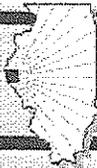


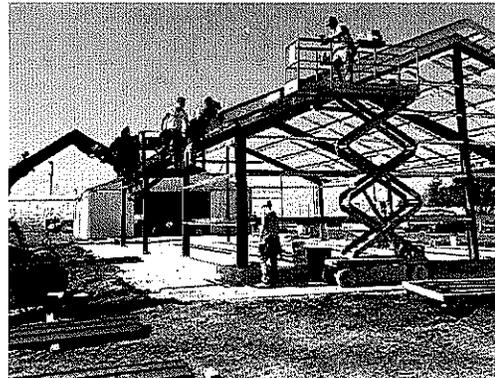
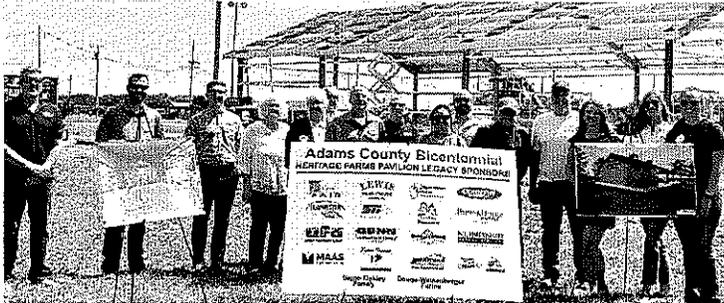
Adams County Farm Bureau



Agri Newsletter

News, Views, Information and Programs for Today's Farm Bureau Member

Volunteers Gather To Raise Heritage Farms Pavilion At Adams County Fairgrounds



In a nod to Adams County's agricultural roots, volunteers gathered at the Adams County Fairgrounds to help "raise" the Heritage Farms Pavilion, a new permanent landmark honoring the county's farming legacy. The effort began on Tuesday, July 1 at 8:00 a.m., as community volunteers join Maas Construction to erect the pavilion. Volunteers from the Adams County Fair Association, Urso Farmers Co-op, Adams County Farm Bureau, Unity Sportsman Club, and local farmers all showed up to lend a hand.

Mark Peter with the Adams County Bicentennial Commission, said "We're raising it like this as a way of honoring the tradition of barn raising, doing the work in one day. Jerry Maas with Maas Construction is the main contractor who got the framework ready in advance so that they could try to finish all the bracing and metal roofing. There were about 25 volunteers in all."

"This effort honors the long-standing tradition of barn raising in Adams County," said Bicentennial Commissioner Mark Peter. "Through the 18th and early 19th century, farm neighbors banded together to accomplish the difficult task of building a barn in a single day. Our goal will be to finish this project in that same spirit."

After the metal outside is finished, Kuntz Builders is coming in to get the interior ready and finished. Mark Peter said, "The clock is ticking," but he is confident they will have it ready for the fair, which begins on July 23rd.

The pavilion is a signature project of the Adams County Bicentennial celebration, designed to serve as a lasting tribute to the generations of farm families who helped shaped the region's history and economy. The northern enclosed wall will display the plaques of the 86 Heritage Farms that have been identified in Adams County. There will also be a map of the county with the locations of all the farms. There will also be a stage area on the north end in front of the plaques. The south end will be covered by roof but open for the breeze.

The pavilion will be a wonderful addition to the fairgrounds. There are already plans for the Fair Pageant to use it to crown their Teen, Junior Miss and Littles 2025 royalty.

"It will be a nice place for people to gather and they'll use it a lot during fair time, but there are events here almost every weekend now, so it will be a place for people to gather and celebrate agriculture for years to come," added Mark.

At 11 a.m., most of the 18 groups/companies who have sponsored this project gathered to be recognized. It is estimated to cost \$150,000 and the project could not have been done without the sponsors. A big thank you and applauding was given in recognizing as well as the workers volunteering that day. Former Quincy mayor Chuck Scholz, who is chair for the Bicentennial Commission, could not make it but wanted to give a huge congratulations and thanks to the sponsors and volunteers. A lunch was served by the Adams County

Farm Bureau at 12:00 p.m.

The official dedication of the building will be held at 2 p.m., during the Grand Finale on September 6.

The Adams County Bicentennial celebrates 200 years of history, resilience, and community spirit in Adams County, Illinois in 2025. Through a diverse range of events and initiatives, the Bicentennial aims to honor the county's heritage and engage residents and visitors alike in celebrating its contributions to the region. For more info about Adams County Bicentennial visit our website at AdamsCo200.org. You may also contact the Adams County Bicentennial Committee at AdamsCo200@adamscountyil.gov.



**ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU
OFFICIAL ANNUAL
MEETING NOTICE**

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE
ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU**

Notice is hereby given the first day of August that the regular Annual Meeting of the members of the Adams County Farm Bureau will be held Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Adams County Farm Bureau basement at 330 South 36th Street in Quincy, IL for the purpose of receiving and acting upon reports of the officers; for the election of fourteen (14) directors of the Board of Directors to serve on two year terms; to consider and act upon the recommendations of the Board of Directors; and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

Adams County Farm Bureau
by Brad Duncan, Secretary

- PROXY -

I, the undersigned member of the Adams County Farm Bureau hereby constitute and appoint _____ or failing him, _____ my proxy to represent me at the Annual Meeting of the members of the Adams County Farm Bureau to be held in the Adams County Farm Bureau basement at 330 South 36th Street in Quincy, Illinois on Wednesday, September 10, or at any adjournment thereof, upon any and all matters that may come before said meeting. IN WITNESS, I have executed this proxy _____ day of August, 2025.

Member's Signature

**Farm Progress Show
Tickets Available**

The Nation's largest outdoor farm show is back in Decatur! The Farm Progress Show is designed for serious growers, producers, and agribusinesses. As the largest, most diversified agriculture information business in North America, Farm Progress prides itself on providing a well-rounded show for farmers to connect and do business with a wide variety of exhibitors. The Adams County Farm Bureau Office has tickets available for purchase for the 2025 Farm Progress Show on August 26, 27 & 28. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$25 at the gate.

