

# Bulletin

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

VOL. XCIV

USPS 297-360

December 2017

No. 12

**Attention Farm Bureau Members: The Knox County Farm Bureau office will be closed December 22nd through January 1st so that our staff can spend time with family during the Christmas season. The KCFB will reopen on January 2nd at 8:00 am.**

## NOTICE!

## KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the voting members of the Knox County Farm Bureau will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Visions Venue, Galesburg, to elect directors and if approved confirm the reports of the officers for the year ending November 30, 2017; and for the transactions of such business as may properly come before the meeting.

The morning will begin with check-in at 9:30 a.m. The business meeting will begin at 10:00

a.m. followed by the history video at 11:00 a.m. The Annual Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation Live Auction will be held following the business meeting at 11:30 a.m. In conclusion of the live auction, a brunch buffet will be served. The Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation Silent Auction will also be taking place throughout the morning. All proceeds from both auctions will benefit Knox County's Ag in the Classroom program.

Dated at Galesburg, Illinois on December 1, 2017.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

Cross Creek Farms, Inc	Jeana & Brian Plattner
Lora Barajas & Deonicio Martinez	Josiah Roberts
Elizabeth Barajas-Garcia	Irasema Sanchez
Ryan Binder	Darcy & Jason Scott
Taylor cupps	Rainee Sibley
Michael Galusha	Teresa & Brent Stewart
Barbara Hanson & John Hanson	Travis Thomas
Mandy Peterson	Gwen & Glen Wells
	Jennifer Wilkinson
	Charles Zelnio

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### December

13 Marketing Club Mtg, 12:30 PM, Pizza Ranch  
21 KCFB Board Mtg, 6 PM, Knox Agri-Center  
27 Marketing Club Mtg, 12:30 PM, Pizza Ranch  
KCFB Office Closed Dec 22 - Jan 2

### January

10 Marketing Club Mtg, 12:30 PM, Pizza Ranch  
17 Kids Farm Safety Day Mtg, 12 PM, KAC  
17 KCFB Foundation Silent Auction Items Due  
20 KCFB Annual Mtg, 10 AM, Visions Venue  
24 Marketing Club Mtg, 12:30 PM, Pizza Ranch  
26 Knox Co Pork Producers Annual Mtg, 6:30, Lake Storey Pavilion

## INTERNSHIP & SCHOLARSHIPS

**Be sure to check our website for up-to-date scholarship opportunities!**

### KCFB Foundation Summer Internship

The Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation is offering an internship with the Knox County Farm Bureau for the summer of 2018. The intern will receive a \$1,500 scholarship and is encouraged to explore the possibility of using the internship to fulfill academic requirements for his/her major.

This is the 26th year for the program, which continues to be very successful. The internship is open to Knox County residents who will be a sophomore, junior, senior, or full-time graduate student at a college or university during the fall 2018 semester. Preference is given to applicants who have a farm background and/or are studying an agricultural-related field.

For more information and/or an application, please contact the Knox County Farm Bureau office at

309/342-2036; e-mail: [knoxcfb@knoxcfb.org](mailto:knoxcfb@knoxcfb.org); or visit our website: [www.knoxcfb.org](http://www.knoxcfb.org). Applications are due February 13, 2018.

### KCFB Foundation \$1000 Scholarship

The Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship is open to Knox County residents who will be a sophomore, junior, senior, or full-time graduate student at a college or university during the fall 2018 semester. Preference is given to applicants who have a farm background and/or are studying an agricultural-related or communication-related field.

This is the second year the KCFB Foundation will award this scholarship. For more information and/or an application, please contact the Knox County Farm Bureau office at 309/342-2036; e-mail: [knoxcfb@knoxcfb.org](mailto:knoxcfb@knoxcfb.org); or visit our website: [www.knoxcfb.org](http://www.knoxcfb.org). Applications are

due February 13, 2018.

### Thomas Lincoln \$1000 Scholarship

The Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation is currently accepting applications for the Thomas Lincoln Scholarship, awarded annually in memory of Thomas Lincoln, a Knox County Farm Bureau Young Farmer who died in a tragic car accident.

