

Knox County Farm Bureau®

Bulletin

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



VOL. XCVIII

USPS 297-360

January 2021

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, February 13, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. to elect directors and if approved confirm the reports of the officers for the year ending November 30, 2020; and for the transactions of such business as may properly come before the meeting.
Dated at Galesburg, Illinois on January 1, 2021.

Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION NOW LIVE! DUE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2021

WWW.KNOXCFB.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS



Carroll Nominated to IFB Board

Richard Carroll of Brimfield in Peoria County was nominated to serve District 8 on the Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) Board of Directors at the organization's 2020 virtual business meeting on Saturday, Dec. 5.

Carroll was nominated to a two-year term to represent IFB members in Fulton, Knox, Peoria and Warren-Henderson counties. He raises corn and soybeans with his brother and two of his sons.

Carroll served as president of the Peoria County Farm Bureau from 2012 to 2020. Prior to this role, he served as vice president from

2004 to 2012. Additionally, he has served concurrently on the ACTIVATOR Executive Committee and the AIAA Management Committee. He served as chairman of the PR Committee from 2004 to 2012.

In 2018, Carroll received the Peoria County Farm Bureau Ag Service Award. Carroll is a current member of the Illinois Corn Growers Association and Illinois Soybean Association. He was director of Farm Credit Services of West Central Illinois PCA for ten years and vice president of the Brimfield School Board for 12 years.

Carroll is a longstanding member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and Brimfield American Legion, and a Brimfield Township trustee. He and his wife, Carroll, have three adult children.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

Delbert Curtis
Ryan Hennenfent
Gulian Nunn
Hannah Weedman
Hope Fontenoy
Mark & Natasha Lee
Timothy Nichols
Toby Trout
Patricia England
Ray Musselman

Welcome Kim Johnson

The Knox County Farm Bureau would like to welcome Kimberly Johnson as our new Administrative Assistant.

Kim resides in Galva, IL where she lives with boyfriend Mitchell and their two Australian Shepherds, Zook and Zola. She is the daughter of Christine and Mark Johnson. Kim grew up showing cattle in Knox and surrounding counties and was involved in 4-H, Federation, and FFA.

She graduated from ROWVA in 2003 and attended Carl Sandburg College, receiving a certificate in Cosmetology. Over the past several years, Kim has worked for her family farm as the secretary and at the Last Resort Salon and Day Spa. We are excited to add Kim to our Farm Bureau family.



DeSutter retires from the IAA Board; Joins AFBF Young Farmers and Ranchers

Drew DeSutter has finished his term as the Illinois Farm Bureau State Young Leader Chairman where he served on the IAA Board of Directors and has been involved since 2009.



Drew DeSutter

Drew is not done with his Farm Bureau career however as he was appointed by American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall to serve on the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee. Drew will join 15 other young farmers representing all

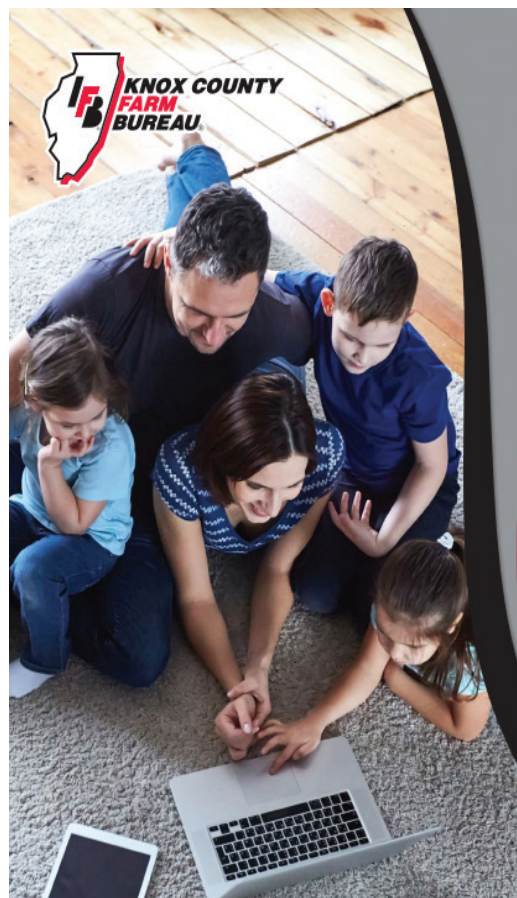
regions of the United States.