Email acfbmanager@adams.net or call 217-222-7305 to reserve your tickets.



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

BY BEN HUGENBERG, PRESIDENT

Fair season is here, the summer heat is in full swing, and politics in Illinois continue. Illinois Governor JB Pritzker has announced he will be running again. As of now he is unchallenged with either a republican candidate or a democratic challenger. He is coming from some terms where he is stating the state has had balanced budgets until this past budget. He falls to mention, though, that the budgets were balanced using federal funds because of COVID.

The current budget was passed with a little over \$1 billion of deficit. Also, unfortunately, the Family Farm Preservation Act proposed and supported by IFB was unsuccessful in being implemented. For those of you unfamiliar with this act, if passed, it would have changed the law regarding Illinois state inheritance tax for family farms. Essentially, it would be allowing them to be passed down without having to sell pieces of the farm to pay the death tax.

On the federal level, we had the passage of the Big Beautiful Bill. The bill does many things that we will not know the true effects of for a while. Among other things, it will lower the amount of SNAP that will be sent out. This leads me to the next point of the farm bill. We need a farm bill which can allow us to some certainty into the future. The current bill has already been extended and in all likelihood, with the current state of federal politics, will be extended again instead of fixing/modernizing/updating us, whatever word you would like to use for a revamp and long term 5 year bill.

Enjoy the summer. Time seems to be flying by and we soon will not be complaining about the heat. We will be enjoying the fall colors and getting ready for harvest.

Stay safe and healthy!

Trump Administration Announces Expedited Congressionally Mandated Disaster Assistance for Farmers

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins announced that agricultural producers who suffered eligible crop losses due to natural disasters in 2023 and 2024 can now apply for \$1.6 billion in assistance through the Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP).

To expedite the implementation of SDRP, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is delivering assistance in two stages. This first stage is open to producers with eligible crop losses that received assistance under crop insurance or the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program during 2023 and 2024. Stage One sign up will start in person at FSA county offices on July 10 and pre-filled applications are being mailed to producers today, July 9. SDRP Stage Two signups for eligible shallow or uncovered losses will begin in early fall.

SDRP Stage One

FSA is launching a streamlined, pre-filled application process for eligible crop, tree, and vine losses by leveraging existing Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and Risk Management Agency (RMA) indemnified loss data. The pre-filled applications will be mailed on July 9, 2025.

Eligibility

Eligible losses must be the result of natural disasters occurring in calendar years 2023 and/or 2024. These disasters include wildfires, hurricanes, floods, derechos, excessive heat, tornadoes, winter storms, freeze (including a polar vortex), smoke exposure, excessive moisture, qualifying drought, and related conditions.

To qualify for drought related losses, the loss must have occurred in a county rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having a D2 (severe drought) for eight consecutive weeks, D3 (extreme drought), or greater intensity level during the applicable calendar year.

How to Apply

To apply for SDRP, producers must submit the FSA-526, Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) Stage One Application, in addition to having other forms on file with FSA.

SDRP Stage One Payment Calculation

Grain Bids Available Via E-mail

If you would like to receive this page on e-mail at 4:30 p.m. each day, then please e-mail the Adams County Farm Bureau at acfb@adams.net. Send the e-mail with subject line Grain Bids and type your name, e-mail address and phone number in the body of the e-mail.

Stage One payments are based on the SDRP adjusted NAP or Federal crop insurance coverage level the producer purchased for the crop. The net NAP or net federal crop insurance payments (NAP or crop insurance indemnities minus administrative fees and premiums) will be subtracted from the SDRP calculated payment amount.

For Stage One, the total SDRP payment to indemnified producers will not exceed 90% of the loss and an SDRP payment factor of 35% will be applied to all Stage One payments. If additional SDRP funds remain, FSA may issue a second payment.

Future Insurance Coverage Requirements

All producers who receive SDRP payments are required to purchase federal crop insurance or NAP coverage for the next two available crop years at the 60% coverage level or higher. Producers who fail to purchase crop insurance for the next two available crop years will be required to refund the SDRP payment, plus interest, to USDA.

SDRP Stage 2

FSA will announce additional SDRP assistance for uncovered losses, including non-indemnified shallow losses and quality losses and how to apply later this fall.

Learn more by visiting fsa.usda.gov/sdrp.



LEGISLATIVE NEWS & VIEWS

BY RYAN MEYER

On July 4th President Donald J. Trump signed The One Big Beautiful Bill (H.R.1) into law. There are several key highlights that will affect us locally. It is the largest tax cut in history for the middle and working classes in America. Some of the more widely talked about cuts are no tax on overtime, tips, and social security. This will have a direct impact on local economies.

The bill also includes a massive expansion of domestic oil and gas production capacity. This means some scaling back on previous renewable energy incentives that were in place. Some exciting news for agriculture is the \$65.6 billion allocated to farm programs to be spent over the next decade starting in fiscal year 2025 through 2034. Some of the programs that it will have a direct impact over are farm safety enhancements like ARC (Agriculture Risk Coverage), which will increase revenue guarantee from 86% to 90%, PLC (Price Loss Coverage), which will be adjusted from 85% to 88%, DMC (Dairy Margin Coverage) by increasing Tier 1 coverage from 5 million pounds to 6 million pounds per farm, and crop insurance. Of this allocated amount, \$2.8 billion is earmarked for disaster assistance programs which will increase payment levels and eligibility criteria for livestock and specialty operations. Another \$2.2 billion is allocated for trade promotion programs.

Funding was continued through fiscal year 2031 for conservation programs including EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program), CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program), and ACEP (Agriculture Conservation Easement Program). While we will see some immediate impacts from this bill, it will be interesting to see how it plays out for agriculture in the next few years.