A \$1000 scholarship will be given in the spring of 2018 to a graduating high school senior who is a Knox County resident and has been accepted into an agricultural or agricultural-related curriculum at any college or university in the fall of 2018.

For more information and/or an application, please contact the Knox County Farm Bureau office at 309/342-2036; e-mail: [knoxcfb@knoxcfb.org](mailto:knoxcfb@knoxcfb.org); or visit our website: [www.knoxcfb.org](http://www.knoxcfb.org). Applications are due February 13, 2018.



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## KNOX COUNTY PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

### 61st Annual Meeting

Friday, January 26, 2018

6:30 PM - Lake Storey Pavilion





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.



December 2017 No. 12

Published Monthly

**KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU, Inc.**  
cooperating with the  
**ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
and the  
**AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION**

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Telephone:  
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#### Office Hours

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**



### Gagging on Health Insurance Premiums Like a Horse Pill

When 2018 begins, the annual premium for my private health insurance plan will have increased by 121 percent in five years.

I have spreadsheets tracking health insurance costs like our farm's corn yield trends. And, as in corn production, the numbers can tell a story: Our health insurance system is in critical condition with no cure on the horizon. Our government leaders debate to no avail while self-providing citizens who are too young for Medicare hold their noses as they pay their health insurance premiums. We continue to feed money into

the dilapidated system because if we don't, a single illness or injury could jeopardize our lives or the family businesses we've built.

We're gagging on monthly premium payments like a horse pill. Yet, rarely do I catch the mainstream media giving genuine attention to the affordability side of the healthcare debate for hard-working families. I went from shopping among six health insurance companies for a private insurance plan in 2016 to just three in 2017. For 2018, only two carriers offer coverage in my area. Thankfully, both include my general doctor this time, but only one allows the freedom of a PPO, or preferred provider organization plan.

I've purchased healthcare plans with deductibles as high as \$6,450. I've saved in a Health Savings Account when eligible. And my fury reached a climax on Nov. 1, 2016, the opening day of health plan enrollment for 2017. That day I learned that my insurance premium would rise 45 percent for the cheapest, most suitable, Affordable Care Act (ACA)-compliant plan that I could find. Still, I barely heard mention in the media that this theft of hard-earned income impacted the presidential election one week later. I bet my annual insurance premium it did.

I know a local farming couple who pays

### Legislative Update

I began serving in the Senate January 2014. I requested and was fortunate to be appointed to serve on the Senate Agriculture Committee. The 47th Senate District is composed of 11 counties, including all of Adams, Brown, Cass, Schuyler, Mason, Hancock, Henderson, Warren, McDonough and parts of Knox and Fulton Counties. Certainly, this is a very rural agricultural district.

I previously served in the House for several years and developed a good working relationship with the legislative Farm Bureau governmental affairs team. They are well versed and informative on the wide array of agricultural issues that may come up each session. I've also found them to be great resources whenever I need more information on agricultural issues.

The year, one area of discussion in the Senate Agriculture Committee was the creation of a subcommittee on Confined Animal Feeding Operations. The members are Sub Chairman Scott Bennett, David Koehler, and Neil Anderson. To date, there has only been one hearing which I attended. Senator Koehler requested the subcommittee. We share representation of Fulton County and there has been controversy over the application for a permit for a hog confinement under the LMFA. Both Sen. Koehler and I have met with the group of citizens who oppose the application for the permit. I know your local Farm Bureau will keep you posted as to further hearings or information about these events.

I am a strong proponent for agriculture and its value to the State of Illinois. I think it's important that the best and most accurate information

### Getting to Know Your Farm Bureau Policy

*How well do you know Farm Bureau policy? In order to better understand it, KCFB will run monthly excerpts from the 2017 policy book. Interested in learning more about how our policy system works? It all starts with you! For more info contact the office!*

460 / Perishable Products

1. The Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA) regulation should be amended to provide growers with more effective provisions for enforcing prompt pay.

