

Bulletin

Promote 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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NOVEMBER 2025

NUMBER 11

Grants Continue to Grow Ag Education for Knox County Students

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom (IAITC) is a go-to resource for teachers wanting to help students grow connections to agriculture. This week local programs received funding to continue classroom lessons thanks to IAA Foundation grants.

Eighty ag literacy coalitions serving 89 Illinois counties were awarded \$668,150 in grant dollars which can be used for materials, training, educational lessons and activities taking place during the 2025-2026 school year.

"Providing these grants ensures teachers have a local connection and access to engaging resources to integrate accurate agricultural content into their classrooms," said Kevin Daugherty, IAITC education director.

Last school year, 643,958 students and 36,335 teachers engaged in ag literacy lessons through IAITC. County AITC programs presented 31,233 individual programs throughout the state, an average of 390 per coalition. Classroom presentations, farm field trips and agriculture expos add a new dimension to existing curricular standards.

County coalition grants are made possible through funding partner gifts to the IAA Foundation, and the generosity of individuals who support IAITC. Operating



as the charitable arm of the Illinois Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation raises funds for the IAITC program each year, and in addition to county grants, provides funding for Ag Mags, teacher grants, Summer Ag Academies and more.

"Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom is a true partnership," said Susan Moore, IAA Foundation director. "From commit-

ted funding groups, employment agencies for ag literacy coordinators, in-kind services, to every volunteer and each dollar donated, we are Illinois agriculture unified in a common goal to enhance ag literacy and aid in early discovery of connections to agriculture. Our partners are

Corn Marketing Board, Illinois Pork Producers Association, Illinois Soybean Association, Midwest Dairy Association, Illinois Department of Agriculture and the Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

In addition, annual donors include agribusiness partners and individuals with an interest in supporting the future of agriculture. For information on how to contribute, or to view Coordination in Agricultural Education, a listing of all major donors, visit www.iaafoundation.org. For information on Illinois Beef Association, Illinois IAITC, visit www.agintheclassroom.org.



KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANNUAL HOLIDAY CHEESE SALE ORDER FORMS DUE 12-4-2025 AVANTI CHEESE IS AN ILLINOIS AG PRODUCT!

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Call the KCFB office at 309-342-2036 to make other arrangements.

Item	Size	Price	Qty	Total	Item	Size	Price	Qty	Total
Mild Cheddar	1 lb	\$6.00	\$		Hickory Smoked String Cheese	11 oz	\$8.00	\$	
Mild Cheddar	3 1/2 lb	\$19.00	\$		String Cheese	1 lb	\$6.00	\$	
Mild Brick	1 lb	\$6.00	\$		Cheese Spread- Reg.	1 lb	\$8.00	\$	
Sharp Cheddar	1 lb	\$7.00	\$		Cheese Spread- Garlic	1 lb	\$8.00	\$	
Sharp Cheddar	3 1/2 lb	\$19.00	\$		Summer Sausage	10 oz	\$8.00	\$	
Longhorn	1 lb	\$6.00	\$		Italian Parmesan, Grated	1 lb	\$9.00	\$	
Longhorn	3 lb	\$16.00	\$		Cranberry Cheddar	1 lb	\$8.00	\$	
Calico	1 lb	\$6.00	\$		Blueberry Cheddar	1 lb	\$8.00	\$	
Calico	3 lb	\$16.00	\$		Cherry Cheddar	1 lb	\$8.00	\$	
Swiss	1 lb	\$7.00	\$		Cheese Curds, Garlic	1 lb	\$6.00	\$	
Swiss	2 lb	\$13.00	\$		Cheese Curds, White	1 lb	\$6.00	\$	
Mozzarella	2 lb	\$11.00	\$		Cheese Curds, Yellow	1 lb	\$6.00	\$	
Baby Swiss	1 lb	\$7.00	\$		Cheese Curds, Ranch	1 lb	\$6.00	\$	
Baby Swiss	2 1/2 lb	\$16.00	\$						
Baby Swiss	5 lb	\$29.00	\$		Avanti Cheese Gift Boxes: 8.5 oz Swiss, 10 oz others				
Farmers Cheese	8 oz	\$4.00	\$		Gift Box A Couples Delight:		\$23.00	\$	
Farmers Cheese	2 lb	\$11.00	\$		Mild Cheddar, Swiss, Longhorn & Calico				
2 Year Cheddar	1 lb	\$8.00	\$		Gift Box B Family Pack:		\$22.00	\$	
2 Year Cheddar	3 1/2 lb	\$25.00	\$		Mild Cheddar, Swiss, Calico & 6 oz Beef Stick				
Pepper Jack	1 lb	\$7.00	\$		Gift Box C Guest Pleaser:		\$24.00	\$	
Havarti	1 lb	\$6.00	\$		Mild Cheddar, Mild Brick, Longhorn & 12 oz Beef Stick				
Ghost Pepper Jack	8 oz	\$4.00	\$		Gift Box D Tasters Treat:		\$30.00	\$	
American Sliced	5 lb	\$18.00	\$		Mild Cheddar, Swiss, Colby, Calico & 6 oz Beef Stick				
Blue Cheese Wedge	1 lb	\$7.00	\$						
Column 1 Total: \$					Column 2 Total: \$				

