

Bulletin



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



Pictured left to right: KCFB President Drew DeSutter and IFB President Brian Duncan

Knox County Farm Bureau Honored at Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Knox County Farm Bureau was recently recognized for its outstanding programming during the 110th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Farm Bureau.

At its annual meeting, IFB recognizes outstanding achievement by individual members and county Farm Bureaus (CFBs). Counties compete for awards with other counties of similar membership size. Awards are given for five county groups:

- Group I — counties with 1,320 and fewer members
- Group II — counties with 1,321 to 1,920 members
- Group III — counties with 1,921 to 2,820 members
- Group IV — counties with 2,821 to 5,620 members
- Group V — counties with 5,621 or more members

Awards were evaluated under the County Activities of Excellence (CAE) program. The CAE program recognizes CFBs for program excellence, encourages and assists CFBs in setting goals and priorities, inspires and promotes innovative programming to meet member needs, promotes programming in key areas and provides a resource to counties for the purpose of developing new programs. CAE recognized programs carried out between Sept. 1, 2023, and Aug. 31, 2024.

The Excellence Awards are given to the county with the most outstanding project for each program area. A gold, silver and bronze Excellence Award was given in each membership group and program area. The eight program areas are: Ag Literacy, Farm Income and Development, Health and Safety, Advocacy, Local Affairs, Engagement and Outreach, Membership Value and Foundations and Fundraising.

Additionally, three awards are given to recognize outstanding efforts by CFBs:

New Horizon Award – To encourage new and innovative programs;

Liberty Bell Award – To recognize outstanding efforts on issues of public policy impacting state and local Farm Bureau organizational priorities;

Pinnacle Award – Highest-level award given to the most outstanding county in each membership group to recognize overall program excellence as it relates to the county Farm Bureau's goals and priorities.

Knox County Farm Bureau was recently awarded the following:

- Liberty Bell Award
- Gold in CFB Foundations & Fundraising, Agriculture in the Community Grant
- Silver in Engagement & Outreach, Adult Ag in the Classroom
- Bronze in Advocacy, Legislative Luncheon

TRIVIA NIGHT



Friday, February 28th

Hosted by Knox County Farm Bureau Young Leaders

Doors open at 5:30
 Trivia starts at 6:30

Big Catz BBQ
 Pub & Grub
 KNOXVILLE, IL

221 E Main Street
 Knoxville, Illinois

GENERAL & MUSIC TRIVIA PROVIDED

BY J & J ENTERTAINMENT

\$120 per team of 8 people

Cost includes MULLIGANS and a DOUBLER

Cash prize for winning team

Food and drink available to purchase from Big Catz

Scan the QR code to register your team



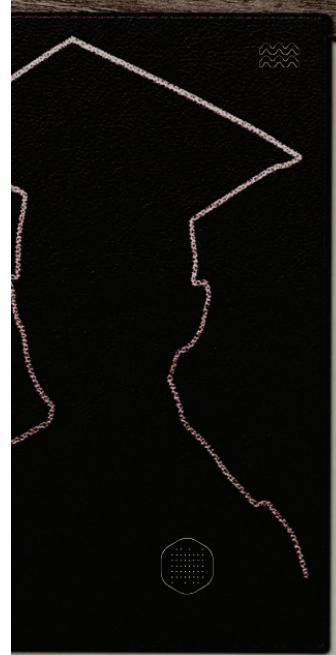
Or visit www.knoxcfb.org

Or call (309) 342 2036

50/50 RAFFLE

FUNDRAISER

Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation



2025

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

THE KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION OFFERS FIVE \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: KNOXCFB.ORG/FOUNDATION

Deadline to apply: February 21, 2025 by 4:30PM

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, January 25, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. to elect directors and if approved confirm the reports of the officers for the year ending November 30, 2024; and for the transactions of such business as may properly come before the meeting.

Dated at Galesburg, Illinois on January 1, 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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cooperating with the
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Brian Nelson
Damon Shea

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Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation
Joe Youngman - Agency Mgr.
Country Financial
Jim McNelly - West Central FS
Telephone:
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



Meals blanket us in comfort

Mom made even the best of days better when she set a pot of homemade beef stew with dumplings in the middle of the table. This repurposed meal of my childhood rattled more delicious than the roast beef supper she prepared the night before. The aroma hugged you upon walking in the door. And to this day, this main course dishes out as much happiness to my soul as beefy vegetable goodness to my taste buds.