2. PACA should be amended to provide

time saver! These seeds included a bean, a pumpkin or squash seed and corn. The corn grew straight and tall so that the bean could wrap its vine around the stalk while the vine added shade to the ground to help keep moisture and weeds from over taking the area.

Turkeys were also stuffed into the curriculum (pardon the pun) for the Pre-K kids. Along with learning some turkey facts (some can fly 42 mph!) the children also learned more about corn they like to eat. Corn cereals and popcorn were discussed and the best part was the kids were able to eat the leftovers! These Pre-K students made their own booklet on foods they like to eat.

A visit to St Symphorosa is scheduled in Ms Aggie's book for Dec 4th in Chicago. We are waiting conformation on this visit which is usually held right after the Trivia night at the annual farm Bureau Convention. More about

enough in premiums to buy a new car outright every year. A Stark County farm family of six was forced to find additional income this year to cover \$42,000 for insurance premiums, easily one-third of their income. That information comes from an article in Crain's Chicago Business, which this fall brought attention to health insurance costs for farmers. A northern Illinois farmer told the newspaper he pays \$10,200 per year in premiums for just himself – and then faces a \$7,000 deductible when he needs care.

I've heard it before: Just work for another employer to obtain health insurance. Keep in mind, those companies face soaring insurance expenses, too. Employers change plans and deductibles to reduce costs. They may absorb some or all of the rising expense, which can keep employees blind to the burden of the total bill. The tunnel we're in looks pitch-black at the end, and the crisis escalates while we wait for Congress to compromise. It's time to make health insurance costs bearable again for hard-working, law-abiding citizens who deserve better from their country.

*About the author: Joanie Stiers' family grows corn, soybeans and hay and raises beef cattle in West-Central Illinois.*



**Jil Tracy, State Senator, 47th District**

be made available. I

always make myself

available to listen to

all my constituents. I'm

proud of our State's

and nation's agricultural

legacy and that we strive

to be good stewards

of our land and that

we have the ability to

feed our nation and the

world.

My husband, Jim, and I raised our 4 grown children in Mt. Sterling. We now live in Quincy. My husband works at Dot Foods, Inc. and I practiced law prior to entering the legislature in 2006. Email me anytime at [senatortracy@adams.net](mailto:senatortracy@adams.net)

coverage of sod, perishable greenhouse products, ornamental plants, cut flowers and Christmas trees.

3. We oppose any governmental agency delaying the marketing of perishable products for the purpose of collecting a penalty without having probable cause of a health risk.



*Corn project in Mrs. Brown's Kindergarten at Mable Woolsey in Knoxville.*

that in the December report. Work will begin on the winter newsletter and the Annual Knox County Farm Bureau meeting set for January 20th. Ag Day for Kids will be January 26th! Note the early date due to school schedules in February. Hope snow won't be a problem with this early date. There will be a few changes but most classes are as they have been in the past. Mary Beth is the head honcho again this year.



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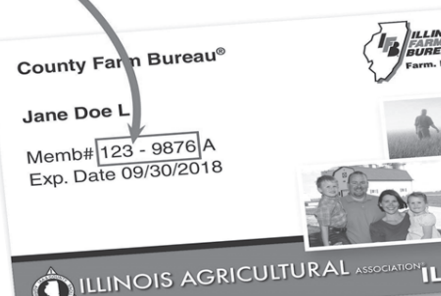
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# AGENT SPOTLIGHT



Jason Lumberry

**Name:** Jason Lumberry  
**Office Address:** 180 S Soangetaha Rd, Ste 103, Galesburg, IL 61401  
**Phone:** 309-342-1647  
**eMail Address:** jason.lumberry@countryfinancial.com  
**Family:** Wife - Brianna, Daughter - Collins, Son - Jackson  
**Education:** A.A Lincoln College; B.A. Western Illinois University; M.A. Western Illinois University  
**Designations/Awards:** Investment Solutions Representative; 2016 New Financial Rep of the year; 2015 and 2016 Knox County Farm Bureau Membership recruiter of the year  
**Community Service:** St. Jude Research Hospital Volunteer, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Volunteer, Boys and Girls Clubs of America Volunteer

**Mission Statement:** My goal is to help my clients achieve true financial security. When they go to sleep at night, I want them to know that their family is truly protected if something should happen to them.

