

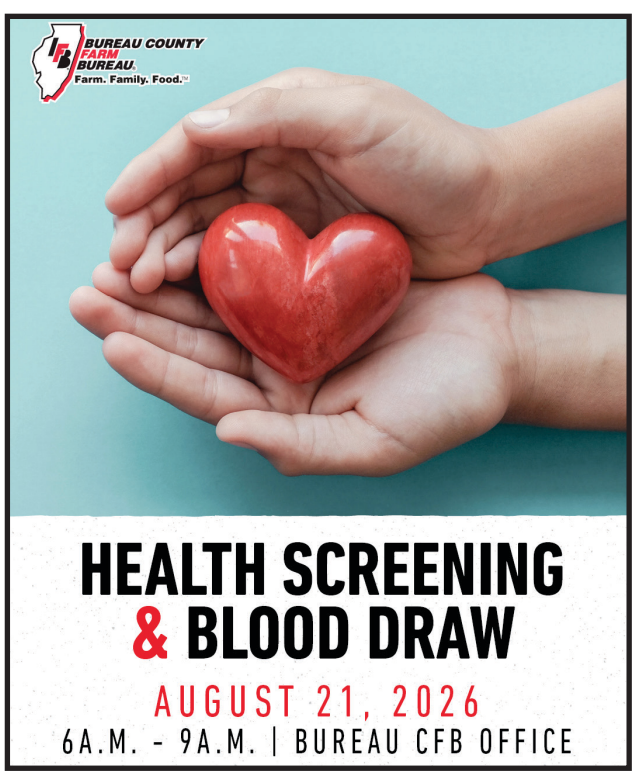

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?




Kennedy Kloepping grew up in Princeton, Illinois, and graduated from Princeton High School in 2022. She was a Bureau County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship recipient while attending Black Hawk College - East Campus and Western Illinois University.

During the summer of 2024, Kennedy served as the Bureau County Farm Bureau intern, where she was introduced to the Young Leaders program as well as gained a better understanding of the opportunities Illinois Farm Bureau provides to students as well the community at large. This experience showed her how valuable Illinois Farm Bureau resources can be inside of the classroom.

Kennedy recently graduated from Western Illinois University with a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education and has accepted a position as the Agriculture Teacher and FFA Advisor at Annawan High School. She is eager to build a hands-on program that encourages students to explore agriculture and take advantage of opportunities like the ones that helped shape her journey back to the classroom. Kennedy is grateful for the support of the Farm Bureau Foundation, whose scholarship and internship opportunities played a crucial role in her education and helped prepare her for her career in agricultural education.




Contact Bob Phillips, Director of Thrive Wellness, at (309) 550-9172 or bob@ thrivewellnessinc.com. We accept cash, check or debit/credit for payment. Appointments for this event are limited, please call now!

# BUREAU COUNTY MASTER SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST HELD

The annual Bureau County Master Showmanship Contest was held Friday, July 10, at the Bureau County 4-H Fair. The Master Showmanship Contest tests individuals' skills and knowledge of showing beef, swine, and sheep. Contestants were judged on their visual showmanship skills and were also asked questions about each of the species. The Master Showmanship Contest is hosted by the Bureau County Farm Bureau Foundation and the University of Illinois Extension.

Recognition was given to the top showman of each of the three species and a Grand Champion Overall Master Showman was awarded the top honors. Congratulations and best wishes to Toby Behrends, this year's Bureau County Master Showman!

Along with the title, Toby was awarded a $100 gift card and buckle from the Bureau County Farm Bureau Foundation and has the opportunity to represent Bureau County in the Illinois State Fair Master Showmanship Contest that will take place Friday, August 14.

The Reserve Overall Champion Showman was Lydia Hardy. Lydia received a $50 gift card from the Bureau County Farm Bureau Foundation and can represent Bureau County at the State Fair if Toby is unable to compete.

This event would not have been successful without the help of the livestock community. Thank you to judge Slone Windish for donating his time, the livestock owners for allowing the use of their animals, and the showmen for your patience and willingness to try new things!




L-R: Toby Behrends- Champion Sheep Showman, Champion Beef Showman, and Master Showmanship Winner; Owen Cady- Champion Swine Showman; Karlie Schultz; and Lydia Hardy- Reserve Master Showman.

# YOUNG LEADERS COMMITTEE OFF TO A STRONG START

The Bureau County Farm Bureau Young Leaders Committee is off to a great start as it continues its revitalization efforts. The committee held its first meeting on June 30, with 16 young farmers and professionals in attendance!!

During the kickoff meeting, attendees learned about the many opportunities available through the Young Leaders program at both the county and state levels, including leadership development, networking, educational events, and advocacy opportunities.

The committee met again on July 20, welcoming an even larger group of 20 attendees!! During the meeting, members developed a Program of Work for the 2026-27 year, outlining goals and activities to help strengthen agriculture and engage the next generation of agricultural farmers and leaders.

Stay tuned for upcoming events and opportunities to support these dedicated young farmers and professionals as they make a positive impact in Bureau County.