

Bulletin

Promoting the understanding of agriculture in our community to improve the profitability of farmers and enrich the quality of life in Knox County

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April 2015

No. 4

Women's Committee Sponsors Baby Born during Ag Month

March is Illinois Ag Month and again this year the Knox County Farm Bureau Women's Committee honored the first baby born during the month. On March 1st, baby girl Skyler was born at OSF St. Mary's Hospital, receiving the honor of being the first baby born during Illinois Ag Month. The family resides in Galesburg and received a baby basket full of items, all of which related to the agricultural industry. Congratulations to OSF and Skyler's family!

Lori Engel (right) presented Skyler and her mom with an agricultural themed baby basket. Skyler was the first baby born at OSF St. Mary's Hospital in March.



Representative Don Moffitt (center) chats with IFB District 8 Board Director David Serven, KCFB President Tim Main, and Young Farmers committee member Drew DeSutter at the 2015 Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference.



The Knox County Farm Bureau's Adopted Legislator Representative La Shawn Ford (center) visits with KCFB President Tim Main and Young Farmers committee member Drew DeSutter at the 2015 Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference.

Dues Notice

Your County Farm Bureau®, the Illinois Farm Bureau® and COUNTRY Financial® have worked together to make it easier for associate members who are also COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company® or COUNTRY Preferred Insurance Company® customers to pay their membership dues. If your county/Illinois Farm Bureau associate membership is

required by COUNTRY Financial for your personal lines policy, beginning January 2015, your annual county/Illinois Farm Bureau membership dues will be included with your insurance premium in one billing for most personal lines policies. From then on, you will only need to make one easy payment to COUNTRY Financial and we'll take care of the rest!

Adding your membership dues to the COUNTRY premium bill may change the timing of your membership dues payment. If so, you will remain a member of county/Illinois Farm Bureau during the time between your last payment year and your new payment due date.

Dues Notice!
Associate Members:
Did your paid thru date change?
Call the KCFB office at 342-2036
to get your updated membership card.

Young Farmers Host Annual Tractor & Lawn Mower Safety School

The Knox County Farm Bureau Young Farmer's Tractor and Lawnmower Safety School was held on March 16th at A.C. McCartney in Wataga. Nearly 30 FFA and 4-H members were educated about proper safety procedures as they are working with farm machinery.

The attendees were then divided into two categories: some learned about lawnmower safety and others focused on

tractor maintenance, parts identification, and safety. They had the opportunity to ask a variety of questions and were also given a test during the course to quiz them on their knowledge of topics that were discussed.

This program is a prerequisite for the Tractor and Lawnmower Driving Contests that are held at the 4-H Fair in July.



Drew DeSutter teaches lawnmower safety during the Lawnmower and Tractor Safety School sponsored by the Young Farmers Committee.



Scott Erickson discussed tractor safety during the safety school in March.

Don Teel Scholarship

The Don Teel Scholarship is a product of many who were privileged to experience the contribution Don made to agriculture. Members of Knox County agricultural organization and individuals have joined together in hopes of helping provide an opportunity for young people to pursue higher education in an agricultural or related field.

Each year applicants will be considered for one \$500 scholarship. Applicants must

have a home address within Knox County and be a past or present 4-H member. They must be enrolled as a full time student in a university or community college with a declared agriculture or related course of study.

Applications are available at the Knox County Farm Bureau. Completed applications must be submitted no later than June 1, 2015 to the Knox County Farm Bureau.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

- 1 KAC Spring Clean Up Day, 10 AM
- 3 Good Friday, KCFB Office Closed
- 9 Young Farmers Meeting, 7 PM, KAC
- 16 KCFB Board Meeting, 8 PM, KAC
- 21 PrimeTimers Luncheon, 12 PM, KAC

MAY

- 6 Touch-A-Truck, 10-11:30 AM, Lake Storey Pavilion Parking Lot
- 14 Young Farmers Meeting, 7 PM, KAC
- 19 Breakfast Outing, TBD
- 21 KCFB Board Meeting, 8 PM, KAC
- 25 Memorial Day, KCFB Office Closed

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Knox County Farm Bureau would like to welcome the following to our organization:

Devin Elliot, Abingdon
Cathy Lagnese, Abingdon
Courtney Maxwell, Knoxville
Kristy McGunnigal, Galesburg
Michael Nelson, Galesburg
Joseph Newcomb, Knoxville

Shirley & Dennis Pickrel, Galesburg
Charles Pritchard, Galesburg
James & Janice Querciagrossa, Dahinda

Members are always welcome at Knox County Farm Bureau's Board of Director meetings. They are held the third Thursday of each month. Please call for times.



