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## **ILLINI WEST HIGH SCHOOL AWARDED AMERICA'S FARMERS GROW COMMUNITIES DONATION FROM LOCAL COUNTY FARMER**

- **Each year, the America's Farmers Grow Communities program partners with local farmers to provide grants to local nonprofits.**
- **Grow Communities, which is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, provides farmers the opportunity to support and give back to nonprofit organizations they care about in their local communities by enrolling for a chance to direct a \$2,500 donation to a nonprofit of their choice.**
- **Since 2010, the Grow Communities program has given more than \$29 million to nonprofits across rural America.**

Carthage, IL April 26, 2018 – County farmer Tom Holtsclaw directed a \$2,500 to Illini West High School FBLA as part of the [America's Farmers Grow Communities](#) program, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund.

As part of their mission IWHS FBLA will use the funds to develop a stronger HorseHead Studios presence within the community. This will allow our facility to bring more specific High School content to our local community, build a stronger Social Media presence to engage our local community, and allow students to learn job skills that can be used to further their career and life goals. “This donation means more access to technology for our students and allows them to explore their future options in the Broadcast and Digital Production industry” said, Chris Greenhalge, IWHS, Information Technology Director and Sponsor of FBLA and HorseHead Studios.

Since the program began in 2010, the Grow Communities program has partnered with farmers to support nonprofit organizations important to them in their local communities. The program has given more than \$29 million to farming communities since its inception, including more than \$3 million in 2018. Each year, farmers enter for a chance to direct a \$2,500 donation to a nonprofit they care about in

their community. The organizations reflect the makeup and character of rural America, including emergency response organizations, schools, youth agriculture programs, food banks and many others.

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“Farmers play a pivotal role in rural communities, and through their commitment to the Grow Communities program, we are able to provide the monetary support these nonprofit organizations need to make an impact,” said Al Mitchell, Monsanto Fund president. “We’re proud to play a part in helping these rural communities grow and thrive.”

To see if a nonprofit in your local community is a 2018 America’s Farmers Grow Communities recipient, visit [www.GrowCommunities.com](http://www.GrowCommunities.com). You can also learn more about the Grow Communities program by checking out [Facebook.com/AmericasFarmers](https://Facebook.com/AmericasFarmers).

### **About America’s Farmers**

The America’s Farmers campaign highlights the importance of modern U.S. Agriculture through communications and community outreach programs that partner with farmers to impact rural America. To learn more, visit America’s Farmers at [www.AmericasFarmers.com](http://www.AmericasFarmers.com).

### **About the Monsanto Fund**

The Monsanto Fund, the philanthropic arm of Monsanto Company, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where farmers and Monsanto Company employees live and work. Visit the Monsanto Fund at [www.monsantofund.org](http://www.monsantofund.org).

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Pictured from Left to Right: Chris Greenhalge (IT Director), Matthew Peacock (Jr), Daytona Dooley (Jr), Ty Jackson (Jr)