

# 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. 84 NO. 8 AUGUST 2019

## Hunger relief goal surpassed at Dairy Open House

To conclude June Dairy Month, Lenkaitis Holsteins opened its barn doors to the public on Saturday, June 29. The



### SUCCESS!

KCFB Foundation met its hunger relief goal! After the June 29 Dairy Open House and Ice Cream Social, contributions to KCFB Foundation's 10,000 Gallon CHALLENGE reached a total of **10,025 GALLONS OF MILK** committed to the Northern Illinois Food Bank and/or area food pantries. Thank you to all who supported the Foundation's effort between October 2018 and June 2019 with their donations and sponsorship. Congratulations to our community on bringing awareness to and helping address hunger locally during National Dairy Month! A graphic thanking many of the donors appears on page 8.

### KCFB CALENDAR AUGUST 2019

- 6** National Night Out, KC Sheriff's Dept., 6:30-8:30pm
- 8** Board of Directors, 7pm
- 8-18** IL State Fair, Springfield
- 9** Leaders to Washington APPLICATION DUE
- 10** Young Farmers Tours  
Young Farmers Discussion Meet REGISTRATION DUE
- 13** Ag Day at State Fair
- 15** Last Day to Order Peaches!  
Kane County Board Ag Cmte, 10 am, County Bldg
- 18** KCFB Foundation Kane County Cougars Game, 1pm
- 19** IFB District 1 & 2 Young Farmer Discussion Meet, 6:30pm, DeKalb CFB
- 19** Peach Pick Up, 2-6pm
- 20** Rural Road Safety Forum, 3:30pm
- 22** Myers Open House, 4-7pm
- 26** John Buck Memorial Golf Outing, Randall Oaks

Open House was held on the family farm west of St. Charles in Kane County. Visitors also raised enough funds to conclude the 10,000 Gallon CHALLENGE, an initiative of the not-for-profit Kane County Farm Bureau (KCFB) Foundation to donate 10,000 gallons of milk to local food pantries.

More than a thousand attended the Dairy Open House between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. They toured the barns, met the family (and the cows) and contributed to an ice cream social to support neighbors in need. The event helped highlight the role of milk and dairy products in good health and in hunger relief.

At 11:30 a.m., farm owners Andy and Sarah Lenkaitis cut a blue ribbon to celebrate the opening of a new milking barn with robotic milkers. In the barn, visitors saw how cows produce fresh, wholesome milk and automated systems that cleaned, milked and monitored cows and kept fresh feed in front of them.

Outside the barn, guests ate ice cream under a tent and posed for selfies with a cow named Christy. They also saw tractors

and farm equipment used to grow and harvest crops for feeding the animals. The Lenkaitis family grows corn, alfalfa, oats and small grains primarily used

generations of the Lenkaitis family are involved and the herd of 150 head includes 80 milk cows. They embraced technology to make their business sus-

ty milk for consumers for years to come," he added.

Milk is a valuable source of calories and nutrition. According to the Northern Illinois Food Bank, area food pantries experience more requests for milk than for any other product. But donations are complicated by delivery, refrigeration and storage. That, combined with historically low commodity prices, especially for milk, prompted the KCFB Foundation to convene a meeting on Milk and Hunger with area food pantries in late 2018, and the 10,000 Gallon CHALLENGE was born.

Capitalizing on the Farm Bureau's reach and success with similar hunger awareness and relief efforts, and the Northern Illinois Food Bank's award winning Milk2MyPlate program, the two not-for-profits established a community goal of 10,000 gallons of milk donated to local food pantries. Steve Ericson, Executive Director at Feeding Illinois, explained, "Bottom line, the whole program is about getting necessary protein to those who need it and with milk being a relatively inexpensive and protein rich food item, it's the obvious solution. With an abundance of milk in the market, it's so simple, it's frustrating, that this product can't be given to those who need it most."

(continued on page 3)



The June 29 Dairy Open House featured a ribbon cutting at the new barn at Lenkaitis Holsteins. Family members (l-r) Sarah, Lucas, Andy, Mary Etta, and Albert Lenkaitis cut the ribbon as State Senator Jim Oberweis (far right) looks on. (Photo by Jessica Westerfield Photography)

to feed the animals.

Lenkaitis Holsteins is one of the last few dairies operating in Kane County, a region historically known for its milk production. Some of Saturday's attendees grew up on dairies. They watched the modern technology in the new barn with a mix of wonder and nostalgia.

The farm was purchased by the family in 1983 and began with just five cows. Today, three

tainable for future generations.

"On a traditional dairy farm, all of the cows are milked twice or three times a day by people," Andy Lenkaitis explained. "With robotic milkers, the cows decide when they want to milk. We made an investment to renovate our farm to take the best care of our cows and people, making a safe, comfortable environment for both, we look forward to providing top-quality

## Let's talk about rural road safety

Law enforcement, transportation officials, public invited to August 20 forum

With the stress of running their own businesses in an agricultural economy set back by ongoing trade disputes, and with unprecedented weather challenges to getting the 2019 crop in the ground, one could be excused for thinking profitability is the biggest challenge on farmers' minds – simply surviving this year in order to plant a crop again in 2020. But the farmer-directors of the Kane County Farm Bureau had survival of a higher order on their minds at the July Board meeting.

Much of the July meeting's discussion centered on surviving the transport of farm equip-



Farmers driving sprayers like the one above, and other farm equipment, are reporting more incidents of distracted and aggressive driving by motorists on roads and more near misses as a result. KCFB will convene a meeting on August 20 to talk about solutions to make roads safer for ALL drivers.

ment on area roads. Directors shared how moving equipment from farmstead to fields has

become much more dangerous in recent years. They related numerous hair-raising close calls, near misses and actual accidents caused by distracted driving, impatience, and vehicles passing in no passing zones and on bridges, curves and overpasses.

