

HENRY COUNTY FARMER



Official Publication Of The Henry County Farm Bureau, Cambridge, IL 61238

HENRY COUNTY FARM BUREAU DATEBOOK

NOVEMBER

- 4**.....Henry County Fair Annual Meeting, HCFB boardroom, 7pm
- 5**.....Henry County Pork Producers Meeting, HCFB boardroom, 7pm
- 9**.....HCFB Young Leaders "Cram the Cab" Food Drive, Geneseo Fareway, 9am-2pm
- 11**.....HCFB Office Closed for Veteran's Day
- 14**.....Market Outlook Seminar, Lavendar Crest Winery, 6:15pm RSVP Required
- 19**.....HCFB Executive Committee Meeting, HCFB office, 6pm
- HCFB Annual Meeting,** HCFB Boardroom, 6:30pm
- HCFB Board of Directors Meeting,** HCFB Boardroom, 7pm
- 28-29**.....HCFB Office Closed for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 2**.....District 3 Delegates Meeting, HCFB Boardroom, 5:30pm
- 7-10**.....Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago

"BUSHEL'S FOR HUNGER" GRAIN DRIVE KICKS OFF 15TH YEAR



The Bushels for Hunger program is kicking off its 15th year of area farmers helping local families. Farmers can donate bushels of grain at participating elevators from October 1, 2024 until January 31, 2025. Proceeds from grain sales will benefit the River Bend Food Bank and food pantries throughout the Quad City area. Since 2010, area farmers have donated over \$324,000 and provided over 1.6 million meals to those in need.

Mercer County farmer and Illinois Farm Bureau District 3 Director Jeff Kirwan is excited about the continued efforts of the campaign. "Fifteen years after its start, the Bushels for Hunger campaign is as strong as ever. Our local farmers continue to support the program and generously donate bushels of grain to help fight hunger in the Quad City communities," Kirwan says.

"We are grateful for our farmers who continue to support the program," said Katie Laleman, Manager of the Henry County Farm Bureau. "Over the past fifteen years, we have formed a wonderful partnership with the River Bend Food Bank, our local grain elevators and ethanol plants, and our farmers to help fight food insecurities right here in our own communities."

The Bushels for Hunger program is a joint program coordinated by the following three Illinois County Farm Bureaus: Rock Island, Henry, and Mercer in conjunction with the following area grain elevators and ethanol plants: Atkinson Grain, Big River Resources, Cargill, CHS, Gold Star FS, Hillsdale Elevator, and River Valley Cooperative. For more information, contact the Henry County Farm Bureau at www.henrycofarmbureau.org.

The Henry & Stark County Health Department and First Choice Healthcare Notes November American Diabetes Month & Diabetes Education Week, Nov. 3-9

The Henry and Stark County Health Departments and First Choice Healthcare note that November has been designated as National Diabetes Awareness Month and November 3-9 is Diabetes Education Week. Nearly 26 million children and adults have diabetes and an additional 79 million are at-risk for developing Type 2 Diabetes. The Health Department and First Choice Healthcare, along with the American Diabetes Association (ADA), wants to raise awareness about the importance of knowing the risk factors and symptoms

associated with diabetes; as well as, its serious and life-threatening complications such as heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney disease and amputation.

Diabetes is dangerous because high blood sugar isn't usually something you can feel. Many people have no outward type 2 diabetes symptoms at all and can go years without being diagnosed. That's why it's important to be aware of the type 2 diabetes symptoms and risk factors for diabetes.

Get screened by a health care provider if you have the following type 2 diabetes symptoms:

- Being unusually thirsty
- Having to urinate often
- Feeling hungry all the time
- Losing weight (without trying)
- Having blurry vision
- Feeling very tired
- Frequent infections
- Cuts and sores that heal slowly

HENRY COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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GRANTS PROMOTE AG LITERACY FOR HENRY COUNTY YOUTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

The Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom (IAITC) program remains a trusted teacher resource for educating Henry County children about connections to agriculture. This week the program received funding to continue classroom lessons thanks to IAA Foundation grants to local county coalitions.

Eighty-one coalitions serving 88 Illinois counties were awarded \$647,000 in grant dollars which can be used for materials, training, educational lessons, and activities taking place during the 2024-2025 school year. "Providing these grants ensures teachers have a local connection and access to engaging resources to integrate accurate agricultural content into their classrooms," said Kevin Daugherty, education director, IAITC.