Comfort foods seem magical, and as a parent, I attempt to replicate the magic with Swedish meatballs, pizza casserole and fresh-baked rolls with home-preserved jams. Certain foods make us feel good as

they satisfy our needs, and the farm women and church ladies before me set flavor standards and meal-time priorities that we embrace.

Throughout the winter, we find fulfillment in family-recipe cinnamon rolls and homemade meals of chicken noodle soup, chicken pesto pasta, burgundy pork tenderloin, pulled beef and meatloaf with farm-raised beef from the freezer. Every cool-weather holiday includes my mother-in-law's dressing recipe, and at family parties, I attempt to mimic my late aunt's deviled eggs given we own hens that supply the main ingredient.

My adulthood favorite home-cooked meal of chicken pot pie makes the menu once per year on a quiet Saturday. After the meal that took most of the day to prepare, I scrape every bit of residue from my personal ramekin with a spoon. While a decibel less annoying than fingernails on a chalkboard, I figure it's more polite than licking the bowl.

IFB Members Debate, Adopt New Policy During Meeting

Illinois Farm Bureau's traditional grassroots process was on full display during the organization's 2024 Annual Meeting as 331 voting members considered and adopted new policy on topics such as energy, soil conservation, apiculture, and more.

Members gathered at the Palmer House in Chicago Dec. 7-9 to celebrate the year's successes and introduce new policies that will guide the organization over the next year. In total, voting members debated and approved 20 policy submittals, including continued support prohibiting the use of eminent domain for carbon dioxide pipeline projects.

"We had an excellent delegate session and accomplished a lot. I am very grateful and proud of the work our organization did and the discussions that we had," said IFB President Brian Duncan. "Our delegates were highly engaged, and we had a lot of great discussions on pertinent issues in agriculture."

Other policy highlights include:

Wildlife policy changes focused on nuisance deer management. The policy encourages creating a different system for tracking deer populations, year-round usage of Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) issued permits and extending late doe/deer hunting season through February while encouraging harvested meat to be donated to local food pantries.

Expansion of policy on apiculture. Changes include support for the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) being the entity to administer the laws and regulations regarding the care of apiculture. Support for U.S. EPA being the sole regulator to ensure continuity of migratory beekeeping across the U.S. And opposition to state beekeeping inspectors selling live honeybees and/or queens to local beekeepers.

New language to IFB's Utilities and Pipelines, including support for declaring stored carbon dioxide that moves into pore space located within the property lines of a property without an agreement for carbon dioxide storage to be considered a trespass. Support for allowing property owners to access digital utility maps upon requesting utility line location services, to ensure transparency and safety during property management activities. And support for fair and just compensation for non-consenting landowners for CO2 pipelines and sequestration.

New policy opposing foreign ownership of farmland in Illinois by a foreign government, government officials, political parties and their members, government agencies, entities representing government interests or corporations and businesses under foreign government control.

Delegates also adopted a change to IFB's policy on farmland ownership in support of encouraging the leasing and renting of U.S. farm ground to foreign agriculture companies for research rather than selling. This is to be able to closely monitor the type of research they are doing.

"It's neat when you can see the breadth and width of our policy," said Kevin Semlow, IFB executive director of Governmental Affairs and Commodities. "Everything from apiaries to zoning issues, the deer population, carbon sequestration, foreign ownership of land - there were so many things that were discussed. The in-depth discussions during the policy debate shows the strength of the process where everyone's thoughts on the issues can be vetted."

Approximately 1,780 IFB members and staff registered to attend the conference in which members celebrated individual and organizational achievements in 2024.

Additionally, four new members to serve two-year terms on the IFB Board of Directors:

At Christmas, a cousin met requests for my late aunt's raspberry dessert. A neighbor's recipe for pizza stromboli has evolved into an interactive, meal-making memory for our family on Christmas Eve. And with Midwestern tradition, our farm family places Granny's four-layer "salad" next to the lettuce salad in the potluck line because it contains Jell-O. The "salad" also has whipped topping; nonetheless, we enjoy it with the main course and still leave room for dessert.

During the fall harvest, the anticipation of a hot evening meal is real. Mom's field-side meal deliveries stop combines, trucks and tractors temporarily for the operators to grab their daily dose on a long workday. Mom prepares her classics like barbecued meatballs and taco casserole. She adds a sweet treat often credited to a church lady's recipe in one of the United Methodist cookbooks, further proof that legacies live on through the foods that comfort us.

Randy Aberle, Ford County, will represent District 6, which includes Kankakee, Livingston, Iroquois and Ford Counties.