Farmers perceived increasing danger even though roads are well marked for potential hazards. According to the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health, stringent lighting and marking policies help reduce the likelihood of tractor-vehicle crashes. But Illinois already has standards among the most stringent in the Midwest in accordance with those offered by the American Society for Agricultural and Biological

(continued on page 4)

### AUGUST FEATURED PRODUCT Bratwurst

These delicious, award-winning Brats are back for August! The box contains 20 Bratwurst from Inboden's. This special is offered for \$22.94 to Farm Bureau Members. Plus Status members always receive a 5% discount on edible products at the Farm Bureau. Offered while supply lasts. Available at the Kane County Farm Bureau, Randall Rd and Oak Street in St. Charles.

## Farm Toy of the Month New Holland T9.700 tractor

Our August toy of the month is blue!

This New Holland T9.700 tractor farm toy represents a 620-horsepower, 154"-wheelbase length, 480-gallon fuel capacity, and 44,046 pounds in weight: a beast of a tractor! It is

a 1/64 (approx. 5" long x 3" wide) die-cast metal replica full of power and fun for anyone over the age of 3.

Regular price is \$16.99, Farm Bureau members receive a 10% discount.

### RETIREMENT Open House PLANNED



Suzi Myers has coordinated the Farm Bureau's classroom lessons and resources, reading and literacy programs with schools and libraries, agricultural expos for students, and graduate credit institutes for teachers. Her presentations at annual National Ag-in-the-Classroom Conference and her mAGic Kits curriculum helped build Agricultural Literacy curriculum in use in schools throughout the state and nation. Myers joined the Farm Bureau staff in 2004. A retirement Open House is planned for August 22 from 4-7 pm at the Kane County Farm Bureau.

# Dirt made my lunch

By Kay Shipman for FarmWeekNow.com

Buzzing among blossoms, giggling participants grabbed bright flowers from the floor before returning to their hive.

A few minutes earlier, they were all ash trees devastated by the emerald ash borer. Before that, they recreated the water cycle in a Ziploc® plastic bag.

Teach complex environmental topics to young students? No problem for Suzi Myers, Kane County Farm Bureau ag literacy coordinator, and Debbie Ruff, Livingston County Farm Bureau and Soil and Water Conservation District education coordinator.

At the recent National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, Myers and Ruff co-taught a workshop using agriculture to get educators environmentally motivated. Judging by a room of buzzing, swooshing and chattering teachers, the Illinois educators accomplished their goal.

While many in agriculture talk about farm to plate, Ruff takes her lessons deeper. Pointing to a large cheeseburger image, Ruff said, "I think it's really great that wheat makes buns, but dirt made my lunch. We need to take it back to the soil."

For that lesson, Ruff and Myers produced a series of paper plates, each depicting the life cycle of a cheeseburger ingredient. Groups of students

receive several images related to one ingredient, for example, pickles. The goal is to place the



Suzi Myers, center, Kane County agricultural literacy coordinator, prepares educators from across the country to become pollinators and scramble for blossom cards on the floor. At the recent National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, Myers provided several hands-on activities to help students understand environmental subjects. (Photo by Kay Shipman)

images in order, starting with soil. Students would stack the plates with soil, seeds, seedling, cucumber and pickle.

A lesson on the importance of biodiversity involved each participant getting two cards with tree pictures, one is the same for every student and the other is another tree species. Several tree species are distributed among the group.

Myers instructed the educators to get five signatures on their first tree card, the one received by everyone. With everyone standing, Myers shook one person's hand, telling him that he'd been infected with emerald ash borer. That "infected" tree read the names of the five who signed his card and those "infected" trees sat. As each infected tree continued to read more names, the entire room of trees was seated.

In comparison, an infected tree called out the name of his other tree species; however, only a couple of people who had that tree had to sit.

"This is a good lesson for

kids to understand biodiversity," said Myers of St. Charles. "We lost 50,000 trees on city property because of emerald ash borer." She explained the city replaced the lost ash trees with more diverse species and ensured different species are planted near each other. "So, if something happens, we don't wipe out blocks of shade," she added.

Myers and Ruff provided several "grab-and-go" activities – ones you can get ready for the start of the school year."

Teachers may use one of their lessons to mark the 50th anniversary of Earth Day next April. Divide an apple if knives are allowed in school or fold a paper plate if they're not, Ruff suggested. Each division of the apple denotes the amount of water, soil, fresh water, tillable soil, etc., until 1/32 of the apple remains – the portion available for crop production.

Ruff used a Snickers® candy bar to demonstrate an edible soil profile. Myers added a few pebbles, soil and a little water into a Ziploc® bag, which she sealed. The water will condense, and it will rain, she explained.

Time expired before the duo could demonstrate all their activities, but their finale provided plenty of punch. Ruff instructed the roomful of educators how to portray parts of a tree with much swooshing and waving. That was followed by Myers' pollinator activity of buzzing teachers collecting blossoms.

The educators explained they have adapted their activities from multiple sources and recommended emailing them for

instructions and materials. Email Myers at aitc@kanecfb.com and Ruff at debra.ruff@il.nacdn.net.

## Welcome to the next level!

This month we welcome the following KCFB members who joined our organization or reclassified their membership in July to Regular or Professional Status:

### Regular members

**Dawn Faulkner Elburn**  
**Ralph Hernandez Elburn**  
**Clara Huffaker Elgin**  
**Jonathon Klein Burlington**

### Professional members

**Teresa Dobersztyn Geneva**

We remind you of added perks that accompany your new Professional Status and thank you for supporting KCFB's efforts at advocacy, education and hunger relief:

- Professional networking opportunities & engagement with farmers
- Agriculture, farm & food news delivered to your door
- New subscription to *FarmWeek*, the largest weekly agriculture newspaper
- Access to FarmWeekNow.com
- KCFB voting rights &

ILFB delegate opportunities

- Continuing subscription to the *Kane County Farmer* newspaper
- Free annual registration at one of 7 statewide conferences
- 302,000 member discounts, including Ford, Lincoln, John Deere, Case IH, restaurants, hotels & travel
- Discounts at the KCFB Country Store on in-house sales of featured local foods

KCFB Regular membership is required of all who join our association that have a vested interest in and receive income from the production of farm products as an owner or operator of a farm business. Professional Membership status is available for all those employed in agriculture-related occupations, even with no farm income. If you are interested in "next level" membership and the benefits it carries, please contact KCFB office in St. Charles at (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 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 resources, renewable energy or agricultural heritage and history-related topics for inclusion in future issues of the *Farmer*.

