

Views from VanDeWalle

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Farmers & Ranchers College

I'm excited to announce that the Farmers & Ranchers College committee continues to provide high-quality programming to area producers and agribusiness professionals with 2023-24 programming. Farmers & Ranchers College will kick off with its traditional program featuring Dr. David Kohl. The committee will continue the annual Cow/Calf College in January and end with a family farm succession program in March.

This year Farmers & Ranchers College will kick off December 7th featuring Dr. David Kohl Registration will start at 12:45 p.m. and the program will start at 1:00 p.m. at the Opera House in Bruning, NE. The program is titled, "Economic Shockwaves: Challenges & Opportunities." The business and economic landscape of agriculture can be described in one word as "anxious." Economic shockwaves have become a fact of life in managing businesses and financials in the agricultural industry. Disruptors such as inflation of energy and other prices and increasing interest rates along with consumer and societal trends must be incorporated into the strategic game plan.

This program is designed to look into the future, challenge the status quo, and see how macroeconomic trends impact everyday decisions. The business and financial practices that will place the odds of success in your favor despite extremes in volatility will be a focus. Dr. Kohl's decades of experience work as an academic, speaker, writer, business owner, and coach will provide wisdom and perspectives in an economic environment where uncertainty and opportunity coexist in the decade of the 2020s.

Many to the area are very familiar with Dr. Kohl, but if you are not, here are some details about him. Dr. Dave Kohl is an academic Hall of Famer in the College of Agriculture at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. Dr. Kohl has keen insight into the agriculture industry gained through extensive travel, research, and involvement in ag businesses. He has traveled nearly 10 million miles; conducted more than 6,500 presentations; and published more than 2,250 articles in his career. Dr. Kohl's wisdom and engagement with all levels of the industry provide a unique perspective into future trends.

In 2024, the Partners in Progress –Beef Seminar (Cow/Calf College) will be at U.S. Meat Animal Research Center near Clay Center on January 11th. More details will follow as the date nears. Finally, in March, Farmers & Ranchers College will host land succession program

Questions on the Farmers & Ranchers College can be directed to the Fillmore County Extension Office at (402) 759-3712. To participate and register, go to the website: go.unl.edu/farmersrancherscollege.