Gayle Baker from Warren-Henderson County Farm Bureau was elected at the 2020 IAA Annual Meeting to be the new District 8 Young Leader Representative. Gayle resides outside Berwick and works as an agricultural engineer for Maurer-Stutz Inc. in Peoria, IL. Gayle will serve in this position for two years.

Congratulations to Drew and Gayle on your new positions!



Gayle Baker



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

LET US KNOW ABOUT
YOUR BROADBAND
NEEDS.

The Knox County Farm Bureau is conducting a survey to determine areas of our county that do not have sufficient or affordable broadband service.

To complete the survey, please visit
surveymonkey.com/r/KnoxBroadband
or use this QR code.

If you are unable to access the
website, you may also call
309-342-2036 to complete
the survey via phone.



You do not need to be a member of Knox
County Farm Bureau to fill out a survey.

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.



January 2021
No. 1
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Thank You
KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU



Innovation grows on the farm

As infatuated as I am with old barns and windmills, I'm equally captivated by rows of young corn plants that don't overlap at the end rows, a pleasing visual credited to satellite technology and automatic planter row shutoffs. Photographs of our farm's old barns decorate walls of the farm office, where the top of a weathered windmill also backdrops my desk. The newest canvas print on the wall shows modern machines harvesting biotech crops near the solar panels that help power our grain drying and storage.

We fondly respect the farm's nostalgic qualities as well as the generations of innovation that have improved the farm and likewise the world. "Innovation grows here"

and represents the topic of a new docuseries at the Illinois Farm Families web site WatchUsGrow.org. As a kid, my grandpa remembers farming with horses to grow feed for his own livestock. He retired with hands-free, satellite-guided steering in a high-horsepower tractor to grow grain and oilseed for a global market.

Innovation on the farm leaps significantly one generation to the next, just as smartphones, online shopping, and Zoom have changed modern life. Satellite-guided machinery drives with greater accuracy than car navigation systems to precisely place seed and nutrients. Seed biotechnology produces more crops with fewer inputs and less environmental impact. Farmers grow cleaner-burning fuel from corn and soybeans, a local-grown, renewable resource producing more than 1.7 billion gallons of renewable biofuels in Illinois alone.

Modern livestock farmers tell me about smarter barns that automatically control air quality or customize feed rations based on scans of an animal's identification tag.

At our grain storage facility, my brother controls grain drying and monitors grain temperature from his tablet. We can observe solar energy production from an app, watch market prices on the go, and receive alerts when hail potentially damages crops in a field miles away from the home farm.

Evolving farm practices that improve the bottom line often benefit the environment, a reason innovation will continue. Our farm planted more cover crops than ever in fall 2020. Ground cover of cereal rye, balansa clover and radish (the type to reduce soil compaction, not eat) grow in fields to control erosion and hold nutrients in place until we plant the next crop.

When our kids schooled remotely during harvest, we had plenty of cab time to talk technology and how their great-grandparents farmed. The older ones learned to drive a tractor with a modern-day transmission, too. The experiences strengthen their respect for the farm, its history, and the innovation that helps fulfill our duty to leave the land better than we found it.

Getting To Know Your Farm Bureau Policy

108. LAW AND ORDER
We support:

- Vigorous enforcement of the current driving under the influence laws and legislative efforts to improve those laws.
- Firm, fair, and prompt enforcement of existing laws.
- Increased enforcement of existing littering laws. Providing aid to victims of crime.
- Greater member involvement in recruiting and electing qualified local law enforcement professionals.
- Requiring that the County Sheriff and State's Attorney be notified when an inmate from their county is released from a correctional institution.
- Reducing the fiscal impact imposed on local governments by giving them flexibility to meet minimum federal jail standards.

