

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. XCVI USPS 297-360 September 2019 No. 9

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

Easton Beard
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 Jack Sublett
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 Darla & David Taylor
 Gerald Van Tine
 Sean Welch
 Ryan West
 Linda Weyhrich
 Alan Wight

KCFB Visits Adopted Legislator Robinson

On August 26, President Grant Strom, Vice-President Terry Boydston, Government & Policy Task Force Chair Joe Webel, and Board Director Drew DeSutter traveled to Chicago's 5th District to meet our new Adopted Legislator State Representative Lamont J. Robinson. We started the morning at the Gary Comer Youth Center where we toured their gardens, including a rooftop garden in the middle of the city. We met their Director of Urban Agriculture as well as some of the youth involved in the gardens.

We then went to lunch before attending the Erie Vehicle Center.



The Erie Vehicle Company was founded in 1917 and has become one of the largest independent single store truck equipment distributors in the country, located right in the South Side of Chicago. They specialize in hydraulic lift gate replacement parts and repairs. Inside the workshop, we found ourselves feeling at home listening to the repairs taking place and talking about the lack of finding qualified people to work in jobs that are needed.

To wrap up the day, Representative Robinson and his Community Outreach Coordinator,

Pat Ewert drove the groups around the 5th District in Chicago which goes from Gold Coast to Grand Crossing, a distance of almost 8 miles long and 2-3 blocks wide! This district covers the Palmer House where the IAA Annual Meeting takes place in December. Being 8 miles wide, the north and south ends of the district drastically vary, making Representative Robinson's job even more challenging. We are now here as a resource and look forward to working with him!

Special thanks to Christina Nourie, of Illinois Farm Bureau



Representatives office. We are looking forward to Representative Robinson visiting Knox County soon!



Speak Up, End the Stigma

By: Adrienne DeSutter

"I heard he's in the looney bin."

"She wouldn't be so sad if she just tried harder to have a positive attitude."

"I can't believe he took his life, how could he be so selfish?"

There's a lot we don't understand about mental health. Misconceptions and inaccurate perceptions have created the "mental health stigma," and we need to get rid of it quicker than a rootworm infestation.

In a recent poll sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation, 75% of rural adults think it's important to reduce stigma about mental health in the agriculture community. But what exactly is "stigma," and what does it look like in the ag community? Various sources define "stigma" as "a mark of shame or discredit," "disgrace or infamy," and "a strong feeling

of disapproval that most people in a society have about something." People with mental health conditions, like depression or anxiety, are all too familiar with being branded abnormal and unworthy by society, and this negative stereotype can be extremely harmful. Stigma can lead to harassment and discrimination, misunderstanding, avoidance and isolation, health insurance complications, and most importantly, a reluctance to seek help or treatment. In agriculture, stigma is a farmer who won't see a therapist about his or her depression for fear of what others will think. Stigma is telling someone with anxiety "just don't worry about what you can't control," or thinking someone with depression just needs to "cheer up and quit neglecting their responsibilities." Stigma is ignoring your own symptoms to avoid being labeled. Stigma is not talking with a friend you're

concerned about because you're afraid of what might happen next, or not talking about farmer stress because you don't want people to wonder if you have a condition.

Talking about mental health can be uncomfortable, because there's a lot we just don't understand. But imagine how uncomfortable it must feel to the farmer whose anxiety has convinced him or her that working 90 hours a week isn't enough. Think about how uncomfortable it must be when a family loses a farmer to suicide, and no one wants to bring up their name- as if they never existed- for fear of creating tension. It might be a little uncomfortable to talk about mental health, but a small step out of our comfort zone will help someone else's giant leap seem a little easier.

And helping each other is what we do in agriculture. As American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall recently stated, "That's

what we do in farm country: we see a need and we do all in our power to help..." Friends of agriculture, farmers are dying by suicide more than twice as often as farm accidents. They need us to do everything in our power to help, and by working to end the mental health stigma, we show them that we are rooting for them as part of their farm family.