Name: _____ CHECK TOTAL (columns 1&2): \$ _____

Address: _____

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Thank you for your support!
Your order helps fund
the award-winning programs
of the KCFB Education &
Outreach Task Force.
Return form by 12-4-2025
Pick up 12-16-2025

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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PLEASE REPORT ANY CHANGES IN
YOUR ADDRESS TO OUR OFFICE

Thank You
KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU



Farm Gate

By Joanie Stiers

Popcorn Powerhouse

IL top producer of the state snack

I've never told the giver of the stovetop popcorn popper at our wedding how much use and abuse the whirligig has seen over the past 24 years. We never registered for the gadget, but what an unexpected delight for making kettle corn and movie-theater-caliber popcorn. We loved it so much, I have replaced it twice.

Popcorn turns everyday moments into memories – passing a bucket in the theater, grabbing a bag at a ball game or gathering around a fresh bowl for Fourth of July fireworks. More than 300 Illinois farms keep those memories popping and make Illinois a popcorn power. Our state

ranks No. 3 in the production of popcorn, one of three primary types of corn grown in the United States along with sweet corn and field corn, the latter for which Illinois ranks No. 2.

More than 20 years ago, Joliet second and third graders successfully lobbied to make popcorn Illinois' official state snack, a fitting choice. I often grab a bag of popcorn at gas stations during road trips, where the airy crunch helps me stay alert on long drives on the road or in the tractor while planting soybeans. At home, the whole grain is my go-to for curbing nightly cravings: light on calories if you skip the butter and caramel, yet versatile in its forms. Our snack cabinet holds oversized pre-popped bags from the wholesale club, a stash of microwave packets, raw kernels from a local farm and pre-measured pouches for the Whirley Pop.

My mom, the lead curator of memories in our family, intentionally crafts moments that stick in memory banks.

In that spirit, she bought a legit popcorn machine you find in concession stands. The popper lives most of the time in our farm's scalehouse at our grain storage facility, where it serves the harvest crew. Truck drivers haul in field corn and scale out with popcorn for themselves and for transport to cart drivers and combine operators.

Occasionally, we transport the popcorn machine to the farm office, where we make popcorn for events. Twice a year, it travels to my house for the overnight parties following prom and homecoming for our kids and their friends. They enjoy fresh-popped corn with a glass-bottled soda that I hope pop up moments worth remembering.

About the author: Joanie Stiers farms with her brother and parents in West-Central Illinois, where they grow corn, soybeans and hay, raise beef cattle and operate side businesses related to the family operation.

Steve Johnson To Present Seminar November 18

Dr. Steve Johnson will be at the Knox Agri Center on Tuesday, November 18 at 7PM to present a marketing seminar titled Controlling the Crop Controllables: Changes to the Farm Safety Net & Crop Insurance. Topics will include Supply/Demand & Crop Price Outlook, Emphasize the

Importance of Seasonal Futures Trend, Review Crop Marketing Strategies & Tools, Highlight A R C / P L C Changes for '25



Steve Johnson

& '26 Crops, Discuss Changes for '26 Crop Insurance Products, Coverages & Subsidies, Estimating Your '26 Crop Costs & Developing Marketing Plans.