## Oh Christmas Tree! Keep Yours from Catching on Fire

Most of us love the wonderful, fragrant smell of a fresh-cut Christmas tree. Twinkling lights and colorful decorations add the final touches to the dark green needles.

But Christmas trees can be dangerous, too.

From 2005-2009, about 240 Christmas trees caught on fire each year throughout the United States. These fires caused an average of 13 deaths, 27 injuries and \$16.7 million in property damage, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

A Christmas tree can be completely engulfed by fire in less than 40 seconds, so it's important to be cautious with your tree.

To help keep you and your family safe this holiday season, I urge you to follow the Christmas tree safety tips provided below.

### Make sure it's fresh

Buy a locally-grown tree. Trees transported to our area were cut earlier and are more likely to be dry.

Break a few needles. They should be flexible, moist and sticky. They should also be fragrant when crushed. If they're not, then the tree probably isn't very fresh.

Check the color of the tree. Some trees are sprayed with a blue-green dye. The dye is harmless, but you need to make sure the paint is not hiding a dry tree.

Shake the tree to see if green needles fall off. If they do, the tree is dry. Brown needles that fall from the inside probably fell years ago and were trapped in the tree.

Cut about 1 inch off the base of the tree to help the water move through it (most vendors will do this for you).

Put the base in a bucket of water when you get it home. Leave it outside in a cool, shaded place until you're ready to decorate.

Check the water level daily. A six-foot tree should use a gallon of water every two days.

### Display it safely

Keep the tree in a cool room. The cooler the room, the longer the tree will stay fresh.

Don't put the tree near heat sources that can dry it out or even ignite it.

Keep the tree away from doors and exits. If a fire occurs, the tree could block escape routes.

Secure the tree so it can't be knocked over.

Dispose of your tree as soon as possible after Christmas. Don't burn it in the fireplace because trees burn hot and quick. It could start a fire in your home. Trees also contain oils that could damage your fireplace.

### Decorate smart

Avoid using older, larger bulbs, which are hotter and dry out the tree.

Don't use lights with frayed cords. Check

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0415-505HC-11/16/2017

all lights to make sure they are in good working condition.

Always unplug or switch off tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep.

Don't burn candles on or around the tree. Use small light bulbs to light your tree.

Avoid overloading electrical cords.

Putting more than three strands of lights together can be a fire hazard.

Avoid combustible decorations such as inflammable reflectors for colored lights, foil icicles and tinsel.

I hope you have a safe and happy holiday season!

## IAA Foundation Offers Scholarships To Support Agriculture, Illinois Farm Bureau Families

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Agriculture students and Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) members and their children are encouraged to apply for 76 college scholarships offered by the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm. The scholarships, ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500 per year, will be awarded in total of \$144,800 for the 2018-2019 school year.

"We are pleased to help students through our growing scholarship program," said

Susan Moore, director, IAA Foundation. "It is a great privilege to support the next generation of leaders, and encourage continuing education in agricultural fields."

Students may apply for a variety of scholarships, including three IAA Foundation Top Scholarships, where winners will each receive \$5,000 awards. Another \$7,500 award goes to the Illinois Farm Bureau Legacy of Leadership scholarship winner.

In addition to family scholarships often

established to honor the memory of a loved one, the IAA Foundation offers scholarships on behalf of organizations such as Prairie Farms Dairy and the Illinois Soybean Association.

All applicants must be high school seniors accepted for enrollment, or students already enrolled at an accredited college, university or community college. Scholarships are awarded for exceptional academic ability, leadership and financial need. Previous winners of an IAA Foundation scholarship are eligible to apply again.