## Now test your well in October!

### Private well testing program available in Fall 2019

The Kane County Farm Bureau and Kane/DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District will offer water testing in October this year. A high quality water supply is vital for families, and well testing helps provide peace of mind and identifies potential problem areas for homeowners of Kane County.



Friday, Oct. 11; (2) at home, collect a water sample as close as possible to turning it in; and (3) return the water sample to KCFB or Kane/DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

Three kits are available, Basic, Pesticide and Metals, and prices vary. The certified lab at Heidelberg

College Water Quality Laboratory in Tiffin, Ohio, tests all samples. The lab is nationally recognized for its work testing rivers and lakes. Results will be mailed to your home.

Mark your calendar for a FALL water test and look for more details in the September *Kane County Farmer* or call Kane County Farm Bureau at (630) 584-8660 with questions.

## Get-a-Grant Workshop

Short of funding for the books you want for teaching your students? Let us help you ... earn 2 CPDU's.

We will be holding a grant workshop for teachers on August 27th from 4:00-6:00pm at KCFB.

You will learn about the \$250.00 book grants available for your classroom. We have some that are all ready to go concerning Earth Day, Poetry, Biographies, Hungry Planet and Pollinators. Or you might be interested in customizing your own book list, that's fine too.

There's no cost for coming to the workshop.

Please register at aitc@kanecfb.com or by calling the office, (630) 584-8660.

### KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE JANUARY 2019 THRU DECEMBER 2019

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

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# Robotic milkers in action at Dairy Technology Showcase

By Daniel Grant  
for FarmWeekNow.com

Those wondering how dairy cows are trained to milk themselves got a chance to see the process firsthand last week at the Dairy Technology Showcase.

The eighth annual event, hosted by the Illinois Milk Producers Association (IMPA) and University of Illinois Extension, took place at the Lenkaitis Holsteins Dairy Farm near St. Charles (Kane County).

"These tours provide an excellent opportunity for Illinois dairy farmers and industry representatives to get a look at the latest and greatest dairy technology and management," said Tasha Bunting, IMPA manager.

Andy and Sarah Lenkaitis built a modern freestall barn and installed an automated milking system that uses two GEA Monobox robotic milkers on their Kane County farm in 2017 and officially fired up the robots Jan. 29, 2018.

It was a decision that helps the couple better manage their herd and positions them for the future.

"We both started working in the industry and then, four years ago, we had an opportunity to manage this farm (founded by Andy's parents, Albert and Mary Etta, in 1983)," Sarah said. "We decided we wanted to get in production agriculture."

The couple's previous experience in the dairy industry was instrumental to help them design

the new barn and milking system. Andy previously worked as a dairy equipment product manager and still currently works off the farm helping dairy farmers with herd management when using robotics.

"When building the barn, we were able to pick and choose what we thought works best for us," Sarah said. "We started planning the barn two years ago, broke ground in April 2017 and moved cows into the barn in December 2018."

The modern freestall and robotic milking facility was built to maximize technology, milking management, cow comfort and labor management.

The Lenkaitis family still has the same staff, one full-time herdsman and one part-time laborer, but now milk 75 cows, up from 55 cows previously. The two robotic milkers have the capacity to milk up to 120 cows per day.

"You still need good cow side manner (to manage the herd), but we have to be more like data miners now," Sarah said. "We get a lot of information from the tags (recorded electronically each time a cow uses one of the robotic milkers). We can sift through all the information (to gauge production) and find any issues or problems."

The new barn features a modern manure handling system, including a manure separator. The separated manure solids are used as bedding while the excess is sold off the farm, thus

creating an additional revenue stream.

The system works well to reduce noise and odor from the

dairy, which played into the couple's decision to modernize the farm. It's located within the village limits of Campton Hills

(population 11,131). The farm sits just 45 miles west of Chicago.

"We want to be good neighbors," Sarah said. "We're happy to open our barn doors so others can see how we designed the facility."

Along with the Dairy Tech Showcase, Sarah and Andy also hosted an open house and a tour group from McDonald's last week.

The barn also features rubber matting in the stalls and alleys along with curtains and fans controlled by temperature sensors to improve cow comfort.

So, how did they train the cows to use the robotic milkers? The cows receive feed pellets when eligible to milk, as determined by the automated system.

"I like to say the cows made the adjustment quicker than we did," Sarah added. "We're really happy with the design of the barn."

Andy currently serves on the Kane County Farm Bureau Board, while Sarah is an Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leader.



Lenkaitis Holsteins Dairy Farm features a new freestall barn that include curtains and fans controlled by temperature sensors to increase cow comfort.

Kane County dairy farmer Sarah Lenkaitis and her son, Lucas, 10½ months old, check one of two robotic milkers.

(Photos by Daniel Grant)



## Dairy Open House

(continued from page 1)

The KCFB Foundation launched the 10,000 Gallon CHALLENGE in October 2018 to address the problem. Early contributors to the campaign included AGCO Parts, CHS Elburn, Luck-E Holsteins and more than a hundred others. With the help of Lenkaitis Holsteins, June 29 Dairy Open House sponsors and an enthusiastic crowd, the KCFB Foundation just made good on their commitment.

The Dairy Open House at Lenkaitis Holsteins was coordinated by the Illinois Livestock Development Group, Illinois Milk Producers Association and the Kane County Farm Bureau, with the help of many volunteers and sponsors in the community.

To learn more about Kane County Farm Bureau or its charitable and educational

Foundation, call (630) 584-8660.



KCFB Foundation volunteers scooped ice cream for the hungry crowd at the Dairy Open House as part of a 10,000 Gallon CHALLENGE, dairy-focused hunger relief campaign (Photo by Jessica Westerfield Educational Photography). See full story on page 1.

