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**Collection:** Reagan, Ronald: 1980 Campaign Papers,  
1965-1980

**Series:** XV: Speech Files (Robert Garrick and Bill Gavin)

**Subseries:** A: Bob Garrick File

**Folder Title:** 10/18/1980, Rundquist Farm [IL]

**Box:** 435

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*Last Updated: 10/10/2023*

TO: Jim Brady, Marty Anderson, Ken Khachigian, Lyn Nofziger, Mike Deaver  
FROM: Bob Garrick

INSERT FOR RUNDQUIST FARM APPEARANCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1980

Today we've been on the road through Illinois and wherever we go, I sense we are on the road to victory, in Illinois, in the Midwest, and in the nation. But in order to reach our goal, we are going to need your support, your willingness to fight for the values we share.

Today I have spoken with truckers and miners and many other citizens of this great state. I've had the opportunity to pay homage to Abe Lincoln in Springfield. And now, here with you, I bring the same message I have shared with so many others: we can have a new beginning in this country. We can see to it that the spirit of Illinois, the spirit of Lincoln, once more is at home in Washington.

It is especially rewarding to have this chance to meet so many of you here at Evergreen Farms. Anita and Jack Rundquist are known throughout Illinois and America as symbols of the kind of working farm partnership that has made America the great farm country it is. Soybeans and corns, hogs and cattle--here in Montgomery County you demonstrate the diversity and dynamics of American farming at its best.

But even your "evergreen" spirit cannot stand four more years of Mr. Carter's failed policies.

I know that you have suffered from the economic failures of Mr. Carter. And I know you are saddened--as so many Americans are--by the lack of leadership shown by this administration. We want America to be respected again and the best way to do that is to provide new leadership, leadership that understands the needs and the values of the people of Illinois.

You know what has been happening to you because of the Carter failures. You know net income from farming in 1980 will be the lowest since the Great Depression of the 1930s. You know that inflation is crushing the spirit and stopping the progress of farm families.

We need a new beginning.

The first step is for the federal government to stop robbing people through inflation. When we get control of inflation, we will have put the profit back into farming and ranching.

I am firmly committed to the aggressive expansion of farm markets--both foreign and domestic. Farm exports must and shall be given direct, personal presidential support and access to foreign markets should be kept free of unreasonable trade barriers.

I would like to see the development of fuel farming: new uses for old farm products can reduce our need for foreign oil and expand markets for farm-grown grain.

Another of my objectives will be to free farmers, businessmen and American industry from counterproductive regulations.

I will seek to phase out of existence that tax which today is forcing families to sell farms and family-owned businesses when a death makes them subject to the estate tax. This tax cannot be justified on the basis of needed revenue and is punishing farm families.

I know that you represent something more than farm families. Husbands and wives who work our nations farms are partners in progress. I ask you to join with me as partners in seeing to it that the values we share once more inspire government as they did when Abe Lincoln was leader of this great, free people.

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