Last school year, 634,314 students and 48,380 teachers engaged in ag literacy lessons through IAITC. County AITC programs presented 32,232 individual programs throughout the state, an average of 400 per coalition.

The Henry County Agriculture in the Classroom program, conducted by Coordinator Paula Janson, reaches over 11,000 students each year.

County coalition grants are made possible through funding from the IAA Foundation, the charitable arm of the Illinois Farm Bureau. The IAA Foundation raises funds for the IAITC program each year, and in addition to county grants, provides funding



for Ag Mags, teacher grants, Summer Ag Academies, and more.

"Consistent and sustainable funding is key for IAITC to have great results," said Susan Moore, director, IAA Foundation. "And knowing that so many Illinois students are making stronger connections to agriculture drives our donors to keep making ag literacy a priority, and we are grateful for that."

Partner organizations of IAITC include Illinois Farm Bureau, Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education, University of Illinois Extension, Illinois Beef Association, Illinois Corn Marketing Board, Illinois Pork Producers Association, Illinois Soybean Association, Midwest Dairy Association, Illinois Department of Agriculture and the Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

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

FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of the Henry County Farm Bureau Foundation to be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024. The Foundation meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Henry County Farm Bureau, Cambridge, Illinois.

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Market Outlook Seminar

featuring Matt Bennett, AgMarket.Net



Matt Bennett, Co-Founder of AgMarket.Net, will be the featured speaker on Thursday, November 14 at 6:15 p.m. at Lavender Crest Winery, 5401 US Highway 6, Colona. Dinner will be served followed by the local grain market update from Tom Parchert of River Valley Cooperative. **Reservations are required and must be made by November 7 to guarantee your attendance.**

Matt Bennett is a co-founder of AgMarket.Net. He is also a Windsor, Illinois, farmer and former grain elevator owner. He is Channel Seed's grain marketing consultant and holds a Series 3 brokerage license doing business through AgMarket.Net, Farm Division of JSA. Matt brings the producer perspective to the table, enriched with his extensive grain marketing background. He specializes in formulating risk-management strategies for corn, soybean farmers and livestock producers.

Matt's analysis and commentary on the grain markets appears on various TV and radio stations across the Midwest, including "AgDay", "U.S. Farm Report", "Market to Market" and "This Week in AgriBusiness".

A graduate of University of Illinois, Matt and his wife Tiffany live on the family's centennial farm north of Windsor, where they are raising their five children. He owns and operates a 3,000-acre corn and soybean farm with his father while raising 60 head of registered Angus cows.

Additional dates and speakers for the 2024-2025 series include:

- March 13, 2025 – Joe Camp, CommStock Investments
- July 1, 2025 – Chip Nellinger, Blue Reef Agri-Marketing

Cost for the series is \$90.00 and a single session is \$35.00 (if not pre-registered cost will be \$40.00).

To make reservations, please call the Henry County Farm Bureau (309) 937-2411, Rock Island County Farm Bureau (309) 736-7432 or Mercer County Farm Bureau (309) 582-5116.

The Market Outlook Seminar Series is sponsored by the Henry, Rock Island and Mercer County Farm Bureau Marketing Committees, in conjunction with: Gold Star FS, COUNTRY Financial, BankORION, COUNTRY Crop Insurance, Central Bank, Compeer Financial, Big River Resources, River Valley Cooperative, Wyffels Hybrids, Hertz Farm Management, Blackhawk Bank & Trust.

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EDUCATING YOUNG DRIVERS IN GENESEO

The Driver's Education student safety program, "Share the Road", concluded this fall with presentations to students at Geneseo High School. Along with Gold Star FS; Farm Bureau Directors, Bridgett Wildermuth and Emily Baum, spoke to 150 students about sharing the road with farm equipment and rural driving dangers.

Two Million Saved



Illinois Farm Bureau members saved \$2 million in a year, using tangible member benefits.



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- COVER Your Cough!
- CONTAIN Germs!





UNCOVERING THE BENEFITS OF COVER CROPS

Grandpa never dreamed we'd be planting and harvesting at the same time. Nor did we.

A sizable percentage of our farmland will green up with new growth as we park the harvesting equipment in the shed for the season. Because shortly after corn is harvested from the fields, our local cooperative plants cereal rye that grows to provide a protective growing blanket before the next cash crop of soybeans.

The rye survives the winter and by early spring, the green-and-growing cover crop in our fields contrasts the otherwise barren landscape. You can literally see that you're keeping the soil alive.