## Save time & renew online

It's easy to make sure your Farm Bureau Membership is current. The Illinois Farm Bureau provides many services to all Kane County Farm Bureau members, for example, online membership renewal through their website.

Did you know you can renew your Farm Bureau membership online? You can also view your payment history, print a lost or updated membership card, and update your account information including address, spouse/dependents, phone and e-mail all through the Member Center of the website.

To do this, simply visit [www.ilfb.org](http://www.ilfb.org). Click on the Get Involved menu, and then Join/Renew your membership. You will be asked to register

using your Farm Bureau number and create a username and password.

The ability to check your membership information anytime, anywhere can help prevent unwanted Farm Bureau membership late fees and keep you eligible for COUNTRY Mutual and COUNTRY Preferred insurance coverages. Don't delay, check to make sure your information is updated today!

**REMINDER:** Regular (voting) and Professional Members are due for renewal in September. Associate members' renewal dates vary, please sign on to the website or call the Kane County Farm Bureau at (630) 584-8660 to check on the status of your membership.

## Raise scholarship funds at John Buck Memorial Golf Outing

The 19th Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing will be held on Monday, August 26, 2019, at Randall Oaks Golf Club, located at 4101 Binnie Road, West Dundee, IL 60118. Cost to register is \$125 per per-

son, with a 10:30 a.m. shotgun start / scramble format. For details and to register, contact Sandy at [info@buckbrosinc.com](mailto:info@buckbrosinc.com) or 847-683-4440. Space is limited, so call early to make reservations.

All proceeds benefit the John Buck Scholarship fund, which is distributed to the Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION, Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, and Northwestern Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association.

The KCFB FOUNDATION John Buck Memorial Scholarship, funded through the golf outing, is awarded annually to student(s) seeking higher education in agriculture-related fields. In 2019, Austin Brockman of Garden Prairie and Catherine Austin of Harvard each received \$1,500 John Buck Memorial Scholarships administered by the KCFB FOUNDATION.



**Buck Bros. & J.W. Turf**

Cordially invite you to our

**19th Annual John Buck Golf Outing**

**Join us for Golf, Food and Fun!**

*Randall Oaks Golf Club - West Dundee, IL*

Monday, August 26th



Registration 9:00 - 10:00 A.M.

Shot Gun Start - Scramble Format 10:30 A.M.

Cocktails and Dinner to follow

Please join us for our 19th Annual golf event honoring our good friend and mentor, John Buck. Enjoy range time, 18 holes of Golf with cart, box lunch, cocktails, dinner and more. \$125 per person.

**Pre-pay and save! Send your check by August 9th and pay \$110 per person**

All proceeds go to benefit the John Buck Scholarship fund; which is distributed, to the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents and Northwestern Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association.

( ) Golf and Dinner \*pre-paid\* (\$110.00) My check is enclosed.

( ) Dinner and Cocktails only (\$45.00) My check is enclosed.

( ) I cannot participate, but enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

**ALL REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DUE BY Friday, August 9th**

We will be happy to arrange your team if you do not have a complete foursome.

Limited to first 144 paid entries

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your support!

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## AG LITERACY CORNER

By Suzi Myers

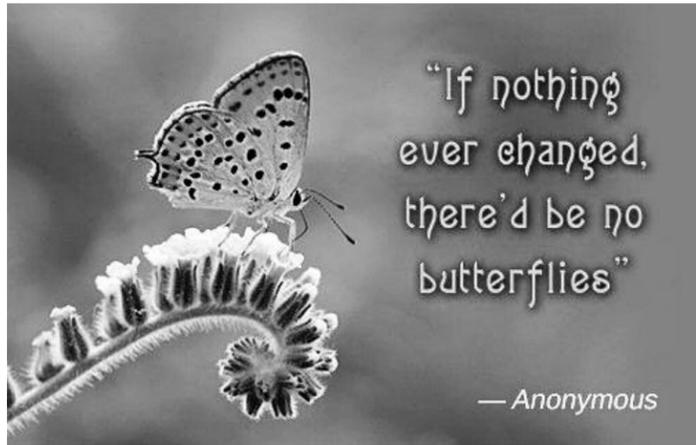


Welcome to August, the month that ends summer vacation and begins the routines of school once again. Teachers are working hard to make their classrooms inviting for their new students, while parents are scurrying around making sure they have everything on the must have supply list for their children's beginning of a new grade.

I've been having an August just like the ones I had as a teacher, only this time, I'm not ending summer break and beginning a new school year. This August, I'm in the midst of ending my career at the KCFB and beginning my life as a retired person.

There are many similarities between ending summer and ending my AITC life. I'm sorry my AITC life is over, yet looking forward (albeit with much trepidation) to my retirement.

The "ending and the beginning" happens to us all many times in our lives. The hard thing really is that we don't like change. However, change is necessary for growth. As many of you know, I raise Monarch butterflies each year ... have for about 30 years. It used to be one of my first activities of each school year. I'd bring in eggs or teeny tiny caterpillars and have the students record their growth and changes. Within a few weeks, we were releasing adult butterflies. I had a poster much like the one pictured below, but with a Monarch butterfly image. I would tell students that they too would be changing a lot during their school year. This poster hung on the wall throughout the year, so when things got a bit difficult for the kids, they could look at it and think, "Yes, I'm changing, but that's good."



## Rural road safety

(continued from page 1)

Engineers (<http://www.asabe.org/>). As shown in the chart below, Illinois is ranked at the top for lighting, marking and overall compliance scores in a comparison of nine states for ASABE road marking standards. The higher the score, the more compliant the state.

In 2017, there were 440 total crashes in Illinois involving farm tractor or farm equipment, according to IDOT. Of those, 93 resulted in personal injury and 5 were fatal. The 2017 IDOT report also indicated speed is a problem on roads: "Crashes involving speed accounted for 33.2 percent of overall crashes, 36.8 percent of fatal crashes and 37.9 percent of injury crashes."

IDOT warned, "The unfortunate truth is most crashes are preventable – but it takes everyone working together to move the needle on the important goal of reducing traffic deaths. Statewide initiatives such as Life or Death Illinois, Start Seeing Motorcycles and Click or Ticket strive to remind drivers that safety is everyone's

responsibility, and small changes in behavior can mean the difference between arriving home safely or not arriving at all."