One life. If we can save one life by learning more about mental health and normalizing the conversation, if we can help one farmer gain the courage to ask for help, then every second spent talking about farm stress has been worth it. If we can keep one farm family- son, wife, father, sister- from standing at their farmer's funeral, then we've played a role in preventing complete devastation for our agriculture family. It's time for us to speak up, reach out, and end the stigma.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September**
- 17 PrimeTimers Potluck, 12:00 PM, KAC
 - 19 KCFB Board Mtg, 8 PM, KAC
- October**
- 10 Young Farmers Mtg, 6:30, KAC
 - 15 PrimeTimers Outing, Caterpillar Visitor Center, Peoria
 - 17 KCFB Board Mtg, 8 PM, KAC
- November**
- 14 Young Farmers Mtg, 6:30, KAC
 - 19 PrimeTimers Holiday Meal, TBD
 - 21 KCFB Board Mtg, 8 PM, KAC
 - 25 Steve Johnson Seminar, 7 PM, KAC



National Farm Safety & Health Week is September 15-21 and it's time to remind everyone working in agriculture to make health and safety a priority. This year's theme, "Shift Farm Safety into High Gear," brings to focus the importance of a safe and healthy lifestyle. Each day highlights a different health and safety topic:

- Monday, September 16 – Tractor Safety & Rural Roadway Safety
 - Tuesday, September 17 – Farmer Health & Opioid/Suicide Prevention
 - Wednesday, September 18 – Safety & Health for Youth in Agriculture
 - Thursday, September 19 – Confined Spaces in Agriculture
 - Friday, September 20 – Safety & Health for Women in Agriculture
- Harvest season is just around the corner. That means combines and

Illinois Farm Bureau and County Farm Bureaus Participate in National Farm Safety & Health Week Sept 15-21

farm equipment will begin traveling on country roads, and long days of hard work are ahead. Farmers and ag workers need to remember to take equipment safety seriously. Every tractor operator is responsible for ensuring the tractor does not present any unnecessary hazard to him/her, other farm workers, or innocent bystanders. Don't wait until it's too late before you take safety seriously.

While safety is top priority during this time of year, it is equally important for farmers and ag workers to take care of their own health as well. Last year, over 2,200 people died in Illinois of overdoses. Health officials are calling it an opioid crisis, and it's hitting rural Illinois communities hard. Three out of every four farmers say it would be easy for someone in their community to access a large amount of prescription opioids or painkillers without a prescription. The opioid epidemic is devastating to its victims and their families. It has a compounding rip-

ple effect throughout communities, affecting quality of life, economic opportunity, and rural prosperity. No corner of our country has gone untouched by the opioid crisis, but the impact of this issue on small towns and rural places has been particularly significant. In 2017 the rate of deaths involving opioids was 17.2 per 100,000 persons, which is higher than the national rate of 14.6 deaths per 100,000 persons.

It is also important for farmers and ag workers to keep their physical and mental health at the forefront. Working long hours, often in the isolation of a combine or tractor, can wear on farmers. Remember to take occasional breaks and to talk to friends or family about your frustrations and stresses.

There are many benefits to growing up on a farm, but it is well known that farms are dangerous places and keeping children safe should be a top priority. A simple checklist can be used to perform safety checks on your farm, enhanc-

ing the safety of children who live, work and visit your farm.

According to the 2017 USDA statistics for Illinois, women make up more than 28 percent of the producers annually. This statistic shows that women continue to play a vital role in the day to day management of our farms and ranches.

National Farm Safety & Health Week serves as a reminder to think about tractor safety, safety on rural roads, physical and mental health, opioid and suicide prevention, kids on the farm, confined spaces, and safety and health for women in agriculture.

Tune in to RFD Radio Network during National Farm Safety Health Week to hear interviews on a variety of subjects. You can also visit the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety – <http://www.necasag.org/nationalfarmsafetyandhealthweek/> – for daily webinars, or contact your county Farm Bureau for more information on these topics.

