VOL. CIII **USPS 297-360 MARCH 2025 NUMBER 3** 





## KCFB Annual Meeting Speaker

The keynote speaker for the 107th Annual Meeting was Andrew Pritchard, Sr. Atmospheric Scientist for Nutrien. Andrew provided an interesting presentation on weather in the Midwest. A special thanks to Matt Goedeke and Nutrien for sponsoring our keynote speaker!

## **Retiring Directors**

At the 2025 KCFB Annual Meeting, Tom O'Connor and Monica Stevens were recognized for their years of service to the Knox County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

## Brewery Using Corn From Knox County

than 4,200 uses for the 2 billion-plus DESTIHL bushels of corn Illinois farmers produce create Roots Lager. every year. Also on that list of uses? Beer.

To celebrate the diversity of Illinois a Munich Hellesagriculture and to raise awareness around style lager brewed the advantage Illinois Farm Bureau with corn grown

From livestock feed and ethanol to provides to its members, IFB partnered latex paint and diapers, there are more with the Normal-based craft brewery

> Roots Lager, on the farm of a Knox County Bureau Farm member,



toast to the Illinois family farmers who feed our communities and protect our floral aroma and a smooth, crisp finish.

This year-round release beer is available for purchase in Illinois. For more information visit destihl.com/findour-beers.

This article originally appeared in Illinois Farm Bureau Partners.

### **WELCOME NEW** MEMBERS

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

Lindsey & Eric Rogers Steve Watts



## Young Farmers Host FFA Acquaintance Night

On January 13th, over 50 FFA students joined the KCFB Young Farmers for the FFA Acquaintance Night at Skate Palace in Galesburg for roller skating. All FFA Chapters in Knox County attended; Abingdon-Avon, Galesburg, Knoxville, ROWVA, and environment. Every pour boasts a radiant Williamsfield. FFA members learned more about Farm Bureau and how to get involved golden hue, delicate malt sweetness and and met Young Farmer members. Attending this event allows chapters to become subtle hop presence, delivering a gentle eligible for sponsorships to the FFA BUILD Conference from Illinois Farm Bureau. This night would not have been possible without the generous sponsorship from West Central FS!



Knox County Farm Bureau Page 2 MARCH 2025

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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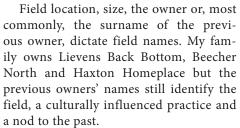
DISTRICT IV
Phil Goedeke
Jennifer Beard
Jeff Grady
Michelle Erickson

DISTRICT V Joel McCormick Rob Emmons Kurt Emken Dustin Courson

Young Farmers Representative Brandon Hall Farm Bureau Staff Executive Director - Hailey Hennenfent Administrative Assistant - Kimberly Smith AITC Coordinators - Merris Hennenfent, Roxanne Green Manager, Affiliated Organizations: Hailey Hennenfent - Mgr. Knox Agri Center; Hailey Hennentent - Reg. Agent, Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation Joe Youngman - Agency Mgr. Country Financial
Jim McNelly - West Central FS Télephone: 309-342-2036 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 names that local farmers shared with me.



The Big and Little Bottoms have everything to do with rivers and nothing with glutes. Doug's Southeast, Pat's North and Ostrom South of Lane indicate directions from that landowner's homestead. Sometimes, round numbers like 40 or 80 in the name represent the acreage but we do have anomalies like Donna 73. The add-ons of Cemetery and Railroad in the name reference local landmarks except for Sunoco, which alludes to the gas station that once

The labels carryover into vehicles, equipment and structures with most names preceded by "the," such as The Kodiak, The One Ton, Truck Six, The Lower Shed or The New

Bin that turns 30 years old this year. We will forever remember Jaws, the 1974 steel-bodied, white and rusty farm car for which the Secretary of State generated a random license plate with "JAW" plus some numbers. Dad put a hitch on that Chevelle, and Mom used it like a truck.