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Published Monthly

KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU, Inc.
cooperating with the
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and the
AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

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Monday thru Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
We reserve the right to reject any or all news material or advertisements offered to this paper.

PLEASE REPORT ANY CHANGES IN YOUR ADDRESS TO OUR OFFICE.

Thank You
KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU



Most farm homes attest to untouchable toys

Empty farm toy boxes take up more space in our attic than any other category of items, whether suitcases or childhood memorabilia. To my husband's defense, my addiction to Christmas décor doesn't count. We store seasonal items in a separate place, and besides, one of the themed trees uses tractor ornaments anyway.
I reiterate: these toy boxes are empty. They sit there untouched, ideal for recycling, except I am told their disposal would

deteriorate the value of the 30 toy tractors and combines on display in our house.
From a farm family's standpoint, the presence of "for-display-only" farm toys in the home seems as natural as fruit on the kitchen counter. In contrast, we eat the fruit or make banana bread if we wait too long. The 23 tractors and combines in our living room alone rest securely in their cabinet every day of the year minus the infrequent dusting. No kid fingerprints. No carpet farming. Only viewing. The shiny replicas of farming's mechanical marvels even earn their own spotlight, which we illuminate almost nightly. Meanwhile, my good China sits in darkness.
Grandpa's recent 80th birthday party redirected my attention to this normal, symbolic part of our everyday life. The kids and grandkids together created a "Top 80" list, which revealed 80 fun and loving facts about my grandpa, a lifelong farmer. The first statement: "A toy collection that never gets played with."
My aunt from California's L.A. suburbs contributed this observation. She referred to the farm toy collection that neatly lines several shelves on the walls of Grandpa's tidy garage. They sit, unopened and out of child reach.

All my farming relatives own farm toys. Some replicate equipment currently or once owned on the farm. I identify most of these displays as idle, collected over time without aggressive desires to make additions. My dad places toys atop the farm office bookshelves, my husband keeps a second, smaller display in our bedroom and one of my uncles keeps them behind glass, too.
I remember when our son, at 18 months old, would gaze into the glass cabinet in our living room. Even the neighbor boy has stopped playing to stare. Adult visitors have commented, too. The display becomes fodder for conversation. Meanwhile, our kids own plenty of toys to farm the carpet or dig in the garden.
Grandpa does use one display toy as a mock alarm clock, a fact that also made the "Top 80" list. He carries a noise-making silo set – still in its box – into the sleeping chambers of his West Coast grandkids when they visit the farm. He causes a racket and informs them, "Wake up! You're on the fam!"
Where not every toy earns play time.
About the Author: Joanie Stiers, a farm woman of West-Central Illinois, displayed a blue tractor in her bedroom growing up. Blue matched her bedroom décor.

February Ag In The Classroom Reports

Are you kidding? When will this winter decide to come to an end! That was not in my plan. Even so February has been a very busy month but a sweet one! Many of the schools had presentations on chocolate. It didn't take much to keep their attention on this subject. When asked, "Where does chocolate come from?" There were a wide variety of answers from brown cows, to factories, to rivers and Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory! I even had one child who thought it came from our hair....I guess that depends on how much chocolate you eat! The Cocoa trees grow in the rainforests and were first discovered in South America. We discussed the rainforest and where it is. We also discovered why we cannot grow one of those chocolate trees in our own back yard. I'm sure the best part of the lesson was having some chocolate to eat! Kindergarteners sorted M & M's and made patterns with them. First grade classes included a math lesson with chocolate chip cookies (the cereal kind). Second grade classes made Tootsie Rolls while they learned how the candy got its name. I also related this topic to the trips I

took to Mexico and Costa Rica. I also gave them information about the rainforests and reported back to the students what I learned about the tropics.
We spent time getting ready for our February 20 Ag Day for Kids. We tried to avoid PARCC tests by keeping the date in the month of February hoping to encourage schools to participate. They seemed to like the idea as we had 500 students signed up! Luckily this year the weather man did cooperate. Many thanks to those who planned to help educate our students and teachers.
Next plan is to schedule the adopt an animal classes for the warm spring weather which I hope will be here soon!
Knox and our surrounding counties are now busy working on the Summer Ag Institute for teachers with two great days of tours and educational features planned for teachers on June 9 and 10.
Mary Beth Bowman, Ms. Farmer
Ms Farmer was able to visit the third grade classes at Silas Willard School.