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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PLEASE REPORT ANY CHANGES IN YOUR ADDRESS TO OUR OFFICE.

Thank You KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU



Back to school not business as usual

A classic yellow school bus against a cornfield backdrop on a rural road says American as much as the homemade ice cream we crank for the Fourth of July. Sometimes, I snap a photo of the approaching bus as it rounds the bend, stirring a dust cloud on the gravel road to our home farm.

School enters its first full month back in session, and outside of bus routes, much has changed. My kids carry Chromebooks instead of textbooks. Students receive school email addresses by the first grade. They type instead of

write cursive. Casting on classroom televisions is the norm, and my 10-year-old last year made multiple digital slideshow presentations on agricultural companies for business class.

I always thought I would know what my kids would experience and could guide them with my educational upbringing. Then, I remember that I used computers with floppy disks. My friends and I searched encyclopedias instead of Google, and my first mobile phone came in a shoebox-sized bag and not until college, where I also received my first-ever email message. Now, my teen carries her own smartphone on which she monitors two email addresses and a social media account. The kids seldom bring school papers home in this digital age. And, homework on the go requires we create a Wi-Fi hotspot in the minivan for assignments due by midnight, not in class the following day.

Even with fewer than 100 students in the high school, our small district integrates modern technology into classroom instruction, finds innovative ways to challenge each student and offers a coursework variety that helps students pursue their passions and celebrate

their individuality. Older students use smartphones to photograph stages in science experiments. Students now attend and lead parent-teacher conferences. And, my daughter takes high school courses in the eighth grade at our PreK-to-12 school, where our students can now attain an associate's degree upon high school graduation.

Doing my part, I learned to navigate the online gradebook, help with math when I can, listen to my kids and support them in finding the personal study habits that work best in this digital age. The start of each school year requires an open mind to a new-age educational approach that meets the needs of our evolving world. What worked 25 years ago, may not today. But when in need of something sentimental, I can take comfort in the familiarity of the bus route and the steadfast embrace with my kids at the end of the day.

About the author: Joanie Stiers, a wife and mother of two farm kids, writes from west-central Illinois, where her family grows corn, soybeans and hay and raises beef cattle.



Schools are open!

Ag in the Classroom has started planning and organizing for another great school year. Coordinators will be meeting and teaching in all Knox County classrooms this fall. While teachers have been setting up their rooms, Mrs. Green - the K-2 coordinator - has been reviewing curriculum and Next Generation Science Standards to meet classroom needs.

In early August, Mrs. Green met with some Cedar Rapids teachers and provided a workshop on monarchs. Their curriculum focuses on monarchs, and a former area teacher reached out for some assistance. It was a great morning of sharing.

Coordinators in August spent time contacting teachers and scheduling. Scheduling is a challenge each year, as they never stay the same. Creative ways to manage all



the classrooms in all the districts are generally found to meet everyone's needs. This year Mrs. Green will be in all Knox County schools, and welcome's first graders from Williamsfield! The last few weeks of August she has been delivering monarch caterpillars and milkweed to teachers.

Ag in the Classroom and KCFB continue to support the Annual Monarch Migration Festival. The event is on Saturday, September 7 at the Lakeside Nature Center, 1033

S. Lake Storey Road from 10 am - 3 pm. Mrs. Green will be one of the speakers sharing information about the monarch life cycle.

AITC wast once again represented in the Labor Day parade. Dale Carlson drove the tractor and pulled the wagon. We appreciate Dale's constant support during parade time!

Near the end of August, Mrs. Green presented a lesson to adults at RAES. They are English language learners and have enjoyed agriculture lessons in previous years. According to their teacher Lane Steiner, it also benefits the adult's children as they take home their Ag Mags or projects and talk to their children about what they learned. This opens the door for their children to share what learned during their ag lesson! We are excited to continue a partnership with this adult class.