Barry Fisher, of Fulton County, will represent District 8, which includes Knox, Warren, Henderson, Peoria and Fulton Counties.

Mark Hortin, of Champaign County, will represent District 12, which includes Vermilion, Champaign, Douglas and Edgar Counties.

Steve Hosselton, of Clay County, will represent District 14, which includes Montgomery, Fayette, Effingham, Bond, Marion and Clay Counties.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

Ryan & Amanda Cruise
Harold & Kimberly Pendleton
Swanson Family Farm LLC
Doug & Carol Wilson



Learn more about
CDL & TRUCKING
REGULATIONS
to help you stay
legal and safe when
you hit the road.

**FEBRUARY
21ST AT 10 AM**

Hosted by: McDonough CFB

**SPOON RIVER COLLEGE
OUTREACH CENTER
2500 E JACKSON / MACOMB, IL**

Attendance is open to all
Illinois Farm Bureau Members.

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 1ST.
Please contact your local County Farm Bureau to register.



These area businesses are proud to be a part of our 2025 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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|  <p>ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU Farm. Family. Food.™</p> | <p>ONE STOP SAVINGS 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</p> | <p>Knox County Farm Bureau® Last name, First name Last name, First name Memb# 048-19719 A Exp. Date 04/30/2017 ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION® ILFB.ORG</p> |
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RESTUARANTS CONCERTS ZOOS GIFTS FLOWERS FASHION SPORTING EVENTS TRAVEL HEALTH

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|  | <p>Farm Bureau Members Receive a \$500 Exclusive Cash Reward* on an Eligible New Super Duty®, F-150®, Ranger®, Maverick®, or F-150 Lightning® *Visit FordRecognizesU.com/FarmBureau today for complete offer details!</p>  <p>FORD SUPER DUTY FORD F-150 FORD RANGER FORD MAVERICK</p> |
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December KCFB Board Highlights

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Knox County Farm Bureau was held on December 19.

Education & Outreach – Lori Engel

Adult AITC: Christmas Centerpiece workshop will be December 18 at 6PM at the office. Workshop is currently full with 25 people. \$25 for members and \$35 for non members. Adult AITC received a silver recognition in the Engagement and Outreach category of the Counties Activities of Excellence at the IAA Annual Meeting.

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.

Government and Policy – Kyle Underwood

The Legislative Luncheon received a bronze recognition in the Advocacy category of the Counties Activities of Excellence at the IAA Annual Meeting.

Member Relations – Joel McCormick

KCFB met the 2024 Quota ending with 817 MM, 15 MS, 22 PM, 1,773 A Members. The 2025 Quota Program is threefold: Engagement- submit programs in all 8 CAE categories; Retention- attain a certain percentage of membership quota; Growth-Achieve a 3+ gain of MM/PM Members.

Young Farmers – Brandon Hall

Young Farmers will meet on November 21 with the Board of Directors for dinner. FFA Acquaintance Night will be in January.

February 28, 2025, is the Young Farmers Trivia Night at Big Catz. Rich DeSchepper was awarded the Friend of Young Leader Award at the IAA Annual Meeting.

PrimeTimers – Hailey Hennenfent

The next PrimeTimers meeting will be January 21 at Noon at the KAC for the Program of Work planning meeting. PrimeTimers is always looking for new members, 55+.

Foundation – Hailey Hennenfent

The KCFB Foundation met on November 20 and passed the 2025 Budget. The 2025 Scholarship and Internship Applications are now available on the website. The Agriculture in the Community Grant will be available again in 2025 with applications open quarterly. The first deadline will be February 1. The Ag in the Community Grant received a gold recognition in the CFB Foundations & Fundraising category of the Counties Activities of Excellence at the IAA Annual Meeting.

KAC – Hailey Hennenfent

The Knox Agri Center met on November 20 and passed the 2025 Budget. The new plaque for the Meritorious Service to Ag Award is in and will be hung soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Directors are looking to fill Board Vacancies.

NEW BUSINESS

KCFB Annual Meeting details were discussed.