These teachers requested the lesson about chocolate to correlate with the reading of the book Chocolate Fever. This was her first visit to these classes. She will be returning to these classes in April.
Kara Downin and Ms Farmer were invited to Lombard Junior High to visit the eighth grade Science classes. They presented a lesson about soils. Kara used a power point lesson discussing how important soil is and conservation practices. Ms farmer discussed how farms are passed down generation to generation, what the price of land might be if a farmer were to buy more land or what the farmer might pay to rent of the land. Ms Farmer also talked about minimum tillage of land. To finish the lesson students used cereals to represent the four layers on soil in a clear cup and then poured milk over the cereal to demonstrate percolation. The students were more than glad to eat their cereal project. They are always hungry at that age.

Young Farmers Hold FFA Acquaintance Night

The Knox County Farm Bureau Young Farmers recently held their annual FFA Acquaintance Night on Wednesday, January 21st at Northgate Lanes in Galesburg. With about 30 FFA students from Knox County in attendance the night was full of bowling and socializing with

the Young Farmers committee. Members of the Young Farmers held a short program for the students to learn more about Illinois Farm Bureau, Knox County Farm Bureau, and the Young Farmers Committee. Members were available to answer any questions students may have.

Students who participated in the program are eligible to attend the Illinois Farm Bureau & Affiliates Youth Conference, March 30-31 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Thank you to West Central FS for sponsoring the evening.

SAVE THE DATE!
June 9th & 10th
2015 Summer Ag Institute
Agriculture Discovery:
"Farm to Table"
June 9th – Galesburg Area
June 10th – Quad Cities
Register online at
www.knoxcfb.org
The course, designed for preschool to high school teachers, gives them the tools to expand their classroom curriculum to include agriculture.

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<p>Save up to 20% with Choice Hotels and Wyndham Hotel Group Contact the Farm Bureau Office at 342-2036 for Details.</p>	<p>Save up to 30% off Eye Glasses with EyeBenefits Contact the Farm Bureau Office at 342-2036 for Details.</p>	<p>Knox County Hearing Center Deborah J. Dyer, BA, HID Licensed Hearing Instrument Dispenser Free Hearing Aid Cleaning and 1 Pack of Batteries 383 East Simmons St., Galesburg, IL 61401 Tel: 309-342-0458 Mobile: 319-551-8362 (Deb) www.KnoxCountyHearingCenter.com</p>
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Travis Lewis

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Disability Income Insurance Provides Money When You Can’t

Chances are you probably havent given a thought to how dramatically your life would change if you suddenly were unable to earn a paycheck due to a disabling injur y or illness. However, the possibility does exist. One-third of all Americans will suffer a serious disability between ages 35 and 651. In the United States, a disabling injury occurs every 1.6 seconds2. It’s impor tant to take the steps necessar y to protect you, your loved ones and your possessions if a disabling injur y or illness occurs. Among the best protection is disability income insurance. Disability income insurance is designed to provide money to you if you ever become disabled. That means money will be there when you need it most. It will help pay bills and meet other expenses associated with the disability. A disability is usually defi ned as the continuous inability , because of injur y or illness, to per form the material and substantial duties of your regular occupation or profession for a stated period of time, or any occupation or profession after that. Most disabilities last longer than three months. If a person is disabled for three months or longer, it is likely the disability will last, on average, for three years1. Millions of workers have some disability income insurance through their employers. However, this is usually short-term coverage

and may only provide benefi ts for 24 weeks. Disabilities lasting longer are not usually covered. If you don’ t have disability income insurance, don’ t count on Social Security disability payments either . About 49 percent of all disability claims submitted to the Social Security Administration are regularly turned down3. If Social Security should pay your claim, benefits normally will not be paid until at least fi ve months after your disability began. Should your disabling injur y or illness be work-related, you likely are protected by workers’ compensation insurance. However, disabling injuries or illnesses that occur away from work activities are not covered under workers’ compensation. Disability income insurance protects you both on and off the job. Most disability income insurance policies can be designed to meet your par ticular needs. You usually choose among several benefi t and waiting periods, and policy options. For instance, COUNTRY Financial offers4 three benefit period options and five waiting period options. COUNTR Y also offers a waiver of premium benefi t. In addition, there are policy options for accidental dismemberment, cash value, cost-of-living adjustments, hospital confi nement income, monthly benefit increase and removal of the benefit adjustment provision.

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0315-588HO

Disability income insurance is frequently overlooked but is very important regardless of your marital status or family situation. In fact, this insurance can replace a good part of the income you’d lose if you were unable to work because of an accident or illness. Even if you have some for m of disability income coverage, see your local COUNTRY financial representative for a review and more information regarding this coverage.