- Law enforcement officials seizing vehicles used in the commission of a theft involving agricultural commodities, supplies or equipment.
- Legislation where needed to prevent the illegal production, importation, manufacture, or distribution of drugs and related drug paraphernalia.
- Making the Illinois medical cannabis pilot program permanent and expanding the conditions allowed to be treated with medical cannabis to those proven by medical research to benefit from medical cannabis treatment.
- Work programs for prisoners.
- The establishment of Juvenile Justice Councils.
- Seeking legislation to provide for severe and mandatory sentences for crimes committed with weapons.
- Clearly defining the legal definition

- of the defense of one's property.
- Developing coalitions to address the problems with and education about methamphetamine production and use.
- The development of an economical additive for anhydrous ammonia to prevent its use for the production of methamphetamine or other illegal purposes.
- Seeking legislation imposing stiffer penalties for theft of anhydrous ammonia for methamphetamine production.
- The regulation and taxation of recreational marijuana.

- We oppose:**
- The "early release program" as a solution to prison overcrowding.
 - The use, production and distribution of illegal substances

Knox County Pork Producers Caring for our Communities

Though you did not see the Knox County Pork Producers Association (KCPPA) at our normal cooking events this past year, we are very fortunate to still be able to help feed our communities by supporting various local groups such as the Galesburg Rescue Mission by donating 79 hams for their Christmas Baskets. Pork Loin was the main dish during October Pork Month at the Knox Prairie Community Kitchen which serves a free meal on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

Our local pig farmers donated, through the Pork Power initiative, over 6,400 servings of ground pork to Riverbend Food Bank which supplies our local foodbanks like FISH, Knoxville, Abingdon and Galesburg Rescue Mission to name a few. Thanks to Thrushwood Farms and UW Provision for their help in arranging the packaging and delivery of the ground pork.

We also sponsored the Knox County 4-H Lard Pie Crust award and two plaques for the 4-H Swine Show, the Abingdon Livestock Show, Farm Bureau Livestock Show and The Throwdown.

As with many other events we have cancelled the in person KCPPA 64th Annual Meeting that would have been held this month. Members will receive the Secretary's, Treasurer's and Activities Reports by email or in the mail. If you haven't already sent us your email address, please send it to knox-countypork@gmail.com so we can save on

time and postage cost.
We invite you to visit or revisit our "Knox County Pork Producers Association" facebook page. We plan to rejuvenate our page and share more pictures from our Knox County's pig farms showing daily life on the farm, answer farm related questions, dispel myths and share recipes and a joke or two.
We will look forward to getting back to

grilling some delicious pork chops and pork burgers again for all of you to enjoy in 2021!
Knox County Pork Producers will continue their dedication to our communities while raising healthy, quality pork for everyone to enjoy. So get to grilling those chops, find a new pork recipe for that instant pot meal, or make the most of your dollars by picking up a whole pork loin where you'll have several delicious meal options for your family.

We will not be meeting in person for our 64th Annual Meeting, but will be sending reports to our members by email or mail.

If you haven't shared your email with us yet, please send it to: knoxcountypork@gmail.com

It will save us time and cost of postage. Thank you!



Knox County Pork Producers Association

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Top 5 (financial) New Year's resolutions

It's a new year, a time to start fresh and dream big. When it comes to setting goals for the coming months, saving money is always a popular one. We want to help you not only save money but protect the things that are important to you as well. So, we've laid out our top 5 [fi-

nancial] New Year's resolutions to help you feel more secure.

1. Set your financial goals for the year.

Do you want to pay off debt, set up an emergency fund or college savings plan for your kids? Maybe you want to put more away for re-

tirement. Whatever your dream is, talk with your financial rep about how you can take the first step to achieve your goals.

2. Create a budget that supports your goals.

Getting an overall view of your income and expenses will help you plan a strategy for achieving your goals. Try creating a simple spreadsheet or using an online budgeting tool to get started. Check your budget often to be sure you're staying on track.

3. Look for ways to save money on insurance.

Your rep can look to see what discounts you may be eligible for (did you purchase a home security system or put on a new roof recently? Talk to your rep to see if you qualify for a discount). Your rep can also talk with you about other money-saving strategies such as bundling or changing

your deductible.

4. Talk to your insurance representative about coverage for your new expensive items.

Did you receive a new smartphone, expensive jewelry or other high-cost items for Christmas? Talk with your insurance rep about insurance protection for them.