As we approach the fall, we look forward to the hiring of coordinator for grades 3-5, some cool temperatures and a productive harvest.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Farmers need steady leadership during tough times

By Cheri Bustos

Since I was elected to Congress, I've been proud to serve on the House Agriculture Committee. After all, our Congressional District is home to more than 9,000 family farms and agriculture is the largest economic driver in Illinois.

But right now, farmers are facing tough times. What they need is certainty and steady leadership - but all that seems to come from Washington, especially the White House, is drama and more uncertainty.

During this past month as I've worked from Illinois, I've visited with so many family farmers who say today's agricultural economy is the worst they've ever seen. In the past several years, net farm income has been cut in half. In the Midwest, we're seeing the highest level of farm bankruptcies in a decade. And we sure as heck can't catch a break from Mother Nature.

That's why I've taken several steps to help farmers and grow our agricultural economy, including:

1. Expanding markets for agricultural producers. There's no question that the president's trade war has been devastating for Illinois farmers. As the largest soybean producing state in the nation, our producers have seen their markets disappear with our largest trading partners. That's why I've consistently fought for commonsense trade policies that open markets - not shrink them - and introduced legislation to expand agricultural trade with Cuba.

2. Fighting back against efforts to undermine the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). Last month, the Trump Administration's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced more than 30 waivers to oil companies that'll undermine the RFS and our biofuels industry. This is just unacceptable. Already, the EPA's "small refinery waivers" have cost billions of lost gallons of biofuel and hurt our agricultural economy. I joined my colleagues calling for an investigation into these waivers that favor big oil companies and campaign contributors. It's time for the administration to put farmers first.

3. Partnering with rural communities to fight climate change. The chaotic climate is one of the biggest challenges we've ever faced - and as we address this pressing issue, it's my priority to give rural

communities a seat at the table. That's why I outlined a set of proposals called the Rural Green Partnership, that would fight climate change and grow the rural economy by investing in renewable energy, expanding conservation programs, rebuilding rural infrastructure and fostering green workforce development programs.

Rural communities face a lot of challenges, but we also have so much potential. We have the hardest workers in the world, the Mississippi River to our West and resources to improve the planet. Our farmers are also among the toughest and most resilient folks I've met - but they deserve strong, steady leadership to navigate these trying times. That's what I intend to give them in Congress.

Cheri Bustos represents Illinois 17th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The District spans 14 counties across Northwest and Central Illinois, including Knox.



Cheri Bustos, Congresswoman, 17th District

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 2019 policy book. Interested in learning more about how our policy system works? It all starts with you! For more info contact the office!

84. GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS

We support:

1. Regulations to protect the public health, safety and welfare, provided:

A. The regulations are based upon scientific data which has been subject to

replication and peer review.

B. The costs as well as the benefits of the regulations have been carefully weighed.

C. The regulations have been subject to independent analysis and public scrutiny.

D. Alternatives to regulation have been considered, especially the provision of marketbased incentives.

E. The regulations respect the practicalities of doing business in the industry being regulated.

2. Cooperating with American Farm Bureau Federation, on the regulatory process to better protect agriculture's interest during rule-making.

3. Requiring the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to collaborate with the U.S. Department of Agriculture

(USDA) in developing regulations impacting agriculture.

4. Member involvement in the regulatory process by responding during comment periods.

5. The review of all state and national regulation to ensure legislative intent is being followed.

6. Legislation to reduce and eliminate duplicative services, programs, and burdensome government regulations.

We oppose establishing law through Executive Orders that circumvent Congress, do not allow for public review and input, exceed constitutional and statutory guidelines, or impose significant economic impact on citizens, businesses, and local or state governments.

