

Kane County Farmer



**KANE COUNTY
FARM BUREAU®**
Farm. Family. Food.™

Enhance the quality of life for member families;
Promote agriculture, farms & food; and,
Advocate good stewardship of our land and resources.

VOL. 82 NO. 4 APRIL 2017

Welcome Spring at Touch-A-Tractor, April 7-9

You don't have to travel to the country to get a close up look at farm life. The Farm Bureau invites your family to Touch-A-Tractor, our annual farm-city community event, April 7-9, to celebrate agriculture and the coming of spring. Easy to understand signs next to the modern farm machinery will explain the technology that goes into planting and harvesting our nation's food supply. More than a dozen antique tractors from area farms will be on hand for Mom and Dad to get that perfect photo of the kids for the grandparents.

Kids can participate in hands-on activities, ride pedal tractors, shell corn, see farm animals, have fun at a percussion string, take pictures with farm-themed backdrops, and play and sit in the seat of one of dozens of tractors. There will be a FREE Pedal Tractor Drawing for kids 8 and under – one entry per child.

Hours are noon to 4pm on Friday, 10 am to 4 pm Saturday, and 10am to 3pm Sunday. Admission is a donation of \$5 per family or \$2 per adult (children 18 & under free). Funds will be used for college scholarships and agricultural literacy



programs. A Winner's Choice raffle ticket stub will also gain you FREE family entry.

The Elburn Lions Club will have food for purchase from 11-2 on Saturday and Sunday. FFA volunteers will provide fresh, hot popcorn for a donation

On Sunday, April 9, at 3pm the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation will announce scholarship recipients for the 2017-18 school year, announce the winners in the Foundation's annual Winner's Choice Tractor Raffle, the not-for-profits' biggest fundraiser for scholarship and agricultural literacy programs and will draw one winner under 8 years of age for a FREE pedal tractor, compliments of the Kane County Farm Bureau.



Touch-A-Tractor



Photos, clockwise from top left:

Touch-A-Tractor features fun children's activities like a Farm Toy Corral. Here children can play with model tractors, combines, and trucks.

Touch-A-Tractor is a farm/city event at the Kane County Farm Bureau. The fun lasts all weekend long, April 7-9.

Bring your child/grandchild and get a photo on the seat of an antique tractor, see the newly hatched baby chicks and get a FREE entry (8 years and younger) in our annual Pedal Tractor drawing.

Another popular children's activity is playing in the corn box, a sandbox filled with grain.

DATES TO REMEMBER

April

- April 4**
KCFB Annual Meeting, 7:00pm
Board of Directors, 7:30 pm
- April 6**
Volunteer night, TAT set-up, 4 pm
- April 7**
Touch-A-Tractor, Noon-4
- April 8-9**
Touch-A-Tractor, 10-4
- April 8**
4-H Foundation Pork Chop
Fundraiser, 4:30-7 pm
Kane County Fairgrounds
- April 9**
Scholarship Awards
Recognition, 3pm
Tractor Raffle Drawing, 3:15 pm
- April 10-11**
IFB & Affiliates Youth
Conference, East Peoria
- April 10-14**
National Library Week
- April 14**
Office Closed
- April 17-21**
SPROUTS in classroom
reading program
- April 25-26**
Defensive Driving

See you at
Touch-A-Tractor!



AGCO joins Touch-A-Tractor 'team,' April 7-9

2017 is bringing changes to the Kane County Farm Bureau ... a refreshed office look, a new 'storefront' for food products, farm themed items and gifts ... and a new partnership. Kane County Farm Bureau is excited to add AGCO Parts in Batavia as an official partner for this year's Touch-A-Tractor.

In late 2016, AGCO reached out to the Kane County Farm Bureau after discovering Foundation scholarships on the KCFB website. It was announced the end of 2016 that the employees of AGCO Parts in Batavia would establish an employee funded scholarship fund, which has already resulted in two new KCFB Foundation scholarships

for the 2017-2018 school year. Now, the company has decided to take their involvement one step further by establishing a partnership for the presentation of Touch-A-Tractor to the community.

The employees of AGCO Parts of Batavia will bring some new and exciting activities to Touch-A-Tractor.

Indoors, they will have farm toys for sale and a prize wheel set up for adults. Outside on the lawn they will have a lollipop tree, bean bag throw and a ring toss game for kids. They will also be bringing a high horsepower tractor and a compact tractor. The employees are proud to support the Kane County Farm Bureau Founda-

tion and our farmers!

In addition to their activities and machinery, AGCO, through their GSI brand, will have a grain safety & rescue equipment display as part of 2017's Touch-A-Tractor event. Grain bins and flowing grain are responsible for over 150 deaths in the past 7 years. This new addition will provide people with insight on how these accidents occur, strategies to prevent them and the technology rescue teams use when accidents occur.

AGCO Parts Division has approximately 300 employees and offers over 1.4 million parts to its customers around the world by supporting the repair, maintenance and accessories for all AGCO brands and competitive farm equipment. Services are

offered to approximately 3,000 independent dealers and distributors in more than 140 countries.

"We are excited that AGCO, a local employer and agricultural company, sees the opportunities Touch-A-Tractor presents for consumers to learn from farmers about how food is grown" said Farm Bureau Manager Steve Arnold. "This partnership brings more people to the table in support of farms and food. Any time that is done, it brings new in perspectives, helps establish more connections, lets us have more conversations, and provides opportunities to improve the event.

Don't forget to check out these new additions, along with all of your former favorites at this year's Touch-A-Tractor event on the front lawn of the Kane County Farm Bureau, April 7-9.

Beekeeper Harry Patterson presented all the buzz about bees. He taught students all about pollinators, how colonies work and what bees eat. Harry even brought one of his own bee colonies for children to observe how the insects interact with each other.

See more Ag Days on page 8



April Featured Product **Bratwurst**

The special for May is a Bratwurst. This box contains 20 delicious award winning Inboden's bratwurst. A definite crowd pleaser at any cookout!

The member price is \$23.00, PLUS members \$22.00, and non-members \$26.00.

Available at the Kane County Farm Bureau – Randall Rd. and Oak Street in St. Charles – during the month of April or while supply lasts.



KCFB Board Review

The March meeting of the Kane County Farm Bureau Board of Directors was called to order at 7:30 pm on March 2, 2017 after a presentation from Mark Van Kerkoff, Director of Development & Community Services in Kane County and from Young Farmers Committee members who participated in the January Young Leaders Conference. Van Kerkhoff reported on "Potential Zoning Ordinance Amendments Regarding Roosters".