1 American Council of Life Insurers
2 National Safety Council, Report on Injuries in America
3 Social Security Administration, Annual Statistical Supplement, 2010
4 Available through COUNTRY Life Insurance Company.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Knox County Farm Bureau was held on Thursday, March 19, 2015

WOMENS COMMITTEE - Lori Engel

An agriculture themed basket sponsored by the committee was delivered to the first Knox County baby born in March. The Committee made goody bags to be delivered to local farmers to remind them to be safe during the upcoming planting season.

YOUNG FARMERS - Tara Yoder

Kate will be taking students to Springfield March 30-31 to the IFB Youth Conference. In order to qualify to go to the conference, FF A chapters must participate in the FF A Acquaintance program that the Committee hosted in January. About 30 kids attended the Lawn Mower and Tractor Safety School at A.C. McCartney. The Committee has star ted working on putting together infor mation about the 2015 Rib Cook-Off at Rail Road Days.

MEMBER RELATIONS TASK FORCE – Brett Swanson

The Membership report was reviewed.

GOVERNMENT & POLICY TASK FORCE – Jim DeSutter

The Legislative Luncheon will be held at the Packinghouse on March 23rd at noon. Reps Hammond and Moffitt along with Sen. Sullivan and LaHood will be there. A representative from Rep. Bustos’ office will there, as well.

Kate will be working with the Task Force and Christina Nourie, IFB staff, to plan a trip for Rep. LaShawn K. Ford, our adopted legislator. Priorities for the task force are to host a legislative round table in the Bulletin, host Rep. LaShawn K. Ford to visit Knox County, increase the number of board and county FB Act contacts, educate members about Activator and encourage participation.

FARM BUSINESS TASK FORCE Todd West

Marketing Club’s next meeting will be on March 25th. Priorities for the task force are the Steve Johnson Marketing series, recycling events for tires and electronics, Farm m City Day or sponsor an afterhours with the Chamber of Commerce, sponsor a fi nancial planning/benchmarking meeting with FarmDoc or FBFM, and an ag industry tour.

EDUCATION TASK FORCE – Monica Stevens

Ag Day for Kids is Februar y 20th at Carl Sandburg College. 500 kids attended and 511 received materials. Priorities for the task force are fundraising for AITC by sponsoring a 5K, supporting the Farm Families program, and promotions with commodity groups.

PRIMETIMERS – Kate Lansaw

The committee met on March 17th at Hy-Vee for a St. Patrick’s Day lunch.

FOUNDATION – Kate Lansaw

Met in February and chose a scholarship winner. They will be inter viewing intern applicants next week. The Board has one empty seat and will be looking to fi ll the seat with a representative from an affiliated company of the Farm Bureau.

KNOX AGRI-CENTER – Grant Strom

We will be getting new seals for the main entry way doors. Kate will also be getting bids to resurface and restripe the parking lot and to get a solar light for the flag pole. KAC clean-up day is April 1st.

ILLINOIS FARM FAMILIES - Lori Engel

The local IFF group will set up at facebook page and organize a viewing for the movie Farmland.

OLD BUSINESS

Tim Main, Drew DeSutter , and Kate Lansaw attended the Gover nmental Affairs Leadership Conference in February and it was a great event. Tim Main and Terry Boydston attended the Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and the River Bandits owner was the keynote speaker. Kate Lansaw attended the Knox County Partnership meeting. The Partnership is hiring more staff and suppor ting current businesses before attracting new businesses.

NEW BUSINESS

The KCFB ad in the Knox Co Fair booklet will be the same as last year. The manager performance review had some good, positive responses. KAC clean-up day is April 1st. The Legislative Luncheon is March 23rd.

Board Meeting Attendance March 2015

NAME	January	February	March
Bewley, Beau	P	P	P
Boydston, Terry	P	P	P
Cain, Jarid	P	P	P
DeSutter, Jim	P	P	P
Engel, Lori	P	P	P
Erickson, David S	P	P	P
Hennenfent, Matt *	-	P	P
Hoben, Tom	P	A	P
King, Becky	P	A	P
Link, Jeff	P	P	P
Link, Nathan	P	A	P
Main, Tim	P	P	P
O’Connor, Tom *	-	P	P
Serven, Sam	P	P	P
Seiboldt, Pat	P	A	P
Stevens, Monica	P	P	P
Strom, Grant	P	P	P
Swanson, Brett *	-	P	P
Webel, Joe	A	A	A
West, Todd	P	P	P
Yoder, Tara *	-	P	P

*New Director

Philip Nelson Confirmed As Director Of Illinois Department Of Agriculture

The Illinois Senate voted on March 19 to confirm Philip Nelson as the Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture. The fourth-generation grain and livestock farmer was appointed by Governor Bruce Rauner on January 16, 2015.