Alive and well: Earthworms thrive. Soil feels soft and smooth in our hands. Cover crops help the land percolate, welcoming water and nutrients to reach the roots of our soybeans rather than run off the surface.

Throughout the Illinois landscape, more farmers adopt the use of cover crops, a groundcover planted with the intention of never harvesting it. Instead, a cover crop's job is to hold soil in place, keep the soil active, store nutrients, retain moisture and improve the soil structure. The cover crop makes an impressive mechanism that chokes out yield-robbing weeds. Environmental benefits abound, including reduction of both soil erosion and nutrient loss into rivers and streams. The practice is highly rewarded in carbon programs for a farm's ability to cut its carbon footprint.

By spring, I plant soybeans directly into what appears to be fields of grass. Dad then terminates the cover crop with herbicide, prompting a residual blanket between the rows for continued weed suppression while the decomposing material releases moisture and nutrients for the new growing crop.

This fall, some farms will use a drill to mechanically sow cover crops on the land. Others hire aerial applications by plane or drone, which involves showering cover crop seed above standing corn or soybeans just before fall harvest to grow by late fall. For us, the local cooperative uses fertilizer-spreading trucks to broadcast cover crop seeds across a harvested field.

No matter the method, those seeds make soil contact, grow and green up the landscape soon after harvest, ensuring a form of crop continuously covers a growing percentage of farmland in our state – even in the dead of an Illinois winter.

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

Farm Bureau
Salutes the
COUNTRY
Financial
Membership
Recruiter of the
Month



Erin Spivey,
Kewanee



BOOK DONATION TO ALWOOD SCHOOL

Makenna Walker (left), of the Henry County Farm Bureau Women, is pictured with Katie Dhabalt, AlWood Elementary Library Aide, to donate the book "The Soil in Jackie's Garden". Each year Farm Bureau Women donate a book, with an agriculture focus, to all county elementary schools and public libraries.



**NOMINATE
A STUDENT TODAY!**

IFB accepts student nominations from FFA advisers, coaches, club or activity sponsors, 4-H or county-fair representatives.

Monthly winners will be spotlighted on the RFD Radio Network, FarmWeekNow.com and in FarmWeek.

**SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS ONLINE:
FARMWEEKNOW.COM/ACTIVELYENGAGED**

**LEARN MORE ABOUT ALL
UPCOMING EVENTS, BENEFITS,
AND MORE**



HENRYCOFARBUREAU.ORG



FARM BUREAU WOMEN MAKE BOOK DONATION

Henry County Farm Bureau Women donated agricultural books to all grade schools and public libraries in the county. This is the 34th year that books have been donated that are agriculture related. The book and resource guide presented this year is "The Soil in Jackie's Garden" by Author, Peggy Thomas. Pictured with Anne Seys, Geneseo Elementary Library Secretary is Karen Lyman (right) representing the Farm Bureau Women.



FALL IS FOR PUMPKINS!

Third grade students at Cambridge Elementary School learned about pumpkins and made a pumpkin life cycle charm during their Agriculture in the Classroom program.



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LEARNING ABOUT BATS

First grade students at Northside Elementary School in Geneseo learned how bats are helpful to agriculture and made a crafty bat. Ag in the Classroom Coordinator, Paula Janson, led the educational program for students.

IFB ANNOUNCES 2ND YEAR OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) announced that it is distributing \$100,000 in rural development grants to projects that positively impact rural communities across the state. The application period is open now and closes on Dec. 18.

Now in its second year, IFB's rural development grant program focuses on projects that create opportunities for rural communities and their residents, such as economic development or improved infrastructure. Last year, IFB awarded \$30,000 across ten grant projects. This year, the organization will more than triple that amount and award \$100,000 across multiple grants.

"At Illinois Farm Bureau, serving our rural communities is at the core of our mission," said Ryan Tate, IFB's associate director of local government. "Throughout Illinois, communities are doing incredible work for their residents, and we are proud to partner with them as their projects turn into reality."

In its inaugural year, grant recipients included school districts, food access cooperatives, tourism development programs, infrastructure improvements and more. This year, IFB has committed up to \$20,000 of the grant funds to support emergency service providers.

"The rural development grant program is a great arm of the Farm Bureau," said Rebecca Perry, the manager of Edwards County Farm Bureau, which received a grant in 2024. "Local affairs are one of the pillars of Farm Bureau, and grants like these help communities thrive."

To apply, contact your local county Farm Bureau. For more information, visit ilfb.org/rdgrants. Grant recipients will be notified by Jan. 31, 2025.