Kane County Farm Bureau wants to work with you to support the safety of slow-moving farm equipment and reduce accidents on our rural roads. On Tuesday, August 20, KCFB will host a 3:30 pm meeting for interested parties, members, transportation officials, the local community and others to discuss programs or strategies for addressing traffic and safety on rural roads throughout Kane County. All those interested in promoting road safety are invited to attend.

Attendees will be asked to work together to address rural road safety. Together we seek answers to keep us all safe on the roads, between the fields, on tractors and in cars.

Please RSVP by calling (630) 584-8660 or emailing [steve@kanecfb.com](mailto:steve@kanecfb.com). The meeting will be held at the Kane County Farm Bureau, located at 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 (Randall @ Oak streets).

State	Compliance with ASABE Standards (higher score is more compliant)	Lighting Score	Marking Score
Illinois	29	19	13
Kansas	26	16	13
South Dakota	23	14	13
North Dakota	21	15	10
Minnesota	19	12	9
Nebraska	18	13	8
Iowa	17	13	6
Wisconsin	15	11	6
Missouri	5	4	1

When I retired from teaching and became the AITC coordinator for KCFB, I was making quite a big change, but the root of each job was teaching. I LOVE to teach ... ask anyone who knows me and they will attest that I'm happiest when I can spread knowledge. Second best is to be in a learning situation where I'm the student, gaining more knowledge to pass on to others. Another positive of each of these careers is the ability to work with others, brainstorm ideas, share with one another and create something new. I worked with other coordinators on the mAGic curriculum, designing new curriculum, or working with my "country mouse" coordinator to create

presentations, both on the local and national levels. I will miss that camaraderie.

I don't like doing the same thing all the time, so both of these careers have been great for me. They were ever changing in scope and content. As I learned, I changed, so the knowledge and ways I imparted this knowledge to others changed too. A huge thank you to all the people who broadened my knowledge of agriculture these past 15 years.

Now I'm retiring without a teaching part of my life, which makes it a bit scary. At the same time, there are so many things I want to take advantage of that I've not been able to, being tied to a schedule. I will continue to

take classes to keep my Kane County Certified Naturalist certification, so learning will stay in my life.

Who knows what life after ending my AITC career will hold. Only thing I know is that with an ending, there is also a beginning with many changes to enjoy. I will strive to find the many wonders that await my retired life with the gusto with which I looked for them in the career I am now ending. If we meet after my retirement, I'm hoping I can tell you my new beginning is a joyful one, full of many wonders.

Have an August full of exciting and wondrous changes.

## Book of the month

When you're having a campfire, it would be fun to know a bit about some of the nocturnal animals you might be seeing.

The animals covered in this book are not all local, like the huge snakes, crocodiles and leopards, but the book also covers animals we know, like owls, bats and raccoons. Each animal has information about it, i.e. what they eat, how they raise their young, where they are found, their predators, and some other fun facts.

Did you know...?

- Raccoons are at least as smart as dogs and cats.
- Barn owls will eat about 1,300 mice each year.
- Some types of bats will bring food to an ill bat that cannot hunt.

Find out more about these nocturnal animals by checking out the book at our KCFB library. Yes, we have a library! The library was the idea of Bob Konen and Dean Dunn.

Funding has been provided by the Bob Konen family.



Hunters of the Night by Elaine Landau

Even the biggest goals start with simple steps



**Bob Effner, CLF®, LUTCF**  
St. Charles – Elgin  
Agency Manager  
St. Charles  
630-584-0001



**Ashraf Gerges**  
Aurora  
630-898-3750



**Bob Riedel**  
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**Bobbi Boston**  
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**Michael O'Brien**  
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**Sherri Schramer**  
Elburn  
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**Mehul Patel**  
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**Dominick Davero**  
Elburn  
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**Kelly Landorf**  
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**Josh Austin**  
Hampshire  
847-683-2100



**Orazio Difruscolo**  
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**Victor Alvarado**  
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847-742-0003



**Dan Cooper**  
Sugar Grove  
630-466-9600



**Edward Stuehm**  
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**Luke Fawkes**  
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**Ted Schuster**  
Sugar Grove  
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**Deb Stob**  
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**Sherry Lochen**  
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847-742-0001



# Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Suzi Myers



## Campfires are the original community

## Keep the campfire burning

By Erin Real

Find your roasting stick and scoot up your chair. Campfires are the original community. Children first hear a family's stories around the fire, and then they begin to write their own. Long associated with warmth,

knee and a quick, "Oops, I'm sorrrry." At the not-so-tender age of 13, an apology at sunrise does not go far, with or without Folgers in your cup.

In the fishing cabin, there were two channels on the TV. The Red Green Show from Canada got the best reception. One special summer night we caught Johnny Carson's last broadcast of the Tonight Show. No matter, the youngest campers soon abandoned the living room and went back outside. They preferred peering at stars visible through gaps in the pines, the bugs, the night and the stories, drawn to them all like moths to a campfire flame.

Kids understand a campfire intuitively. The flicker furnishes

dramatic lighting for tall tales. Heat dries your wet socks and smoke banishes the mosquito. Before the selfie stick, the s'more roasting stick reigned supreme. In August, it probably still does, giving a practical distance to toast your marshmallow or your Oscar Mayer, without roasting your face.



If you know someone who makes a good fire, he'll never let you forget. Do you assemble a log cabin, a tepee or a reverse stack? Who is in charge of the kindling? And where are the matches? The light of a well-built fire draws us in, but the campfire's warmth inspires courage needed in life as we head out.

First one up, throw a log on the fire.

## Firewood rules

Get firewood where you will use it or know the laws before you move it.

Firewood can transport harmful tree problems to your backyard, street or favorite campsite. Just one firewood log can easily hide insects like emerald ash borer or gypsy moth, or the tiny spores of a tree-killing fungus like oak wilt.