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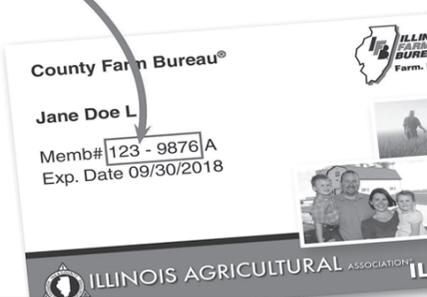
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0415-524HC-16907 7/25/2018

Sharing the Road with Bicycle Riders

Each year countless accidents could be avoided if motorists had a clear understanding that bicyclists share the same rights and responsibilities on Illinois roadways as drivers of other vehicles.

In the state of Illinois, bicyclists are legally entitled to use the road. Bicycles must ride on paved shoulders, where they exist or as far right in the right hand lane as possible when the lane can be safely shared with a car.

Bicycles are allowed to use the full lane under the following conditions:

The bicycle is passing another vehicle moving in the same direction, or is preparing to make a left hand turn.

The condition of the roadway is unsafe. Moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, pedestrians, potholes and debris can all contribute to an unsafe roadway.

The lane is too narrow for the vehicle and bicycle to share the road side by side.

Understanding lane use is only the first step in safely sharing the road with bicycles. Here are some additional tips for motorists to follow when sharing the

roadway:

- Merge with bicycle traffic when preparing for a right hand turn. Avoid turning directly across the path of bicycle traffic.

- Yield to oncoming bicyclists when turning left into an intersection, just as you would for a motorist.

- Do not blast your horn when approaching a bicyclist. Cyclists can typically hear vehicles approaching.

- Look for cyclists when opening your car doors.

- Give cyclists more trailing and passing room in poor weather conditions.

- Pass cyclists by reducing speed and moving into the adjacent or oncoming lane. If there is oncoming traffic, slow down and follow the bicycle until it is safe to pass.

Safely sharing the road merely requires extra care and patience. Take time to protect both yourself and others from vehicle-bike crashes and share the road safely by following these roadway rules.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Knox County Farm Bureau was held on August 15, 2019.

Education & Outreach – Becky King

The next E & O meeting will be held on August 23 at Noon at the Knox Agri Center. The Prep, Freeze, Cook class is scheduled for September 4.

Farm Business – Todd West

The 2018 Plat Book is available and is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members.

2018 Knox County Wall Plat Maps are available for \$50 for members and \$55 for non-members. We have Peoria County Plat Books available in the office for purchase.

Government and Policy – Joe Weibel

Sign up for FB Act text alerts by texting the word FARM to 52886. Representative Lamont Robinson Jr. has chosen Knox County as his adopted county. Members of the KCFB Board of Directors will be meeting him in Chicago on August 26.

Member Relations – Jennifer Beard

The Knox County Farm Bureau made its third quarter goals for the 2019 Quota Program. Fourth quarter ends August 31.

Foundation – Hailey Weyhrich

The KCFB Foundation Golf Scramble was held on July 19th at Oak Run Golf Course. 6 teams participated.

The winning team was Ross Reedy, Pat Hennenfent, David Hennenfent, and John Hennenfent. Blake Hennenfent won Closest to the Pin on Hole 11. Alisha Wignall had the longest drive on Hole 10. Mike Shane had the Longest Putt on Hole 12. The next Foundation Meeting will be August 27. This will also serve as the Annual Meeting of the Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation Board of Directors.

PrimeTimers – Hailey Weyhrich

On July 16, PrimeTimers met for a potluck lunch and heard a presentation from Ken Springer from the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. There was no August PrimeTimers meeting.

Young Farmers – Jeff Grady

The Young Farmers have been awarded \$5,000 for their cover crop introduction program through the Illinois Farm Bureau Nutrient Stewardship Grant. District 7&8 Young Leaders competed at the District Discussion Meet on July 16th at Peoria County Farm Bureau. Jeff Grady won and will represent District 8 at the IAA Annual Meeting in December. No quiz bowl or trivia event took place at the Illinois State Fair on Ag Day for the Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leaders. The Williamsfield Ag Day is September 7th.

