



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wiegand Named Outstanding Ag Lender

***Illinois Finance Authority honors Dana E. Wiegand, Goodfield State Bank;
Wiegand directs award to AgrAbility Unlimited and
Eureka High School FFA Club***

EUREKA, Ill. — Dana E. Wiegand, Senior Vice President, Goodfield State Bank, Eureka, was named Outstanding Ag Lender by the Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) in its second annual program to honor excellence in agricultural lending. The award recognizes Dana’s personal and professional contributions to strengthening the agriculture industry in his community. In a ceremony held at the bank, IFA Funding Manager Cory Mitchell presented Dana with a plaque and awarded a monetary donation in Dana’s name to AgrAbility Unlimited and Eureka High School Future Farmers of America Club.... [see picture](#)

“Dana Wiegand demonstrates the leadership and community spirit that is at the heart of excellence in agricultural lending,” states IFA Executive Director, Kym M. Hubbard. “When our farms succeed, our communities succeed. We are proud to honor Dana as Outstanding Ag Lender for 2007.”

Mr. Wiegand has 6 years experience as an Agricultural Lender, with 5 of those years served at Goodfield State Bank. The bank manages a \$40 million loan department where Dana personally services \$6 million in agricultural loans and over 200 agricultural borrowers.

He also serves as an Ambassador for Woodford County [AgrAbility Unlimited](#), an organization dedicated to helping farmers, farm workers, and their families accommodate disability in agriculture. Assistive technology that will allow a farmer to return to the field can be expensive. The IFA donation made on behalf of Dana Wiegand will help AgrAbility provide education and assistance, on large and small farms, regardless of disability.

A donation was also made to the [Eureka High School Future Farmers of America \(FFA\) club](#). The funds will be used to support and expand the club’s programs to youth in agriculture. Eureka High School is in Community Unit School District 140 serving Congerville, Eureka and Goodfield.

Wiegand grew up on a hog and grain farm in Central Illinois where he farmed with his family until 2000. In 1996, he graduated with a degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Illinois where he was also a member of the Meats and Livestock judging teams. Other accomplishments include designation of Certified Community Lender in 2005 and completion of the Midwest School for Community Bankers. He is currently attending the Graduate School of Banking in Madison Wisconsin and is Treasurer of Eureka Kiwanis Club where he has served as a past President. Dana’s accomplishments and commitment were highlighted during the 2007

Illinois Department of Agriculture's Ag Day luncheon on the Director's Lawn. Dana and his wife Mari have 5 children, Drew, Rylin, Kya, Matti and Eli. He enjoys spending time with family, attending church, and playing golf and softball in his spare time.

The IFA works with hundreds of Ag Lenders throughout Illinois to provide Beginning Farmer Bonds and a range of agricultural loan and state-backed loan guarantee programs. Because of partnerships with lenders like Dana, many farmers, livestock producers and agri-businesses have been able to obtain affordable low interest rate financing to help start, expand or restructure their operations.

The Illinois Finance Authority is a self-funded, state authority that fosters economic development and job growth by providing access to affordable capital for Illinois businesses and institutions. IFA works with organizations in a variety of sectors, including agriculture, education, healthcare, local government, manufacturing, and not-for-profits. Offices are located in Chicago, Mt. Vernon, Peoria and Springfield. For additional information, visit IFA's web site at www.il-fa.com.

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[See picture](#)

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***Donations presented to AgrAbility Unlimited and
Eureka High School FFA Club***



Left to right: Cory Mitchell, Agricultural Funding Manager, Illinois Finance Authority; Rex Wettstein, Eureka High School FFA club; Dana Wiegand, Senior Vice President, Goodfield State Bank; Mike Brokaw, Program Manager and Brenda Besse, Northern Illinois - Field Coordinator, AgrAbility Unlimited

Congratulations!