Instead of taking firewood along on your next camping trip or bringing some home with you from far away, get your firewood where you're going to use it. Make sure it comes from trees harvested nearby.

Due to facts known today about emerald ash borer, the Illinois Department of Agriculture strongly urges and recommends firewood be produced, distributed, sold and burned locally. It is strongly recommended campers burn all firewood in their possession before they leave.

defense and dinner, campfires mean memories. And they mean magic.

My mother was always the first up in the morning at the fishing cabin. I know because I slept on a cot between her pull-out sofa and the kitchen. At dawn, she stepped over me to get to the coffee pot, routinely knocking me in the head with her

## What's cookin'? Campfire crafts and recipes

### S'mores

- 1 large marshmallow
- 1 graham cracker
- 1 (1.5 oz.) chocolate candy bar

### DIRECTIONS

1. Heat the marshmallow over an open flame until it begins to brown and melt.
2. Break the graham cracker in half.
3. Sandwich the chocolate between the cracker and the hot marshmallow.
4. Allow the marshmallow to

cool a moment before eating.

### Campfire starter

SHOULD BE DONE BY AN ADULT OR BY A CHILD WITH PARENTAL SUPERVISION

To make a campfire starter, all you need is an empty egg carton, melted wax and lint from your dryer.

First, save up as much lint as you can for a couple of weeks before you are due to have your campfire. Collect it out of the dryer and store it in a bag until you have a good handful or two.

When you have enough, stuff the lint into each cup of the empty egg carton. Then pour in melted wax. (Old candles work well for this, as it reuses the last bit of wax.) Let cool and solidify.

When you are ready to light your campfire, tear off one of the

egg carton sections. Build a tepee of dry twigs and sticks around your homemade campfire starter, using it as kindling. You're ready to light your campfire.

### Tin Foil Stew

Makes individual meals, so each person can use their favorite meat, veggies and seasonings.

### PREPARATION:

Have hamburger, chicken pieces or other meats cut into small pieces. Also cut up an assortment of veggies, such as potato cubes, carrots, onions and garlic.

Let each person make his or her own stew from the cut-up meat and veggies provided.

### DIRECTIONS:

On a large, square sheet of tin foil, layer meat, potato cubes, carrots, onion, garlic or other vegetables and seasonings. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, top with butter and a tablespoon of water.

Roll edges of tin foil together and seal tightly.

Bury it in campfire coals. Cooking time is about 1 hour. You can eat it right out of the foil, or empty it into a dish.



S'mores and campfire stew

## August is ...

- Admit You're Happy Month
- Family Fun Month
- National Catfish Month
- National Eye Exam Month
- National Golf Month
- Peach Month
- Water Quality Month
- National Picnic Month

### Special Days in August

- 1 National Mountain Climbing Day
- 2 National Ice Cream Sandwich Day
- 3 Campfire Day - First Saturday in August
- 3 National Watermelon Day
- 4 Friendship Day - First Sunday in August
- 4 National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day
- 9 Book Lover's Day
- 10 National S'mores Day
- 14 National Creamsicle Day
- 15 Relaxation Day
- 16 National Tell a Joke Day
- 17 National Honey Bee Awareness Day
- 19 National Potato Day
- 21 Senior Citizen's Day
- 22 Be an Angel Day
- 26 National Dog Day
- 30 Toasted Marshmallow Day
- 31 International Bacon Day
- 31 National Eat Outside Day



Have you heard the joke about the skunk and the camping trip? *Never mind - it really stinks.*

What type of footwear do frogs wear camping during the summer? *Open-toad shoes.*

Why was the camping trip so tiring? *It was in-tents (intense).*

What outdoor sport do spiders like when camping? *Fly fishing.*

What did the campers say about the campfire? *They gave it GLOWING reviews.*

## Campfires

A B S J Y X M N Y K T N A T U R E S B G  
 X Q H D S S L S N E F E S E A A T I G S  
 G Q O I U K R E R R K L R C D Q L L N E  
 V O H M H A E I P P W M A U S H V K I I  
 W O M F T R F X G H O O M S T I O K P R  
 J E R S C P S M T O A A H A H N V C M O  
 R N B S M W A S I P N W H U E L E T A M  
 N P N A Q D J F J L B K B L A G I V C E  
 U U C U P V G G E N H W C J Y O L G D M  
 S R J Q L Y C S S E O T I U Q S O M H A  
 G P Y U E W B W T U O K O O C N F A B T  
 P E F O G C U O B S E R O M S A G I P J  
 T B X I Q P G L V L Z M U J N T Q E X V  
 S T I O R F S L K B A J P W C U D U B H  
 N M E D W O P A Z H E N F R O R E V X R  
 Q J O N A I R M Q M M I K O I E G O X W  
 D G R K T H A H Y S R Z O E T S N B J M  
 F N C D E E Y S F E Q A L A T P I I E D  
 R B F N H B Y R P M F G G B I W K X X Q  
 T C T Z B D A A I Y B W C X V U I A K U  
 Z K K J N H R M B G B V O I I W H H V X

ADVENTURE  
 BLANKET  
 BUG-SPRAY  
 CAMPFIRE  
 CAMPING  
 COOKOUT  
 FIRE  
 FLASHLIGHT  
 HIKING  
 MARSHMALLOWS  
 MEMORIES  
 MOSQUITOES  
 NATURE  
 SMOKE  
 SMORES  
 STARS  
 SUMMER  
 SUNSCREEN  
 TENT  
 WOOD

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St Charles, IL 60174 by August 15, 2019 to be entered in our drawing for a campfire themed prize. Prize must be picked up at the KCFB office.

## Congratulations

Spiro Marinopoulos from Elburn is the July Word Search winner! His name was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's Word Search Puzzle. For his participation, he receives a picnic-themed prize! Thank you, Spiro, for reading the Kane County Farmer and continue to watch each month for more great opportunities from the Kane County Farm Bureau.

# MORE THAN ONE WAY FORWARD

By Erin Real



KCFB Ag Literacy Coordinator, Suzi Myers, and I have more than one thing in common. I will not return to any classroom this August either, as teacher or learner, for the first time since 1985. Commence tender farewells and warm well-wishes. And a choppy, stilted emotional process, if I am honest. Annd also some writer's block.