KAC – Terry Boydston

The Knox Agri Center Condominium Association Board met on May 28. Nominations will be accepted for the Meritorious Service to Agriculture Award. The next KAC Meeting will be August 27. This will also serve as the Annual Meeting of the Knox Agri Center Condominium Association.

OLD BUSINESS

The COUNTRY Agent Appreciation Contest June 1- August 12 and five agents qualified to golf but only one wanted to golf.

NEW BUSINESS

District 8 meeting is scheduled for September 9 at Oak Run. The 2019 Chamber of Commerce Legislative Luncheon is October 3. No action was taken by the KCFB Board to apply for the Chamber of Commerce Before/After Hours. 33 MM members are needed to make voting quota.



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Board Meeting Attendance			
NAME	June	July	Aug
Beard, Jennifer	P	P	P
Bewley, Beau	P	P	A
Bohnert Yoder, Tara	P	P	A
Boydston, Terry	P	P	A
Cain, Jarid	P	P	P
DeSutter, Drew	P	P	P
Engel, Lori	P	P	P
Erickson, David S	P	A	P
Goedeke, Phil	P	P	A
Grady, Jeff	P	P	P
Hennenfent, Matt	A	P	P
Hulsizer, Matt	P	A	A
King, Becky	P	A	A
Link, Jeff	P	P	A
Link, Nathan	P	P	A
O'Connor, Tom	P	P	A
Stevens, Monica	P	P	P
Strawn, Grant	P	P	P
Swanson, Brett	P	P	A
Weibel, Joe	P	A	P
West, Todd	P	P	P

Hailey's Manager Update

The end of August marks the end of the Illinois Farm Bureau Membership Year. Illinois Farm Bureau pushed very hard for counties to make Voting Quota so that Illinois Farm Bureau could make their +1 Quota with the American Farm Bureau. This would be the first time since 1977 that Illinois Farm Bureau has achieved that and with a lot of hard work, we did it!

I know this is great for our organization as a whole, but this is my chance to thank all of you Knox County Members. By making quota as a county, KCFB gets recognized at the IAA Annual Meeting in December. Making quota is also a requirement for all the awards IAA presents. Locally, making

quota shows how strong our Farm Bureau is in the county. For the past couple of years, Knox County has been able to keep making quota- a testament to your trust in our organization. Knox County Farm Bureau was one of nine counties to make Voting and Total Quota in the state! We could not have done it without all our amazing members!



Illinois Farm Bureau Members Eligible For Discount On New 'Marketing-On-The-Go' Tool

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — To thrive in today's agriculture economy, many Illinois farmers must think about marketing decisions year-round, and often months in advance. A good marketing tool can provide farmers with extra support to make smart and timely decisions.

Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) hopes to help farmer members do just that through a new member discount with GrainCoat®, a farm marketing and inventory tracking tool available via web and iPhone.

"Illinois Farm Bureau knows that good marketing decisions are vital to a farmer's operation," said Melissa Rhode, marketing director, Illinois Farm Bureau. "We're continually looking for ways to add to our robust program of benefits and capitalize on new ways to help farmers in their day-to-day. With the unusually wet year we've had in 2019 and other challenges facing agriculture, we're pleased to offer assistance on a tool that may help them save time and manage their marketing opportunities."

GrainCoat prides itself as a solution to problems experienced by many active

farming members today. The tool can help streamline grain inventory, contracts and delivery schedules, allowing farmers to make decision on-the-go and take advantage of shifts in the marketplace regardless of location. GrainCoat also helps farmers prioritize information needed for various purposes on the farm – from keeping track of contracts at harvest to tax, insurance or banking meetings – helping to relieve stresses experienced throughout the year. Their solution-focused platform was built with the farmer in mind.

Members can take the next step by visiting GrainCoat.com and entering discount code ILFB19 during the registration process to receive \$20 off the one-time fee.

