

Joanne and JoEllen Bendall Scholarship

The Joanne and JoEllen Bendall Scholarship was created in 2006 by Joanne and her daughter, JoEllen, to assist Fulton County residents to further their education. The fund has grown and has been successful throughout its time at the foundation.

Joanne passed away in 2015. She was a sixth-generation Fulton County farmer and worked for 25 years in the family business, the Fulton County Community Sale Barn. She was always around the farm and embraced the idea of simple living. Once she graduated high school, she studied at Purdue University to become a home economics teacher. She strongly believes that individuals should be taught life skills, such as light cooking and sewing. Shortly after graduating, she received a job at South Bend Community School Corporation. During her time there, she created the School Age Mothers program, which gave the opportunity for young mothers to gain skills and education for their future. Joanne worked hard and moved up to become the director of career/technical and adult education. After 47 years of dedicated work, her daughter encouraged her to retire. She begrudgingly agreed and began to enjoy her simple life in Fulton County. Bendall's simplistic lifestyle left her time to be active in the community including the First Baptist Church and a member of Master Gardeners, Retired Teachers Association, Tri Kappa, Delta Kappa Gamma, and the 4-H foundation.

Joanne's fierce integrity and productivity will never be forgotten. Her and her daughter's legacies will live on through this scholarship fund.