"I've been in agriculture my entire life, both as a farmer and a professional working to promote the industry," Nelson said. "I realize that there is a lot of work to do,

such as strengthening our transportation infrastructure, increasing exports, and serving our customers in a timely manner. My priority is to listen and work with producers and stakeholders to make sure we are supporting our #1 industry and ultimately working to turnaround Illinois' economy."

Nelson previously served as the President of the Illinois Farm Bureau. Additionally, he was president of the companies that make

up COUNTRY Financial, Illinois Agricultural Service Company, the IAA Foundation, and served on the Coordinating Committee of GROWMARK, Inc. He operates a farm near Seneca, growing corn, soybeans, and alfalfa and runs a cow-calf operation.

Director Nelson has been very active in community and agricultural organizations throughout his career. Among his accomplishments, Philip was state FFA Star

Farmer of Illinois in 1977; American Farm Bureau Federation's National Outstanding Young Farmer in 1984; President of the Illinois Soybean Association from 1989-1991; President of LaSalle County Farm Bureau, 1993-1999; Vice President of the American Soybean Association from 1993-1994; Chairman of AFBF's Swine Advisory Committee from 1997 to 2000; and Prairie Farmer Master Farmer in 2001.

Container Garden

The Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom program and the IAA Foundation, along with the Illinois Farm Bureau® have released the names of the 2015 Container Garden Grant Winners.

Lindsey Peterson, of Mable Woodley in Knoxville, IL has been awarded a Container Garden grant for use in the classroom. Grant recipients receive reusable gardening materials including an EarthBox® container, money to purchase soil and seeds, and related books and lessons to further the educational experience.

"Great opportunities like this stem from great partnerships," said Susan Moore, Director of the IAA Foundation. "And we are fortunate to have supportive donors like ADM who understand the need to bring agriculture directly to the classroom."

Archer Daniels Midland Company recently donated \$42,000.00 to the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Program, supporting the work of statewide County Ag Literacy Coordinators, as well as funding the Container Garden lesson series and special Garden Grants for Illinois teachers.

The donation was given through ADM Cares. ADM Cares is a social investment program that directs funds to initiatives and organizations that drive meaningful social,

economic and environmental progress worldwide. The program comprises three distinct focus areas: supporting the responsible development of agriculture, improving the quality of life in ADM communities and fostering employee giving and volunteer activities.

"IAITC is excited to get container gardens and materials in the hands of teachers. Students will get the chance to see where their food comes from by planting an individual container garden in their classroom. More than just planting, students will tend to and take care of the garden, as well as participate in classroom lessons linking science, nutrition and agriculture. Agriculture will come alive for these students through the hands-on activities and materials provided," said Kevin Daugherty, Education Director, Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom.

The mission of the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom program is to bring accurate and authentic agricultural information to the students in grades PreK-12 across Illinois. The IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm, funds the work of IAITC through generous contributions. More information about IAITC can be found at www.agintheclassroom.org, and information on how to contribute can be found at www.iaafoundation.org.

Fourth Annual Women in Agriculture Conference a Success

Over 200 women attended the Women in Agriculture Conference on March 20th at the Jumer's Casino & Hotel in Rock Island. Keynote speaker for the conference was Dr. David Kohl. Dr. Kohl is a Professor of Agricultural Finance and Small Business Management and Entrepreneurship in the Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics at Virginia Tech for 25 years. Kohl retired from teaching in 2003 and is Professor Emeritus in the AAEC Department at Virginia Tech. He has hosted more than 6,000 workshops and Conferences for various agriculture groups. He has published over four books and over 1,000 articles on financial and business-related topics. Throughout his career he has received 11 major teaching awards and is a two-time recipient of the American Agricultural Economics Association's Outstanding Teaching Award. He is also one of the top-rated instructors in agricultural finance and banking, training more than

1,000 lenders using an online and face-to-face approach. Kohl is also business coach and part-owner of Homestead Creamery, a value-added dairy business in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The conference began with an optional event on Thursday for the ladies and their spouses or guests. A social hour was held at 6:00 p.m., followed by a dinner and presentation by Dr. David Kohl. Dr. Kohl spoke to the group about building resiliency & agility in their farming business as well as their personal lives.