Underneath the Canopy: Exploring Interseeding, Cover Crop Mixes and Soil Health

David Dedert farms with his father, Dean, raising corn, soybeans, wheat, cattle and sheep near Quincy, Illinois. Part of their operation includes being farm operators at Twin Mill Farm, a 90-acre family farm that has been in the Mittelberg family for over 100 years. The farm has undergone a variety of transitions over time, from raising beef cattle to hogs - and now, solely growing row crops. The Dederts work alongside landowner Aleen Mittelberg and farm manager Mike Rice as they transition the land toward regenerative management using no-till and cover crops.

Come join a lively discussion with David and Mike about their use of regenerative practices at Twin Mill Farm. You will be able to see their cover crops in no-till fields and discuss their use of soil health testing. Light refreshments will be provided during the field day on Saturday, September 6 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. located at 6331 Ellington Road, Quincy, IL 62305. Full details and a link to RSVP can be found at <https://practicalfarmers.org/events/field-days/2025-field-days/underneath-the-canopy/>.

Welcome New Members

Michele Anselmetti
Bethany Beeler

Michele Crowley
Michael Prausa

COUNTRY INSURANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES

Agent of the Month



SHELBY JOB

FARM BUREAU DAILY GRAIN BIDS

7/18/25	CORN			SOYBEANS			WHEAT	
	CSH	JUN	OCT	CSH	JUN	OCT	CSH	NEW
ELEVATOR	409	428	445	1028	1036	1053	546	546
CBOT FUTURES	417	428	435	1033	1001	1053		
CARG Florence	417	428	435	1033	1001	1053		
CARG Beardstown	427	397		1040	1001	1044	487	487
CGB Naples	401	388		1016	990		482	482
CGB E Hannibal	401	388		1016	990		482	482
CGB Louisiana	418	398		1013	996			
Bunge-SCF GV	413	398						
Maschhoffs	428	403	435					
Bartlett	411	398	430	1031	1001		492	492
Jersey Grain	396	403	425	1010	962			
Roquette	401	397		1022	990		481	481
Urso Farmers	398	384	413	1026	986	1028	481	481
Dearwester	400	379	404	1045	995	1042		
ADM-Quincy								

NOW AVAILABLE TO YOU ON E-MAIL-CONTACT YOUR COUNTY FARM BUREAU

ADAMS COUNTY COUNTRY INSURANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES

STAFF & OFFICE LOCATIONS

ADAMS COUNTY AGENCY		331 S. 36th, Suite 4B	
217-640-5430		217-222-5841	
Jesse Palmer District Leader	Jack Baertel Agent		
330 S. 36th St.	Lisha Leasman Agent Assistant		
217-222-7304	Doag Greenwell Agent		
Erica Stephenson Agent	Mary Connell Agent Assistant		
405 Hampshire St.	1932 State Street		
217-223-9900	217-222-7300		
Crystal Pavlier Agent	Eric Ervin Agent		
405 Hampshire St.	LIBERTY OFFICE		
217-936-2120	501 S. Main St. • 217-645-3042		
Cassey Cassey Agent	Jeff Kroenke Agent		
Kalynne Olson Agent Assistant	CAMP POINT OFFICE		
655 Clinic Rd, Ste. 2A - Hannibal, MO	126 E. Staro St. • 217-640-5994		
217-245-4107	Draw Miller Agent		
Shelby Job Agent	Kbaleah Hughes Agent Assistant		

Notes From The NEW Manager



Annabelle Schaffnit

We hope everyone had a fantastic time at the County Fair. We sure did! A big thank you to everyone who stopped by our booth and played Plinko. It was a joy to visit with so many of you!

We're also thrilled to share some exciting news. In May, Kinsey Tiemann, our Ag in the Classroom Coordinator, and I applied for a grant to support agricultural education and we got it! Thanks to these funds, we've purchased realistic models of a cow, pig, com

stalk, soybean plant, and a "Farm to Fork" lab kit. The cow and pig come apart so you can see all the organs with the animals. We couldn't be more excited!

These educational tools made their debut in the Ag in the Classroom tent at the fair, and Kinsey will continue using them in classrooms and daycares throughout the community. Even better, these models are available for the public to borrow for educational events, meetings, or programs! If you're interested, just reach out. You can also check out photos of the models on our Facebook page: *Adams County Farm Bureau* (our logo is the profile picture, and yes, I'm aware the corn cob cover photo still needs updating!).

Lastly, don't forget about our Foundation Board raffle! You'll find a raffle ticket in this newspaper. Simply cut it out and mail it to our office at *330 S 36th St, Quincy, IL 62301* to be entered into one of our drawings. All the proceeds will go to the Ag in the Classroom Program and high school scholarships.

Thank you for your continued support of agriculture and education in our community!



YOUNG FARMERS
BY
TREVOR MAJERS
CHAIRMAN

I hope by the time you read this, you have recovered from the Adams County Fair, the heat, and possibly a night or two spent in the beer garden. A lethal combination, but an Adams County tradition nonetheless. A lot of hard work was put on display, from the show ring, to the 4-H building, to the new Bicentennial building that is a tremendous addition to the fairgrounds. The end of fair season marks the end of summer, and before you know it, fall will be here. The massive crop we are preparing for in this county will start to make its way out of the fields.

Looking ahead to the Young Leader calendar, we are hoping to again have an event with the Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals and are looking forward to potentially hosting an event at an Agribusiness with them. Another great chance to mix and mingle with area professionals, and meet some new people. I will update everyone as that event comes up. Stay cool!

ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU
AGRI NEWSLETTER

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Yearly membership dues to the Adams County Farm Bureau includes 50 cents per year as subscription to the ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU AGRI NEWSLETTER, and privilege of inserting not to exceed 30 words per year advertising in the Exchange List for only Farm Bureau Members, excluding commercial ads. We reserve the right to reject any or all news material or advertisements offered to this paper.