To reserve your seat, please call the Knox County Farm Bureau at 309-342-2036 or visit knoxcfb.org.

Getting To Know Farm Bureau Policy

68. LIVESTOCK PRICING AND MARKETING

We support:

1. Legislation, on a state and national basis, establishing the Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) as the overall authority and provider of oversight to ensure livestock contracts are clearly-written, confidentiality concerns are addressed, investments are protected, and contractors honor the terms of contracts.

2. Providing GIPSA with the authority to enforce contract standards that enhance price transparency and price discovery with livestock contracts.

3. Including monthly slaughter capacity reporting in mandatory price reporting by packers.

4. GIPSA be provided enforcement authority to ensure that all instruments used in quantifying quality factors for value determination for livestock are performing to a set standard.

5. The inclusion of time and date stamp for reporting prices of livestock.

6. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and industry representatives examining the practicality of an industry wide, uniform grading system for pork that includes a quality grade.

7. The development and implementation of value-based marketing systems which convey the value of product quality from the retail market to the farm.

8. Farmers fully understanding the risks involved with using but not participating in a market to set a price.

9. Cooperating with the USDA, livestock groups, and university researchers to develop and utilize alternative price discovery methods.

10. Illinois Department of Agriculture

seeking the most efficient method for sale barns to report prices for distribution to farmers.

11. Working with the CME Group, other industry groups, and livestock packers to develop a market mechanism that allows for improved forward pricing contracts and flexible pricing opportunities for farmers.

12. The CME Group and the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) recognizing packing plants as delivery points to fulfill livestock contracts, resulting in means to bring convergence between the cash and futures market at expiration of the contract.

13. The Illinois Livestock Development Group (ILDG) working with livestock packers in order to facilitate the expansion of livestock buying stations in Illinois.

14. All efforts to improve the livestock price reporting system.

15. All reporting system changes that will generate reported market prices calculated on premium prices paid as well as price lows in the quality range.

16. Livestock packers securing at least 20 percent of their purchases from the cash market.

17. Additional funding from USDA needed to enable GIPSA to conduct these activities.

18. The creation and development of livestock pricing tools based on the blend of the cash value for the animal and the carcass value from the boxed beef, wholesale pork, or boxed lamb reported values, respectively.

If a packer is offering a contract that is based upon a cash market, the packer needs to participate in this market and help set a price.

It is imperative that GIPSA has the oversight on mandatory price reporting - not Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

2026 INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

APPLY TODAY
KNOXCFB.ORG/SUMMER-INTERNSHIP

Deadline to Apply: December 1, 2025
by 4:30PM



The Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation is offering an internship with Knox County Farm Bureau for the summer of 2026. The intern will receive a \$2,500 scholarship.

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Log in to our new membership benefit platform using your county Farm Bureau membership number at <https://ilfb.abenity.com>

HOW TO:

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



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2 Available on the purchase of an eligible 2020-2026 Ford Blue Advantage Gold, FX (F-150 Lightning only), Blue Certified, Ford Maverick, Ranger, F-150, Super Duty or F-150 Lightning with under 80,000 miles. Not available on any other Ford or Lincoln vehicles, or F-150 Raptor, F-150 Raptor R, Ranger Raptor or F-150 and F-750 Super Duty. Vehicle eligibility may change at any time. Available to U.S. residents only. Take delivery from an authorized Ford Dealer's stock by 10/26/26. Limit of five purchases per household during the program offer (PSM# 25254). Offer subject to dealer participation. May not be used in combination with most other private Ford offers. See an authorized Ford Dealer, or go to <http://www.FordRecognizesU.com>, for complete details and eligibility (PSM# 25254). Due to high demand and global supply chain constraints, some models, trim, and features may not be available or may be subject to change. Check with your local Ford Dealer for current information. Offer subject to confirmation of eligibility.