"We know that our farmer members are likely under a lot of stress with ongoing decisions they must make on and off the farm each season," Rhode said. "This membership discount aims to make it a little easier to add another tool to their toolbox."

For additional information, visit the Illinois Farm Bureau website at www.ilfb.org under the 'Member Benefits' section.



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Members, did you know?

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Health on the Farm

By the Knox County Health Department



Prepared, not scared! Be ready for Disasters.

September is National Preparedness Month, the time of year that we talk about the importance of emergency planning. Save now for disaster costs, make a disaster preparedness plan, teach youth to prepare, and get involved in your community's preparedness.

Save now – Prepare financially for a disaster.
Are you financially prepared for an emergency? If not, you are not alone. Planning ahead will help you in case something happens to your home.

The first thing to do when preparing is to check your insurance policies. One inch of water can cost \$25,000 worth of damage, but most homeowner's and renter's insurance doesn't cover flooding. You should also make sure that you are covered by insurance in the case of a tornado, high winds, or earthquakes.

It is also a good idea to set up a savings account that you can set aside a little money for each paycheck.

Be prepared – Make an emergency plan today and practice.

Have a grab bag in the car that has a first aid kit and a road-side repair kit, as well as cash, non-perishable food items and a source of warmth in case you are stranded. Have an emergency kit in the house as well. Include enough food and water for you, your family, and your pets, to last for at least 72 hours. If anyone requires any medications, a good rule of thumb is to put seven days worth in your emergency kits. It is also a good idea to have charging devices that don't need to plug into the wall, as well as items to entertain your children when they are scared or bored.

Test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors once a month, know how your fire extinguisher works, and consider taking a first aid course. You should also know how to turn off the water, electric, and gas in your home. If you rely on electrical medical equipment, contact your water and power companies to see if they have a list of power-dependent customers that you can get on for priority reconnection service. If you have a generator, it needs to stay outside.

Learn about the hazards that are most likely to affect your community and their appropriate responses. Practice your escape plan with your family at least twice a year. Review your plan for an emergency with your children, so they know what to do if they are home alone. If you have pets, include them in your practice so you know how they'll react and they're more familiar with the process if you need to evacuate.

It is a good idea to keep a recent high-resolution photo of your pet on your phone at all times. Microchip your pets if you are worried about them escaping during an emergency, as most pets without a microchip are unlikely to be returned to the owner. Many shelters will be overwhelmed during an emergency, and your pet may not be taken to a no-kill shelter.

Take photos of important documents and items, uploading them to a storage cloud so you can have access to them in case the originals get damaged or for insurance claims. Some examples of what to include are documentation of homeownership or renter's agreement, licenses and certificates, insurance documents, tax documents, child custody letters, medical records and legal identification for all family members in your household. You may also want to include a list of your financial accounts and obligations, so you can keep your finances regular during the aftermath of a disaster.

If you, or someone in your family, have a disability that could impact your ability to evacuate, contact your city or county emergency management office. Many offices keep lists of people that will need assistance during an emergency. Make sure that you wear medical alert tags or bracelets for life-threatening conditions. If you need devices for hearing, mobility, etc., plan how you will evacuate with the devices or replace them if lost. Keep model numbers and information, as well as where you purchased the equipment, and who you purchased them through (Medicare/Medicaid, or private insurance.).

Community preparedness – are you a good neighbor?

Your community needs YOU! Take courses like Stop the Bleed, emergency first aid or CPR that allow you to step in during an emergency. Check-in with neighbors to see if you can help each other before and after a disaster, especially if they are elderly, have trouble getting around or are without transportation.

If you are looking to get involved with community preparedness, Knox County has a chapter of the Medical Reserve Corps. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a national network of volunteers, organized locally to improve the health and safety of their communities. You can participate in the MRC whether you are a medical or public health professional or a community member without a healthcare background. To join, contact Julie Corben at the Knox County Health Department by calling (309) 344-2224.