Annabelle Schaffnit- Manager
Lisa Parker- Bookkeeper/ Secretary
President - Ben Hugenberg - Vice President - Ryan Meyer
Young Farmer's Committee - Trevor Majers

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<p>DISTRICT I</p> <p>Brad Duncan Luke Muegge Tim Ellerbrock Nathan Parker Matt Duesterhaus Brent Clair</p> <p>DISTRICT III</p> <p>Ryan Meyer Justin Oberling Rob Hyer Grant Huber Ben Hugenberg</p>	<p>DISTRICT II</p> <p>Alan Ippensen Bobby Baker Shane Miller Scott Venvertloh Kent Deege Dustin Speckhart</p> <p>DISTRICT IV</p> <p>Jacob Schmidt Madelyn Thompson Eli Gronewold Brandon Nickamp Jon Myers</p>
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Farmer Feedback Meets Startup Ingenuity at AgTech Showcase

About 90 farmers, entrepreneurs and ag tech enthusiasts leaned in for a closeup look at some of the newest ideas in agricultural technology at the second annual AgTech Innovation Showcase held at EnterpriseWorks at University of Illinois Research Park in Champaign.

Nine presenters, with innovations to improve nutrient management, weed control and decision-making, gave a snapshot of their innovations and visited with small groups of attendees for more detailed explanations.

The July 16 event was organized by Illinois Farm Bureau, in partnership with U of I and BioSTL, a St. Louis-based nonprofit supporting innovation.

"It's important that farmers not only stay informed about emerging ag technologies but also have a voice in shaping how those tools work in real-world conditions," said IFB Vice President Evan Hultine.

Here's a snapshot of the innovations.

Winning over weeds
DeepAgro, founded in Argentina, uses artificial intelligence (AI) and computer vision to detect and classify weeds in real time for targeted herbicides on crops including corn and soybeans. "What sets us apart is that we can spray 15-inch rows, we can retrofit any brand and year of sprayer, there are no per-acre fees and no need for Wi-Fi because the system works offline," said Matias G. Nardi, business development officer for DeepAgro.

Jack Kloeber, CEO of Micro MGX, a startup in Champaign, introduced farmers to "the first new class of weed control in 30 years," after noting that global yield loss due to herbicide-resistant weeds is \$32 billion annually. MicroMGX's lead product, a natural chemical produced by a bacterium, is a new mode-of-action herbicide.

Nutrient management
Sentinel Ag is a nutrient management problem-solver, which started with fertigation on irrigated land in Nebraska and is expanding to offer services on non-irrigated land, said Bob Guzenhauser, director of agronomy. The company uses remote sensing, crop data and advanced forecasting to deliver nitrogen application timing and rate guidance through its software.

With decreasing profit margins and rising chemical costs, farmers are looking for new solutions, said Eddy Mejia, CEO of Earnest Agriculture. The company, based in Rantoul, produces probiotic seed coatings aimed at boosting output and cutting costs. "It's a competitive space," he acknowl-

edged of biologicals, explaining that Earnest's seed coating, sourced from active prairie microbes and optimized with machine learning, is designed to enhance nutrient uptake, disease resistance and drought tolerance while improving plant health.

"The bacteria aren't doing anything in your field when it is starving," said Matt Kirkpatrick, regional sales manager for PhycoTerra, whose product feeds microbes. It comes in seed treatments, soil amendments and foliar treatments, and has no issues with cold or heat storage.

"We think it's the biggest thing since the tractor," said Laura Bleill, director of external engagement at University of Illinois Research Park, about the invention of RevCell technology by a retired U of I professor, Ken Paige.

Paige, founder and president of Frenzy Ag, said he's been working for 40 years on the patented RevCell technology that "supercharges plant cells" and results in 30% yield increases in certain soybean varieties.

James Sledd, sales development manager of Ostara, said their

Crystal Green product was developed to help solve the nutrient challenge of doing more with less. Crystal Green is a sustainable and economical phosphate fertilizer that is released as the crop needs it. The company produces 200,000 tons a year at its St. Louis plant and continues to expand.

Decision-making
Each season's complexity increases with challenges in choosing pesticides, managing high-performance seeds, tackling herbicide-resistant weeds, analyzing fragmented data and environmental and regulatory pressures - all with shrinking profit margins, said Alex Chequim, the founder of DigiFarmz, a platform to address these challenges.

Eric Barnard, HarvestQ co-founder and product developer of the software company specializing in risk management solutions for agriculture, said it "struck a nerve" when he realized he could help farmers make marketing decisions.

Today, 2,000 crop and livestock farmers use the software tool to make decisions based on information, including insurance.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-2025	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A
	E	C	O	E	E	A	E	A	P	A	U	U
	P	T	V	C	N	B	R	R	R	Y	N	L
District I												
Brad Duncan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Luke Muegge	X	B	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tim Ellerbrock	X	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Matthew Duesterhaus		A	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Nathan Parker	X	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Brent Clair	X	D	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
District II		M										
Shane Miller	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bobby Baker	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Scott Venvertloh	X	T	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kent Deege	X	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Alan Ippensen	X	N	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dustin Speckhart	X	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
District III		C										
Rob Hyer	X	A	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Justin Oberling	X	N	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		C										
Grant Huber	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
District IV		L										
Jacob Schmidt	X	D	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eli Gronewold	X	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Madelyn Thompson			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jon Myers	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Brandon Nickamp	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Officers												
Pres. Ben Hugenberg	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
V. Pres. Ryan Meyer	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Y.F. Rep. Trevor Majers	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