It feels like my transmission is stuck. The drivetrain is a little gummy.

But I don't drive a tractor or a truck; I ride a road bike, a secondhand Trek Lexa SL, to be precise. With pink tape on the handlebars. That's right: roadie. Garmin guru. Spandex warrior.

The bike helps with that writer's cramp thing. With the career change thing. With just about anything. I have heard it called the happiness machine. On two wheels, cyclists sail along open roads, across farmland and through fields of thought and emotion. The bike whirs hypnotically as it goes and, after a good ride, one's resting heart rate reaches a depth so profound it makes the

doctor ask, "Wait, are you a cyclist?"

Road cyclists face all manner of hazards on a ride. We get flat tires and slide in loose gravel. Manhole covers and painted stripes on a road are outright treacherous for a set of two hard, narrow tires. Red-winged blackbirds take a regular crack at our helmets and the occasional four-point buck confuses a bike for an adversary. We roll through tacky tar in construction zones. We pray the emptied 5-gallon water jugs, loosed from a delivery man's dolly, miss our back wheel when they roll into traffic like giant marbles. True stories. And regrettably there are close calls with cars or, worse, accidents, crashes and collisions.

Personally, the risk has been worth every minute of time in the saddle. I am not sure that will always be true. Roads are increasingly dangerous for us all, bikes, cars, trucks and tractors.

A road bike might clip along rural routes in Kane County at an average pace of 15, 18 or 25 miles an hour, speeds faster

than legally permitted on Illinois bike trails. The name is road bike for a reason. A good downhill coupled with a tailwind and we move as fast as cars through town. If I am lucky, I catch a draft off a big yellow school bus. If I am luckier, I ride a paeline with 8 retirees. In cycling, there is safety in numbers. Cycling is tantamount to going outside to play with my friends. You know who you are.

Road cyclists are annoying, right? We love our bikes. Our small size makes us hard for drivers of cars to see, even if we wear neon polka dots and flashing red lights in front and back, same as motorcycles. We slow traffic, same as tractors and farm equipment. Any conversation about rural road safety is something personal for us all, from multiple angles.

Because we are all on our way to somewhere. I was a teacher. I am a cyclist. And now I change gears, learn a new audience, choose a new speed. At every stage, we all share something in common: the road. It takes a whole lot of impromptu to keep following it. But let me stop writing and leave for a ride before I beat the metaphor over the head. It is still Grand Tour season after all, but shadows will shorten and harvest will be here soon enough. More tractors, fewer bikes. Until next year.

# IFB Young Leaders set 2019 Discussion Meet dates, topics

The Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leader Committee recently released the 2019 schedule of District Discussion Meet dates and topics. Locally, a Discussion Meet will be held Monday, August 19 at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau for eligible Young Farmers in Kane, DeKalb, Lake and McHenry counties.

The Discussion Meet is sponsored by the IFB Young Leader Committee. It is an exchange of ideas and information, about a particular topic, in which contestants must analyze problems and determine logical solutions. The contest involves a moderator who introduces the topic and contestants, starts the discussion and keeps discussion on subject, a timekeeper to ensure this discussion is kept within the prescribed time limits and contestants who exchange ideas and information in an effort to solve the problem.

The purpose is to provide young Farm Bureau members involved with production agriculture the opportunity to develop their skills in basic discussion techniques. Other objectives are to:

- Improve the ability of the contestants to analyze problems and determine logical solutions;
- Allow contestants to gain an appreciation of the value of thinking and working in groups;
- Provide a current topic which stimulates motivation for continued involvement in Farm Bureau;
- Stimulate logical thinking and a desire to seek accurate information;
- Help in learning to criticize constructively and accept the same in the right spirit.

The Discussion Meet is open to Farm Bureau members and dependents actively involved in

agriculture and 36 and under as of January 31, 2020. Those who have received a fee or honorarium for public speaking are ineligible, as are employees of the Illinois Farm Bureau, County Farm Bureaus and COUNTRY Financial.

District Discussion Meet winners will receive a \$100 FAST STOP Gift Card – courtesy of GROWMARK, Inc. and an expense-paid trip to compete at the 2019 IFB Annual Meeting, Dec. 7-10, Chicago Palmer House.

The State Discussion Meet winner will receive a choice of John Deere riding lawn mowers (3 options) courtesy of IFB & COUNTRY Financial; \$ 2,500 cash, courtesy of COUNTRY Financial; and an expense paid trip to compete at the American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Convention in San Diego in January 2020.

To register, contact Steve Arnold at the Kane County Farm Bureau, (630) 584-8660 prior to August 11.

## 2019 District Discussion Meet Topics

2. Products like cell-based food products have demonstrated the food system is rapidly changing. How can future food technologies and related products be beneficially integrated into modern agricultural production without hampering the success of traditional products and the farmers and ranchers who grow them?

4. With abundant productivity, farmers are in need of new markets, including outside traditional food and feed channels. How do we develop, invest and commercialize to innovate new uses of agricultural products and by-products to benefit all of agriculture?

# 45% off IL's largest outdoor water park

Want to have to fun in the sun (and water) this summer? Grab your family and friends and check out Aussie-themed Raging Waves, Illinois' largest outdoor water park!

While supplies last, stop by the Kane County Farm Bureau office IN PERSON to purchase tickets to Raging Waves for only \$18.00 each, a 45% discount off the regular price of \$32.99. Tickets are also available online at a lesser discount, for \$25.99 each. To buy online, visit the

Raging Waves Select Ticket Store at <https://tickets.ragingwaves.com>, scroll down and enter the store code "KANE."



Raging Waves is located just south of Kane County in Yorkville. Finish your summer

break strong with a visit to this family-friendly water park featuring 20 water slides, a wave pool, lazy river, separate kiddie pool, 24 private cabanas and more. Raging Waves is also home to Wonambi, a four-person tube adventure – the first of its kind in the Midwest, and 1 of only 3 in the United States! Newer attractions include Quokka-Nut Island, an interactive play area for the li'l mates (ages 2-5) with slides and a zero-depth pool.

