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## **The Pantheon Showcases Agricultural Technology Driving Knox County's Future**

Vincennes, IN – On September 4, 2025, The Pantheon Business Incubator and Co-Working Space hosted the Agricultural Technology Showcase, highlighting Knox County as a hub for agricultural innovation and entrepreneurship. The event brought together Purdue University's Agriculture Leadership Program, local farmers, startup founders, and industry leaders to discuss how collaboration is shaping the county's agricultural future. One of the highlights of the showcase was TerraForce, a robotics startup founded by Mike Jacob and launched at The Pantheon. With more than 90% of its early investment coming from Knox County, TerraForce demonstrates how local entrepreneurs and community partners are creating solutions with regional, statewide, and national impact. "It is great to be a part of a community that is actively creating its own future," said Mike Jacob, Founder & CEO of TerraForce. "TerraForce will not only make American farmers competitive and generate meaningful local economic outcomes, it will also give our best, brightest, and most curious minds a path to return home and contribute to the community that invested so heavily in them."

### **Collaboration Fuels Knox County's Growth**

The panel discussions emphasized the importance of partnerships, workforce development, and creating an ecosystem where farmers and entrepreneurs can thrive.

Highlights from the panel included:

- "We can solve the problem right here." – Drew Garretson
- "With The Pantheon we are getting a community together to solve problems. We didn't have that before." – Ethan Anson
- "People, place, and partnerships – this county has them. The Pantheon and Knox County are providing an ecosystem for startups." – Christy Wright, CEO of AgriNovus Indiana
- "The closest place to find innovation used to be in Florida, Louisiana, or California. Now we can drive five minutes to The Pantheon." – Brady Mouzin
- "Working together works. The city and county came together to create The Pantheon, and now we're collaborating with our neighbors every day." – Tim Smith

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## A Bright Spot for Rural Innovation

Panelists looked ahead to 2035, envisioning a future with mass automation, healthier communities, and a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem in Knox County. They also emphasized the need to continue attracting workforce talent and providing tools for young innovators.

“The Pantheon is a bright spot in our community,” one panelist noted. “It brings together people who wouldn’t normally collaborate, and it’s helping to grow the next generation of innovators.”

By hosting the Agricultural Technology Showcase, The Pantheon underscored its role as a catalyst for rural innovation — connecting local talent, regional partners, and statewide leaders to accelerate Knox County’s agricultural future.

## ABOUT THE PANTHEON

The Pantheon’s mission is to spark innovation and fuel entrepreneurship by inspiring, growing, and supporting new and existing businesses in Knox County. The Pantheon is Southern Indiana’s hub for entrepreneurship and innovation, offering coworking spaces, business advising, and strategic programming to help startups and small businesses succeed.



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