From a record-keeping standpoint, field names are associated with large amounts of data, such as acreage totals, government numbers, insurance identification, satellite images, guidance lines, crop nutrient information and production histories. The names also preserve stories. In the Big Bottom, my family learned of 9/11. At the Wataga Farm my husband asked permission for my hand, and during our farm's harvest at the State Ground, our daughter was born. Within those field boundaries, we live life and make a living.

About the author: Joanie Stiers farms with her family in West Central Illinois, where they raise corn, soybeans, hay, beef cattle, backyard chickens and farmkids.

# Getting To Know Your Farm Bureau Policy

### 39. FARMLAND OWNERSHIP

Farmers Name their Fields

We paused harvest to host our daughter's

sixth birthday party at Norman North, a

field along a winding gravel road. The dusty

path contains just two houses and a hill you

wouldn't want to attempt in slick condi-

we drive past on interstates, highways or ru-

ral routes have names. Farmers identify some

by numbers, but most have names known

only to their keepers. Thank goodness for

Google pins that I can text to navigate new

employees to Dump Road, Big Top or Myr-

tice 33 that adjoins with Don 40 (and which

side is which). Likewise, I would need direc-

tions to find The Y or Seldom Seen - field

Whether remote or often seen, the fields

The type of domestic ownership of farmland, farm facilities, or farm commodities should not infringe on the economic opportunities of the individual farmer.

We support:

- 1. Insisting that all foreign investors be required to conform to all local, state, and federal tax laws.
- 2. Continuing to monitor the effect of foreign investment in agriculture, food distribution, banking, insurance and other businesses in the United States.
- 3. The continuation of programs to require the reporting of foreign ownership of farmland in the United States.
- 4. State and national programs and policies which encourage and facilitate the ownership of farmland by farmers and those directly involved with the practice of farming.
- 5. Continuing to monitor the effects of the entry of non-agricultural entities into farming or farm ownership.
- 6. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Government Accountability Office analyzing and report-

ing on foreign influence in the U.S. agricultural industry.

7. Allowing the leasing and renting rather than purchase of U.S. farm ground to foreign agriculture companies for purposes of research.

We oppose:

- 1. The preferential tax treatment of foreign investments in agricultural land under federal tax law or treaty provisions.
- 2. The purchase of American farmland by all foreign entities.



## These area businesses are proud to be a part of our 2025 Discount **Program for members of the Knox County Farm Bureau**

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2022 Wall Maps

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### **HOW TO:**

First time users: Click Register button Membership Number, do not include any letters



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## February KCFB Board Highlights

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Knox County Farm Bureau was held on February 20.

**Education & Outreach - Lori Engel** March Adult AITC announced soon. Farm Business - Brian Nelson

2022 Plat Books are \$30 for members and \$50 for wall maps for members. A 2026 Plat Book will be completed in 2025 and be for sale on December 1, 2025. Marketing Club continues to meet at the Agri Center at 12:30 every other Wednesday.

### Government and Policy - Kyle Underwood

Knox County Commodity Group Trip is in the works. Legislative Luncheon will be scheduled in March.

### Member Relations - Joel McCormick

The 2025 Quota Program is threefold: Engagement- submit programs in all 8 CAE Categories; Retention- attain a certain percentage of membership quota - Knox County needs 771 members by July 31, 2025; Growth- Achieve a 3+ gain of MM/PM Members - Knox County needs 842 mem-

### Young Farmers - Brandon Hall

FFA Acquaintance Night was January 13 at Skate Palace. All 5 Knox County FFA Chapters were present with almost 50 students in attendance. West Central FS sponsored the night. Hunger Wars between Young Farmers and Board of Directors collected 190 canned goods and \$716. Sparta Township won the annual Township Fundraiser at the KCFB Annual Meeting raising \$85 for a total of \$505. Young Farmers Trivia Night will be February 28 at 6PM at Big Catz.