President White gave his report, discussing the IFB 2017 priorities and Arnold gave a Managers report, circulating a Membership Matters Monthly newsletter and calendar of events. He informed board members about the Kane County Farm Bureau's participation in an IAA Foundation MIS 'pilot' for Foundation fundraiser tracking. Several Directors shared their experiences from the IFB Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference which concluded earlier in the day in Springfield.

B. Collins gave the PR &

Membership Report. He informed the board of contributions to the KCFB Foundation during the previous month including: Harvest for All Contributions by: KCFB Young Farmers to NIFB, Milk 2 My Plate and FOOD>Forward contributions by: Mike Wurtz. Collins also spoke to the board about how the University of Illinois Extension was seeking support for Kane County Fair trophies. He also brought up two other participation requests, including the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce 2017 Consumer expo on Saturday, March 25 and Primrose Farm's "Animal Encounters - Pets, Working & Wild" on July 29.

In the Government Affairs and Public Policy report, Schneider discussed Lunches to Legislators RSVP's, as well as the On the Road Seminars in Marengo and Yorkville. He also informed the board about challenges to the LFMA and other legislative issues.

A written Ag-in-the-Classroom report from Suzi Myers was circulated, which

included an update on Ag Days. This event is scheduled for March 21-22 at Mooseheart and currently has 48 classes, totaling 1,054 students signed up. Myers's report also included an update on the March 3rd Teachers Institute on Pollinators/2050 World Food Needs. For this institute, Myers got the assistance of Nick Marasco, manager of The Farm in Aurora. Arnold and Schneider reported on the Institute at WWC also on March 3rd. This event discussed Ag Industry opportunities and featured both Arnold and Schneider as panel members.

The board also received updates from the Young Farmers Committee. This update informed the board that 6 committee members attended the IFB Young Leaders Conference in January. Four Committee members are signed up to attend the 2017 IFB Young Leader Tour to Ontario in July, and the Young Farmers will host their District 1&5 Euchre Tournament on Friday, Match 24th at 7PM.

In other business, the Board received reports and bills from a recent building update to increase retail space in the Farm Bureau lobby, received a preliminary audit report for the fiscal year which ended 12/31/2016, discussed a March

11 Board "Retreat" and received planning updates on the KCFB Foundation's April 7-9 Touch-A-Tractor event.

The next scheduled Kane County Farm Bureau Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4 at 7:30pm.

Adam Nielsen, Director of National Legislation at Illinois Farm Bureau, hosted a Farm Bill Work Session at the Kane County Farm Bureau office on Wednesday, March 15th. This event allowed farmers to provide personal input and help develop Illinois Farm Bureau's 2018



farm bill priorities. Considerable time was spent discussing the commodity title and crop insurance programs. Nielsen also led discussion of state and national legislative priorities with area farmers and KCFB members prior to legislative office visits by more than a dozen Farm Bureau volunteers on March 10.



Wayne Schneider (left) of Dundee and Elmer Gramley (right) of Kaneville complete a survey on tax policy preferences as part of a Farm Bill Work Session on March 15th. This information will be used to assist in the formation of the Illinois Farm Bureau's 2018 Farm Bill priorities.

Change isn't an event, it's a process

By Andy Lenkaitis

This year marks an exciting change for my family's dairy farm. We will be building a new barn with a robotic milking unit and expanding our herd to 60 Registered Red and White Holsteins. The planning started nearly five years ago, and I'm excited to see it come to fruition. It's been a long process that's taught me a lot about expanding and investing in my family's business.

It involves a lot of paper – a lot.

Maybe it's the engineer in me, but I love a good spreadsheet. I have a library of files on my computer analyzing different situations involving everything from milk price and the number of cows needed for our expansion to the amount of feed to make and store. I also have a master budget spreadsheet for our project that I reference and refine as we receive and award bids for different parts of our project.

Also, it was important to me to visit farms to see and talk with other dairy farms similar to mine. My wife and I have made trips to Missouri, Indiana, Wisconsin, Maryland and Canada. Every stop provided us the opportunity to talk with



dairy farmers about their operation. We gained valuable insights that have shaped the plans for our dairy. My wife and I continuously find ourselves referencing notes, photos or hand sketches of something we've seen during our travels.

It's important to start planning for the future now.

My wife has taken on the task of getting our current herd

of cows ready for the new barn. She's carefully mapped out how many cows we'll need to fill the barn. She's also been focused on breeding the next generation of cows (which will enter the milking barn as 2-year-olds) to have an ideal udder for a robotic milking unit.

I've been focused on evaluating our equipment. Things will change with our new barn – there will be more feed to grow, more forage to bag and more manure to haul off the farm. While it's hard to jump from a pitchfork to an automatic manure scraper, I've taken the time to think about the succession of equipment and where we will need to be. I've made sure to evaluate and take opportunities to get pieces of equipment now (especially when it makes financial sense) that fit the future of our farm.

(continued on page 3)

KCFB Member Services Coordinator Liz Polovin compares the most recent editions of Illinois Farm Bureau's Partners & DeKalb County Farm Bureau's Connections magazines. The KCFB Board discussed options for Farm Bureau member communications, including magazine and newsprint options, at a mid-month Board retreat.

The Kane County Farm Bureau is in its 82nd year of publication. Should the Farmer be replaced with a magazine or its content delivered as part of a larger circulation newspaper? Let us know your thoughts – 630-584-8660.



Welcome new members

You receive the Kane County Farmer because you are a Farm Bureau member. If you are a farm operator or owner, you benefit from a local, state and national organization committed to agriculture and your way of life.

If you do not have direct ties to farming, your membership helps promote local farms and farming, encourages wise use of our limited natural resources and preserves farmland and our agricultural heritage while allowing you to enjoy COUNTRY insurance and the many other benefits of one of Illinois' premier membership organizations.

We appreciate your membership and continued support and we welcome your comments on the content of the Farmer. We encourage you to make recommendations about farm, home, food, natural resource, renewable energy or agricultural heritage and history related topics for inclusion in future issues of the Farmer.

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE JANUARY 2017 THRU DECEMBER 2017

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
C. BRADLEY												
F. CARLSON		X	X	X								
B. COLLINS		X	X	X								
C. COLLINS		X	X	X								
J. ENGEL		X	X	X								
G. GAITSCH		X	X	X								
B. GEHRKE		X		X								
W. KECK		X	X	X								
M. KENYON		X	X	X								
K. KETTLEKAMP		X	X	X								
D. LEHRER			X	X								
N. LONG		X	X									
D. PITSTICK			X									
W. SCHNEIDER		X	X	X								
J. WHITE		X	X	X								

Kane County Farmer

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Last chance for Foundation raffle tix

Farm Bureau members have until April 9 to get their chance to win one of six great prizes in Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation's Winner's Choice Tractor Raffle. All proceeds from the annual raffle benefit Foundation College Scholarships and Farm Bureau Agricultural Literacy programs.

Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25 and are available at Kane County Farm Bureau (2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles), from the Farm Bureau directors listed on page 2, or with VISA or MasterCard at 630-584-8660.

In 2016, the Foundation awarded over \$25,000 in scholarships and internships. These



are the young people studying to keep our food system the best in the world. Show your support for their educational goals and get in on the fun of this annual

raffle.

Grand prize for the annual raffle to be drawn at our Touch-A-Tractor event on Sunday, April 9, 2017 and can choose between a 1953 Farmall Super C, a John Deere X350 riding lawn mower or \$2,500 cash. There's a great lineup of food, fuel and Farm Bureau prizes that include second prize of \$500 in groceries, third prize \$500 in fuel, and fourth prize is \$250 in Kane County Farm Bureau Bucks.

Tickets are available at the Farm Bureau office in St. Charles, by calling 630-584-8660.

Thanks to our donors...

Our FOUNDATION is dedicated to providing agriculture based education for the next generation, and to meeting the challenge of providing food for a hungry planet. We look forward to continuing support for scholarships, along with local classrooms and teachers, leadership training, and community youth education through grants to local FFA Chapters and 4-H.



The KCFB FOUNDATION offers its sincere appreciation to the following for their contributions in

response to our December Agriculture in the Classroom fundraising appeal. These donations will allow the Foundation to provide funding to improve classroom education about food and farming. Names shown are pledges received from January 20 through February 20.

Roger & Theresa Biddle



Through Harvest for ALL, KCFB members have contributed the equivalent of nearly 1.75 million meals to local food pantries.

Donor

Ann Getzelman & Brian Sebastian
Beneficiary
Burlington-Hampshire Food Pantry

Change

(continued from page 2)

Making decisions (especially final decisions) is hard.

I've found most of the detail-oriented decisions to be easy, it's the big ones that are hard. Our family met with vendors (builders, equipment dealers, subcontractors) and spent a lot of time evaluating the best partners for our project. It was important to us to find the right one for the job that was willing to travel to our area (as we are located an hour west of

Chicago).

Also, along the way, I continue to see new products being introduced. It can be overwhelming to think about and lead me to second guess a decision I already made. I keep good notes and evaluate proven technologies against each other.

You have to be a cheerleader for your project.

To make things happen, you will have to advocate or push to put some priority on your project. I've quickly learned that if you don't keep it moving, no one else will.

Throughout our process,

we've continuously been telling our family's story to sell our project. It's included everyone from the bank to secure financing, to neighbors to keep good relations to the village zoning to secure a permit. It's been an important step for us to make sure everyone understands the plan for our family's dairy farm.

We are planning to break ground this Spring and have the new barn completed by the fall. I'm excited for our dairy farm to take this next step and am certain I will continue to learn new steps in the process along the way.

Shopping for a new car or truck?

The Ford and Lincoln discount is back for another year and KCFB members are saving big bucks by applying this Farm Bureau member benefit to their new car purchase.

The Ford Bonus Cash offer is good on the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2016/2017 model year Ford vehicle. In addition, Farm Bureau members get \$750 Bonus Cash toward the purchase or lease of any eligible intelligently designed 2016/2017 Lincoln vehicle.

You must be an IFB member

at least 30 consecutive days before the vehicle purchase or lease. Then, show your Illinois

cialoffer.com/farmbureau/il or with the help of your dealer.

Some vehicles are excluded.



Farm Bureau Membership Card and Ford Bonus Cash e-certificate to your local dealer. Get your e-certificate online at www.fordspc

For complete details about this offer, contact Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 or visit www.kanecfb.com and click on member benefits.

Ag Days

Students got the opportunity to see different types of farm equipment, including tractors, planters, and combines close up instead of from afar in the farmers field. Kaneland FFA member Jackson Kettelkamp taught 4th graders all about different sizes and types of tractors and what they are used for.

See more Ag Days on page 8.



SEE YOU

AT TOUCH-A-TRACTOR

April 7-9, 2017

CONNECT WITH US



AITC Coordinator Suzi Myers (standing, left) hosted a Teachers Institute Day class on March 3rd. The class, titled "Pollinators, Hydro and Aquaponics," started with a lesson on pollinators at the Kane County Farm Bureau office. For the second half of the class, participating teachers made their way to "The Farm" in Aurora to learn more about hydroponics and aquaponics from Nick Marasco, manager of "The Farm".



Robert Lanning from Westfield Community School (left) and Scott Richman from Prairie Knolls Middle School (right) examine honey bees through a magnifying lens as part of the discussion of the role of pollinators in food production.

Get your soil ready for spring

A great service the Farm Bureau offers its members is soil testing. Make sure your soil is ready for spring planting. Visit www.kanecfb.com and click on benefits and services for a soil test form, or pick one up at the KCFB office. Deliver samples to Kane County Farm Bureau with payment. Results are sent directly to you by mail. Call the 630-584-8660 for more details. There are three different tests available. Prices listed are for Kane County Farm Bureau members. Ask us how to save even more when you upgrade your membership to a PLUS membership.

Why test your soil?

Soil in its natural state is rarely fertile enough for the best growth of plants. Usually it is necessary to replenish the earth's store of plant nutrients to obtain the most vigorous lawn, the most abundant and brilliant flowers, the prettiest trees and shrubs and the greatest yield of fresh veggies.

When is the best time to test soil?

Proper sampling is important to obtain accurate results. Samples can be taken any time during the warmer months, when soil temperatures are at least 55 degrees. If the soil is too wet to spade, rototill or hoe, it is generally too wet to take a sample. On the other hand, extremely dry soil should not be sampled either.

How often should I test?

Ideally, soil should be tested every 3-5 years, more frequently with intensive use. Try to sample during the same season each

time for the best comparison. **Why does Farm Bureau provide this service?**

Kane County Farm Bureau was founded in 1912 as the Kane County Farm Improvement Association, to help farmers improve their production practices and increase the fertility and productivity of their soil. This program is an extension of that. It helps you take the guess work out of gardening!

Additional help for your lawn & garden is available through the University of Illinois Master Gardeners. Contact them at 630-584-6166 or visit their office at 535 Randall Rd., St. Charles.