A full listing of available scholarships, eligibility guidelines, and application

documents are available at the Foundation website, [www.iaafoundation.org](http://www.iaafoundation.org). Completed applications must be submitted online by Feb. 1, 2018.

For more information, contact your county Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation at 309-557-2230, or e-mail Jessie Denny, program manager, IAA Foundation, at [jdenny@iffb.org](mailto:jdenny@iffb.org).

The mission of the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm, is to fund education, research, and charitable activities that benefit Illinois farm families and agriculture.

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Knox County Farm Bureau was held on Monday, November 13, 2017

### Education & Outreach – Lori Engel

The E&O TF will once again donate a silent auction basket for the Festival of Trees Fundraiser for Discovery Depot Children's Museum.

The E&O TF Holiday Food Sales fundraiser has begun. Order forms for Avanti's Cheese are available on the KCFB Website and due December 4. Cheese orders will be available for pick-up on December 11.

### Farm Business Taskforce – Jarid Cain

2016 Knox Co. Plat Books are available. 2018 Knox Co. Commemorative Plat Books will be available December of 2017.

### Government and Policy Taskforce – Joe Webel

Sign up for FB Act text alerts by texting the word FARM to 52886.

### Member Relations – Matt Hennenfent

The Centennial Celebration committee has divided into two sub-committees.

### Foundation – Hailey Weyhrich

The next Foundation meeting will be November 21 at 6:30 PM.

The Foundation will start excepting applications for Scholarships and the Internship in December.

### PrimeTimers – Hailey Weyhrich

The PT will meet on November 21 for their Holiday Lunch at the Packinghouse.

### Young Farmer's – Krista Swanson

The Young Farmers will host a Leadership Bootcamp on Nov 14 for high school students interested in career preparation. 11 students are scheduled to participate.

### KAC – Terry Boydston

The next KAC meeting will be November 21 at 7:30 PM.

The KAC is looking into building renovations.

### IFF – Lori Engel

Like the Knox Warren-Henderson Illinois Farm Families page on Facebook! Send

farming pictures to Tara Bohnert Yoder to use with educational posts.

### OLD BUSINESS

Meeting guest, Bill Hennenfent discussed Kids Farm Safety Camp and that Lori Engel will be the coordinator for the camp.

A mission/vision statement meeting will be scheduled this winter.

### NEW BUSINESS

The IAA Annual Meeting will be held December 1-5. The County Dinner will be Monday, December 4 at Sullivan's Steakhouse. The Knox County Farm Bureau will also be having a silent auction basket that includes Knox County Specialties.

KCFB will observe the office holidays listed in the policy book for 2018.

The KCFB Annual Meeting is January 20, 2018 at Visions Venue.

The budget approval was tabled to December.

## Board Meeting Attendance

NAME	Sept	Oct	Nov
Bewley, Beau	P	C	P
Boydston, Terry	P	C	P
Cain, Jarid	P	C	P
DeSutter, Jim	P	C	A
Engel, Lori	P	C	P
Erickson, David S	P	C	P
Goedeke, Phil	P	C	P
Hennenfent, Matt	A	C	P
Hoben, Tom	P	C	P
Hulsizer, Matt	P	C	P
King, Becky	P	C	A
Link, Jeff	P	C	P
Link, Nathan	P	C	A
Main, Tim	P	C	P
O'Connor, Tom	P	C	P
Seiboldt, Pat	A	C	P
Stevens, Monica	P	C	P
Strom, Grant	P	C	P
Swanson, Brett	P	C	A
Swanson, Krista	P	C	P
Webel, Joe	P	C	A
West, Todd	P	C	P



## Hailey - Manager Update

I was able to experience firsthand the hustle and bustle of Capitol Hill while traveling with Managers to Washington at the beginning of November when the tax reform plan rolled out the Thursday of our stay! What an experience! Hopefully, you completed the two Action Requests that followed the plan's roll out. Thanks to those of you that did! December will be the same as November in the sense that the office will continue to be busy! In December, I will be traveling alongside 50 Knox County Farm Bureau members to the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in Chicago. It will be a quick five days of meeting with our legislators, new

experiences, and setting new policies for 2018. We will then be finalizing a special project for the Centennial Celebration and welcoming the Board members and their families for a joint holiday party/board meeting with the Young Farmers Committee. The office staff and myself will then get a break when our office closes December 22-January 1 to celebrate the holidays with our families! I hope you all have a very safe holiday season with all your loved ones! I look forward to the starting of celebrations for Knox County Farm Bureau's 100th Anniversary in January!