### **PrimeTimers – Hailey Hennenfent**

The next PrimeTimers meeting will

be February 18 at Noon at the KAC for the Program of Work planning meeting. PrimeTimers is always looking for new members, 55+.

### Foundation - Hailey Hennenfent

The 2025 Scholarship and Internship Applications are now available on the website and due on February 21 at 4:30PM. The Agriculture in the Community Grant will be available again in 2025 with applications open quarterly. The first deadline will be February 1. The next quarter applications are due May 1. The February Meeting of the KCFB Foundation is February 25.

### KAC - Hailey Hennenfent

The new plaque for the Meritorious Service to Ag Award is in and will be hung soon. The February Meeting of the Knox Agri Center is February 25.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The 108th KCFB Annual Meeting details were discussed. It will once again be held at Knox 150 Events on January 24, 2026.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Officer Elections were held by West Central FS General Manager Jim McNelly. Drew DeSutter was elected President, Phil Goedeke was elected Vice President, Lori Engel was elected Secretary, and Jennifer Beard was Elected Treasurer.

Vice President Phil Goedeke appointed Kyle Underwood to be Government & Policy Task Force Chair, Brian Nelson to be Farm Business Task Force Chair, Michelle Erickson to be Education & Outreach Task Force Chair, and Joel McCormick to be Member Relations Task Force Chair.

Knox County Farm Bureau will ask the Knox County Board to renew the Allies in Ag Resolution.

### **Director Spotlight:** Drew DeSutter

Meet Knox County Farm Bureau Board enjoy taking on proj-Member, Drew DeSutter! Drew has been on the Board of Directors since 2018. Learn more about Drew here:

Tell us a little bit about you and your family. My wife, Adrienne and I have four kids: Everly (8), Emalyn (7), Dax (4) and Decker (3). Adrienne is a full-time mom with a part-time job as a mental health advocate. Everly is involved in competitive gymnastics, Emalyn does dance and enjoys baking. Dax and Decker stay busy enjoying tractors and Legos.

Where are you from? We farm just south of Woodhull and reside south of New Windsor in an old farmhouse my great grandpa bought when he moved to the area from Rapids City, Il.

What do you love most about agriculture? I love being able to work outside, especially when the weather is nice. I also like the challenge of learning new skills and jobs. Agriculture is an industry that allows us to always look toward the future because there's really no year, or season, that is the exact same as any other year.

Why did you join the Knox County Farm Bureau? I joined to get involved in the Young Farmers group and to help advocate for farmers at the local and state level. My involvement has changed over the years, but I am a big believer that the work Farm Bureau does helps keep our farms profitable and our communities engaged in agriculture.

Favorite part of being on the Board of Directors? Having the opportunity to be around people that serve on the board and are active in our county. Being on the board of directors surrounds you with talented people, helping you and your farm improve. Knox County has benefited from exceptional leadership, both past and present, setting a standard of success.

What are your hobbies and interests? I

ects around the house and learning new skills both on and off the

What is something people might not know about you? Growing up in the 90's, I was all about sports, both watching



Drew DeSutter

and playing. The Dallas Cowboys quickly became my favorite team, and even though I'm not as into sports as I used to be, I'm still a fan of the Cowboys. Following their team has taught me a lot about sticking with it and bouncing back.

### KCFB Board Attendance 2024-2025

	December	January	February
Beard, Jennifer	Р	Р	Р
Bollivar, Jason	Р	Р	Р
Courson, Dustin	А	Р	А
DeSutter, Drew	Р	Р	Р
Eagle, Tim	Р	Α	Р
Emken, Kurt	Р	Р	Α
Emmons, Rob	Α	Р	Р
Engel, Lori	Р	Р	Р
Erickson, Dan	-	-	Р
Erickson, Michelle	Р	А	Р
Goedeke, Phil	Р	Р	Р
Grady, Jeff	Р	Р	Р
Hall, Brandon	Р	Р	Р
Link, Aaron	Р	А	Α
Link, Cory	Р	Α	Α
Main, Jason	-	-	Α
McCormick, Joel	Р	Р	Р
Nelson, Brian	Р	Р	Р
O'Connor, Tom	Р	Р	-
Stevens, Monica	Р	Р	-
Underwood, Kyle	А	Р	Р