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MEMBERSHIP RECRUITERS OF THE MONTH



The Knox County Farm Bureau would like to recognize COUNTRY Financial Representatives Mike White and Jason Lumberry as the top membership recruiters in August. Mike signed one new voting member. Jason signed 4 new associate members.

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



Michael J. White

Jason Lumberry

~ 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 by the last Friday of each month to place the ad.

FOR SALE: Nice couch with hideaway \$100, beautiful Starck piano \$500, trombone \$50, sheet music, can send pictures. Call Donna 309.337.3174 9/19

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 2508 N. Gale Ave, Peoria, 2 bedroom ranch, 1414 sq ft, nice backyard w/shad tree, 1 car garage, needs repairs and remodeling. \$39,500. Call Donna 309.337.3174 or Mary 312.608.1180. 9/19

FREE TO GOOD HOME: 1986 John Deere 180 lawn mower. Call 309.221.4602 9/19

FOR SALE: Ready to lay your fresh eggs, Pullets, various breeds, hatched 2.11.19 Call 309.334.3424 8/19

WANTED: Harvest help; modern machinery, prefer combine and/or grain cart experience, daylight hours. Call 309.299.2657 8/19

WANTED: Broken concrete or bricks. Call 309.484.2160 7/19

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

Looking Back



Taken from the September 1949 Bulletin

4-H Show Friday, Saturday Oct. 14-15

The County 4-H Show was postponed due to the polio situation, and is now to be held October 14 and 15. Rules and regulations and other information appearing in the August issue of the bulletin will apply. Any exceptions will be decided upon by the County 4-H Committee, and their decisions will be final.

Taken from the September 1959 Bulletin

New State Law - Movement of Farm Vehicles on State Highways

... The law specifically reads : "When any implement of husbandry or road tractor is operated on a State highway (as defined in the Illinois Highway Code) at a speed less than 20 miles per hour, there shall be displayed at all times during such operation a red flag of at least 15 inches square carried on such vehicle at a height not less than 10 nor more than 12 feet above the ground or at least one flashing red signal lamp mounted as high as practicable, and of sufficient intensity to be visible to the rear for a distance of at least 500 feet in normal sunlight, provided, however, that only the rear vehicle of a combination of such vehicles coupled together need display such a flag or lamp.

This new law is now effective and will be of particular importance to you as corn picking time arrives. For more information concerning this new law, contact your Country Companies' agent.

Taken from the September 1969 Bulletin

Proclaims September as Pork Month

Illinois will observe September as Pork Month to honor the \$524 million Illinois swine industry. While September is the designated month, pork promotion activity actually began at the State Fair with a kick-off pork barbeque on August 9. During September the entire pork industry, from producers to retailers, will conduct events and promotional campaigns for the swine business which provides 22 per cent of the total Illinois agricultural income.

PRIMETIMERS NEWS

The PrimeTimers will meet at the Knox Agri-Center September 17 at 12 PM for a potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Dee Spivey of First Midwest Bank will

provide the program following lunch. In October, the group will travel to Peoria to the Caterpillar Visitor Center. The PrimeTimers invite all members 55+ to attend.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH



Crock Pot Italian Beef Sandwiches

Ingredients

- 3lb chuck roast
- 1 envelope Good Seasons Zesty Italian salad dressing mix
- 8oz pepperoncini pepper slices + splash of juice
- 8pz Giardiniera (Chicago-Style Italian Sandwich Mix,) drained
- 14.5oz can beef broth
- Provolone cheese slices
- Hoagie buns

Instructions

1. Add pork roast to a 4-6 quart slow coPlace chunks of chuck roast in crock pot then sprinkle with salad dressing mix. Add pepperoncini peppers plus a splash of juice, Giardiniera, and beef broth. Cook on low for 9 hours, or until meat shreds easily with a fork. Shred and cook on low for 1 more hour.
- Split buns in half, place shredded meat on bun, then add provolone cheese.

lowagirleats.com adapted recipe from Pioneer Woman

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

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