## Certified Livestock Manager Training

The Illinois General Assembly passed the Livestock Management Facilities Act in May 1996. Livestock facilities in Illinois that house over 300 animal units are required to have at least one person certified in the environmental protection aspects of manure management.

There are two opportunities to complete the University of Illinois Certified Livestock Manager training for certification: attend a workshop or complete online training

modules.

A workshop is planned for February 21, 2018 at the Knox County Extension Office, 180 S. Soangetaha Rd, Ste 108, Galesburg, IL.

Visit [web.extension.illinois.edu/lfmm/clmt](http://web.extension.illinois.edu/lfmm/clmt) for more information and to register. If you have questions, please call Nesli Akdeniz at (217) 300-2644 or Rich Gates at (217) 244-2791.

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## Dicamba: Where we started, where we're at, and where we go from here

Dicamba. It's been on the lips of farmers, scientists and consumers alike this year – and for good reason. Complaints of damage due to drift have piled up across the Midwest; the Illinois Department of Agriculture alone received hundreds of reports.

But the dicamba issues that hit the farm belt this summer weren't at all surprising to Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) leaders and staff.

"We knew this could be a topic of discussion throughout the year," said Richard Guebert, Jr., president, IFB. "We've heard from farmers on both sides of this issue – those who want the technology and use it, and those who have been impacted as well. As the planting season progressed, we had members who alerted us they had challenges or issues, or saw affects."

"We heard from our grassroots farmer members," said Tamara Nelsen, senior director of commodities, IFB. "They said, 'You know, we think there's going to be some issues with this technology. We think folks really need to be trained, they need to keep communicating. Farmers need to talk to other farmers, neighbors need to talk to neighbors; we need to make sure everyone has a good understanding of what's required

because the application requirements are quite strict.'"

Under the direction of Strength With Advisory team members, IFB staff put together communications plans and strategies to help direct stewardship of the herbicide and keep members in the know.

"We developed a website and communication materials and had all kinds of articles and radio interviews," Nelsen said. "We had multiple meetings with other organizations and we intend to do the same throughout the winter."

Moving into the 2018 growing season, IFB plans to continue working with farmers and other agricultural organizations to increase stewardship and training, especially now that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has handed down additional regulations regarding the use of dicamba.

"Two big parts of the new label require more extensive training and more extensive record keeping," said Mark Gebhards, executive director, Governmental Affairs and Commodities, IFB. "So we're looking at trying to....make sure our membership has the access to the educations so, at the end of the day, we have the stewardship in place."

## Playground Barn-Raising Honors Youth, Agriculture

WILLIAMSFIELD, IL – A unique "barn-raising" in the small Knox County town of Williamsfield promises to meet the playground needs for its kids with an agricultural spin.

The Playground Barn-Raising Project is an ambitious fundraising effort with the goal of building a playground barn and more in Williamsfield's Doubet-Benjamin Park. The landmark play structure planned for 2018 will honor the rural community's agricultural heritage while providing a modern park playground for the 600-resident town. The Williamsfield Parks Association and Williamsfield FFA Alumni & Friends lead the project with their slogan, "Raise the Funds. Raise the Barn. Leave a Legacy."

"Our park needs more playground equipment, and the children of our rural community deserve an exciting, high-quality place to play like kids have in urban areas," said Jeff Campbell, a local business owner and member of the Playground Barn-Raising Committee. "Williamsfield families must drive about 25 miles roundtrip to find modern playground equipment in a public park setting. We're thrilled to provide our rural families a first-class playground while honoring the community's past and future ties to agriculture."