Soil test costs

Basic PH Test

\$20 per sample for members
This test checks for soil pH, phosphorus, and potassium.

Lawn/Garden Test

\$30 per sample for members
Includes the basic test plus organic matter and recommendations on amount and timing of fertilizer.

Lawn/Garden Plus

\$50 per sample for members
Includes the Lawn & Garden test plus nutrients, iron, zinc, manganese, copper, sulfur and boron. This test also includes recommendations.



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AG LITERACY CORNER

By Suzi Myers



Spring has sprung ... at least the Spring Equinox happened on March 20th. The March equinox marks the moment the Sun crosses the celestial equator – the imaginary line in the sky above the Earth’s equator – from south to north. On the equinoxes, the length of day and night is nearly equal.

Spring is a very busy time in the agricultural field. It is the time of preparing the fields, watching the weather, and planting. The winter planning, fixing machinery, and buying seeds is a thing of the past, spring is when all that prep work is put into action.

Spring is also a very busy time here at the Farm Bureau. We have two big programs that we bring to fruition each spring after a year of planning: Ag Days for our 4th graders, and Touch-A-Tractor for the public.

If you haven’t made plans to join us for Touch-A-Tractor, please do. It is a weekend of activities that your whole family will enjoy.

We also do the SPROUTS program; where volunteers go into classrooms to read THE HEARTLAND to the students, discuss farm activities done through each of the seasons using toy machinery, examples of grains, and photos. The volunteer then leaves a new book each year for the classroom library, as well as supplemental information for the students. That happens each spring also.

Our National Library Week Book Donation Program is also held in the spring, to celebrate National Library Week. During this week, we take a new agriculturally themed book to the children’s department of 10 Kane County libraries to add to their collections. The libraries

KANE COUNTY FARMER are very pleased with these donations each year.

Spring is also the time of end-of-the-year programs in schools, churches, and other groups. Students perform their plays, musicals, have field days, picnics, and more at their schools and extracurricular activities. Added to all this is the beginning of soccer and baseball season.

As if this weren’t enough, graduations, weddings, anniversary parties, “moving” the college student back home for the summer and much more happen at this special time of the year.

If you are getting a bit nervous or getting an anxious feeling in the pit of your stomach after reading this list of spring activities that have to be attended, there are also some parts of spring that bring a calming beauty to us. A walk in the woods to see all the lovely spring wild flowers popping up will relax your mind and soul. One of my favorites is Fayban Forest Preserve, on the west side of the road by the windmill ... the incredible amount of spring beauties that dot the area is something to behold. I await it each year.

The birds coming back and singing to awaken the world each morning is a lovely part of spring; being able to be outside

without heavy coat, hat, mittens, and a scarf is a blessing in itself; flowers popping up in the garden giving much needed color to the landscape; time to begin planting the vegetable

garden with anticipation of the harvest ... all of these things help us deal with the craziness of spring.

I hope this spring is one of beauty for you all.

Book of the month

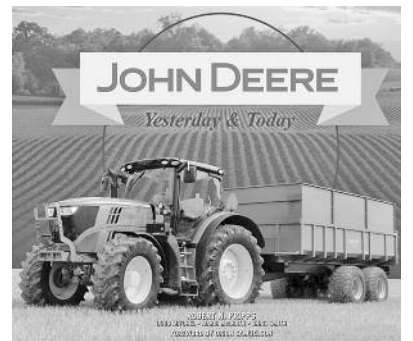
The author, Robert N. Pripps, “is widely regarded as one of the world’s leading tractor historians. Born on a northern Wisconsin farm, the young Pripps became fascinated with farm machinery at an early age. He has authored more than a dozen books on tractors.”

Orion Samuelson, a name well known in the agriculture circles, has been an agribusiness radio and television broadcaster for over 50 years. He was inducted to the National Radio Hall of Fame in 2003. Mr. Samuelson wrote the foreword to the book, titled, *Change, Legacy and a Dream*.

In his foreword, Mr. Samuelson wrote: “The company founded by John Deere in the 1830’s, after the success of his steel-tipped plow, has played a leading role in the transition of agriculture from back-breaking hand labor to the living-room comfort of an air-conditioned tractor or combine cab with all the latest electronic gear that enables a farmer

to trace products on the world market, and use satellite global positioning to make sure he, or she, is indeed plowing a straight furrow.”

This is only one of the interesting books of an historical perspective that is available for check out from our agricultural library here at the KCFB. Our library began due to a request years ago by Bob Konen and Dean Dunn. We have an ever growing selection of titles. Feel free to come in to browse in our library and to check out books of interest.



John Deere Yesterday and Today by Robert N. Pripps

FB volunteers to read farm-themed book to 1,500 students

In April, Kane County Farm Bureau volunteers will use a well-written book about agriculture and their knowledge of rural life to teach area third graders about the job farmers do. The Spring Program of Reading & Outreach to Teachers and Students (SPROUTS) is a popular program with students and teachers and reaches dozens of classrooms.

SPROUTS volunteers will read the book *The Heartland* by Diane Siebert and relate the story to farms right here in Kane County. Colorful illustrations in the book are the work of Wendell Minor, who is from Aurora, IL.

If you’re interested in reading a book to a classroom during the week of April 17-21, call Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 to sign up.

A memorial fund established in memory of long-time Farm Bureau volunteer and former KCFB Director Bob Konen, and funded by family and friends, has been designated to fund SPROUTS.

Now showing
at an elementary school near you ...

YOU

Read to a 3rd grade class through the SPROUTS reading program, April 17-21. Call Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 for details.

Spring Program of Reading Outreach to Urban Teachers and Students

Kane Co. Master Gardener Help Desk open

It might seem hard to believe with today’s weather, but spring is here, which means it is time for the Kane County Master Gardener Help Desk to open for the 2017 season. Trained volunteers can field questions on trees, shrubs, lawns, flowers, vegetables and more.

The Kane County Master Gardeners are available Monday-Friday from 10 am to 2 pm. They can be reached by phone at 630-584-6166, or in the Master Gardener office at the University of Illinois Extension office at 535 S. Randall Road in St. Charles. Questions also may be sent via email to uiegm-kane@illinois.edu.