5. Prepare for the unexpected.

Use your smartphone to take a video record of all your belongings in case you ever experience a fire, tornado, or other disaster situation. It only takes a few minutes and it's much easier than trying to remember each item in every room, drawer, closet, etc., after a loss.

Taking simple steps to protect your property and set goals can get you on the right foot in the new year.

December Board Highlights

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Knox County Farm Bureau was held virtually on December 17, 2020.

Education & Outreach – Tara Bohnert Yoder

The annual cheese order was completed.
Farm Business – Todd West
A new plat book will be created for 2022. Available in December.

Government and Policy – Jeff Link
A survey will be conducted by KCFB on members and county residents on their access to broadband.

Member Relations – Matt Hulsizer
Nothing to report at this time.

Foundation – Hailey Weyhrich
The Foundation Scholarship Application is available on the website and due February 15, 2021.

PrimeTimers – Hailey Weyhrich
Nothing to report currently.

Young Farmers – Jeff Grady
The Cover Crop Project has been awarded another \$10,000 for 2021.

KAC – Hailey Weyhrich
Outdoor lightning fixes have taken place.
OLD BUSINESS
The IAA Annual Meeting was discussed.

All delegates joined virtually and voted on resolutions virtually.

The KCFB Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 13. Quorum is 50 voting members.

NEW BUSINESS
County goals were discussed.
Farmland assessment issues were discussed, and information will be gathered to help members.

KCFB Board Attendance 2019-2020

	December	
Beard, Jennifer	P	(P) Present
Bewley, Beau	P	
Bohnert Yoder, Tara	P	(A) Absent
Boydston, Terry	P	
Cain, Jarid	P	
DeSutter, Drew	P	
Emken, Kurt	P	
Engel, Lori	P	
Goedeke, Phil	A	
Grady, Jeff	P	
Hennenfent, Matt	P	
Hulsizer, Matt	A	
King, Becky	A	
Link, Jeff	P	
Link, Nathan	P	
Nelson, Brian	P	
O'Connor, Tom	P	
Stevens, Monica	P	
Strom, Grant	P	
Swanson, Brett	P	
West, Todd	P	

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For more information contact:
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AGENT SPOTLIGHT

Name: Patrick G. Young, CFP, CLU, ChFC
Years with COUNTRY: 20 years
Office Address: 635 N. Seminary St., Galesburg, IL 61401
Phone: 309-342-5316
eMail Address: patrick.young@countryfinancial.com
Spouse: Kimberly
Education: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Designations: CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER, Chartered Life Underwriter, Chartered Financial Consultant, Investment Solutions Representative
Mission Statement: Provide financial security to help clients reach their goals.



What's your new year's resolution?

With the new year upon us, what resolutions do you have for taking care of your family? Whether it is better insurance coverage or help with your financial future, we can help show you the solutions we offer to help with your resolutions.

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Making Your Goal a New Year's Reality

By: Adrienne DeSutter

A new year is upon us, bringing new experiences, new ambitions, and new challenges.

For many, 2020 left us filled with disappointment, much like a recent conversation I had with my husband:

“Welcome home, hubs. You’re not going to be happy about this, but...”

“They’re out, again?”

Since moving some of the cattle to our house, the rascals had gotten out at least once a week for over a month. My farmer felt so defeated. He had put in extra hours that day, up early to get equipment working and getting loads hauled in before the weekend. He thought he had really set them up for success by giving them plenty of land to roam, building a decent fence, and getting plenty of corn ready.

But despite his best efforts, his plan continued to fail.

Around this time each year, my new year’s resolution is met with the same failure:

The resolution: we make “a firm decision to do or not do something” (according to Oxford English Dictionary), and we’re convinced we can make it an entire year without breaking that resolution, often to be sorely disappointed after our first big setback.

The reality: resolutions are all about making changes, and change is hard! Sometimes, it’s REALLY hard. If it wasn’t, you wouldn’t need to choose a resolution because you’d already have everything accomplished! When we assume our resolutions will come without setbacks, we’re expecting perfection, and setting ourselves up for failure.