KCFB Board Attendance 2025

	August	September	October	
	(P) Present	(A) Absent	(C) Cancelled	(V) Virtual
Beard, Jennifer	P	C	P	
Bollivar, Jason	P	C	P	
Courson, Dustin	P	C	A	
DeSutter, Drew	P	C	P	
Eagle, Tim	A	C	P	
Emken, Kurt	P	C	A	
Emmons, Rob	P	C	A	
Engel, Lori	P	C	P	
Erickson, Dan	P	C	P	
Erickson, Michelle	P	C	P	
Goedeke, Phil	P	C	P	
Grady, Jeff	P	C	A	
Hall, Brandon	P	C	P	
Link, Aaron	P	C	A	
Link, Cory	P	C	A	
Main, Jason	P	C	A	
McCormick, Joel	P	C	P	
Nelson, Brian	P	C	P	
Underwood, Kyle	P	C	P	

October KCFB Board Highlights

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Knox County Farm Bureau was held on October 16, 2025.

Education & Outreach - Michelle Erickson

We will begin planning the winter Adult AITC series soon.

Farm Business - Brian Nelson

2022 Plat Books are available at the office. They are on sale for \$15 for members. A 2026 Plat Book will be completed in 2025 and be for sale on December 1, 2025.

Government and Policy - Kyle Underwood

Representative Dan Swanson's Farmland Assessment meeting was held on September 2 with 55 in attendance. KCFB will be hosting the Adopted Legislator on October 27.

Member Relations - Joel McCormick

The 2025 Quota Program areas were met. Knox County was among 16 CFB's to achieve the Triple Honor Award. Pork Spice is available in the office. \$15 for members. Agent Appreciation Contest ended on August 29. John Ryner signed a new MM Member and Jeremy Kleine reclassified an A Member to an MM Member. The 2026 Quota Program has been set: Engagement- submit CAE's to achieve 8 points; Retention: Attain 94% of the membership quota; Retain 792 members by July 31, 2026; Growth- Achieve a 3+ gain of MM/PM Members by August 31, 2026, 846 members.

Young Farmers - Brandon Hall

A booklet is being compiled of all the soil sampling results with information on each township. A Hunter Safety Course was held on August 22-23 at the Knox Agri Center. 36 participants were certified. The Knox County Chapter of Pheasants Forever co-sponsored the event and Leiber's Boxcar provided lunch on Saturday. Young Farmers served ice cream at the Williamsfield Ag Day on September 7. Drew DeSutter has won the Friend of Young Leaders Award and will be recognized at the IAA Annual Meeting in December.

PrimeTimers - Hailey Hennenfent

The PrimeTimers met on September 16 for a potluck meal and presentation by John & Rebekah O'Connor about their Young Leader Ag Industry trip to Costa Rica. The next meeting is the October tour of the Orpheum Theatre on October 21 at 11AM with lunch following at SideTrax. PrimeTimers is always looking for new members, 55+.

Foundation - Hailey Hennenfent

The Agriculture in the Community Grant is available again in 2025 with applications open quarterly. The next quarter's applications are due November 1. ROWVA FFA was awarded \$5,000 for the August Agriculture in the Community Grant to go towards their new greenhouse. The KCFB Foundation 2026 Summer Internship application is live on the website. Applications are due December 1, 2025. The next KCFB Foundation Meeting is on November 17.

KAC - Hailey Hennenfent

The HVAC unit that covers the hallways and the extra office froze up and caused leaks through the ceiling. An LED light panel was affected but H & H checked it and it was safe to operate. Standard Heating & Cooling will perform HVAC maintenance checks on October 20. The next Knox Agri Center Board Meeting is on November 17.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominating Committee will look at filling Board Vacancies for District 2 & 3.

The Fields Church lease expired September 30, 2025. Security deposits will be returned.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board approved sending the Executive Board Members to the IAA Annual Meeting as Delegates.

The Board approved Abingdon-Avon FFA's request for \$250 to cover a dinner during the FFA National Convention.

Falconer Financial Consulting LLC will be conducting the fiscal year 2025 audit.

