

~ NEXTFARM COMPANIES ~



Farm Specific Technology is a company developed to commercialize innovative agricultural-related products in an effort to improve global food systems. Currently, they are in the developing stages of introducing their first product, the Flex Roller Crimper, patent pending technology designed to manage cover crops and weed pests without utilizing tillage or excessive herbicides, establishing an alternative method to produce food that is both safe and affordable to consumers through practices that are cost effective to producers.

Shawn Butler, President 731.225.9263
team@farmspecllc.org www.farmspecllc.org

Letters in Motion is a faith-based non-profit that is dedicated to providing hope to orphans through letters of encouragement via letter writing events, providing educational materials, and to improving the living conditions of orphans by supplying their basic needs.

John Sellers, Founder of Letters in Motion 731.608.4570
lettersinmotioninfo@gmail.com golettersinmotion.com

AgSmarts is a Precision Ag technology company that offers innovative solutions for data-driven agriculture. AgSmarts' platform combines hardware and software solutions into a versatile, powerful, and cost effective suite of tools that producers, researchers, and agronomic consultants can use today in the struggle to conserve natural resources, control operational costs, and maximize crop yields.

Brett Norman, CEO 901.207.6931
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~ ORGANIZERS ~

Carol Reed, Executive Director, Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center
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Dr. Todd Winters, Dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, UTM
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Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, Professor, Gilbert Parker Chair of Excellence in Agriculture and Natural Resources, UTM
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~ SPEAKERS ~

Brandon Whitt, of Batey Farms, is from an 8th generation family owned farm providing farm fresh sausage and pork products since 1807. They raise hogs, row crops, and hay, grow and sell strawberries, blueberries, blackberries, U-pick flowers and host events at their new farm event center "The Grove" at Williamson Place. He currently plans to open a new Malthouse in the spring of 2017 to cater into TN's growing craft beer market. The farm is also home to a pig whose face graces the cover of a famous children's book Charlotte's Web. Brandon has spent years traveling the country and abroad promoting agriculture and teaching the public the importance of our food system and how it has evolved with technology. Living by the motto, "preserving the past while embracing the future."

brandonwhitt@bellsouth.net bateyfarms.com 615.848.4178

Jimmy Tosh is the owner and CEO of Tosh Pork and Tosh Farms. Tosh Farms is a crop and swine production operation with 15,000 acres of row crops producing both white and yellow corn, soybeans, cotton, canola, wheat and barley and they raise 29,500 sows.

jtosh@toshfarms.net toshfarms.net 731.243.4861, ext. 117

Kelley Powers is part-owner of Final Flight Outfitters Inc., a mail-order catalog company, ecommerce site, and waterfowl retail store with a showroom of over 25,000 square feet, located in Union City, TN. In 1999, Mr. Powers won the World Goose Calling Champion of Champions® Contest. He also went on to win the International followed by the Masters, World Open and later the Worldwide Contest, which collectively is a feat that has never been achieved by any other individual.

sales@finalflight.net finalflight.net 731.885.5056

Chuck Doss has often been accused of being a "serial entrepreneur." He has been directly involved in the startup of 8 different companies. These businesses are responsible for the employment of nearly 500 in the West and Middle Tennessee/West Kentucky area including a tanning salon, audio marketing for convenience stores, agricultural irrigation and well drilling, full service human resources and benefits management, Mahindra tractor and Ferris zero turn mower dealership, and agriculture field tile and drainage.

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Colleen Coury is the regional coordinator in West Tennessee at the TN Department of Agriculture. Coury has more than twenty years of experience in equine sports marketing, corporate relations and destination marketing.

Colleen.Coury@tn.gov tn.gov/agriculture 731.426.0430

Mike Brundige is the owner of Brundige Farms, a 3,500 acre row crop family farming operation in Weakley and Obion Counties. Brundige holds a BS degree in Agricultural Education from the UT Martin. He is active in several farm organizations, board of directors, and commodity groups in the area.

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Innovating for Profit Symposium Supporters



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Innovating for Profit

“Building Rural Businesses from the Ground Up”

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

9am – 1pm

The University of Tennessee at Martin
Boling University Center, Watkins Auditorium

~ **AGENDA** ~

- 9:00—9:15** **Registration**
- 9:15—9:25** **Welcome: Dr. Todd Winters**
Introduction of Speakers: Carol Reed
- 9:25—9:35** **Company Pitch Presentation: Farm Specific Technology**
- 9:35—10:15** **Keynote Speaker: Brandon Whitt, Batey Farms**
- 10:15—10:25** **Company Pitch Presentation: Letters in Motion**
- 10:25—10:35** **Company Pitch Presentation: AgSmarts**
- 10:45—11:45** **“Speaking with Experience: From the Ground Up to
Forecasting the Future of Rural Business”**
Moderator: Mike Brundige
**Panel: Chuck Doss, Kelley Powers, and Jimmy Tosh,
Brandon Whitt**
- 11:45—12:00** **Wrap-Up: Dr. Joey Mehlhorn**
- 12:00—1:00** **Networking Lunch (Invitation Only), Room 206**
Chancellor Dr. Robert Smith, Interim Chancellor UTM
Speaker: Colleen Coury, TN Department of Agriculture