

USPS 297-360 VOL. CII **APRIL 2024 NUMBER 4**









in Knox County attended; Abingdon-Avon, Galesburg, Knoxville, ROWVA, and from West Central FS!

Young Farmers Host FFA Acquaintance Night Williamsfield. FFA members learned more about Farm Bureau and how to get involved and met Young Farmer members. Attending this event allows chapters to On March 19, over 40 FFA students joined the KCFB Young Farmers for the FFA become eligible for sponsorships to the FFA BUILD Conference from Illinois Farm Acquaintance Night at Skate Palace in Galesburg for roller skating. All FFA Chapters Bureau. This night would not have been possible without the generous sponsorship

Grants Available!



Teachers, 4-H Clubs, FFA Chapters, Community Groups- have an idea for a program that brings agriculture to the community or your group?

The Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation has the Agriculture in the Community Grant available to you! These grants are available to teachers, FFA Chapters, 4-H Clubs, and community groups wanting to signify the importance of agriculture in Knox County. For more information and the grant guidelines, visit www.knoxcfb.org and click on the Foundation tab. Questions regarding the grant application should be sent to knoxcfb@knoxcfb.org. 2024 Application Due Dates: May 1, 2024; August 1, 2024; November 1, 2024.



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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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



Cool Beans: Soy surrounds us

From the cooking oil in the cupboard and the feed in the hen house to the souls of the shoes at the back door, soy surrounds me. Every morning, soy hits me in the face with my makeup and the gut with my protein shake. We fuel our tractors and dieselengine trucks with renewable, Americanmade soy-based biodiesel. And for a few weeks this spring, I will see the bean more than my family, when I plant more than 350 million soybean seeds on our farm.

Measuring smaller than my pinky nail, the mighty, protein-rich bean's highly versatile characteristics accommodate global demands for food, feed and fuel. Illinois legislation currently attempts to identify the anyone, with the reigning title of No. 1 soybean state in the nation.

Soybeans cover about one-fourth of Illinois' land mass and about 45% of my family's farmable land. We grow ultra-highprotein beans for niche markets that produce protein shakes and plant-based meats. We contract with companies to grow seed soybeans that farmers will buy and grow the following year. And we serve the traditional markets for Illinois soybeans: A domestic supply of high-protein animal feed and a significant export market thanks to our state's valuable river transportation system. In fact, 60% of Illinois soybeans are exported, credited to the Mississippi, Illinois and Ohio rivers bordering or flowing through our state.

Beans from our small-town farm often head to China, the top soybean importer by

soybean as the Illinois state bean. After all, represent our nation's top soybean consumer. Illinois farmers grow more soybeans than Chickens, turkeys, pigs, cattle and farm-raised fish thrive on the protein content in soybean meal that makes up 80% of the bean.

In the kitchen, soymilk and margarine (plant butter) serve as dairy alternatives. People treat tofu, a soybean product, like meat. Newspapers print with soy ink, kids color with soy-filled crayons, and soy frequently makes food labels in the grocery aisles. Serving as an emulsifier for some foods, soy lecithin allows oil and water to mix in favorite snacks like granola bars and chocolates.

On the farm, soybeans collaborate well with conservation-minded practices of no-till and cover crops. They add benefits to the soil in a corn-soybean planting rotation and provide our farm a double-cropping option after July-harvested wheat within a single growing season. They are pretty cool beans.

About the author: Joanie Stiers farms with her a wide margin. The country buys four times family in West-Central Illinois, where they grow the American soybeans of No. 2 Mexico for corn, soybeans, hay and cover crops and raise oil and animal feed. Meanwhile, animals beef cattle, backyard chickens and farmkids.

Soybeans Through History

FARMERS IN CHINA BEGAN GROWING SOYBEANS MORE THAN 5,000 YEARS AGO.

1730s Made famous by novelists, explorers and researchers, soybeans are finally planted across Europe.

1765 Samuel Bowen plants the first soybeans, or "Chinese vetches" as they were known, in the North American British colonies, in what is today the state of Georgia.

1804 James Mease, a physician and amateur horticulturalist, reported that soybeans had adapted to Pennsylvania's growing climate.

1829 Soybeans were thriving in Massachusetts.

1861-1865 Soybeans were used to brew a hot drink for soldiers during the Civil War.



U.S. National Archives and Records Administration: Warrenton, Fauguier County encampment, 1862, "What do I want, John

H. Or.). Neutonal Neutones and necolos summismation, warrenton, rauquer county entamphiem, 1602, What do I wan Henry' NARA-533301.jpg 9. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File.George Washington_Carver_c1910.jpg C By Hartsook, photographer. (Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File.Hen

1897 The University of Illinois published its first research bulletin on soybeans

1898 The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) introduced several varieties of soybeans from Asian countries and set up a system to keep track of the different kinds of seeds.