Albsmeyer's Electric

217-656-3298



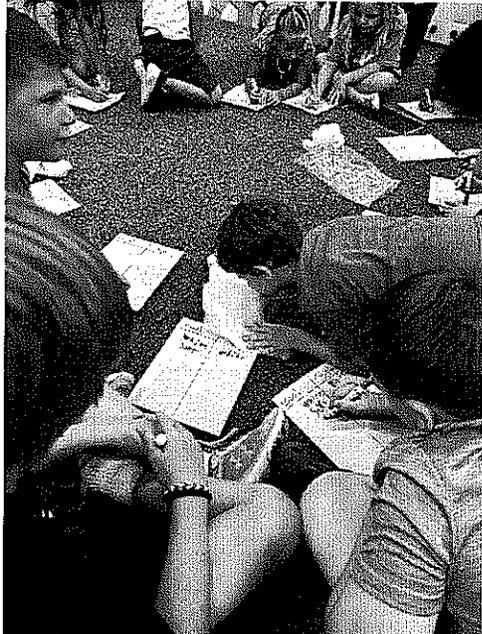
Aerial
CLEANING SYSTEMS



ADAMS COUNTY'S AG AWARENESS PROGRAM

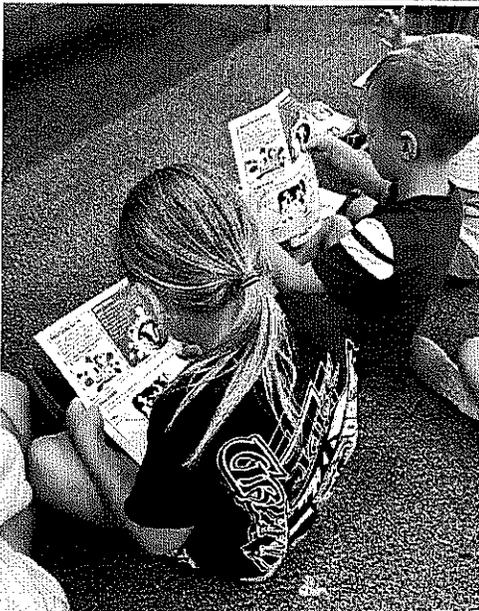
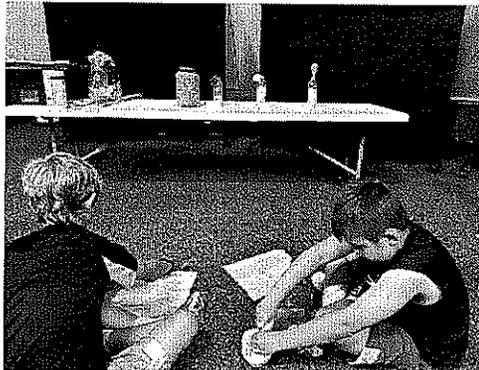
Kinsey Tiemann, Ag Awareness
Program Coordinator

Kiddie Korner Daycare Hosts Ag in the Classroom in June and July



Youth at Kiddie Korner enjoyed four programs related to agriculture throughout the summer. The first lesson took place on June 4th and related to corn production and production. June 18th brought an additional scientific lesson related to wheat production. This lesson began with a children's book related to wheat production and bread making. With this foundational knowledge students understood how golden field of wheat were connected to many of the foods they enjoy. To round this lesson together with science, students completed an experiment with yeast.

Three plastic water bottles were filled with an inch of warm water and a teaspoon of sugar. Afterwards, the first bottle of water received 1 Tablespoon of active dry yeast. The second bottle received 2 Tablespoon of active dry yeast. Lastly, the third bottle did not receive any yeast. The final step in the experiment was to place a balloon around the lid of the bottle. After only a couple of minutes, students observe the balloon beginning to rise from air being release from the yeast. This portion of the activity tied to the children's book about bread making. Students



understood that bread "rises" from yeast that are feeding in the warm environment with sugar. To round out the wheat lesson. Each student received a stem of wheat to dissect. The kernels from the wheat head were placed in a salt and pepper grinder for students to demonstrate how flour is extracted.

The third lesson at Kiddie Korner was Wednesday, June 25th. This lesson continued in the plant/crop field. Students began by once again listening to a children's story of how blue jeans are made from cotton fiber. With this background students drew connections to how their own cloth-



ing is produced. In fact samples of cotton and wool were provided to the students. Using a t-chart, each child listed characteristics of both samples. These were discussed and connected back to agriculture and clothing production. Students were introduced to weaving as a form of art and clothing production. First students gathered colored pieces of yarn and began weaving the yarn through four fingers on their hand. After students understood the pattern of the yarn movement, they started weaving on a cardboard loom. This created a small fiber art project for kids to remember.

July brought the final Ag in the Classroom lesson at Kiddie Korner. To celebrate a summer of deeper agriculture connections, students learned about dairy cattle production and several of the products we enjoy. Afterwards, students got to make and enjoy a sweet summer treat by making ice cream. This was done by mixing milk, heavy whipping cream, sugar, and vanilla together in a bag and shaking ice and rock salt around it. After about ten minutes of shaking, the kids got to enjoy ice cream to wrap up their summer lessons with Ag in the Classroom.

Illinois State Fair Grandstand Entertainment

This year the Illinois State Fair kicks off with the traditional twilight parade at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 7th. The Ag Day festivities have been moved to Friday, August 8th from the traditional Tuesday Ag Day.

They have compiled a great group of entertainers to take the main stage at the grandstand this year as can be viewed below.

GRANDSTAND ACTS

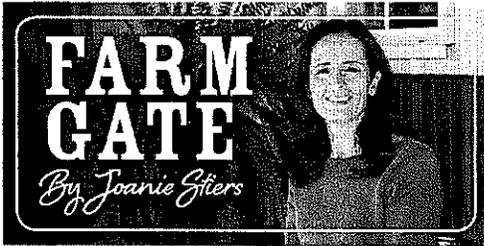
- Jake Owen Friday August 8th
- The Black Crowes Saturday August 9th
- Megan Moroney Sunday August 10th
- Sheryl Crow Tuesday August 12th
- Snoop Dogg Wednesday August 13th
- Brad Paisley Thursday August 14th
- The Chainsmokers Friday August 15th
- Def Leppard Saturday August 16th
- Turnpike Troubadours Sunday August 17th

It is always a fun time in Springfield during fair week so try and make it over for the day if you have the time to spare. During Ag Day you will be sure to run into some familiar faces at the commodity pavilion enjoying a pork or ribeye sandwich. Don't forget to check out the dairy building and look at the cow made of butter!

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FFA Blue Jacket Delivers Lifetime Impact

I have an FFA sticker on my phone, an "FFA Bed" in our loft and the beat of blue and gold in my heart. My son quickly points out my FFA Mom t-shirt as an example of my FFA fascination, but I also own a navy blazer with gold blouse and FFA lapel pin.