After a light breakfast and welcome on Friday morning, Dr. David Kohl kicked off the day with a session titled "Agriculture: Straight Talk, Straight Actions."

The opening session was followed by a variety of breakout sessions which included: Coalition to Support Iowa Farmers; Farm Leases: How Do I Know Which Lease to Use; Work-Life Balance; Speaking with

Consumers About Agriculture; Marketing: It's What Sets You Apart (Marketing 101); Vegetable Gardening 101; Environmental Issues Facing Agriculture; Does this Marketing Plan Look Good on Me?; and Food Preservation.

The closing session consisted of a legislative update from Adam Nielson of the Governor's Mental Affairs Division, Illinois Farm Bureau, followed by a live "Confessions of a Farm Wife" chat fest/podcast, with Central Illinois farmwives Emily Webel, DeAnna Thomas and Holly Spangler and distribution of door prizes.

The conference was organized by the

following county Farm Bureaus®: Bureau CFB, Carroll CFB, Fulton CFB, Henry CFB, Knox CFB, Lee CFB, Mercer CFB, McDonough CFB, Rock Island CFB, Stark CFB, Warren-Henderson FB, and Whiteside CFB.

A big thank you goes out to the following sponsors: John Deere, River Valley Cooperative, Illinois Farm Bureau®, COUNTRY® Financial, Iowa State University, 1st Farm Credit, River/Gulf Grain Company, University of Illinois Extension, Scott County Farm Bureau and GROWMARK.

CARL SANDBURG COLLEGE Biofuels Manufacturing Technology & Associate in Science in Agriculture.

The Associate in Applied Science in Biofuels Manufacturing Technology program is for Individuals who want to work in the renewable energy and/or manufacturing sectors. Carl Sandburg College's Associate in Science in Agriculture is a transfer program between Sandburg and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES).

Biofuels Industry Growth:

- 218 ethanol plants currently in production in the U.S.**
- More than 11,000 workers employed in the biofuels industry*
- 3,700 additional workers needed over the next 10 years*

Wage Trends:

- \$26.03 Illinois median hourly salary in 2011 for a plant and system operators, with \$54,100 annual salary*
- \$25.58 national median hourly salary for a plant and system operators, with \$53,200 annual salary*



This program is grant funded by the Illinois Green Economy Network - IGEN.
*according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
**according to "Ethanol Producer Magazine"



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Health on the Farm

By the Knox County Health Department



Spring Poison Prevention Safety Tips?

As the temperature begins to rise and farmers get in the fields, families will also begin their annual spring-cleaning of their homes and gardens. After the dusting, scrubbing, raking, and planting is done, make sure your clean house and garden are a safe place for kids. Many things in and around our homes can be considered poisons. Cleaning products can be lethal if swallowed or inhaled. Plants, including geraniums and daisies, can be toxic if ingested and can cause skin allergies. Lead found in cracking or peeling paint can be dangerous to children if inhaled or ingested. Even common medicines like pain relievers can be toxic if used incorrectly.

Each year, more than 90% of the poisonings reported to the Illinois Poison Center occurred in the home. Children are especially susceptible to household poisons. Children are more susceptible to household poisons because of their curiosity of the world around them. Medicine may look like candy, cleaning fluids kept in bright bottle may look like soda or juice, and flaking lead-based paint has a sweet taste much like candy.

Keeping your family safe from poisons takes a little time, but can save lives.

- Store cleaning products up high and out of children's reach.
- Store all medications and cleaning products in their original labeled, child-resistant containers.
- Work in a well-ventilated area when using cleaning products.

- Teach children never to put mushrooms, berries or any part of a plant into their mouths.

- Cleaning toys and areas such as baseboards and windowsills, where lead dust may build up, at least once a week with a damp cloth, will keep dust to a minimum

- Encourage children to play in mulched or grassy areas instead of dirt will help prevent exposure to lead in soil

- Always return medication/pesticides/cleaning products to a locked, safe storage area immediately after use.

- Never call medicine candy.

- Do not store cleaning products and food in the same cabinet.

- Include the Poison Center phone number (1-800-222-1222) in the essential emergency phone list in the child's home, daycare center or relative's home.

While ever yone wants to have a clean, safe home, it is sometimes easy to forget what it actually means to be safe and clean. Stay safe by being aware of what you are putting in and on your body. Lead poison testing can be done by appointment at the Knox County Health Department for \$30. For more information regarding poisoning or a list of toxic plants please go to <http://illinoispoisoncenter.org> or contact the Knox County Health Department at (309) 344-2224.