Meet Knox County Farm Bureau Board Member Jason Bollivar!

Meet Knox County Farm Bureau Board Member, Jason Bollivar! Jason has been on the Board of Directors since 2022. Learn more about Jason here:

Tell us a little bit about you and your family. I am one of your district 3 board directors, and the only PM member on the board. I am employed as a Sr. Credit Officer at Compeer Financial. My parents are Ron and Penny Bollivar of Wataga. I also have two younger sisters, Jenna McCrary and her husband Neil currently live in Colorado Springs, CO and have two kids David and Zoey, Kara Bollivar lives in Springfield, IL.

Where are you from? I grew up and currently live in Wataga, IL.

What do you love most about agriculture? The people and relationships, agriculture is filled with honest, genuine people. The work ethic and morals of agriculture are better than you find in any other industry. People in agriculture are always stepping up lead and better their local communities. People are always willing to help each other out and band together when needed.

Why did you join the Knox County Farm Bureau? Originally, I joined to be part of Young Leaders during my time living in Bloomington, IL. Once I moved back this way, I transferred my membership to get involved here. Since that time, I have come to appreciate all the programs and activities that we have to offer here in Knox County and really enjoy having the opportunity to serve on the board.

Favorite part of being on the Board of Directors? Interacting with and get-



Jason Bollivar

ting to know fellow board members. I also enjoy helping with the different activities throughout the year. Having the opportunity to meet and interact with local legislators is also always very interesting, and I always learn a lot from them.

What are your hobbies and interests? In the summer I enjoy growing a few things in my garden. I mow a lot of grass. I like to play golf when time allows. I dabble in smoking meat on occasion. Lastly, I enjoy watching the Illini, Bears, and Cubs!

What is something people might not know about you? I was born the day after the Chicago Bears last won the Super Bowl. I am also a member of the current Illinois Agricultural Leadership Program class and look forward to the opportunities that come with that.

**2026 AGRI-FINANCE LOAN PROGRAMS****0% Seed**

- 0% to August 31, 2026
- Effective September 1, 2026, rate changes to 5.00% fixed until December 31, 2026
- Effective January 1, 2027 rate changes to the FS Index Rate + 1.00% until maturity
- March 15, 2027 loan maturity date
- Invoices will be billed deferred and drawn on loan before June 30, 2026
- Final sales must be equal to or greater than prior year's sales

0% Crop Protection

- 0% to August 31, 2026
- Effective September 1, 2026 rate changes to 5.00% fixed until December 31, 2026
- Effective January 1, 2027 rate changes to the FS Index Rate + 1.00% until maturity
- March 15, 2027 loan maturity date
- Invoices will be billed deferred and drawn on loan before August 31, 2026
- Final seed sales must be equal to or greater than prior year's sales

0% BASF

- 0% to November 30, 2026 if purchased by March 15, 2026
- Effective December 1, 2026 rate changes to FS Index Rate until maturity
- March 15, 2027 loan maturity date
- \$10,000 minimum initial purchase
- 4.99% APR on purchases between March 16, 2026 - September 30, 2026
- All participating brands and fungicide application

Input Loans

- All prepay and in-season crop input purchases
- Full term variable rate
- March 15, 2027 loan maturity date

Illinois Farm Bureau Opens 2025-26 Rural Development Grant Program

Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) has opened applications for its 2025-26 rural development grant program, with \$120,000 available to support projects that strengthen rural communities across Illinois. Applications are being accepted through Dec. 1.

Now in its third year, the program is designed to spark opportunities for rural residents through initiatives like economic development, infrastructure improvements, and community growth. Since its launch, IFB has

awarded \$130,000 in funding. This grant cycle, IFB will invest another \$100,000, along with a \$20,000 contribution from COUNTRY Financial.

"Illinois Farm Bureau members know the challenges rural communities face, but they also know the potential," said Ryan Tate, IFB associate director of local government. "These grants are one way we can help communities invest in themselves and build a stronger future."

Past grant recipients have included

emergency service providers, community development initiatives, food access cooperatives, tourism programs, and local infrastructure projects. In 2026, IFB has committed up to 20 percent of the grant pool specifically to support emergency services.