I love FFA, and I'm proud to show it. FFA done well transforms lives. Likewise, agriculture programs with good teachers bring notice to the often-unnoticed teens. Immeasurable satisfaction swells within me and every one of our passionate volunteers who witness this national youth organization use agriculture as the avenue to develop young leaders, spark career interests, connect classroom learning to competitions, and provide conference and convention opportunities unlike any other school organization.

FFA is our family's sport, a competitive and disciplined organization with its own uniform. It is uniquely inter-curricular not extra-curricular as FFA weaves into agricultural education curriculum at the 7-12 grade level. Often, membership generates an incredible everlasting loyalty, adoration and allegiance that keeps the signature corduroy jackets in our closets decades past wearing them.

Through my two kids, our chapter's members and our FFA Alumni group, I'm gaining more from the blue jacket today than when I wore it. Our son leads quietly, a servant leader with a stellar record book in his passion for ag mechanics. My daughter just finished her term as the first major state officer in 60 years from our tiny school's FFA Chapter.

The high-profile privilege came with responsibility, never complacency. She deferred college for a year to serve and travel more than 20,000 miles in-state to advocate for agriculture, vocational education and FFA. She commonly worked 60-hour weeks, sometimes more, with her teammates. They led thousands of students at workshops and conferences with record-breaking attendance. The team traveled to D.C. twice in 12 months and conversed with nearly 30 legislators representing Illinois. Each state officer visited almost 100 high schools in the fall alone and delivered more than 25 speeches across the term.

Our daughter found inspiration in the people she met, was challenged by the demands of leadership and humbly accepted the constant requirement to perform in public and leave an impact. Through exhaustion, challenge, triumph, criticism and praise, she grew more personally and professionally in the last 12 months than I will in my lifetime.

I took photos or videos almost every weekend when the FFA-wrapped Bronco she drove during the term left our driveway. Eventually, I'll hang a photo of it near our "FFA Bed," a spare queen topped with navy linens and gold throw pillows to accommodate FFA state officer guests.

My drive to support FFA will never rest.

Get ready For IFB's NASCAR Racing Event

Tickets are now on sale for the Illinois Farm Bureau's membership appreciation NASCAR race in September in southwest Illinois.

The member-exclusive package includes a buffet meal with cash bar in a private VIP hospitality suite with a view of turn four, tickets to also view the race from the grandstand, a Gateway Garage Experience, Infield Fan Zone pass and VIP parking. It also includes entertainment with the bands to be announced, and participants can be on the field to see the trophy presentation.

"It's a family-friendly event," said Ashley Beutke, IFB member engagement manager, who enjoyed last year's NASCAR experience. "I'm not even a race fan, but it was amazing."

The NASCAR playoff race on Sept. 7 is at Worldwide Technology Raceway in Madison, near St. Louis. Tickets are \$200 each, with a value of \$400 each. Contact the Adams County Farm Bureau by email at acfbmanager@adams.net or call 217-222-7305 to register.

Prepare Your Farm for Severe Weather

Severe weather like tornadoes, flooding, droughts and wildfires can all take a toll on your farm equipment and property. So, before bad weather hits, make sure you take these steps to prepare.

1. Take inventory
 • Take inventory of your farm equipment and property to keep a record of exactly what's on your farm, what the value is and where it's located. This will come in handy in the case of a farm insurance claim. Download our farm inventory document from countryfinancial.com, fill it out and give it to your COUNTRY Financial Insurance Agent. Pro tip: Photos are a great way to inventory your tools and equipment in your sheds.

• Verify with your insurance agent that you have the proper insurance for livestock and equipment.

2. Prepare employees
 • Review emergency escape routes for each building. Keep in mind your emergency plan might differ depending on the event (tornado, flood, fire, etc.).

• Document procedures to account for all employees.
 • Determine a safe place for all employees to meet.

• Create an emergency contact list for owners, employees, family members, and suppliers.
 • Assign different roles and responsibilities to each employee, like who is responsible for taking care of livestock, moving equipment, or calling emergency contacts.

3. Inspect farm equipment
 Keep generators in working order. Make sure you have an adequate supply of liquid propane if power is out for multiple days. If portable generators are hooked up to tractors, make sure the tractor has adequate fuel supply.

4. Review farm insurance
 • Meet with your COUNTRY Financial Insurance Agent annually to review your farm insurance coverages and share any changes you have made to equipment and property. These conversations can help to identify any gaps in coverage and provide opportunities to discuss adding optional farm insurance coverages that are not currently on your policy.

• Discuss the process for filing a farm insurance claim if disaster strikes.

For more information on farm and crop insurance, visit countryfinancial.com.



Barb Baker Chapin

The American Farm Bureau via their "Farm State of Mind" campaign strives to increase awareness of the importance of farmer and rancher mental health wellness. As farmers and farm families, you well know that farming is a high stress occupation. Today, uncertainties regarding immigration, labor shortages, tariffs, supply chain problems, and agricultural policies increase stress for farmers and their families. These uncertainties, along with those uncertainties that farm families have dealt with for years - weather extremes, fluctuating markets, and crop diseases - can result in increased anxiety regarding the future.

There is a quote on the American Farm Bureau website I urge you to remember ... "A healthy farm or ranch is nothing without a healthy you!" If you are struggling with uncertainties and stress, I urge you to reach out for help. Tips from the American Farm Bureau include:

Remember, you are not alone - others who are farming are likely experiencing the same anxiety you are dealing with - so connect with others in the agricultural industry

Take a break from the news ... sometimes we just need to not listen to the constant news feed

Be sure to fill your day with something that you enjoy such as a walk in the sun ... a call to a trusted and supportive friend ... a dinner out ... an hour reading a book, etc.