1904 George Washington Carver began studying soybeans at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Carver discovered a method

of extracting soybean oil and also invented a process for making paints and stains from soybeans. Farmers in the South were encouraged to plant soybeans to keep the soil fertile for their cotton

1907 William J. "Bill" Morse joined the USDA and devoted his life to studying soybeans. He was also the founder of the American Soybean Association and wrote more than 80 publications about soybeans.

1920s A.E. Staley opened a soybean processing plant in Decatur, Illinois, in 1922 with 1,547 bushels from the Andrews Grain Company. Shippers were paid 99.75 cents per bushel.



1940 Henry Ford took an ax to a car trunk made with soybean plastic to demonstrate its durability. This

increased the popularity of soybeans and the United States began to export soybeans and soybean products.

1940s Farmers plant more soybeans to meet the demand of oils and plastics during World War II.



1950s Soybean meal became available to use as a livestock feed ingredient. It is high in protein and low-cost. This prompted a large

increase in livestock and poultry production in the United States

1964 Land of Lincoln Soybean Association was formed to provide legislative representation for growers.



1969 The United States was growing the world's

soybeans and exporting more than 50% of the crop.

1990s Soybean-based crayons win the first Indiana Soybean Development Council/Purdue University Soybean Utilization Contest.

2002 USDA's Agricultural Research Service begins heating its buildings in Beltsville, Maryland, and fueling all its diesel vehicles, generators and equipment sterilizers with B20 made from soybeans.

2005 Since 1976, average U.S soybean yields increased by 50%.

2010s Animal agriculture became a top funding focus for Illinois soybean farmers.

Today Farmers throughout the United States produce 4 billion bushels of soybeans each year. Farmers in Illinois alone produce more than 600 million bushels yearly, which puts them first in the United States!

ry_ford_1919.jpg
D_https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cattle_in_stockyard_sales_pen_Halliday,_North_Dakota - NARA - 285345.jpg
E_By Bernhard Fuchs - NYK Virgo, CC BY 2.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=27657317

Getting To Know Your Farm Bureau Policy

75. FARM CREDIT We support:

- 1. The availability of adequate sources of credit for all agricultural interests.
- 2. Agricultural lenders publicizing their rates and loan policies.
- 3. Farm Service Agency (FSA) assistance to those borrowers who cannot obtain credit otherwise.
- 4. Continued graduation of FSA borrowers who exhibit the ability to obtain credit from conventional sources and continue to work with FSA in developing improved and flexible programs with more effective use of FSA funds.
- 5. FSA in providing adequate levels and terms of credit in a constructive and responsible manner.
- 6. Reviewing and recommending appropriate FSA agency policy on loan term limits, loan size limits, and interest rate
- 7. FSA loans be secured by adequate collateral and reasonable repayment capacity.
- 8. The use of past business performance, when available, as a strong indicator of future performance when considering approval of an FSA loan for a farmer.
- 9. The USDA improving all USDA loan programs to:
 - A. Adopt an option to have pre-ap-

proval for a loan for six months.

- B. Expand the eligibility requirements of the program.
- C. Recognize the increasing cost of land and equipment when determining the cap of the loan program.
- D. Provide assistance in filling out the application.
- E. Promote the programs through podcasts, trainings, and seminars. F. Review requirements to graduate a
- loan for beginning farmers. 10. Educational programs for members
- and agricultural lenders on financial management and marketing programs. 11. Lenders cooperating with federal
- and state programs designed to help farmers with financial stress. 12. Illinois Finance Authority's (IFA)
- current agricultural loan programs and will cooperate with IFA in the expansion of existing programs and the development of new programs.
- 13. Legislation so that persons who have made prepayments to failed licensees for production inputs or services will receive a 100 percent refund of those payments, making the purchaser of the inputs first in line as a secured creditor.
- 14. Increased funding for federal guaranteed farm loan programs. These pro-

grams should be made more user friendly for both bankers and farmers by allowing increased flexibility of repayment terms and minimizing paperwork.

- 15. Seeking legislation so alfalfa and grassland forages are considered farm storage facility loan commodities.
- 16. The Farm Credit System (FCS) remaining available to the farmer-owners through the cooperative system as an alternative to commercial banks.
- 17. Commercial banks, the FCS, and other lenders seeking opportunities to cooperate in meeting the financing needs of farmers.
- 18. Elimination of the "exit provision" in the Farm Credit Act.