Diabetes Month & Diabetes Education Week, Nov. 3-9

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If you are over age 45, talk with your health care provider about being tested for diabetes, especially if you are overweight or have family members with the condition. Regardless of your age, if you are overweight and have one or more of the other risk factors listed, the ADA suggests that you be tested for diabetes now.

And for diagnosed diabetics, the First Choice Healthcare notes they have low-cost lab services available with a doctor's order. Testing is available through their clinic

offices in Kewanee 309-852-5272; Colona 309-792-4011; and Toulon 309-852-3115.

In addition, First Choice Healthcare reminds area residents that our Family Nurse Practitioners in Kewanee, Colona and Toulon can help with the management of non-insulin dependent diabetes management; high blood pressure and high cholesterol. If you don't know your blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol numbers; we have services that can help you see where you stand.



YOUNG LEADERS AWARD FFA JACKET SCHOLARSHIPS

Kathryn Justus, HCFB Young Leader, is pictured presenting the FFA Jacket Scholarship award to Olivia Calderon of the Galva FFA Chapter. Olivia was one of three applicants selected to receive a scholarship from the Farm Bureau Young Leaders to be used towards the purchase of her FFA Jacket.

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- Hillsdale Elevator
- River Valley Cooperative

Proceeds benefit the River Bend Food Bank



Sponsored by the Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island County Farm Bureaus



GENESEO FFA WINS SAFETY DISPLAY CONTEST

Shane Asher, Chair of the Henry County Farm Bureau Young Leaders, presented the Geneseo FFA with an award of \$200 for their first-place entry in the Safety Display Contest, held during National Farm Safety & Health Week. Shane is pictured with members of the Geneseo FFA Chapter.

You can make a difference in rural Illinois!

Do you have a project to meet your community's needs?

Learn More Here
<https://on.ilfb.org/RDGrantCFB>

Rural development requires a team effort. The Rural Development Grants will be awarded in conjunction with county Farm Bureaus and their local partners. **For more information about the program, please contact your local county Farm Bureau or email RDgrants@ilfb.org.**

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

PUMPKIN BARS

From the kitchen of Carol Dobbels



Ingredients:

- 4 Eggs
- 2 cups of flour
- 2 cups of sugar
- 2 tsp of baking powder
- 2 cups of pumpkin
- 1 tsp of baking soda
- 1 cup of vegetable oil
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- 1 cup of nuts

Instructions:

Beat eggs, sugar and oil until light and fluffy. Add pumpkin and beat well. Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda and cinnamon. Combine all ingredients and stir in nuts. Bake at 350* for 25-30 minutes.

Frosting:

- 3oz of Cream cheese
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 3 cups of powdered sugar
- ¾ stick of butter
- 1 T. Cream

Soften cream cheese and butter, mix with cream, vanilla and powdered sugar. Beat until smooth and creamy. Spread on cooled pumpkin bars, sprinkle with remaining nuts.

CRAM THE CAB FOOD DRIVE **SATURDAY, 9th NOVEMBER**
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Donations will go to a local food bank

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GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FARM BUREAU POLICY

102. FIREARMS

We support:

1. Active promotion of gun safety programs.
2. Repeal of the Firearms Owners Identification Act (FOID).
3. The Firearm Concealed Carry Act issuing permits to carry concealed firearms to qualified Illinois' citizens through an appropriate application process.
4. Current laws that requires background checks and waiting periods for handgun purchases.
5. Legislation to allow active military personnel residing in Illinois the opportunity to obtain a concealed carry permit without regard to state of residence.
6. Strict enforcement of current laws.
7. The opportunity for school districts to allow school personnel to voluntarily carry a concealed firearm while on duty and on school property.
8. An Illinois State Police endorsed certification/ training program for school personnel who are approved by their school district to carry a concealed firearm on school property
9. Statewide efforts to explore the use of less lethal weapons in addition to lethal weapons in schools and other government institutions where children are usually present.
10. School districts engaging with law enforcement to provide active shooter training programs.
11. Timely processing of Concealed Carry License (CCL) permit applications and renewals that allow for completion within 60 days.

We oppose any type of gun registration program or new, more stringent gun control laws or rules.

MARKET OUTLOOK SEMINAR SERIES



Matt Bennett
 Co-Founder
 AgMarket.Net
(Registration deadline Nov. 7)

**THURSDAY
 NOVEMBER 14
 6:15 P.M.**

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