(P) Present

(A) Absent

(C) Cancelled

(V) Virtual



### 2025 AGRI-FINANCE LOAN PROGRAMS

### 0% Seed

- 0% to August 31, 2025
- Effective September 1, 2025, rate changes to 5.00% fixed until December 31, 2025
- Effective January 1, 2026 rate changes to the FS Index Rate + 1.00% maturity
- March 15, 2026 loan maturity date
- Invoices will be billed deferred
- Invoices will be drawn on the seed loan on or before July 31, 2025
- Final sales must be equal to or greater than prior year's sales

### <u>0% Crop Protection</u>

- 0% to August 31, 2025
- Effective September 1, 2025 rate changes to 5.00% fixed until December 31, 2025
- Effective January 1, 2026 rate changes to the FS index Rate + 1.00% maturity
- · March 15, 2026 loan maturity date
- · Invoices will be billed deferred
- Invoices will be drawn on the loan on or before August 31, 2025
- · Seed purchase required
- Final seed sales must equal to or greater than prior year's sales

- All prepay and in-season crop input purchases
- · Full term variable rate
- March 15, 2026 loan maturity date

For more information contact:

Jennifer Sparrow Agri-Finance Marketing Manager (309) 221-5620



## Let's talk about life insurance



Doug Atwater Knoxville (309)948-7943



Jeremy Kleine Galesburg (309)342-3177



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## KCFB Represented at IFB Young Leaders Conference

culture from across the state met in East Peoria for the Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leaders Conference, held Feb. 7-8.

4 members of Knox County Farm Bureau attended the 2025 conference, which featured industry experts from across the ag landscape, educating the attendees on a wide range of topics, including succession planning, a focus of this year's conference. Other topics covered

More than 415 young leaders in agri- included financing, urban agriculture, accessing government programs, livestock management, niche agriculture markets and effective agronomy.

> "Succession planning is very important to Young Leaders as they decide what path to take back to the farm," said Stephen Riskedal, 2025 Young Leader State Committee chair. "It's important to many of us. My family is looking at the 'who does what, when.' My friends and other

are figuring out what the future looks like for them."

The keynote address was given by Elaine Froese, who is known as the "Dr. Phil for farmers." Froese said she grapples with the same issues as young farmers in Illinois on her family's farm in Manitoba, Canada. When a generation will "step back," not necessarily "step away" is a tough topic, she said of succession planning. During the conference, Froese offered "Coach on

Young Leaders all work full-time jobs and Call in the Hallway," in which participants contacted her by phone to arrange one-onone conversations.

> The state Young Leader Committee is comprised of 18 district representatives between ages 18 and 35 who are passionate about promoting agriculture and Illinois Farm Bureau. Committee members engage with others from around the state at conferences and workshops and through their district and county Farm Bureau.

## Recipe of the Month Banana Bread Brownies

### Ingredients:

- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 eggs
- 4 ripe bananas, mashed
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts Ingredients for Brown Butter Frosting:
- 1/2 cup butter
- 4 cups powdered sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 3 Tbsp milk

### Instructions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 375°F and prepare a 15x10-inch jelly roll pan by greasing and flouring it.
- 2. For the brownies, beat together sugar, sour cream, butter, and eggs in a large bowl until the mixture becomes creamy. Then incorporate the mashed bananas and vanilla extract.
- 3. Next, add flour, baking soda, and salt to the bowl, blend everything for about 1 minute. Stir in the chopped walnuts as the final step.
- 4. Evenly spread the batter into the prepared pan and bake it for 20 to 25 minutes or until it reaches a golden-brown color.
- 5. While the brownies are baking, prepare the frosting. In a large saucepan over medium heat, melt 1/2 cup of butter until it starts boiling. Let the butter turn a delicate brown and then promptly remove it from the heat.
- 6. To the browned butter, add powdered sugar, vanilla extract, and milk. Whisk the ingredients until smooth, ensuring the consistency is thicker than a glaze but thinner than frosting.

