



# Shelby County Ag Promotion Committee

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Dear Community Patron:

January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

President:  
Jennifer Thopy

Vice-President:  
Luke Schonfeld

Treasurer:  
Jan Theobald

Secretary:  
Scott Gabbard

The mission of the Shelby County Ag Promotion Committee is to serve as goodwill ambassadors from the Ag Community to the general public. This committee has been responsible in the past for several outreach programs for our rural and urban citizens in our community. We have created programs that have promoted the education of our children, recognized outstanding members of the ag community and fostered a relationship of trust between the producers and consumers in our county.

In partnership with local farmers and agribusinesses, the Shelby County Ag Promotion Committee will host a "Taste of Shelby County Agriculture" for local businesses and the general public at Horseshoe Indianapolis on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Social hour will start at 5:30 PM. The dinner beginning at 7:00 PM.

For the 2025 Banquet, our featured guest is Governor Mike Braun. He'll be joined by Mitch Frazier, President & CEO of AgriNovus Indiana, as they have a "Fireside Chat" to discuss Braun's plan to help Hoosier farmers.

Hoosier Ag Today's C.J. Miller will host another "Fireside Chat" with Dr. Bret Marsh, the new Dean of Purdue's College of Veterinary Medicine. They will discuss efforts to stop the spread of the Bird Flu virus as well as other relevant topics. Lt . Governor Micah Beckwith will lead off the evening by sharing an update from the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and give the night's invocation.

Past keynote speakers include Jolene Brown, Trent Loos, Andrew McCrea, Former Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman, Radio Hall of Fame Broadcaster Orion Samuelson, Farming America Agriculture Journalist Max Armstrong, Market to Market Broadcaster Mark Pearson, Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh, Purdue Ag Dean Dr. Jay Akridge, Farmer & Humorist Mr. Jerry Carroll, and former Purdue President Martin Jischke. Other special guests and speakers have included TV personality Gerry Dick plus State Director of Agriculture Bruce Kettler and past directors Ted McKinney, Gina Sheets and Joe Kelsay. In addition, we provide forums for attendees to listen to insightful comments from leaders in their fields of expertise that directly impact agriculture and business within the state of Indiana.

Funds raised during this program allow Shelby County Ag Promotion to underwrite, fund or coordinate community activities. This includes our ongoing *renewable* scholarship support for area youth, the new barn and baby animal farm at the Shelby County Fair, the Progressive Farmer Farm & Home Safety Day-camp for all Shelby County fourth graders and the Leadership Shelby County Ag Day module.

To make this a successful program we are in need of your support. We have attained our 501 (c) 3 Charitable Organization designation by the IRS. Please let us know if your company needs appropriate documentation. Our sponsorships levels are as follows:

Double Platinum Sponsorship

- donation of \$2,000.00
- 16 dinner tickets (two reserved tables)
- opportunity to have a display
- special recognition on the program
- Two of a tier of tables located closest to the main table
- Double-sized sponsor twelve foot booth available for mixer

Platinum Sponsorship

- donation of \$1,000.00
- 8 dinner tickets (one reserved table)
- opportunity to have a six foot display booth
- special recognition on the program
- Table located strategically near front of event

Gold Sponsorship

- donation of \$600.00
- 8 dinner tickets (one reserved table)
- special recognition on the program
- six foot booth space will require an additional \$100 donation

Silver Sponsorship

- donation of \$300
- 4 dinner tickets
- special recognition on the program

Bronze Sponsorship

- donation of \$150
- 2 dinner tickets in general seating
- special recognition on the program

Individual tickets are \$60.00 in general seating.

For **PayPal** billing, additional information, sponsorship opportunities and ticket sales, you may contact the Shelby County Extension Office at 317-392-6460. Please make checks payable to Shelby County Ag Promotion Committee. Send checks to Shelby County Ag Promotion c/o Purdue Extension, 20 West Polk Street, Suite 201, Shelbyville, IN 46176.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Thopy  
President



Megan Spegal Platt  
Vice-President



Jan Theobald  
Treasurer