We oppose:

- 1. Any move by commercial banks and/ or bankers to alter the structure of the FCS, including attempts to replace farmers on boards of directors with commercial bankers.
- 2. Commercial banks having access to money procured by virtue of the agency status enjoyed by the FCS.
- 3. The sale of district FCS banks to commercial or private banking interests.
- 4. All efforts to limit access to credit by major credit suppliers or to limit competition or to artificially set interest rates by government edict.

These area businesses are proud to be a part of our 2024 Discount Program for members of the Knox County Farm Bureau®

The Knox County Farm Bureau does not intend the Membership Discount Program as an endorsement of any business or products/services on which discounts have been obtained, and assume no liability for any service rendered under the Membership Discount Program. Benefits may change without notice and some restrictions may apply.

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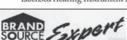


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NEWS FROM COUNTRY FINANCIAL



April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

While parenting can be tricky at any life stage, parents inevitably face a range of new challenges when their kids become teenagers and start driving. You want your teen to enjoy their newfound independence, but how do you make sure they stay safe behind the wheel? In observance of Distracted Driving Awareness month (April), COUNTRY Financial wants to help parents protect themselves and their teen

According to the National Safety Council, on a typical day more than 700 people are injured in distracted driving crashes, but the good news is that many of these accidents are preventable. COUNTRY Financial is here to help prepare you and your teenager to be a safe driver for life.

Be Alert and Minimize Distractions

From smartphones to touch screen monitors and satellite radio, we're surrounded by more distracting technology in our cars than

A split-second glance at a screen can end in tragedy for a driver, their passengers, and other drivers, so make sure you talk to your teen about having a strategy in place for keeping their eyes on the road. For example, many smartphones will automatically disable incoming texts while the car is moving so your teen won't be tempted to look at their phone.

Plan Ahead

Every time a driver gets in their car, they should go through a mental checklist of tasks before even turning the ignition. In addition to fundamental safety precautions like checking mirrors and buckling seatbelts, they should also set up a GPS map of their route and queue up their playlist. Taking these simple steps before they leave—rather than while they're on the way-can help make sure they get there safely.

Follow the Rules of the Road for Teens

Teens are often tempted to speed, run red lights, roll through stop signs, and otherwise break the law while driving. Make sure they understand that being on time—even if it's for school or their curfew—is never worth risking their safety on the road. If you're looking for some extra peace of mind, there are a number of apps available that can alert you if your teen is driving faster than a speed limit you determine.

Michael J. White

Find Ways to Save on Teen Driver **Insurance Coverages**

Teen drivers are often more expensive to insure, since historical evidence shows they have higher accident rates than adults. Talk with your insurance representative about potential discounts and programs that can help cut costs, such as driver safety courses and good student discounts.

About COUNTRY Financial

COUNTRY Financial is a marketing name for COUNTRY Life Insurance Company®, COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company® and their respective subsidiaries, located in Bloomington, IL. COUNTRY Financial serves about one million households and businesses throughout the United States and offers a wide range of insurance and financial products and services.

March Board Highlights

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Knox County Farm Bureau was held on March 21.

Education & Outreach - Lori Engel

February 13 was the Let's do Charcuterie Class - 30 people attended. IFB Consumer Engagement Grant helped with the cost making it \$35 for members and non-members instead of \$50. March's Floral Arranging Class is March 19 and all spots are full. The class will be \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members.

Farm Business - Brian Nelson

2022 Plat Books are available in the office. Plat Books are \$30 for members and \$50 for wall maps for members. Marketing Club will continue to meet through March then take a break for spring.

Government and Policy - Kurt Emken

Sign up for FB Act text alerts by texting the word FARM to 52886. The KCFB Legislative Luncheon was March 11 at Cherry Street at noon. Representatives Swanson, Hammond, Weaver and Senators Halpin and Anderson attended along with County Board Chairman, Jared Hawkinson.

Member Relations – Jeff Grady

KCFB met the 2023 Quota ending with 810 MM, 17 MS, 21PM, 1,789 A Members.

Young Farmers - Brandon Hall

FFA Acquaintance Night was cancelled January 22 at Skate Palace due to weather. The rescheduled date is March 19. Cover Crop Project Producers Meeting with IFB and U of I was held on March 1. March 1 was the Young Farmers Trivia Night Fundraiser. 15 teams attended.

PrimeTimers - Hailey Hennenfent

The PrimeTimers Program of Work planning meeting was February 20 catered by HyVee. The next PrimeTimers meeting is March 19 with Tara Ruff from Tompkins State Bank speaking about scams and providing an update on the financial industry.