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Bobbi Boston St. Charles 630-485-5155	Bob Baty Geneva 630-492-5317	Dominick Davero Elburn 630-365-3737
Keith Eakins St. Charles 630-762-1324	Luke Fawkes Elgin 847-742-0001	Chuck Quick Hampshire 847-683-2100
Kelly Landorf St. Charles 630-762-1328	Jonathan Gonzalez Elgin 847-742-0001	Josh Austin Hampshire 847-683-2100
Donna Tonovitz St. Charles 630-549-7694	Sherry Lochen Elgin 847-742-0001	Dan Cooper Sugar Grove 630-466-9600
Orazio Difruscolo St. Charles 630-549-7696	Bob Riedel West Dundee 847-428-5434	Ted Schuster Sugar Grove 630-466-9600
Bob Kearns S. Elgin 847-888-3200	Gary Bolger West Dundee 847-531-6110	Sonny Ellen Sugar Grove 630-466-9600
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Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Suzi Myers



Arbor Day and Earth Day Facts

Arbor Day

- The idea for Arbor Day originated in Nebraska and was first observed there in 1872.
- Arbor Day is celebrated on different dates throughout the world, depending on best time to plant a tree. In Illinois, Arbor Day falls on the last Friday of April.
- Arbor means tree in Latin
- Trees remove pollution from the atmosphere, improving air quality and human health.
- Roadside trees reduce nearby indoor air pollution by more

than 50%.

- One large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people.
- During one year, a mature tree will absorb more than 48 pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and release oxygen in exchange.

Earth Day Facts

- Earth Day is celebrated on April 22nd.
- Gaylord Nelson, a senator from Wisconsin, decided to spend one day in 1970, celebrating the earth. This became

- the first annual Earth Day.
- 20 million people participated in the first Earth Day
- Recycling, reusings and remanufacturing account for 3.1 million jobs in the U.S.
- Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species acts.
- The first Earth Day called for cleaner water and air.
- Today, Earth Day calls for a clean planet.

Earth Day pinwheel craft

Pinwheels are a fun craft and also a way to introduce the idea of wind power to young children. Green energy is a great topic on Earth Day!

Materials for foam or plastic pinwheel

- construction paper and stickers
- fun foam, or
- thin pieces of plastic (like used for an overhead projector)

Fun foam ones are nice and sturdy, but you'll need to use straight pins instead of push pins to make them.

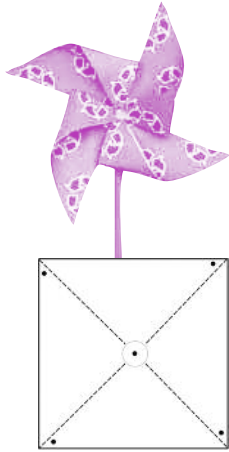
Materials for paper pinwheel

- paper,
- something to color with,
- pencil with eraser at the end (unsharpened)
- push pin or straight pin

Instructions:

- You can use any sized square paper, then draw your dotted lines as shown on figure above.
- Cut on the diagonal dotted lines (don't cut all the way into the middle).
- Bend each corner to the center dot, but don't crease your folds.
- Push a pin through the center into the eraser of a pencil (don't push it super tight).
- Blow the edge of your pinwheel to make it spin (if it doesn't spin, loosen your pin a little or wiggle it around to make the hole in the paper bigger)

Craft from: <http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/earth/m-pinwheel.htm>



Timeline of dates concerning our Earth

<p>1872- Yellowstone becomes the nation's first national park.</p>	<p>1905- The United States Forest Service is established.</p>	<p>1916- The National Park System is established.</p>	<p>1970- The first Earth Day celebrated by 20 million Americans.</p>	<p>1970- The Environmental Protection Agency established.</p>	<p>1990- The National Environmental Education Act is established.</p>
---	--	--	---	--	--

Earth Day snacks

Earth Day

Rice Krispie Treats

Make a delicious "earth" for your children to enjoy

Materials: Rice Krispies (recipe on box), marshmallows, butter, parchment paper, blue and green food coloring, spoon for stirring, large bowl

- Follow the original recipe for RKT from the box of cereal.
- Make two batches, one for the blue and one for the green.
- When the marshmallows are melted in the butter add the food coloring (how much coloring to add is up to you, it's

to your liking). Start with 10 drops for blue and 6 for the green.

- Add the cereal.
- Once ready to form, coat hands with Crisco so the cereal does not stick to your hands, form into a globe shape, using both green and blue to represent the water and land. Set on parchment paper to finish.

Idea from: Gina Tynsinger



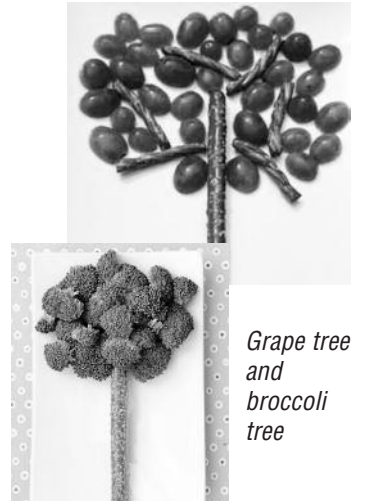
Arbor Day Snack

Pretzel rods, apple slices, and blueberries

Create a Tree

Gather your child's favorite

fruit or vegetable to create a tree as a snack. Longer pretzel rods work well for stems. You can use any desired fruit or vegetable to create the leaves.



Grape tree and broccoli tree

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April

R	S	X	R	P	R	M	Z	V	N	Y	E	I	X	C	A	E	R	M	N
E	E	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	E	B	B	T	L	Z	E	S	E	A	Q
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|------------|------------|----------|---------------|-----------|
| AMERICA | EARTH | NEBRASKA | POETRY | SHADE |
| ATMOSPHERE | ENDANGERED | NELSON | POLLUTION | SPECIAL |
| BEAUTIFUL | GARDEN | OXYGEN | RECYCLE | TREE |
| CELEBRATE | HUMOR | PECANS | REMANUFACTURE | VOLUNTEER |
| CLEAN | LAND | PLANET | REUSE | WATER |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ Email _____ Age _____

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St Charles, IL 60174 by April 15, 2017 to be entered in our drawing for a agriculture-themed prize.

Congratulations

Bonnie Schusler of Geneva! Her name was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's Word Search Puzzle. For her participation, she receives a fun bag of chili goodies! Thank you, Bonnie, for reading the *Kane County Farmer* and continue to watch each month for more great opportunities from the Kane County Farm Bureau.

April is:

- National Poetry Month
- National Volunteer Month
- National Soy Foods Month
- Global Child Nutrition Month.
- Humor Month.
- Mathematics Awareness Month.
- National Garden Month
- National Pecan Month
- Keep America Beautiful Month

Special Days in April:

- Earth Day – April 22
- Arbor Day – April 28

My morning drink of choice

By Kristi Van Oost



A few Saturdays ago, I felt compelled to get out of bed earlier than my normal wakeup time. Maybe it was the birds singing their song of early spring, or the critters starting to wake up from their season-long slumber, or maybe just by happenstance. Whatever it was, I woke up well rested and ready to start my day.