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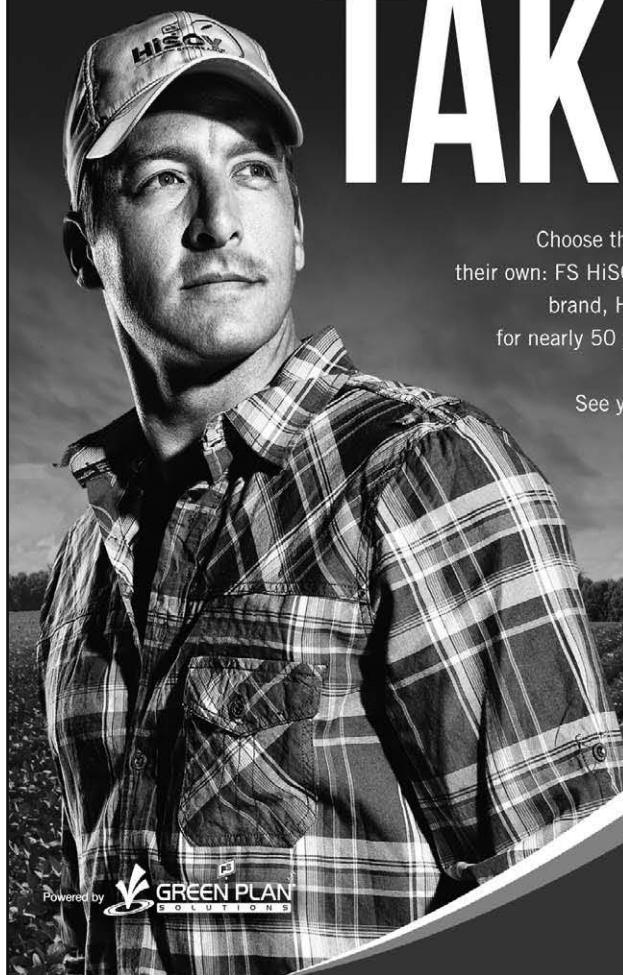
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MEMBERSHIP RECRUITERS OF THE MONTH



The Knox County Farm Bureau would like to recognize COUNTRY Financial Representatives Travis Lewis, Jeremy Kleine, John Ryner, Ed Johnson, & Michael White as top membership recruiters. Each agent signed one new associate member in March.

Call your COUNTRY Representative for all of your insurance and financial needs.

PRIMETIMERS NEWS

The Primetimers Committee met on March 17th and enjoyed a St. Patrick's Day Celebration lunch at the E. Main St. Hy-Vee. 13 committee members and KCFB Manager Kate Lansaw attended. The next meeting will be a potluck April 21st at 12 pm at the KAC. Please bring a dish to pass. Charles and Audrey Shaw will present a program on Ambient Noise. The Primetimers invite those 55+ to attend!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Fresh Pea Soup

Ingredients

6 cups chicken stock
3 russet potatoes, peeled and chopped
6 scallions, white part only, chopped

4 lbs. fresh peas, shelled to yield 4 cups
Salt and freshly ground white pepper
Chopped chives

Directions

1. Bring chicken stock to a boil in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Add potatoes to stock, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook until tender, about 10 minutes.
2. Add scallions; cook for 5 minutes.

Add peas, increase heat to medium, and cook until just tender (to keep fresh pea taste), about 5 minutes.

3. Purée pea mixture in a blender or food processor. Press through a strainer using a spoon. Return briefly to heat. Season with salt, pepper, and chives.

Looking Back



TAKEN FROM THE APRIL 1937 BULLETIN

We welcome the 143 farmers of the county who have affiliated themselves with the Knox County Farm Bureau during January, February, and March. This brings the total membership of the Knox County Farm Bureau on April 1 to 1,411, which is a new record for Knox County.

TAKEN FROM THE APRIL 1955 BULLETIN

A group of 15 young married couples met at the Farm Bureau building on Saturday evening March 26, and formed an organization with the assistance of the extension service for educational and recreational purposes.

TAKEN FROM THE APRIL 1973 BULLETIN

Jerry Dale King of Knox County, Illinois was judged one of America's four Outstanding Young Farmers for 1972-73 March 20 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

CLASSIFIEDS

To place ads in the Bulletin or on the website, you must be a Knox County Farm Bureau member. Call 309-342-2036 or e-mail us at jreed@knoxcfb.org by the last Friday of each month to place the ad.