KCFB Board Attendance 2024

| | October | November | December |
|--------------------|---------|----------|----------|
| Beard, Jennifer | P | P | P |
| Bollivar, Jason | P | P | P |
| Courson, Dustin | P | A | P |
| DeSutter, Drew | P | P | P |
| Eagle, Tim | P | P | A |
| Emken, Kurt | P | P | P |
| Emmons, Rob | A | A | P |
| Engel, Lori | P | P | P |
| Erickson, Michelle | P | P | A |
| Goedeke, Phil | P | P | P |
| Grady, Jeff | P | P | P |
| Hall, Brandon | P | P | P |
| Link, Aaron | P | P | A |
| Link, Cory | P | P | A |
| McCormick, Joel | P | P | P |
| Nelson, Brian | P | P | P |
| O'Connor, Tom | P | P | P |
| Stevens, Monica | A | P | P |
| Underwood, Kyle | P | A | P |

(P) Present

(A) Absent

(C) Cancelled

Meet Knox County FB Board Member Lori Engel

Learn more about Lori here:

Tell us a little bit about you and your family. My husband, Kevin, is a service manager for Birkey's, while I have been fortunate enough to stay home and raise 3 kids, who are all now adults. Dalton is back home after graduating from Western Illinois in 2023. He has a few rented acres and has been a huge help in managing the daily farm tasks of raising hay, corn, beans, wheat, oats and Angus cattle. Katelyn is a senior at the University of Illinois majoring in Ag Communications and will be getting married this year. Our youngest, Kyle, works full-time for a local farmer and helps us out when he can.

Where are you from? Mason City, IL

What do you love most about agriculture? I love being outdoors and enjoying the beauty of God's creation. I love watching the birth of a new calf and seeing it get up on wobbly legs to nurse. It's also such a calm feeling when I'm sitting in a tractor with our dog cutting or baling hay, assuming there's no breakdowns or rain on the way!

Why did you join the Knox County Farm Bureau? My parents were very active in the farm bureau growing up as a kid, so when my husband and I got an invitation to a Young Farmers event shortly after moving here, it seemed like the next step in our lives. We attended our first meeting, quickly made many new friends, became involved, and haven't looked back!

Favorite part of being on the Board of Directors? Being on the board, I have realized there is so much more to Farm Bureau, than just being a member. There are many great discussions and things to learn at our meetings, and not just at a local level, but



Lori Engel

at the state and national levels as well. It always amazes me that everyone respectfully listens to everyone's ideas, even though we may not all agree. Yet, when the meeting is over, the differences are forgotten, and we all walk out as friends. Not many organizations can say that. Any member is welcome to attend our meetings, so feel free to come and see for yourself.

What are your hobbies and interests? When I can find time, I like to sew and bake.

What is something people might not know about you? I also enjoy music. I play the piano and sing in the choir at church, and can also play the clarinet and saxophone, although it's been a few years!



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

0% Crop Protection

- 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

Input Loans

- 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



2025

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

APPLY TODAY
KNOXCFB.ORG/SUMMER-INTERSHIP

**Deadline to Apply:
February 21, 2025 by 4:30PM**

The Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation is offering an internship with Knox County Farm Bureau for the summer of 2025. The intern will receive a \$2,000 scholarship.

Young Leaders Celebrated During Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

The outstanding efforts of young Illinois farmers and leaders took center stage Sunday morning during the Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) Annual Meeting, scheduled Dec. 7-10, in Chicago.

The 2024 County Young Leader Awards program highlighted the hard work and dedication of Young Leaders and county Farm Bureaus (CFB) across the state, including community projects and member engagement efforts.

Young Leader Achievement Award: This award recognizes Young Leaders for their achievements on their farm and in leadership positions.

Ethan and Katie Brown, Montgomery County

Excellence in Agriculture Award: This award recognizes Young Leaders who are actively contributing and growing their involvement in Farm Bureau and the agriculture industry.

Sadie Asher, Henry County

Most Outstanding Young Leader Program: These awards honor CFB programs aimed at developing 18-35-year-old members into agriculture leaders, including networking and professional development events, educational activities and partnerships with Collegiate Farm Bureaus. One CFB in each membership group is selected as the winner:

Membership Group 1: Edwards County, 4-H & Young Leader Cemetery Clean-Up

Membership Group 2: Wayne County, Howl at the Moon Fundraiser

Membership Group 3: Christian County, Ag Safety Day

Membership Group 4: Rock Island County, Pedal Tractor Pull

Membership Group 5: St. Clair, Family Fun Day

Top County Young Leader Chair Award: This award recognizes county chairs that excel in Farm Bureau involvement and leadership, as well as motivating fellow county committee members to become involved in county, district and state activities. Winners in each membership group receive onstage recognition and a plaque.

