



# NEWS

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TOM JENNINGS, DIRECTOR • PAT QUINN, GOVERNOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 10, 2009

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## **STATE AGRICULTURE EMPLOYEES HONORED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE**

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – An integral member of the Illinois Department of Agriculture’s Bureau of Human Resources has been awarded the agency’s top individual honor.

Tammy Payne was presented the Director’s Achievement Award today at the department’s 31<sup>st</sup> annual Employee Luncheon and Awards Ceremony.

“In addition to tracking hiring and serving as the department’s head timekeeper, Tammy is the point-person on the Personnel Code, Timekeeping Manual and union contract changes,” Agriculture Director Tom Jennings said. “Tammy always puts in the extra effort to make sure employees are hired on a timely basis and payrolls are met. Her dedication to her job and the department is unquestioned.”

Payne, a Springfield resident, has 27 years of state government service, including seven with the department of agriculture.

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## AWARDS/2222

The Bureau of Agricultural Products Inspection won the Commitment to Quality Award. It was recognized for an inspection program it established to make sure feed manufactured in the state is free of ruminant proteins that can transmit Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, or “mad cow” disease.

JoAnn Varel, a worker in the department’s Centralia Animal Disease Laboratory, was presented the Assistant Director’s Fellowship Award. Varel, of Carlyle, was honored for her helpful nature and positive attitude. As one close colleague wrote, JoAnn “will always make time to assist the laboratory staff whenever necessary. She greets everyone the same – with a smile and cheerful ‘hello.’”

Mike Rahe won the Ag Ambassador Award for the leadership he demonstrated in starting the department’s successful Community Garden. Rahe, a Jacksonville resident, was involved in all phases of the project, from the initial planning to the tilling and planting plots.

The Ron King Award for Efficiency went to Kim Hart of Edinburg, an employee of the Bureau of Budget and Fiscal Services. Among her many duties, Hart maintains the computer system used for processing agency invoices and manages accounts receivable.

“Kim is always willing to help anyone that requires assistance and is very approachable and very helpful,” the co-workers who nominated her for the award said. “Her dedication and efficiency are greatly appreciated.”

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## AWARDS/3333

Sixty-eight employees were honored for 10, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service. A

complete list follows:

### **35 Years**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Douglas Aughenbaugh	Mendota
Scott Bradley	Sparta
Jacquelyn Wolford	Springfield

### **30 Years**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Michael Eigenbrod	Mason City
Gregory Fritz	Galesburg
Mark Hannam	Galesburg
Rolf Jensen	Iroquois
Terry Park	Petersburg
Carol Rankin	Emden
James Senechalle	St. Charles
Michael Stearns	Makanda
Donald Tate	Springfield

### **25 Years**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Nicholas Baltusevich	Springfield
Ruth Copeland	Walnut Hill
David Doshier	Carmi
Ricky Fortney	Springfield
James Franz	Rochester
Deborah Griffiths	Riverton
Alan Gulso	Lincoln
Lana Holloway	Sparta
Terri Howard	Galesburg
Michael Rahe	Jacksonville
Steven Rednour	Rock Island
Roberto Restrepo	New Berlin
Teresa Savko	Springfield
Deborah Wakefield	Riverton
Ada Wright	Mahomet

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## AWARDS/4444

### 20 Years

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Susan Barron	Springfield
Harry Braddock	Patoka
Judith Cordier	Springfield
Tina Egger	Williamsville
Mark Ernst	Washington
Michael Foster	Springfield
Karen Fraase	Springfield
Vincent Garcia	Hartsburg
Warren Goetsch	Williamsville
Roberta Higgins	Galesburg
Laurie Kohlen	Germantown
Lee McKean	Jacksonville
Pamela McKinney	New Haven
Teamous Newberne	Barrington
David Postlewait	Ashmore
Karen Richter	Altamont
Jeffrey Showalter	Morrisonville
Michael Simpson	Pawnee
Lisha Storment	Salem
Ann Tapscott	Pleasant Plains
Vincent Tebbe	Breese
Thomas Waller	Petersburg
John Zook	Athens

### 10 Years

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Montosh Banerjee	O'Fallon
Cindy Bartlett	Springfield
James Benson	Knoxville
Regina Burris	Sherman
Alan Daley	Springfield
Connie Draughan	Pleasant Plains
Kimberly Hart	Edinburg
Ronald Hopkins	Dix
Victor Horne	Chicago
David Humphreys	Carlinville
Marilyn Jones	DuQuoin
Leon Kocher	Ingraham
Beverly McGhee-Rivera	Cicero
Peter Renda	Romeoville
Brent Seger	Colona
Steven Smothers	Pittsfield
Jeffrey Stevenson	Chicago
Sue Varas-Johnson	Hanover Park