When you feel overwhelmed, reach out to your spouse, a friend, a support group, or a mental health professional - don't isolate yourself

There are many resources available to farmers and farm families - use them! Go to www.ifb.org for a listing of resources for farmers and their families. One of the resources is *Togetherall* - an online peer support group where you can get support from other farmers/farm families. And, of course, there are local mental health resources. Transitions provides walk-in services Monday - Thursday from 8 AM - 5 PM and on Fridays from 8 AM - 4 PM. No appointment is needed.

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Visit acsuicideprevention.org

You will find helpful information regarding what to do if you or a loved one is struggling with depression and/or suicidal thoughts, as well as helping resources in the area

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ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU June Board Meeting Minutes

The regular board meeting of the Adams County Farm Bureau was called to order by President Ben Hugenberg at 7:00 p.m. on June 11, 2025.

Annabelle Schaffnit led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Attendance was taken by Secretary Brad Duncan.

GUESTS: Adams County 8th Circuit Judge Gabe Grosboll
Concerns from members: Board of Directors - no report

The Adams County Farm Bureau Board Directors adjourned the regular Farm Bureau board meeting and convened as the Adams County Farm Bureau Foundation Board.

Adams County Farm Bureau Foundation: Chairman, Tim Ellerbrock
Golf sponsorships donations are still being sought.

Raffle prizes are all set. Rick Edwards will be cooking meat at the golf tournament.

It was moved and seconded to donate \$20,000 to Extension for the Ag Literacy Program. The motion carried.

The golf outing will be held on June 27 at the Arrowhead Heights Golf Course in Camp Point.

The Golf Committee will meet on June 25 at 10:30 a.m. to fill golf goodie bags.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2025-2026 Foundation budget. The

motion carried.

Foundation Grant: Chairman, Ryan Meyer

Two 4-H project grant applications were presented to the Board of Directors. A motion was made and seconded to approve \$200 for the 4-H project of Wyatt Kill and \$200 for the 4-H project of Callie Longlett. The motion carried.

The Adams County Farm Bureau reconvened the regular Farm Bureau Board Meeting.

FARM BUREAU SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORTS:
The **Secretary's Report** was given by Brad Duncan.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Secretary's Report for the month of May. The motion carried.

The **Treasurer's Report** was given by Nathan Parker.

A motion was made and seconded to put excess funds into a cash fund at Edward Jones Investments. The motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of May. The motion carried.

The **Membership Report** was given by Annabelle Schaffnit.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the new members and Membership Report for the month of May. The motion carried.

FARM BUREAU COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Legislative Committee: Chairman, Ryan Meyer

Four board members are planning to attend State Representative Kyle Moore's luncheon to be held on June 20.

The Farm Bill Working Group in looking for volunteers.

Marketing Committee: Chairman, Brad Duncan - no report
Young Farmers Committee: Chairman, Trevor Maters

The Young Leader's baseball outing is scheduled for June 17 at QU stadium.

The Young Professionals Titan tour is scheduled for June 18.

Local Affairs Committee: Chairman, Nathan Parker
Ameren Illinois approved a solar project near Ursa. The Adams County Board approved it.

The Adams County Board did not approve a solar project in Quincy.

Building Committee: Annabelle Schaffnit

After conducting a secret ballot by the Board of Directors a motion was made and seconded to finance funds for a new roof. The motion carried. A motion was then made and seconded to table the motion to finance funds in order to get quotes from financial institutions. The motion carried.

A representative from Ameren Illinois visited the Farm Bureau office about new light fixtures through the Business Energy Efficiency Incentive Program.

Viewpoint Committee: Chairman, Tim Ellerbrock - no report
Ag in the Classroom Committee: Chairwoman, Danelle Donley

The AITC Committee met on June 11.

AITC Coordinator Kinsey Tiemann has seen over 2,700 kids in daycare and over 13,000 in the school classrooms.

Public Relations Committee: Chairman, Ryan Meyer

We will ask JFB to help fund local radio ads. A motion was made and seconded to continue running local radio ads for one year. The motion carried.

Executive Committee: Chairman,

Ben Hugenberg

Met on June 4 to set the agenda for the June board meeting.

Fair Committee: Chairman, Alan Ippensen

We will work on making some signage for the fair booth backdrop.

A motion was made and seconded to make two ag banners - one for AITC and the other for pro-ag. The motion carried.

Annual Meeting/Appreciation Picnic: Chairman, Grant Hubert

The Beef Producers will be cooking the pork for the picnic.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager, Annabelle Schaffnit
Facebook stats
Director certification
Illinois Soybean Association will hold a meeting at the Orr Center on August 18.

The Adams County Bicentennial Finale will be held on September 6 at the Adams County Fair Grounds starting at 2 p.m.

Farm bill working group volunteers

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager, Annabelle Schaffnit
Received a thank you from Garrett Flesner for the scholarship.

Received a thank you from AITC Coordinator Kinsey Tiemann for the gift card.

Morgan Falconer gave a bid

for the first audit. As time goes on the cost will go down. A motion was made and seconded to go with Morgan Falconer for the FYE 06/30/2026 audit. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

The retirement party for Shawn is set for June 14 at The Dock.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2025-2026 budget. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made and seconded to pay Shawn Valter one half of his manager salary for helping new manager Annabelle Schaffnit during the month June. The motion carried.

The NASCAR Cup Race will be held September 7 in Madison, IL. The cost is \$200 per ticket.

The Nominating Committee was appointed as follows: Larry Ippensen, Danelle Donley and Doug Duncan. They will attend the July board meeting and interview those Directors whose term expire this year.

The next board meeting will be held on July 7, 2025 in the Farm Bureau boardroom starting at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Brad Duncan Secretary

Policy Moves to Boost Domestic Soybean Oil Demand

U.S. biofuel producers are expected to use more than half the country's soybean oil supply next year following recent federal policy moves that are positive for the industry.

USDA's July world agricultural supply and demand estimates report highlighted a notable shift in soybean oil demand, influenced by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed rule for Renewable Fuel Standard volumes for 2026 and 2027. USDA raised soybean oil used for biofuel for 2025-26 by 1.6 billion pounds to 15.5 billion, reflecting a 23% increase from the prior three-year average.