So how can we stay hopeful and productive when facing setbacks? Here’s a few things to consider:

A setback doesn’t mean you’ve lost. Just because you mess up doesn’t mean you throw your goals out the window. Every single second of your day is an opportunity to restart and try again. Did you vow not to eat chocolate, and found yourself stuff-

ing your face with Christmas candy today? Don’t give yourself a pass; try again, right now! Throw the half-eaten candy in the trash. Or finish it, but then have a family member hide the rest. When we accept that mistakes will be made on the journey to our end goal, we don’t have to waste time beating ourselves up or giving in at every setback. We grant ourselves some grace, and then try again.

Change your strategy. Ultimately, setbacks are a sign that your plan might need adjusted. What can you change that will make it easier to reach your goal? First, my husband tried adding another line to our fence, which was helpful...until #43 decided it wasn’t, and crawled right under. After some frustration, we tried again. Turns out barbed wire was a better plan! It doesn’t matter how many times you make changes, as long as you’re creating a better plan that will lead you to your goal.

Think about what’s going right instead of focusing on what’s going wrong. Instead of getting a disappointing phone call every

time the cows were out, I started sending my farmer messages on days the cows didn’t get out. This gave him a sense of relief (and gave us both a daily chuckle). Even if we had one not-so-great day a week with the cattle, we had six other days that week to celebrate that things worked out.

Whether it’s a new year’s resolution, a new endeavor on the farm, or just a new personal goal, remember that the journey won’t be perfect. It’s ok if you make a few mistakes. It’s ok if there are setbacks...expect them. As long as you’re making progress and becoming better, you’re headed in the right direction.

And remember, progress is worth celebrating, maybe even more than reaching your goal.

- Tips for Making New Year’s Resolutions:**
1. Set a realistic goal with a purpose
 2. Develop a game plan
 3. Don’t let a setback ruin your plan
 4. It’s ok to make changes
 5. Remember that progress is key

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Herbaceous invasive plants can be mechanically removed and treated any time of the year. Follow-up chemical maintenance is required to bring your land back to its original state.

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Health on the Farm

By the Knox County Health Department



Heating Energy Program Still Taking Appointments

Knox County - With winter in full swing, some Knox County residents may be noticing that monthly increase in their heating bills. Fortunately, the Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) may be able to help. We can help qualifying Knox County residents receive a one-time benefit towards power, oil, and propane bills. The Knox County Health Department works in conjunction with the following companies:

- Ag View FS
- Amerigas Propane
- B & B Propane
- Blick & Blick Oil, Inc.
- Central Butane Gas Company
- Ferrellgas
- Gold Star FS, Inc.
- HickGas
- Herr Petroleum Corp
- McDonough Power Cooperative
- Michlig Energy, LTD (Cambridge and Manlius)
- Riden Farm Supply
- River Valley Cooperative
- Spoon River Electric Cooperative
- West Central FS, Inc.

LIHEAP is a state and federally funded energy assistance program that provides one-time benefits to income eligible households to help with winter energy bills and for reconnection of energy service. LI-

HEAP applications are processed through a network of local administering agencies around the state. The program is administered by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO),

Office of Community Assistance.

Applicants must bring the following documentation when applying for assistance:

Proof of Social Security numbers for ALL household members

Proof of gross income from ALL household members for the previous 30-day income period, including the day of application

A copy of current heat and electric bills issued within the last 30 days (if they pay for energy directly)

If applicant has received assistance from the Illinois Department of Human Services, proof of TANF or other benefits, such as Medical Eligibility or SNAP is required

A single-person household can qualify

with a gross (before taxes) monthly income of up to \$2,127; a two-person household up to \$2,873; a family of three can earn up to \$3,620; and a family of four can earn up to \$4,367. Benefits are paid directly to energy vendors on behalf of eligible households. The exception is households whose heating costs are included in their rent.

For additional information about the program, or to schedule a phone appointment please call the Health Department between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday at 309-344-2224, or go to www.liheapil-linois.com, or call the LIHEAP Hotline at 1-877-411-9276.



LIHEAP

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Knox County Health Department
Taking Appointments
Call 309-344-2224



Documents needed to apply:

- Proof of 30-day gross income for all household members
- Copy of most recent health and electric bills
- Social Security cards for all household members
- Proof of SNAP/TANF



Public Health
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Knox County Health Department

Illinois Farm Bureau Members Meet Virtually to Set Policy

Illinois Farm Bureau successfully held its 106th Business Meeting in an entirely virtual format to conduct its annual business session and set policy for the upcoming year.

