFMC's Sponsor of Senior Day activities at the fair. Foundation board and staff members will be at the Sponsor of the Day pavilion throughout the afternoon. Patrons can visit the booth to see how the CFMC helps Morgan County, learn about upcoming events, and pick up a yardstick.

Additionally this year, Hard Way Farms Mobile Garden Classroom will be at the Sponsor of the Day Pavilion to offer hands-on gardening and farming information. The Mobile Garden provides gardening education to hundreds of Morgan County children and adults the ease and benefits of growing produce, even in a very limited space. Multiple growing practices are utilized to provide a wealth of knowledge on gardening and farming techniques. The Mobile Garden Classroom is staffed by an Indiana Master Gardener is operated this year thanks to grants and assistance provided by the Morgan County Farmers Markets, Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District, and My Local Indiana, Inc.

For more information on the Farmers Breakfast or the CFMC, contact the foundation office toll-free at (855) 280-3095 or visit our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/CFMorganCounty.

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