7. Using a spatula, spread the brown butter frosting over the warm bars. It's easier to spread the frosting while the bars are still warm.



KCFB Young Farmer Members in attendance left to right: Young Farmer Chairman Brandon Hall, Young Farmer Secretary Kim King, Rebekah O'Connor, and John DeSutter.

# **Knox County Corn Growers Association**

Scholarship Application





## Recipient Requirements

- Applicant must live or attend high school in Knox County
- Preference given to students pursuing agriculture degrees
- Only high school seniors are eligible to apply



### Scholarship Information

- Applications must be received by April 15th, 2025
- The successful applicant will be notified via email no later than June 1st, 2025
- This scholarship will be \$500
- The successful candidate will be recognized at the annual banquet held on June 26th, 2025 at The Watering Hole at Oak Run Golf Course

\*Please complete this application for consideration of the Knox County Corn Growers Association Scholarship\*

# Health on the Farm

By the Knox County Health Department



During Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in March, the Knox County Health Department is asking people to take an active role in their healthcare by learning about the recommended screening age and screening options, engaging their primary care providers in those discussions and being aware of family health history.

Excluding skin cancers, colorectal cancer is the third most common type of cancer diagnosed in both men and women in the United States. The American Cancer Society (ACS) estimates that in 2025 that there will be 107,320 new cases of colon cancer (54,510 men and 52,810 women). The greatest risk factor of colorectal cancer is the failure to be screened. According to the ACS about 1 in 3 people in the United States who should get tested for colorectal cancer have never been screened. For many

reasons people are resistant to the idea of having a colonoscopy. This could be because they do not know that regular testing could save their lives from this disease, or due to things such as cost and health insurance coverage issues. Many physicians report talking to their patients about the benefits of a colonoscopy only to hear that the patient will NOT have one. A Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) may be a good option for people aged 45 to 75 who are resistant to getting a colonoscopy.

The Health Department is offering takehome fecal immunochemical test (FIT) kits that are available for individuals who are 45 years and older and have not had a colonoscopy in the last 10 years. The FIT test kit is a non-invasive test that allows adults aged 45-75 years to screen for colorectal cancer at home. After collecting the sam-

## February Was Short and Busy For AITC

February was a short, but busy month for Ag in the Classroom. The students in grades 3-5 learned about the fifteen presidents who had ties to agriculture. Did you know President Johnson had a Hereford



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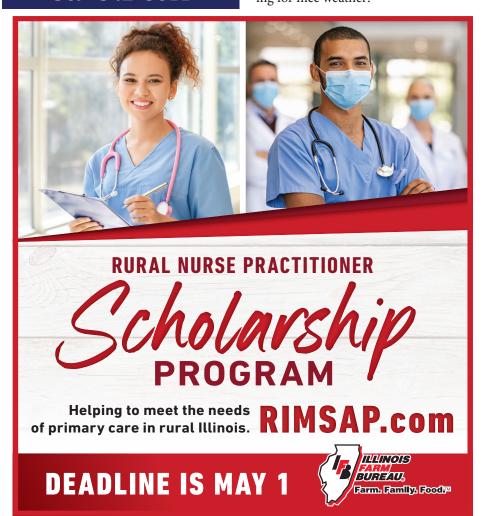
2335 E. Second Street Galesburg, IL 61401 309-342-3611



ranch in Texas that he called the Western White House or that President Truman milked cows and baled hay as a boy on his Missouri farm? Most of the lesson was about President Carter and his life as a peanut farmer and humanitarian. The students looked at peanuts in the shell and learned about how they grow under the ground after pollination.