After morning chores I made my way to a coffee shop downtown St. Charles to give my morning a little extra boost. While I am no stranger to coffee, as no morning is complete without at least one cup, it had been a while since I had actually gone out to get coffee. It wasn't until I was standing in a line a bit too long for the time of morning it was, and staring at a menu the size of a wall, that I started to think how crazy the whole situation was.

Lattes, Americanos, macchi-

atos, frappuchinos, cappuccinos ... the options went on and on. And of course, there were all the special add-ins: caramel, mocha, vanilla, chai ... the list never ended. Plus, the milk and cream options ... whole milk, non-fat, half and half, skim, almond milk, coconut milk, steamed milk ... it was enough to make my head spin. When my time finally came to place my order I was so overwhelmed with options that I ended up ordering a simple, large dark roast coffee.

My order came out almost right away, but from my spot in the back of the café I saw plenty of coffee creations being made and picked up ... some blended, some colored ... most of which didn't even look like coffee at all. It made me wonder what has happened to a good, old-fashioned cup of coffee.

Coffee has been around since

KANE COUNTY FARMER

ninth century and was found thanks to a herd of goats. An Ethiopian goatherd named Kaldi discovered the caffeinated plant after noticing how excited his goats became after eating from it, or so the story goes.

While the drink continued to grow in popularity and was even used to treat numerous illnesses, it didn't become widely accepted until the mid-1600's. Coffee has become vital cash crop for many developing countries, and millions of people in these countries rely on it as their primary source of income. In fact, it has become the primary export and economic backbone for many African countries.

Coffee farming, like most

agricultural practices, is extremely labor intensive. The plant itself takes 3-4 years to mature and produce flowers. It is from those flowers that the fruits of the plant grow, which are often referred to as coffee cherries. It takes around eight months for the cherries to ripen and change from a green color to a deep red. So, it takes about five years for coffee plants to be ready to harvest.

Like many other crops, there is one major coffee harvest a year, normally taking place between April and June. The cherries are either picked by hand or with a special machine. Once the fruit is picked, it is separated from the beans through a wet processing,

before the beans are dried down. Beans are then roasted and processed into the all too familiar beans seen in almost every grocery store and coffee shop.

From there, the beans can be ground, chopped, brewed, blended, coated in chocolate and enjoyed ... you name it. While I will most likely remain faithful to dark roast with cream, I can appreciate the creative ways other people choose to support the coffee facet of modern agriculture. Who knows, maybe I will eventually branch out of my comfort zone and try something a little fancier. Any way you brew it, coffee is one agricultural product that never fails to brighten my morning.

Kane County farmers meet with local legislators

In early March Kane County Farm Bureau voting members volunteered to visit the offices of local legislators during this year's Lunches to Legislators program. This program, organized by the KCFB Governmental Affairs committee, gives local farmers the opportunity to get acquainted with local legislators and speak with them behalf of the local agricultural community. Prior to sitting down with the legislators, volunteers were invited to attend a breakfast to discuss current IFB legislative priorities

to further prepare them for their office visits.

Adam Nielsen, IFB Director of National Legislation was fresh off of the "Leaders to Washington" trip when he gave the legislative briefing to KCFB volunteers. Nielsen provided a variety of topics to discuss with local legislators, including: the State budget, Livestock Management Facilities Act, tax reform, rural infrastructure, leading environmental issues, and prioritizing profitability and financial accountability. One

specific point brought up by Nielsen was to encourage local

and state legislators not to forget about rural America.

Volunteers in attendance were also presented with the opportunity to ask Nielsen questions about any other agricultural related pieces of legislation, as well as advice on topics to present to certain elected officials.

Over the course of two days, volunteers were able to sit down with 9 different local legislators and their staff members to introduce themselves and share information about the agriculture industry. The program, now in its 16th year is something both voting members and local legislators look forward to every year.



Out with the old, in with the new! Stop by the Kane County Farm Bureau office and check out our newly renovated lobby area and store front. All of your favorite edible products like popcorn, pecans, peanuts, bbq spice and local specialty meats are still available for purchase along with t-shirts, hats, and jackets. A variety of farm themed household items, art, farm collectibles, and Ertl farm tractors will be available along with local honey and seasonal items. Ask about our Pollinator Habitat mix and get your yard or garden ready for spring planting.



Top: The KCFB Governmental Affairs committee organized visits to the offices of 9 local legislators during this year's Lunches to Legislators program. Members of the Kane County Corn Growers and Farm Bureau volunteers had a chance to introduce themselves and share information about the agriculture industry. Here, (l-r) Kane County Farm Bureau AITC Coordinator Suzi Myers, KCFB Director Bill Keck of Sugar Grove and 65th District State Representative Steve Andresson enjoy lunch while discussing policies important to IFB. Lunches to Legislators was conducted on March 10 & 13.

Left: Midwest Ground Covers VP Stan Schumacher (foreground) joined other KCFB members for a legislative briefing on Friday, March 10th. Topics included the state budget, Livestock Management Facilities Act, and Tax Reform along with a review of Farm Bureau National and State Legislative priorities for 2017.

Win a pedal tractor at Touch-A-Tractor

The Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION will draw the name of one lucky child to win a FREE pedal tractor at the conclusion of Touch-A-Tractor on April 9. Return the form below to KCFB by April 9 or sign up at Touch-A-Tractor, April 7-9. The pedal tractor drawing is open only to children 8 and under. Entrant's name, age and phone must appear on the form.

a local food pantry. Winner need not be present to win.



Give your child or grandchild the chance to win a pedal tractor! In 2016, this pedal tractor was won by 5 year old Dylan Artingstall of Pingree Grove.

You can also receive one additional entry to the FREE Pedal Tractor Drawing for your child or grandchild for each non-perishable food item you bring to Touch-A-Tractor. Food items will be donated to

FREE Pedal Tractor Drawing

(For children 8 and under. Entrant's age must appear on the form below)

Please enter me in the Kane County Farm Bureau's FREE Pedal Tractor Drawing.

Name _____ Age _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Return By Sunday, April 9 to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174



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A learning experience

By Alicia Sunderlage



Growing up, I was never exposed to agriculture. When I got to high school, I joined The National FFA Organization. Because of this organization, I developed a passion for the agriculture industry. I loved it so much; I wanted to make a career out of it. Today, I am studying agricultural communication at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. A typical agricultural communication major will take classes like introduction to public relations, agronomy, and animal science. But there are just some things professors don't teach you in college courses. This week I was fortunate enough to intern with the Kane County Farm Bureau during their week of legislative visits, the farm bill work session, and other various tasks. This internship was full of new and exciting experiences.