Thanks to swift support from generous targeted donors, the campaign has reached 83 percent of its goal in just a few months. The non-profit committee is now soliciting donations from the general public in a final push to attain its \$150,000 target. The barn-raising project's budget buys a professionally

engineered multi-level playground barn with silo, free-standing playground accessories, benches and trees. It also funds a poured-in-place safety surface that resembles an all-weather track with cushion. The surface's colors and patterning will contain farm influences, such as fields, pastures and streams.

Playground equipment will be ordered in December to lock in pricing. Volunteer construction is planned for early summer 2018 after planting season for local farmers.


"We hope our public outreach plan brings wider awareness of this exciting project and generates the final donations needed to achieve the full Playground Barn-Raising goal," Campbell said. "It's gratifying to see the overwhelming support for youth, agriculture, and rural communities and to realize just how close we are to raising the funds to raise this barn."

Make tax-deductible gifts to the Playground Barn-Raising Project by mail to the fund manager: Galesburg Community Foundation, 246 E. Main St., Suite 101, Galesburg, IL 61401. Checks should be made payable to the foundation. Donations are accepted online at [www.ahealthycommunity.org](http://www.ahealthycommunity.org); click "make a gift" and search for "Williamsfield Barn-Raising."

### Playground Barn-Raising Project

Raise the Funds. Raise the Barn. Leave a Legacy.

Doubet-Benjamin Park  
Williamsfield, IL



Williamsfield FFA Alumni & Friends  
Williamsfield Parks Association

Local non-profits are seeking donations to build an agriculture-focused playground in Williamsfield, a farming community in Knox County.



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# Health on the Farm

By the Knox County Health Department



## KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH TURNS TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OLD

The Knox County Health Department completed its twenty-fifth year in operation on November 2, 2017. As a result of a citizen referendum, the Knox County Board of Health was established when the proposed Public Health Levy passed as part of the November 3, 1992 election.

"Celebrating is not only a way to reflect on the past successes of the Health Department; but, more importantly, to remind people the important role public health plays in protecting the health of our community," stated Carol Scotton, President of the Knox County Board of Health. As part of the year-long celebration, the Board of Health intends to recognize its many partnerships and celebrate milestones from the past twenty-five years.

The Knox County Health Department opened for service on April 3, 1993. Since that time, the Department has implemented numerous public health programs including immunization services, infectious disease surveillance activities, food safety

inspections, testing and counseling for sexually transmitted diseases, community health education programs, and onsite wastewater disposal system inspections. Additionally, the Department has facilitated community health planning projects which have resulted in the development of health promotion and prevention programming including the provision of dental, behavioral health, and primary health care services through the Section 330, federally-funded Knox Community Health Center.

"The Knox County Board of Health and Health Department staff recognize that these past twenty-five years of successes could not have been achieved without the support of our community partners, stakeholders and the residents of Knox County," states Scotton. "It is because of their dedication to public health that the staff at the Health Department has been able move forward in providing exceptional services to the residents of Knox County; and we sincerely thank them for their contributions to our efforts."



About 100 Farm Bureau members attended Steve Johnson's Fall Marketing Program at the Knox Agri-Center on November 20th sponsored by Abingdon Banking Center, First Midwest Bank, North-And. Co., Tompkins State Bank, Walt Dagen Construction, West Central FS, Knox County Farm Bureau, and Warren-Henderson Farm Bureau.



Knox County Health Department

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## MEMBERSHIP RECRUITER OF THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



Jeremy Kleine

The Knox County Farm Bureau would like to recognize COUNTRY Financial Representative Jeremy Kleine as top membership recruiter this month. Jeremy signed 6 new associate members.

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

### PRIMETIMERS NEWS

The PrimeTimers committee enjoyed their holiday luncheon at The Packinghouse on November 21st. The committee will not

meet in December and the next meeting is January 16th; at which 2018 monthly programs will be planned.