"A big thank you to Illinois Farm Bureau and our county Farm Bureau board for giving us a chance," said Brad Grotefendt, part of the Alhambra Fire

Department that received a grant last year. "They listened to our need and understood it. It not only helps Farm Bureau members themselves but also their neighbors."

Interested organizations should contact their county Farm Bureau office for details on how to apply. Additional information is available at <https://on.ilfb.org/IFBrdg25>. Grant recipients will be announced by Feb. 20, 2026.

Recipe of the Month

Slow Cooker Cowboy Sandwiches

Ingredients

- 3-pound chuck roast
- 2 cups BBQ sauce
- 1 pound bacon cooked and crumbled
- Half an onion sliced
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 3 cloves garlic minced
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 4 ounce can diced jalapenos
- Sliced Colby jack cheese
- 6 Buns
- Crispy fried onions



Instructions

1. Into the slow cooker add your beef, BBQ sauce, half of the cooked bacon, the onion, Worcestershire sauce, garlic, brown sugar and half of the jalapenos.
2. Cook on low for 6-8 hours or high for 4-6 hours until the meat falls apart with a fork.
3. Shred the beef using 2 forks.
4. Drain most of the liquid from the slow cooker.
5. Assemble your sandwiches.
6. Place a slice of cheese down on your bun.
7. Add the shredded beef.
8. Top with the leftover bacon and jalapenos.
9. Top with the crispy fried onions.
10. Serve!

Cultivating
LOCAL RELATIONSHIPS

" These radios are able to bridge the gap to talk to two different counties at the same time. - Ty Landon, Williamsfield Fire District Chief "

\$5,000 GRANT

2024-2025 IFB RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT RECIPIENT



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Health on the Farm

By the Knox County Health Department



Protect Yourself and Your Family From The Flu

Fall is in full swing, bringing colorful leaves, cool weather, and the flu. The Knox County Health Department is here to help you prepare for flu season.

"The single best way to prevent the flu is to get vaccinated each fall," states Tammy Nelson, LPN-Communicable Disease Coordinator at the Knox County Health Department. "It is important to remember that the viruses which cause the flu change and protection declines within a year after vaccination, so people who need the vaccine should get it every year. Seasonal flu vaccinations are recommended for everyone! Beginning with those who are at least 6 months old; however, it is especially important for pregnant women, people 65 and older, and people with compromised immune systems, as well as anyone one who lives with them. For adults aged 65 and older, the high dose flu vaccine contains four times the antigen of a standard vaccine to provide stronger immune response and better protection against severe illness."

Flu vaccines help to reduce the burden of flu illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths in the health care system each year. The flu vaccination also has been shown to reduce the severity of illness in people who get vaccinated but still get sick. All flu vaccines are designed to protect against the main groups of in-

fluenza Type A and Type B viruses. It takes up to two weeks for the body to build full immunity after vaccination, which is why getting vaccinated early is important. The typical peak flu season is January through March. Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by a virus. The flu can cause fever, sore throat, cough, headaches, fatigue, chills, and muscle aches.

To protect yourself and others from the flu, follow these tips:

- Get a flu vaccine
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer
- Practice healthy habits such as drinking plenty of fluids, being physically active, and eating nutritious food

The Knox County Health Department, located at 1361 W. Fremont St., Galesburg. The cost for the flu vaccine this year is \$48 for adults, \$123 for the high-dose vaccine. Medicaid and Medicare, cash, check, and credit cards will be accepted. Contact the health department at (309)-344-2224 or go to www.knoxcountyhealth.org for more information about the flu vaccine or to schedule an appointment.



Knox County Health Department
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Must be without insurance or with insurance that does not cover breast and cervical cancer screening.

*Breast Exams and Mammograms for women age 40-64
Pap Test and Pelvic Exams for women age 21-64*

High Deductible Insurance Assistance for Breast & Cervical Cancer Diagnostic Testing



Knox County Agriculture in the Classroom Update

*Thank You, Farmers,
Sincerely, your friends at Knox County
Ag in the Classroom*

With fall weather comes pumpkins, lots of pumpkins. Fall brought not only pumpkins, but also welcome to the farm activities with corn and soybeans, and our first local teacher training. This fall, Knox County Ag in the Classroom would like to thank our farming community for helping to make learning about agriculture real for students and teachers!