On my first day, Suzi Myers (AITC Coordinator), Bill Keck (KCFB board director) and I headed to Geneva to meet with Representative Steven Andersson, 65th district in Illinois. We met with Representative Andersson and his staff to discuss upcoming legislation; it was encouraging to see his excitement and enthusiasm about farmers and the agriculture industry. He was very down to earth and had expressed interest and concern for local farmers. Through this experience I got to see the legal and political side of agriculture, a side I have not experienced before. Meeting with Representative Andersson allowed me to see how legislators can vote in ways that protect a farmer's rights and interests.

Throughout the rest of the week I had my hands in all sorts

KANE COUNTY FARMER

of things like paper work, organizing the office, and assisted in preparation for the District election of directors for the Kane County Farm Bureau. This internship wasn't just something to put on a resume, but I learned from performing hands on work. For example, as an intern I didn't just make copies. I was able to assist in the mailing process for the upcoming district election for the board. This seems like a short process but there's actually a lot involved. First we had to run queries, export and sort by township and district, then merge to create labels and copying the correct amount of ballots for each district, and color coding those district ballots. Office work was

intimidating to me at first because I had never done it before ... I'm also the type of person to have a million questions about one task. Thankfully, everyone in the office remained very patient with me. Through this, I learned that communication is very important and that it takes all hands on deck to get the job done.

Since my major is agricultural communication, I am very interested in communicating across different platforms. This week, I was given the responsibility to create Facebook posts for the Kane County Farm Bureau and create a publication for the Touch-A-Tractor Paint and Sip party. Also, this very article that you are reading is another great

Women's Corner

By Louise Johnson
Women's Committee Chair



If you plan to grow herbs this year, remember that all herbs need six to eight hours of sun every day. If you decide to grow mint, grow each kind in a different area. Otherwise the mint plants will go back to the original spearmint or peppermint variety.

Bundt cakes seem to be popular at Easter-time. Here are several hints for these cakes:

- Grease and flour every crevice of the bundt pan. An easy way is to use a baking spray that contains flour.
- To remove air bubbles from the batter and to insure that the batter fills every crevice of the pan, slowly spoon the batter into the pan and then tap the filled pan, gently, three times on your work surface.
- To remove the cake from the pan, cool the cake (upright)

on a wire rack for ten minutes. Then tap the pan firmly a few times and gently shake it to help loosen the cake. Put a plate or cooking rack on top of the pan, and then, holding it securely, flip the entire thing upside-down.

If you use glaze or powdered sugar on your bundt cake, be sure that the cake has completely cooled first.

Here is a recipe from my cousin, Rosemary. It can be made in a bundt pan, a 9"x13" pan, or loaf pan(s).

Banana Bread/Cake/ Bundt Cake

Mix together:

- 2 c. flour (sifted with soda & salt)
- 1 c. sugar
- 2 tsp. soda
- 1/8 tsp. salt

Mix together:

- 1 c. mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 1 c. mashed bananas
- 1/2 c. lukewarm water
- 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 c. nuts

Add dry to wet, bake in greased and floured pan(s) 30 to 34 minutes in a pre-heated 350° oven. Test with a toothpick to make sure it is done.

Notes:

1. Original recipe said to put into greased and floured loaf pans. (I just made this recipe. It seemed too much for 1 loaf pan and not enough for 2 loaf pans, so I made 2 cupcakes, too. I had enough left for a generous sample of the scrumptious raw dough; however, I'm not recommending this as we're not supposed to eat raw dough anymore.)

2. Rosemary: "I usually just put it in a regular cake pan like I did at the (2002 family) reunion, whatever you choose to do." ? She had a cream cheese frosting on this. Yummy!

3. Me: I baked this in a bundt pan; then sprinkled powdered sugar over the cooled cake. It was great!

Alicia Sunderlage, 'spring break' intern at the Kane County Farm Bureau, got the opportunity to experience a variety of events and activities during her time at the office. One task was putting the finishing touches to the new Farm Bureau lobby and storefront by sorting through agricultural books from the Agricultural Literacy Library.



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Happy Spring
from
Kane County Farm Bureau

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Defensive Driving Class

The Kane County Farm Bureau Women's Committee has scheduled a 55 Alive Mature Driving Program for Tuesday and Wednesday, April 25 and 26. The class runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day at Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles. You must attend both sessions to complete the course.

The eight hour course covers driving in various road and weather conditions, passing techniques, the effects of alcohol and drugs on driving and other defensive driving methods. Many insurance companies may offer a discount on auto insurance to those age 55 and older who qualify and attend all eight hours of the course. Contact your insurance agent for more details.

Attendees must be licensed drivers. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$15 per person for AARP members and \$20 for non-members (payable the first day) to cover the cost of materials. For more information or to register, contact Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660.

What's new in the COUNTRY agencies?

Aurora Agency, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager

Bret Brizzolara, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for February 2017. Bret began his career with COUNTRY Financial in August of 2011 and services clients out of his office located at

1161 Oak Street, North Aurora, 60542, (630) 907-1279.

Bret's professionalism and vast knowledge of auto, home, life, commercial and financial products make him a great person to do business with. Congratulations, Bret! **St. Charles-Elgin Agency, Bob Effner, Agency Manager**

SHERRY LOCHEN has been named the Financial Representative of the Month for February 2017 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Sherry has provided tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long term insurance and financial security needs of her clients through COUNTRY Financial's diverse products and services: Auto, Farm, Home, Life/Disability/Health/Annuities/Long Term Care, Retirement Planning, Business and Investments. Let Sherry's expertise help you! Her contact information is: 1750 Grandstand Place, Ste. 20, Elgin, 60123; Phone 847-742-0004; email sherry.lochen@countryfinancial.com; https://countryfinancial.com/sherry.lochen. Congratulations, Sherry!

Recruiter of the Month

Each month we honor the person who signs the most members into our organization. This month, the honor goes to **Cristian Saenz!** Cristian has been a COUNTRY Financial Representative since April of 2015. His office is located at 514 N. Lake Street, Aurora. As a token of our appreciation, Cristian receives two tickets to Charlestowne Movie Theater. Thank you for your continued

support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success!