Foundation - Hailey Hennenfent

The KCFB Foundation Board met on February 27 and reviewed 15 scholarship applications. 6 students will be awarded scholarships this Spring. The next Foundation newsletter will be included with the March Bulletin. Next quarter Ag in the Community Grant Applications due May 1, 2024.

KAC - Hailey Hennenfent

The Agri Center met on February 27 and decided the date for the Spring Clean Up Day on March 25 with a rain date of March 28. A new plaque for the Meritorious Service to Ag Award will be installed this Spring.

OLD BUSINESS

There are 2 vacancies on the Knox County Farm Bureau Board; District 2 & 4.

KCFB Annual Meeting details were discussed for 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

The Knox County Farm Bureau will once again sponsor the Grand Champion Steer banner and payout at the Knox County Fair.

The Knox County Farm Bureau will participate in the IAA Financial Study again.

The Knox County Farm Bureau Personnel Policies were approved.

AGENT SPOTLIGHT

Name: Michael J. White Years with COUNTRY: 41 Years

Office Address: 415 N Henderson St., Galesburg, IL 61401 Phone: 309-342-3177 office; 309-621-3088 cell: Text eMail Address: michael.white@countryfinancial.com Designations: MDRT; Million Dollar Round Table 2014 and 2016. Life Underwriting Training Council Fellow; LUTCF

Community Service: Mike is a past President of Western Illinois Estate and Financial Planners. He is a member of the Galesburg Rotary, Paul Harris Award recipient and has been active in many

community organizations in the past. He is US Jaycee Senator, and past President of the Galesburg Jaycees. He coached baseball locally for 16 years and served as Commissioner of the Babe Ruth Leagues for 6 years. He is a Past President of the Galesburg Athletic Booster Club. For several years he served Chrysallis and Cursillo as a leader. Awards: Mike was inducted to COUNTRY Financial's Hall of Fame in February 2014.

Mike has qualified for the All-American Award from COUNTRY 23 times. He was recog nized by COUNTRY for his community service in 1996 with the Award of Excellence. Mission Statement: "I help people remove worry from their lives. My goal is to help my lients plan to live to 100 and prepare for a crisis in their life tomorrov



KCFB Board Attendance 2024

	January	February	March
Beard, Jennifer	Р	Р	Р
Bollivar, Jason	Р	Р	Р
Courson, Dustin	А	А	А
DeSutter, Drew	Р	Р	Р
Emken, Kurt	Р	Р	Α
Emmons, Rob	Р	Р	Р
Engel, Lori	Р	Р	Р
Goedeke, Phil	Р	Р	Р
Grady, Jeff	Р	Р	Р
Link, Aaron	Р	Р	Р
Link, Cory	А	Α	Р
McCormick, Joel	Р	Р	Р
Nelson, Brian	Р	Р	Р
O'Connor, Tom	Р	Р	Р
Shea, Damon	А	Α	А
Stevens, Monica	А	Р	А
Underwood, Kyle	Α	Р	Р

(P) Present

(A) Absent

(C) Cancelled

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COUNTRY



Recipe of the Month Oven Baked Mississippi Chicken

Ingredients -

- 4 Boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 (1-oz) package ranch dressing mix
- 1 (1-oz) packet Au Jus Gravy mix
- 1/3 cup sliced jarred pepperoncini peppers or banana peppers ½ cup butter, sliced

Instructions -

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Lightly spray a 9x13-inch dish with cooking spray. Place chicken in the baking dish. Sprinkle with ranch seasoning and au jus gravy mix. Top the chicken with peppers and top with butter slices. Bake chicken for 25-30 minutes, until chicken reaches an internal temperature of 165 degrees. Serve with vegetables, rice, pasta or potatoes.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

Kenneth & Linda Anno
Rachel Diavovoka Kiambi
Alyssa Dillon
Maza Haynes
Luke & Valerie Piarowski
Mya Reese
Fela Soto
Madison Spence
Joey & Gretchen Platt
William & Ann Church
Colton Courson
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Health on the Farm By the Knox County Health Department

Health Department Recognized National Public Health Week

'Protecting, Connecting and Thriving: We Are All Public Health'

The Knox County Health Department recognized National Public Health Week the week of April 1st -7th. This year's theme was Protecting, Connecting and Thriving: We are All Public Health. Public Health is so much more than making sure our food and water are safe to eat and drink. It's also the relationships we foster in our communities.

