

Bulletin

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

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Teacher Workshops Hosted by KCFB

On June 9 and 10, the Knox County Farm Bureau, along with the Henry, Mercer, Stark and Warren-Henderson Farm Bureaus, hosted workshops for area teachers. These workshops aimed to showcase agriculture, it's influence on students' lives and how it can be integrated into school curriculum. The theme for the 2015 summer agriculture institute was "Agriculture Discovery: Farm to Table." Food and fiber production was shown from origination to final product throughout the two day institute.

On June 9, the teachers gathered in Galesburg at the Knox Agri-Center. Over 25 teachers gathered to hear about Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom, their programs and resources

available for classroom use. Later in the day, the group toured the Animal Disease Lab at Carl Sandburg College. While there, they learned about the processes and tests used to identify diseases once animals are brought to the lab. They also learned about the careers available and educational backgrounds needed to work in the science and agriculture industries. To end the day, the group visited Stevens Shorthorns, a beef cow farm near Altona. Stevens raises Shorthorn cattle and shared her career opportunities and obligations with the group.

On June 10, the group began their day with a tour of HyVee in Silvis. The grocery store tour showcased how HyVee selects their products, everything from

produce to seafood. From there, the group ventured to Bohnert's, a dairy farm located in East Moline, where the life of a dairy cow was followed from birth to mature milking cow. Lunch was served at TPC Deere Run, where Todd VerHeecke conversed with the group about the implement industry and the technological advances being made in agriculture. While there, the local Ag in the Classroom Coordinators also shared some of their favorite lesson plans. To finish up the workshop, a tour of Whitey's was given and samples were enjoyed. Some of the group even enjoyed treats from the ice cream shop!

With over 40 teachers in attendance, the workshops were greatly appreciated by all!

Nutrient Loss Meeting Draws Over 100 in Attendance

On June 8, the Knox County Farm Bureau hosted the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy Meeting. Lauren Lurkins, IFB Director of Natural and Environmental Resources, presented information and details about the strategy and the effects it will have on agriculture and farming. Over 100 farmers and business professionals were in attendance to hear about the nutrient loss strategy. Jennifer Tirey, Illinois Council on Best Management Practices, also presented information involving the strategy.

The Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy focuses on BMPs, or Best Management Practices, and how to build on current successes. Scheduled for release in July, the strategy pro-

vides a framework for reducing nutrient losses, improving local water quality and improving the quality of water leaving the state and entering the Gulf of Mexico. Faced with raising more food while protecting natural resources, the Illinois agricultural community is taking on that challenge. Illinois farmers have the support of CBMP and of other organizations as they adopt voluntary enhanced nutrient stewardship and conservation practices.

The meeting focused on those living and farming within the Spoon River Watershed. While at the meeting, attendees were invited to bring water samples from their farms to be tested on-site during the meeting.

Women's Marketing Seminar held on June 16

The Knox County Farm Bureau along with several other area county Farm Bureaus sponsored a Women's Marketing Seminar with Stewart-Peterson's Naomi Blohm. The event was held on June 16 at Alpha FS Distribution Center located at 1695 US 150 in Alpha. The program will run from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Topics Naomi covered include:

- Overview of current market fundamentals,
- Review of Futures and Options (with today's market for use in examples)
- Then, introduced advanced option strategies to take home and use for today's market, (to cover unpriced bushels, OR for re-ownership of grain sold

for cash in case of summer drought).

Naomi Blohm is an expert at advising farmers how to manage their cash marketing needs and properly use futures and options. Blohm is a Market Advisor at Stewart-Peterson. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Agriculture Business at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. She also has a Master of Science in Adult Education with an emphasis in Ag Economics, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, and a Master Certificate in Global Education, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh. Blohm has been featured on Market to Market and is a contributing author to the Top Farmer Intelligence Report.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

- 1 Marketing Club, 12:30 PM, E. Main St. Pizza Hut
- 3 KCFB Office Closed
- 9 Young Farmers Meeting, 7 PM, KAC
- 10 Knox Ag Roundtable, 12PM, KAC
- 11 Ice Cream Social, Knox County Fairgrounds
- 13 Tractor & Lawnmower Driving Contest 6PM, Knox County Fairgrounds
- 14 Ag Olympics, Knox County Fairgrounds after the Swine Show
- 15 Marketing Club, 12:30 PM, E. Main St. Pizza Hut
- 15-18 Knox County Fair
- 21 PrimeTimers Meeting, 12 PM, KAC
- 23 * KCFB Board Meeting, 8 PM, KAC
- 29 Marketing Club, 12:30 PM, E. Main St. Pizza Hut
*moved to avoid County Fair conflicts

AUGUST

- 7 Knox Ag Roundtable, 12PM, KAC
- 12 Marketing Club, 12:30 PM, E. Main St. Pizza Hut
- 13 Young Farmers Meeting, 7 PM, KAC
- 20 KCFB Board Meeting, 8 PM, KAC
- 26 Marketing Club, 12:30 PM, E. Main St. Pizza Hut

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

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| Jan Carpenter, Galesburg | David Roberts, Prairie City |
| Jeanine L. Corbin, Galesburg | Joshua Smith, Galesburg |
| Michael Davison, Dahinda | Chad S. Springer, Galesburg |
| Kristin Fuller, Williamsfield | Adam C. Stevenson, Galesburg |
| Seth M. Hendricks, Victoria | Beverly Stoerzbach, Galesburg |
| Marnie L. Herring, Galesburg | Matthew Thompson, Kirkwood |
| Aaron Reese, Galesburg | George M. Wagner, Dahinda |

MANUFACTURER DISPLAYS:

Case IH - Tractors, Combines, Tillage, Sprayers

Brandt - Augers

Geringhoff - Corn Heads

Unverferth - Grain Carts

Thundercreek - Fuel Trailers

MacDon - Drapers

Bush Hog - Rotary Cutters

COMBINE PRODUCTIVITY CLINICS

HERITAGE | FLAGSHIP

SERIES

SERIES

10:30AM / 12:00PM

1:00PM / 2:30PM



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