Traditionally, the IFB Annual Meeting is held at the historic Palmer House hotel in Chicago over a four-day period. Thousands of members, farmer delegates, staff members and spouses travel upstate for an extended weekend of policy debate, networking and celebration of the year's successes.

The event was taken entirely virtual – a first for the organization – in 2020.

“Pandemic mitigation measures made it clear early on that we would not be able to hold our annual meeting in the same capacity that our members look forward to,” said IFB President Richard Guebert Jr. “While a live virtual event is not ideal for our business session, this is our best solution during circumstances that limit face-to-face gatherings, which we know our members prefer.”

The meeting kicked off with the President's Address, in which President Guebert acknowledged the accomplishments of the organization during the trying times of the pandemic.

“I'm proud of how Farm Bureau shifted and adjusted to continue serving our members,” Guebert said.

Delegates voted on policy submittals virtually this year using an electronic balloting process. This action concluded prior to the start of the Saturday business meeting.

Due to the bulk of policy discussion taking place ahead of time, delegates were able to approve policy resolutions during the live business session and present the finalized 2021 policy book.

Voting delegates for the meeting, totaling 336, decided on policy surrounding

small business liability, crop protection, requiring notifications from highway authority, and dairy policy. The language of these approved policies will be forwarded to American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration during their upcoming annual meeting.

A recommendation for the creation of a Livestock Working Group was also submitted to the IFB board of directors for consideration. This group would focus on recent pricing issues and price disparity seen within the livestock industry this year.

“Each year our policy book receives a full review by our delegates, a process that starts months before the annual meeting,” said Executive Director of Governmental Affairs and Commodities Mark Gebhards. “While we were not able to gather in person this year to debate policy changes in person, we have adapted to make sure our members' voices are still heard.”

Approximately 880 IFB members and staff attended the meeting virtually. County awards and several annual awards were suspended this year.


“While I was disappointed we could not meet in person, I'm impressed with how our county Farm Bureaus, delegates, directors and staff responded to make the virtual business session a success,” Guebert said.

To finish up the day, delegates confirmed four new members to the IFB board of directors and five incumbent directors.

Don Meyer of Amboy in Lee County will represent District 4, which includes LaSalle, Lee and Bureau counties. Keith Mussman of St. Anne in Kankakee County will represent District 6, which includes Ford-Iroquois, Kankakee and Livingston counties. Richard Carroll of Brimfield in Peoria County will represent District 8, which includes Fulton, Knox, Peoria and Warren-Henderson coun-

ties. Larry Dallas of Tuscola in Douglas County will represent District 12, which

includes Champaign, Douglas, Edgar and Vermilion counties.



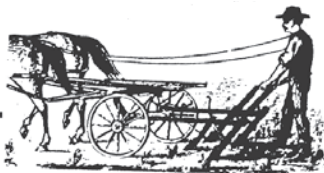
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Looking Back



Looking Back- January 1956

Country Couples

A group of young, married people of the county organized their March the 26th with 15 couples. They call this group “Country Couples” and have organized for the purpose of education and recreation. Young married couples who are interested in this type of program are invited to attend their regular meetings which are held each month.

Country Couples to Meet January 28

The January meeting of Country Couples is planned for January 28 at 8PM in the Farm Bureau Auditorium. The educational feature will consist of the Country Couples picnic held this past summer at the Russell Korth Farm. The group will be taken on a slideshow picture trip to the South by the Courtright’s. Those planning to attend have been asked to bring a potluck dessert; the coffee will be furnished.

PrimeTimers News

The committee did not meet in December and will not meet in January.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITER OF THE MONTH

The Knox County Farm Bureau would like to recognize COUNTRY Financial Representative Jeremy Kleine as the top membership recruiter in December. Jeremy signed 1 voting member and 2 new associate members. Call your COUNTRY Representative for all your insurance and financial needs.



~ 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 email us at assistant@knoxcfb.org by the second to last Friday of each month to place your ad.

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

SAVE the DATE!

Virtual RULES FOR THE ROAD

MARCH 2 AT 9:30 AM
MARCH 4 AT 6:30 PM

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