Students and Mrs. Hennenfent planted and harvested pumpkins at West Central FS Research and Technology Center. Everyone that helped plant pumpkins, got to harvest a pumpkin, and FS also delivered a trailer load of pumpkins around the county. To further help our program, they set up a booth the first weekend of Scenic Drive. Pumpkins and Pork Chops proceeds went to the Knox County Program and provided \$2,000 of support. We are so grateful for this partnership for the program and the students. Thank you to Jim McNelly, Rich DeSchepper, John Chandler and the entire FS crew!

Recently FS hosted our very first Knox County AITC professional development for teachers! It was a great experience for everyone who came. Presentations included lessons on pumpkins and corn and teachers came away with many hands-on lessons for their classroom. A special thank you to Hailey Hennenfent for all her support throughout this partnership!

One of our most devoted supporters, Dale Carlson, offered some pumpkins for students. He had grown *just too many* and



wanted to share. Little did we know there would be enough pumpkins for almost every lesson Mrs. Green taught in October! Students identified the parts of the pumpkin, counted the ribs on the pumpkins and imagined the seeds growing inside attached to the ribs, and looked for the spot where the flower from the vine originated. Students said it was fun to hold a tiny jack pumpkin and learn about the parts. Thank you, Dale, for thinking of us!

Thank you to all who support the Knox County Ag in the Classroom program. We are proud to bring agriculture into the schools of Knox County.



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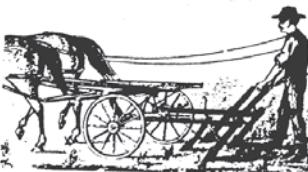
644,000 students reached through Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom during the 2024-2025 school year!

IAITC thrives to dedicated county ag literacy coordinators, supported by donors, volunteers and an agricultural community who know success depends on them. **THAT'S CAUSE TO CELEBRATE!**



Looking Back

November 1999



Roger Holmes receives a Lincoln head lapel as he registers at the 1970 National Safety Congress in Chicago October 25-28. Roger is welcomed by Jerry Richards, public relations representative for Country Companies insurance.

4-H'er Wins Trip to Safety Congress in Chicago

Roger Holmes, Oneida, ILL., was one of twelve Illinois 4-H club members who was awarded a trip to the 1970 National Safety Congress in Chicago, October 25-28. This is the twelfth year Country Companies insurance has sponsored Illinois 4-H Safety Congress youth for their achievements and interest in safety.

Roger has been a 4-H Club member for nine years and is now attending Illinois State University. His major 4-H projects are swine, beef, and tractor. He has participated in the Farm Bureau Check for three years and has studied tractor and machinery safety.

Purpose of the Youth Sessions during the Safety Congress is to inform, demonstrate, and develop sound practices and programs in safety, in addition to instilling a desire among youth to be safety conscious.

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PrimeTimers News

PrimeTimers met on October 21 for a tour of The Orpheum Theater and lunch at Sidetrax. The next meeting will be on November 18 for our Holiday Meal at PZ's Place & Steakhouse. 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!



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~ 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@knoxfb.org by the last Friday of each month to place your ad.

FOR SALE: Three David White Realist transit items: Meridian 8820 level in hard plastic case, with owner's guide. 9031-610 tripod, approx. 5' tall. 7611-902 wood rod, 9 1/2 feet long in 2 sections. Originally purchased from Ken Co., Galesburg in

the late 1970s. All for \$200. Please call and leave a message, 309.368.5162.

FOR SALE: 2005 Chevrolet Colorado Extended Cab Pickup. 4-Door w/ 6' bed. For details please call - 309-351-8937

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



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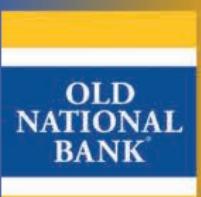
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