

## Get to Know Us

'Get to Know Us' is a feature of some of our Farm Bureau Young Leaders and volunteers. We hope to share what agriculture means to those featured, share the variety of agricultural jobs/careers in our surrounding areas, and have our communities get to know us a little better! This month's feature is on: Julie Snodgrass.



### **Tell us about yourself:**

I am a mixed animal veterinarian at Roseville Veterinary Services. I recently moved back to the area with my husband Lance, who is a nursery manager at Corteva Agrisciences in Davenport.

### **Did you grow up in agriculture?**

I grew up on a farm outside of Kirkwood. During my younger years, my family raised outdoor hogs and ran a few cattle, but as markets changed the farm has switched to all corn and soybeans. Some of my favorite memories of growing up involve being on the farm with my dad, raising meat rabbits for 4-H, and going to the WIU Farm Expo with my family.

### **Where did you go to college? What is your degree in?**

I attended Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for a bachelor's in Genetics, and went to vet school at the University of Illinois.

### **How many years of experience do you have in agriculture? What areas of the industry have you worked?**

Outside of helping my dad, my agricultural experience has all been in animal health and research. My high school job was as an assistant to a mixed animal veterinarian. In college, I was an undergrad tech in a beef genetics lab that worked closely with the American Angus Association to identify genes linked to healthier cattle and leaner beef. I also worked in a lab that studied BVD, which is a virus of economic importance to both the beef and dairy industries. In vet school, I spent a summer collecting blood and tissue samples for studies on various diseases affecting dairy cattle, and crunching data for a project on cost-effective treatments for uterine infections in dairy cattle. During my final year of school I traveled all over the Midwest to learn from amazing food animal veterinarians. Now, I work alongside two of those vets treating predominantly beef cattle and small animal patients.

### **What advice would you give students considering a career in an agriculture related field?**

If there is a particular career you are interested in, go shadow somebody who does that job! Job shadowing not only allows you to see whether or not you like a job, it is a great way to network. Even if you decide you don't want to pursue that field after all, agriculture is a small community and it is important to make connections no matter what career you end up in.

**What benefits do you get from the Farm Bureau Young Leaders?**

I enjoy interacting with other members and learning about their professions.

If anyone has any questions or comments for Julie, or would like to learn more about Farm Bureau and our Young Leader committee, please give us a call at 309-734-9401 or email [whfb@whfarmbureau.org](mailto:whfb@whfarmbureau.org).