"EPA not only significantly raised the mandates but also proposed to reduce the number of Renewable Identification Numbers (RIN) generated for imported renewable fuels and renewable fuels produced from foreign feedstocks starting in 2026, which increases demand for domestically produced feedstocks like soybean oil," according to the report.

U.S. soybean crush for 2025-26 was raised 50 million bushels to 2.54 billion, supported by higher demand for soybean oil for biofuel. However, soybean exports for 2025-26 were lowered 70 million bushels to 1.75 billion due to higher U.S. domestic demand, higher exports for Argentina and Ukraine, and larger Brazilian supplies.

The surprise surge in EPA's proposed biomass-based diesel volumes was welcomed by biofuels and ag groups, including Illinois Farm Bureau.

EPA's proposal sets the total biofuel blending volumes at 24.02 billion gallons in 2026 and 24.46 billion gallons in 2027. That compares with blending requirements of 22.33 billion gallons in 2025. Biomass-based diesel blending requirements jump from 3.35 billion gallons in 2025 to 5.61 and 5.86 billion gallons in 2026 and 2027 - higher than the request of 5.25 billion gallons by biofuels and petroleum groups.

EPA also is proposing foreign biofuels and feedstocks are only being provided 50% of the value of the RIN relative to domestic biofuels and feedstocks.

If finalized, these would be the highest volume requirements ever under the Renewable Fuel Standard program.

The extension of the clean fuel production credit, or 45Z, in the recently signed federal budget reconciliation bill also helped boost USDA's estimates. The credit incentivizes the production of transportation fuels with lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions below certain thresholds by providing a per-gallon income tax credit to qualifying fuel producers.

The reconciliation bill extends 45Z from 2027 to 2029 and prevents the use of foreign feedstocks outside of the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION RAFFLE

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Sat., Sept. 6th, San Francisco Giants 6:15 p.m.
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\$200 Gas Card
Donated by PrairieLand FS

**PRIZE #3 - Niemann's
Grocery Card (\$300)**
Donated by Niemann Foods

PRIZE #4 - Meat Bundle
2 names to be drawn, 1 for each bundle
Beef Bundle (\$350)
Donated by John Schmitt & Doug Greenwell
Pork Bundle (\$350)
Donated by Brent Clair

**PRIZE #5 - CVA Scout TD .400 Legend
Stainless Steel/Black Shot Rifle (\$450)**
(Must have a valid FOID card)
Donated by Farm and Home Store

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JOHN WOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
JWCC Agriculture Center Update
 EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE
 By Jody Heavner, Director



June found us hosting high school agriculture teachers from across the state of Illinois for a workshop regarding the use of drones in the classroom as well as their use in the agriculture industry. A big thank you to Blake McGrew from Drone Deploy for taking time to bring his equipment for demonstration and answer questions regarding industry usage and licensing. Teachers had the opportunity to share ideas and take home supplies to be used in the classroom. A special thank you to Allie Bode from FCAE Local Program Success for arranging and sponsoring the event. We look forward to hosting more events to assist our high school programs in the future.

A BIG Thank You to all who sponsored holes and attended the



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We Want To Hear From Our Readers

If you have letters to the editor, which you would like to appear in this paper concerning agricultural related topics, we be interested in hearing from you. Please limit your letters to 300 words and a name and address must accompany each letter to be published. All letters are subject to editing.

The Adams County Farm Bureau reserves the right to reject any letter. No political endorsements will be published. A daytime phone number is required for verification; however, the number will not be published. You may email your letters or comments to acfb@adams.net or send them to Adams County Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 3037, Quincy, IL 62305.

JWCC Ag Alumni Golf Outing on July 11th. Despite the heat, the crowd enjoyed great food and comradery for a great cause. All funds raised by the Alumni directly benefit our students. We are incredibly grateful to all who helped, volunteered, donated and attended. Looking forward to next year!

Join us Monday August 18th at the JWCC Ag Education Center as we host the Illinois Soybean Association Legislative Townhall. The event will be held from 7:30-9:00 a.m. and include a light breakfast. Event highlights include discussion of policy topics including Illinois Estate Tax, low carbon fuel standard, biodiesel blenders tax credit, and regulatory updates with Andrew Larson the Director of Government Relations and Strategy. Contact Matthew Johnston at matthew.johnston@ilssoy.org or call him at 309-846-4598 with questions or to register. Hope to see you there!

September is right around the corner. The University of Illinois Beef Field Day will be held on September 10th. We invite you join us to learn about the latest research being conducted and best practices for today's producers.

The 22nd Annual JWCC Fall Invitational Livestock Judging Contest, sponsored by the JWCC Ag Alumni, ADM Animal Nutrition, MoorMan's ShowTec and the

JWCC Livestock Evaluation Club is scheduled for Friday, September 19. The event will be held at the JWCC Agricultural Education Center. Final Registration and check-in is from 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Contest begins with welcome and instructions at 9:00 a.m. We welcome all FFA Chapter, 4-H Clubs or individuals to attend. Please contact us with any questions or to register.

Be on the lookout for information regarding our Career Fair. We are planning now and will be sending information to previous exhibitors. If you or someone you know is interested in hiring an intern or full-time employee, reach out to jheavner@jwcc.edu with contact information to be added to our invitation list. Last year was a huge success and we can't wait to see what this year brings!

Registration for Fall 2025 classes is well under way. There is still plenty of time to visit the Ag Center and make a plan to attend. We would love to schedule a visit for anyone interested. With curriculum from Agribusiness to Animal Science, Crop Science, Ag Mechanics and Ag Education, we would love to have an opportunity to share the possibilities with anyone looking for just the right fit. As always, feel free to reach out with any questions. Contact us at jheavner@jwcc.edu or call the Ag Center at 217-236-4711.

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- 1) Members may run non-commercial classified ads free of charge.
- 2) Advertisements will be accepted on a first-come first serve basis.
- 3) Ads must be in the Farm Bureau office by the 15th of each month to appear in the next month's issue.
- 4) We reserve the right to refuse any or all ads.

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