Membership Group 2: Michael Browning, Franklin County

Membership Group 3: Justin Allaman, Warren-Henderson County

Membership Group 4: Alison Gibbs, Woodford County

Membership Group 5: RJ Nugent, Will County

Friend of Young Leaders Winners: This award gives county Young Leader committees the opportunity to nominate someone who has had a positive impact on their programs. Winners receive onstage recognition, a plaque and a cash prize. Recipients include:

Gail Nettles, nominated by Woodford County Young Leaders

Rich DeSchepper, nominated by Knox County Young Farmers

Dale Kestel, nominated by Will County Young Farmers

Young Leader FB ACT Winner: FB ACT asks members to respond to legislative action requests on timely issues. Young Leaders who responded to all action requests this past year were entered into a drawing. The first name pulled gets a choice between attending a Leaders to Washington trip or Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference. The second through fifth names called get the opportunity to attend Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference. This year's winners are:

Nowell Moore, Woodford County

Brian Nelson, Knox County

Drew Desutter, Knox County

Nathan Peak, Pike-Scott County

Ryan Reeverts, Ogle County

Recipe of the Month Sausage Tortellini Soup

Ingredients

- 1 pound ground Italian sausage hot or mild
- 1 small yellow onion diced
- 3 cloves garlic minced
- 3 Tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- ½ teaspoon oregano
- 1 pinch cayenne optional
- 1 teaspoon hot sauce
- ½ teaspoon mustard powder
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 1 pinch red pepper flakes
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 5 cups chicken broth
- 2 cups kale chopped
- 2 cups tortellini just under 10 oz. (refrigerated or frozen)
- Salt/ to taste



Instructions

1. Note: The mustard powder and hot sauce are so subtle in this soup but help enhance the other flavors, so although you may be hesitant to add them, I highly recommend it!
2. Remove the casings from the sausage if you purchased links. Cook and crumble the sausage and diced onions over medium-high heat until the onions are softened and the sausage is cooked through, 8-10 minutes. Drain grease. Add the garlic and cook for 1 minute.
3. Add the flour and cook for 1-2 minutes to remove the raw flour taste.
4. Add basil, oregano, cayenne, hot sauce, mustard powder, pepper, and red pepper flakes. Stir to combine.
5. Add the chicken broth and use a silicone spatula to “clean” the bottom of the pot. Slowly stir in the heavy cream. Bring to a boil, reduce to a simmer.
6. Add the kale and tortellini and simmer for 3-5 minutes. (If your tortellini needs longer cooking time, add the tortellini first, then the kale during the last 5 minutes.)
7. Taste the soup and add salt if desired. Start with ¼ tsp and add more after that if needed.
8. Transfer to serving bowls and serve! (This is great with Garlic Bread with Cheese!)

Crock Pot Method:

- Brown the sausage/onions on the stove top and add the flour as outlined in steps 2 + 3.
- Transfer everything except for the cream, tortellini, and spinach to the slow cooker.
- Cook it on high for 4-5 hours or on low for 6-7.
- Stir in the kale toward the end and let that heat up for 10-15 minutes.
- Turn heat off. Temper the cream in the microwave for 45 seconds and stir it in slowly>
- Add cooked tortellini to serving bowls and ladle soup on top!

Health on the Farm

By the Knox County Health Department



Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

Cervical Cancer Health Awareness Month is marked every year in January to encourage women to be more attentive to their health. Cervical health is one aspect of health that many women neglect throughout their lives. By becoming more knowledgeable about this, women can detect any health issues at an early stage and get access to the best treatment.

Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable types of cancer affecting women in the United States. The best way to find cervical cancer early is to have regular screenings. The tests for cervical cancer screening are the HPV test and the Pap test. These tests can be done alone or at the same time. Regular screening has been shown to prevent cervical cancer and save lives. The most important thing to remember is to get screened regularly, no matter which test you get.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) estimated that about 13,820 new cases of invasive cervical cancer would be diagnosed in 2024. The ACS states that cervical cancer is most frequently diagnosed in women between the ages of 35 and 44, with the average age being fifty.

We encourage Knox, Warren, and Henderson County women to contact us regarding the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP). The IBCCP offers mammograms and breast exams to eligible women 40-64 years old and pap tests and pelvic exams, to eligible women aged 21-64 years of age even if a woman has already been diagnosed with cancer, she may receive free treatment if she qualifies. If you do not have a health care provider, are insured, uninsured or underinsured, call today to learn more about IBCCP and the Knox Community Health Center. This screening is a crucial

part of a woman's health care regimen, yet one that many overlook. It is important to remember that cervical cancer is a preventable disease – if it is caught early enough.