Next month, the topic is poultry. Mrs. Green has been busy getting the incubators ready to deliver to classrooms. Many of the teachers and students in Knox County participate in the egg/chick development program each spring.

We are looking forward to April and Ag Day for Kids. Last year about 500 students attended the event. It will be at the Knox County Fairgrounds again, so we are hoping for nice weather!



### KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2024 ANNUAL REPORT





SCAN M

www.knoxcountyhealth.org





ple, participants can mail the kit back to the Knox County Health Department or bring it to our office. Eligible participants can pick up a kit at the Knox County Health Department Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Although the FIT is not meant to take the place of a colonoscopy, it is an option for people looking for a comfortable way to screen for colon cancer. The Health Department wants to make colorectal cancer screening accessible and convenient for everyone. Our program ensures that eligible individuals can get screened, because early detection saves lives!

The goal of the Knox County Health Department is to make the process more accommodating by offering these kits to eligible individuals. For more information on colorectal cancer or to pick up a FIT screening kit please stop by the Knox County Health Department Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or contact Tammy Nelson at 309-344-2224.

## **PrimeTimers News**

PrimeTimers did not meet in February due to the weather. The next meeting is the Program of Work meeting on March 18. Please call the office to be added to the mailing list if you would like to join. Members 55 and older are welcome to join!



Check us out at: www.fordgalesburg.com

309-342-1121 2201 W Main St Galesburg, IL 61401 – Corner of Linwood and Main

IL Farm Bureau Members can Save \$500 on select new models!

# Looking Back



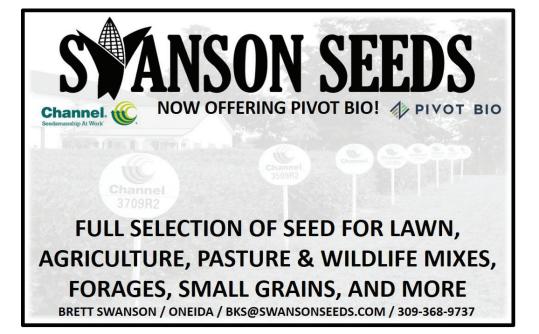
March 1968 "Knox County Bowlers Advance To State Sports Finals"



Smiling with first place trophies which entitled them to go to the state bowling finals are, from left: Mrs. John Hessler, first place winner in the young adult women's singles division; and Mrs. Mike Hennenfent and Mrs. Stanley Sutor, first place winners in the young adult women's doubles division. More than 460 bowlers from throughout Illinois are expected to roll in the state finals to be held in Springfield.



Capturing first place honors in the Farm Bureau district bowling tournament allowing them to proceed to the state finals in the young adult mixed doubles competition are Don Kennelly and Mrs. Gene Sage. The state finals will be held Saturday, March 9, at the Strike-n-Spare Lanes in Springfield. The district tournament was held at the Northgate Lanes in Galesburg, February 16, with 9 area counties participating.



## ~ 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 last Friday of each month to place your ad.

**WANTED:** Steel Barge Wagon. Please call (309) 344-1704

FOR SALE: Antique cane-bottom sewing/rocking chair. Small and in great shape. \$150.00. Please call & leave your name and number. (309) 368-8034

FOR SALE: Antique, solid oak, claw foot dining/kitchen table. 45" in diameter with no

leaves. 67" inches wide with two leaves. 28" tall. \$500.00. Please call (309) 368-8034. Leave name and number.

**FOR SALE:** 1 and 2 bottom plows, different brands, \$200-\$350 each. Please call & leave a message - (309) 335-1222.

FREE: Used concrete for washouts, etc. You load and haul away. Please call (309) 368-6175.

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.



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