### ~ CLASSIFIED ADS ~

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 [jreedy@knoxcfb.org](mailto:jreedy@knoxcfb.org) by the last Friday of each month to place the ad.

**FOR SALE:** Champion 80 gal. industrial stand-up air compressor, 3-phase, 480 volt, \$500. Call 309-289-5227. 12/17

**FOR SALE:** New Speed Queen electric dryer, uses 220, used very little, \$250. Call 309-337-3174. 12/17

**FOR SALE:** Border Collie pure bred puppies, farm raised, shots, \$300 each. Call 309-368-7289 or 309-368-1097 anytime. 12/17

**HELP WANTED:** Class "A" CDL drivers for over the road regional dry van trucking. Home weekends. Please call for information 309-344-1517. 12/17

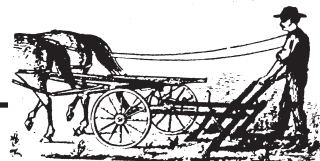
**FOR SALE:** Hens: Cinnamon Queen, Easter Eggers, Sex Links, 20 hens & 5 roosters, 2-3 yrs old, good health & must sell, \$9. Call 309-635-5251. 12/17

**AVAILABLE:** Local farmer looking to fill a condo March 24-31, 2018 and beyond in Kissimmee, FL, 5 minutes from Disney World, sleeps up to 8 people for 7 nights, \$850, also discounts on a variety of tickets. Call 309-230-7227 or 309-875-3051. 12/17

**AVAILABLE:** Local farmer looking to fill a condo June 30-July 7, 2018 at Lakewood Resort at Lake of the Osarks, just off the main interstate by Glaize Bridge, sleeps up to 6 people, 10 hrs of free boat use, \$950 for the week. Call 309-230-7227 or 309-8753051 12/17

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

## Looking Back



### TAKEN FROM THE DECEMBER 1997 BULLETIN

Roger Holmes, KCFB President, accepts a recognition plaque on behalf of the Knox County Farm Bureau in honor of its achievements in 1997.

### TAKEN FROM THE DECEMBER 1977 BULLETIN

#### Interstate Producers Livestock Association Director

Maurice DeSutter of Woodhull was elected to serve on the board of directors of the nation's largest livestock marketing cooperative, the Interstate Producers Livestock Association, with its headquarters in Peoria. How exciting!

### TAKEN FROM THE DECEMBER 1951 BULLETIN

Cash expenses of \$16,893 per farm last year reached a new record high in the history of farm record keeping in Illinois.

## PLAT BOOK AVAILABLE!

The 2018 Knox County Plat Book is available for purchase! This is a commemorative book celebrating 100 years of Knox County Farm Bureau 1918-2018. Each township has an extra page with the plat map from 100 years ago as

well as historical pictures. The plat book would make a great gift and is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Take note, the last day to purchase plat books before Christmas is December 21st.

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

#### Toffee Blondies in a Jar

Layer the dry ingredients in a mason jar, tie with the recipe card, and give it as a gift!

#### Ingredients

##### For the jar

- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup mini chocolate chips
- 1 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1/2 cup Heath Chips
- 1 quart size mason jar

##### To make the Toffee Blondies

- The contents of the jar
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 2 lightly beaten eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

#### Instructions

- To assemble the jar, layer the brown

*Recipe taken from bakedbree.com*

If you would like to submit a family-favorite recipe, please provide the recipe with a picture to the KCFB office.



sugar, chocolate chips, flour, baking powder, salt, Heath chips, and pecans. Use a 1/4 cup measure to get the contents in jar. Visit [bakedbree.com](http://bakedbree.com) for a printable recipe card to tie to the jar before giving as a gift.

To make the Toffee Blondies, melt some butter in a bowl. Whisk in the eggs and vanilla.

Pour in the contents of the jar and mix.

Pour the batter in an 8x8x2 pan coated with cooking spray. Bake in a preheated 350 degree oven.

for 25 to 30 minutes or until the blondies are set and start to pull away from the sides of the pan.

Cool in the pan and cut into 16 bars.

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