The public health progress in Knox County is a result of efforts in public health areas including communicable disease; emergency preparedness; inspections of food establishments, private water, and septic systems; childhood lead poisoning prevention; community education; public health planning; coalition participation; and much more. During 2023:

- 636 food service establishments were inspected
- 358 temporary food permits were issued
- 42 private sewage systems installed
- 11potable water wells installed
- 244 STD tests provided through the program
- 876 immunizations were provided to children and adults
- 34 environmental investigations were implemented for children with el-

evated blood lead levels (EBLL)

3,535 participants enrolled in WIC

During National Public Health Week, the health department held a Walk-in STD Clinic for residents, participated in a radio interview with Galesburg In Focus on WGIL and had a staff luncheon. Throughout the month the department is holding a Walking Towards a Healthier You Walking Challenge, please see our webpage, www. knoxcountyhealth.org or our Knox County Health Department and Knox Community Health Center Facebook page for more information.

According to a January 2022 article from The Lancet Public Health, millions of women and girls worldwide experience period poverty, described as limited access to period products, menstrual education. With this the Knox County Health Department and Knox Community Health Center are hosting a "Period Product Drive" through April 30th. Community members can drop off the following items that will be made into kits and donated to Safe Harbor Family Crisis Center and the Galesburg Rescue Mission & Women's Shelter: pads (any size), tampons (any size), panty liners, menstrual cups, sanitary wipes, small storage pouch, and chocolate. The Health Department hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST DONATION DRIVE TO PROVIDE A BASIC NECESSITY FOR THOSE IN NEED

PERIOD DRIVE

The following items are gladly accepted

Pads (any size), Tampons (any size), Panty Liners,
Menstrual Cups, Sanitary Wipes,
Small Pouch & Chocolate

Donations benefit
Safe Harbor Family Crisis Center

Galesburg Rescue Mission & Women's Shelter



PLEASE DROP OFF AT
Knox County Health Department
1361 W. Fremont St.
Galesburg, IL 61401

Accepting Donations
April 1st – April 3oth
Monday–Friday
8:00am–4:00pm



to 4:00 p.m.

If you would like to participate in our month-long Public Heath Week Activities, Walking Challenge or donate to the Period Product Drive, please see our website. Facebook page or contact the Health Department for more information.

Public Health's future is not just about fixing problems but preventing them and making sure every person has access to the support and care they need for a healthier life.

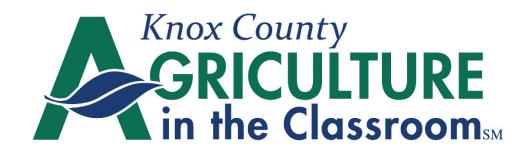
We celebrate how we are all interconnected. Coming together to support public health as businesses, individuals, families, or communities will continue to help us follow our vision of "Healthy People in a Healthy Community." For more information about the Knox County Health Department visit our website at or call us at 309-344-2224.

What Has Ag in the Classroom Been Up To?

Knox County teachers raised chicks in March.... and did they ever! Fifteen teachers raised 115 chicks! The students enjoyed them as much as the teachers. Kindergarten and first grade have all received Ag lessons about...chickens!

Once spring break is over, a new group of teachers in the county will take their turn raising chicks. Eighteen more classrooms will begin the 21-day countdown to chicks.

Watch for more hatchings after spring break!









Looking Back





1998

In honor of National Library Week, April 19-25, the Women's Committee donated the book "Little Johnny Angus Goes to the Show" to Ransom Public Library, Altona. The book is about a boy who takes his angus heifer to the National Junior Livestock Show.

Pictured are Michelle Erickson and the late Janice Larson

Prime Timers News

PrimeTimers will meet on April 16, 2024 at noon for a potluck and speaker. Marilyn Holt will presenting on Matter of Balance and balance exercises. 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!

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITER OF THE MONTH

The Knox County Farm Bureau would like to recognize COUNTRY Representative, Financial Johnson as the top membership recruiter in March. Ed signed three 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 last Friday of each month to place your ad.

FOR SALE: New Solid Oak 6 ft. Sliding Doors, hardware included. \$75. Call (309) 509-0474.

FOR SALE: Cover for short box Pick-Up Truck. \$300. Call (309) 351-6490.

FOR SALE: Mayrath Portable Auger - 28 ft., 6 in., 540 PTO -\$500 OBO. Call (309) 875-3240.

FOR RENT: Lake of the Ozarks House. Rental Date: June 28 2024 - July 5, 2024. Sleeps up to six people. Boat slip available. Boat rental available. \$900 for the week. Call (309) 368-0561.

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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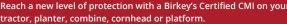
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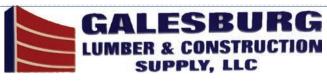
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