FOR SALE: Trolling Motor Minn Kota Endura 34 lbs thrust like new. \$100.00 Please call 289-4220. 4/15

FOR SALE: 20 bales of big second cutting alfalfa/grass hay. Net wrapped, no rain. SW of Maquon. \$60/bale. Call 309-289-4337. 4/15

NATIVE PRAIRIE PLANT SALE: Update your landscaping—add natives to attract birds & butterflies. Pleasant Prairie Nursery's spring native plant sale will be May 8 & 9 and May 15 & 16. Many varieties of locally grown native prairie wildflowers and grasses available. Sale location will be 24219 W. Laura Rd., Williamsfield, IL. www.pleasantprairienursery.com or phone 639-4346. 3/15

FOR RENT: Take a winter break in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. 1 week \$900. Call 309-335-6064. 3/15

FOR RENT W/OPTION TO BUY: 156 West Mary St., Galesburg, IL 61401. 1 1/2 story, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, large family room w/wood burning fireplace. Big fenced-in backyard. 2 car garage. Darling home. Practically finished basement. Lots of new updates. Great location. Call 309-337-3174 or 309-221-4210. 3/15

WANTED: Bricks and broken concrete. Call 309-484-2160. 3/15

FOR SALE: Large, round grass hay bales, net wrapped, \$40 each. Call 309-344-2077 or 309-351-6792. 2/15

LOOKING FOR: Farm Shop Manager. Galesburg area farm seeks a full time person with a large amount of mechanical experience for daily/seasonal repair and maintenance of entire John Deere fleet, trucks and other equipment. We will hire a detail oriented, well organized person, pay package commensurate to level of experience and ability. Please leave a message at 309-341-1600. 2/15

FOR SALE: 2013 JD625F HydraFlex platform w/cart, used on 1000 acres. 1995 Hagie 284C Sprayer w/Outback 360, Hiniker monitor and trailer. 2000 JD726 Mulch Finisher, 25' w/5-rank spring tine harrow. Call 309-875-3482. 2/15

If you sell your items, please contact the Knox County Farm Bureau office at 309-342-2036 or email jreed@knoxcfb.org, so we can provide our readers with up-to-date information.



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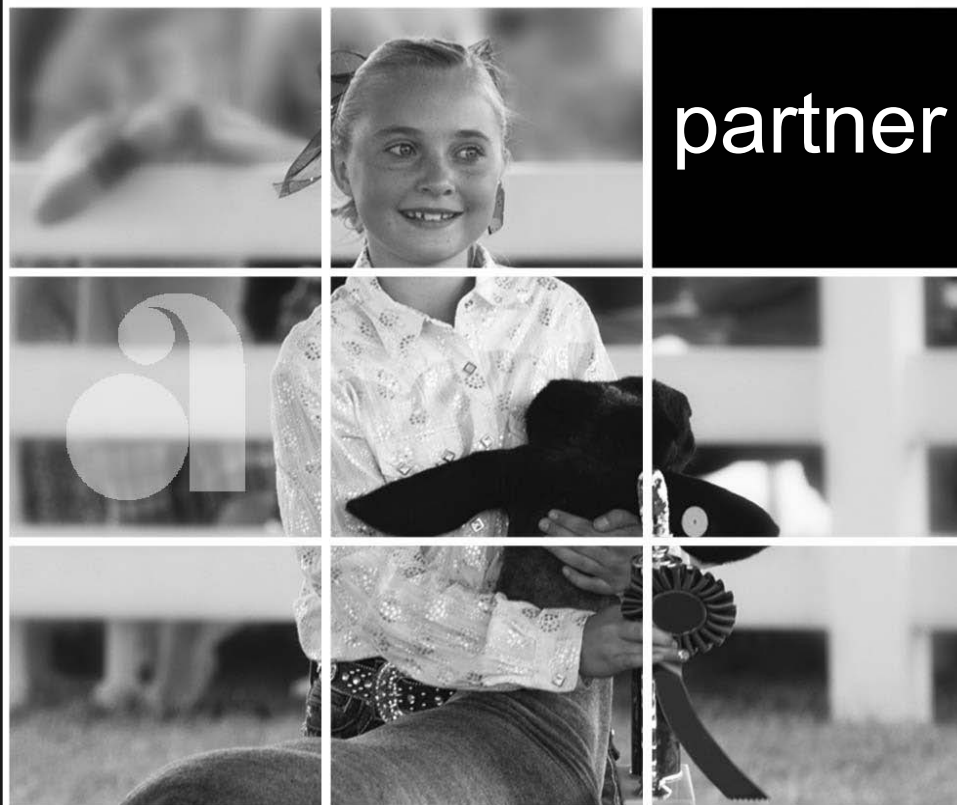


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