We also encourage pre-teens to get the HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine. HPV is a common infection that spreads through sexual activity, and it causes almost all cases of cervical cancer. The HPV vaccine is strongly recommended for boys and girls. It can help protect them from infection with

the most common types of HPV that can cause cancer as they age. According to the American Cancer Society, giving the vaccine to children between 9 and 12 years old can help prevent more than 90% of HPV cancers as they age.

HPV vaccination is recommended for preteens aged 11 to 12 years but can be given starting at age 9.

HPV vaccine also is recommended for everyone through age 26 years if they are not vaccinated already.

HPV vaccination is not recommended for everyone older than age 26 years. However, some adults aged 27 through 45 year who are not already vaccinated may decide to get the HPV vaccine after speaking to their doctor about their risk for new HPV infections and the possible benefits of vaccination.

HPV vaccination prevents new HPV infections but does not treat existing infection or diseases. This is why the HPV vaccine works best when given before any exposure to HPV. You should get screened for cervical cancer regularly, even if you received an HPV vaccine.

The Health Department and Community Health Center continues to focus on providing high quality care and having the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program as part of its services is another way to care for patients.

Please contact us at the Knox County Health Department at 309-344-2224 to see if the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program can be of assistance. If more women have access to care, we can reduce the rates of cervical cancer.



Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program

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Knox County Health Department
1361 W. Fremont St.
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www.knoxcountyhealth.org



Agriculture in Chicago

In early December, Knox County Ag in the Classroom coordinators visited St. Symphorosa School in Chicago. Knox County participates in the Adopt a Classroom Program for Cook County teachers. Coordinators communicate throughout the school year with teachers about farming practices. IAITC provides books and lessons, and coordinators plan visits and most recently have sent videos about life on the farm. This year Mrs. Green had help from Blake Hennenfent and Kimberly Smith, and Mrs. Hennenfent was joined by Brandon Hall and Brian Nelson. Students in grades K-4 received a visit and a lesson.

The book, Hopefully the Scarecrow was



read to Kindergarten and they learned about seeds and crops grown in Knox County. Students were given kernels of corn to explore and then created a corn picture with the kernels. First graders learned about soybeans and examined the parts of a bean seed. They also compared the soybeans to corn and pumpkin seeds. Students removed the seed coat from beans that had been soaked in water, and looked inside the seed. In second grade, Blake Hennenfent helped students learn about beef cattle and shared his knowledge of calving. Students were introduced to the difference between dairy and beef cows. Using the theme of football, students learned how everything connected to a football game can be traced back to agriculture. Students learned that approximately 20 footballs can be made from a cow hide. Each student created their own football necklace with items that represented agriculture: cows, pigs, cotton, corn and wheat.

Mrs. Hennenfent shared a non-fiction book with third graders about a hog facility. Students could 'look' inside confinements to understand the process. Students viewed pig product cards and identified information that was fact or hogwash! Brian Nelson assisted with information about raising pigs and pork products. Another



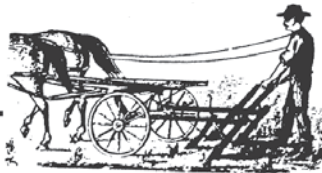
third-grade class learned about pumpkins. Illinois is number one in growing pumpkins. Students watched a video of pumpkins being harvested, created a pumpkin life cycle and participated in a pumpkin relay game. Fourth graders had a lesson about evergreens. Fresh evergreen samples of pine, spruce and fir tree were provided for exploration, complete with cones. Students completed a STEM activity (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) of constructing tree towers with cups. Brandon Hall provided information about soils in the Midwest and Western United States discussing how certain soils are good for evergreens and what is best for our corn and soybeans.

This year we hope to provide videos showcasing what is happening on Knox County farms with the help of our Young Farmers

group. Visiting classrooms in Cook County has been a valuable experience for everyone involved.



Looking Back



January 1980



Mr. Steve Tolley, 1979 Knox County Farm Bureau Young Farmers Chairman, presents the Property ID Traveling trophy to Keith and Kevin Erickson, of the ROVA FFA Chapter. The program has been in existence for two years, as has the award, and ROVA has won the traveling trophy for promotion both years. The presentation was made at the 1980 Knox County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, held Monday, January 28, 1980.



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PrimeTimers News

PrimeTimers did not meet in December. The next meeting is the Program of Work meeting on January 21. 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 Financial Representative, Doug Atwater as the top membership recruiter in December. Doug signed one new Associate Member. Call your COUNTRY Representative for all your insurance and financial needs.



Doug Atwater

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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.

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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