Cristian Saenz



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Ag Days

..... 2017

Farming Lessons for fourth graders

Fourth grade classes from throughout Kane County converged on Mooseheart Fieldhouse in March at Kane County Farm Bureau's 33rd Annual Ag Days. Guided by Farm Bureau volunteers, they learned about agriculture at 25 learning stations. Topics included beef, vegetables, GPS-guided farming techniques and poultry. Short presentations by local farmers, representatives from Ag businesses and organizations, and local FFA and 4-H members gave the kids a memorable experience.

Sandy Bickel, a teacher at Spring Trail Elementary, brings her students to Ag Days every year. "Through the year, we learn about agriculture in our classroom. This event serves as the culmination of all my students have learned," Bickel said. "To them, all of this is just stuff they drive by. It makes a big difference when they can see and touch the things we have been learning about."

Burlington Central FFA Advisor Ryan Robinson said the event has been a great opportunity for his high school students to volunteer and build skills. FFA Chapters from Hinckley Big Rock and Kaneland also volunteer every year to chaperone, present lessons and generally help make the event go more smoothly.

"As more and more kids are further removed from the farm, it's good to educate them. My FFA students are learning to give back and be better citizens through educating these younger students about agriculture," Robinson said.

Ag Days is only possible through a generous outpouring of time, talents and energy by dozens and dozens of volunteers. We've expressed our appreciation to as many of them as possible by name below and apologize to anyone we've overlooked.

Special thanks to these civic minded businesses who provided breakfast and/or lunch for the volunteers on hand each day - keeping them fueled up for the task of educating fourth graders about all aspects of farming. Your support of agricultural education is much appreciated!

- Jake's Bagels
- Burlington-Central FFA
- Kaneland FFA
- Hinckley-Big Rock FFA
- American Agricultural Insurance Company

Kane County 4-H Ambassadors

Special thanks to those who provided the animals - Sarah Lenkaitis, Morgan Mueller, Beth Gehrke, and Clay Cargola. Your support of agricultural education is much appreciated!



See more Ag Days photos on pages 1 and 3

Kaneville FFA member Jenna Harvell is holding a 10 day old lamb from Gehrke Family Farms. The lamb made an appearance at Ag Days, along with a goat provided by Morgan Mueller, a dairy calf from Lenkaitis Holsteins, pigs provided by Elena Halverson, and chickens and rabbits from Clay Cargola.



Kane County vegetable farmer Dan Klein gave a presentation on vegetables, teaching students about how different kinds of vegetables are grown and processed.

Thanks Mooseheart!

In addition to the hundreds of hours logged by Farm Bureau volunteers to make Ag Days possible, a dedicated core of Mooseheart staff members makes things happen behind the scenes to help this educational program run smoothly. Kane County Farm Bureau salutes Mooseheart's Janine Silverman, Randy Busby, Derek Oleson, John Lundell, Mark Bauser, and Jerry Luther for making our 2017 Ag Days run smoothly.

For your assistance in teaching Kane County youth about agriculture at Ag Days, the Kane County Farm Bureau says

Thanks!

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Grace Acosta | Jessica Bowgren | Mary Diehl | Laura Hanson | Dan Klein | Jarod Peters |
| Luke Allen | Doris Braddock | Mike Dienst | Mary Hanson | Elizabeth Kowing | Mikayla Peters |
| Maura Anderson | Daniel Buck | Linda Drendel | Tomi Harrod | Linda Lance | Jenna Peters |
| Kyla Baldrige | Dave Busch | Davis Dunham | Jenna Harvell | Larry Lohskcah | Bonnie Prokop |
| Julia Barickman | Darin Butler | Beth Engel | Lexi Head | Linda Lood | Hannah Potter |
| Audrey Batts | Char Campisi | Joe Engel | Brooke Heinshon | Ted Madaj | Zane Pozen |
| Alicen Bauer | Mason Cargola | Davis Espe | Colleen Hogan | Jarod Metz | Jim Reynolds |
| Chuck Bauer | Frank Carlson | Karl Faivre | Louise Johnson | Hally Miller | Jan Rose |
| Helen Bauer | Clay Carlson | Hannah Garbacz | Kyle Johnson | Megan Mingl | Taylor Ruh |
| Cindy Bechtosl | Melissa Casun | Drew Gould | David Johnson | Sandy Mullin | Tracy Sanderson |
| Rachel Benn | Dave Cestoel | Pam Gustafson | Bret Juliano | Dave Oesp | Gretchen Skaja |
| Rachel Binn | Joseph Coleman | Linda Guzzaldo | Kara Justice | Jay Omuri | Krysie Swanson |
| Rachel Bohannon | Joseph Culen | Buddy Haas | Jeff Keifer | Gaby Palumbi | Jake Thompson |
| Erik Bolander | Flo Dangelo | Sheryl Hackbarth | James Kennedy | Amy Parise | Elizabeth Titock |
| | Abby DeDina | Cheryl Hackbarth | Mike Kenyon | Harry Patterson | Brooke Wackerlin |
| | Dezeri DeRaedt | Elizabeth Hagen Meller | Jackson Kettlekamp | Bob Peary | Laura Warren |

Celebrate Agriculture and the coming of Spring!

12th ANNUAL

ADMISSION:
A suggested donation of
Adults \$2
Families \$5
or
show a
Winner's Choice Raffle
ticket stub for FREE
family admission all
weekend long.



Touch-A-Tractor

Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION

A farm-city & community open house & fundraiser that brings a little bit of the farm to the city.
Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation welcomes urban & suburban neighbors to learn more about farming.

Bring the whole family!

- Visit with local farmers.
- Explore modern farm machines & antique tractors.
- Climb the steps to the cab of a giant combine.
- Play on the seat of real farm tractors.
- Enter children & grandchildren 8 & under in a FREE drawing for a pedal tractor. (*1 entry per child)
- See technology that makes America's farmers the most productive and efficient in the world, side by side with machines of days gone by.
- Learn about America's most essential industry...Agriculture.



Friday-Sunday April 7-9

Friday Noon - 4pm
Saturday 10am - 4pm
Sunday 10am - 3pm

Randall Road at Oak Street, St Charles

WINNER'S CHOICE RAFFLE

Grand Prize: (Winner's Choice)
1953 Super C or
or John Deere X350 lawn mower
or \$2,500 cash

2nd prize: \$500 in groceries
3rd prize: \$500 in fuel
4th prize: \$250 in KCFB Bucks

Tickets: \$10 each or 3 for \$25

Drawing 3pm, April 9 at Touch-A-Tractor



Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION Scholarship Awards
Join us April 9 at 3 pm as we congratulate these future agricultural industry leaders!



Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION
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info@kanecfb.com 630-584-8660 www.kanecfb.com

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