# Don't miss out on Fresh Peaches

The Kane County Farm Bureau is now taking orders for juicy, homegrown Peaches fresh from Rendleman Orchards, a southern Illinois grower.

These delicious peaches are washed, hydro-cooled, graded to US #1 Extra, 2 1/2 inches and up in size, approximately 60 packaged in a 25 lb wax-coated fancy box with a lid. They are delivered to our office on Randall Road the morning of pickup in a refrigerated truck for freshness and long lasting quality.

The grower recommends the peaches, which are available in the month of August, for their sweetness and juicy flavor. If you like to make peach pie or cobbler, or if you like to can or freeze peaches, now is the time to take advantage of this once-a-year offer.

Peaches are highly perishable. They are shipped when they are a little green so that when they arrive they are not bruised with juice running out of the box. The grower recommends that the peaches be refrigerated immediately when you get them unless you are planning to can or freeze them within the next day. Then when you want to use them, you can take out however many you think you will use in the next day, let them sit out in a paper sack overnight, and they should be ripe and ready to eat or cook with. Peaches should not be out of the refrigerator for more than 24 hours. If they are left out too long, they are very susceptible to mold.

The price for a 25 lb box is \$31.35 (Plus member price), \$33.00 (member price) and \$35.00 (non-member price). PAYMENT IS DUE WITH ORDER. You can order by filling out the form and sending it in with your check, or call the Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 and pay with a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover. Pickup will be Monday, August 19 from 2:00pm - 6:00pm at the Farm Bureau office.

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ \$31.35/box (Plus Member) \$33.00/box (Member) \$35.00/box (Non-member)

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL 60174 or call 630-584-8660

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS 4PM Thursday, August 15

Pick-up is at the Farm Bureau on Monday, August 19 from 2:00p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Support local farms Text FARM to 52886



## Friendly Competition That Builds Your Leadership Skills

**Discussion Meet Topics:**  
Products like cell-based food products have demonstrated the food system is rapidly changing. How can future food technologies and related products be beneficially integrated into modern agricultural production without hampering the success of traditional products and the farmers and ranchers who grow them?  
With abundant productivity, farmers are in need of new markets, including outside traditional food and feed channels. How do we develop, invest and commercialize to innovate new uses of agricultural products and by-products to benefit all of agriculture?

**Additional Topics for State Competition:**  
How can Farm Bureau build upon collaborative relationships such as Farm Town Strong to combat nationwide crises such as opioid dependence/addiction and mental health issues?  
The customer is always right. How do farmers and ranchers think and respond, through the lens of consumer priorities and marketing trends, to build common values and confidence in modern production methods to build consumer acceptance?  
The 21<sup>st</sup> century agricultural economy is threatened by labor shortages. Without a clear solution for accessing foreign guest workers as a component of immigration reform coming from Congress, what are some creative and legal ways for agriculture to address the labor needs of a modern production system?

Entries due to your county Farm Bureau 7 days before your district competition. Contact your county Farm Bureau for eligibility and contest information.

District(s)	Date	Location	Orientation Start Time	Contest Start Time
1	Monday, August 19	DeKalb County FB, Sycamore	6:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
2	Tuesday, August 20	Stephenson County FB, Freeport	6:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
3	Thursday, August 15	Henry County FB, Cambridge	6:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
4	Monday, July 29	LaSalle County FB, Ottawa	6:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
5 & 6	Tuesday, July 23	Schaefer Pioneer, Mazon	6:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
7 & 8	Tuesday, July 16	Peoria County FB, Peoria	6:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
9	Tuesday, July 23	Hancock County FB, Carthage	6:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
10	Tuesday, July 23	Cass Morgan FB, Jacksonville	6:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
11 & 12	Tuesday, August 6	Champaign County FB, Champaign	6:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
13 & 17	Tuesday, August 20	Edward County FB, Albion	6:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
14	Tuesday, August 20	Effingham County FB, Effingham	6:30 p.m.	6:50 p.m.
15 & 16	Monday, August 26	Madison County FB, Edwardsville	6:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
18	Thursday, July 18	Saline County FB, Harrisburg	6:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.



For more details - <https://www.ifb.org/get-involved/young-leaders> or [facebook.com/ifbyl](https://www.facebook.com/ifbyl)

# Take the family out to a ball game! August 18 KCFB outing

KCFB extends a special invitation to all our members to enjoy baseball, prize giveaways and some good summer fun at Northwestern Medicine Field in Geneva on Sunday, August 18. Join your fellow Farm Bureau members to watch the Kane

County Cougars take on the Lumberkings of Clinton, IA! First pitch is at 1:00 p.m. Individual tickets are \$10 and seating is reserved for KCFB members (not deck, and not suite). Kids eat free on Sundays at Northwestern Medicine Field,

and all KCFB guests also receive a cool-breeze hand fan. All proceeds benefit the KCFB Foundation college scholarship and agricultural literacy programs ... because it takes teamwork to make the dream work! Call (630) 584-8660 or email info@kanecfb.com to reserve your seats. We hope to see you at the ball park!

**Join us for this August 18 get-together to watch the Kane County Cougars take on the Clinton, IA Lumberkings**



## KCFB members save on admission to Santa's Village Azoosment Park

Plan a visit to Santa's Village Azoosment Park with the 2019 KCFB member benefit. The park is open June 10th–August 23rd and weekends only August 24th–October 27th. General admission tickets are \$24.99 + tax (age 2 and under are free). KCFB member ticket price is only \$18.99. NO BLACKOUT DATES. Enjoy 20 rides and 100's of animals. Target audience is 12 and younger. Parking is FREE and food & drink can

be brought in. Call the Kane County Farm Bureau at (630) 584-8660 to purchase tickets or for more information. Check the Santa's Village website www.santasvillagedundee.com for further details.



## Apply now for 2019 IFB Leaders to Washington trip, Sept. 10-12

KCFB is seeking one motivated volunteer as we prepare for the September Illinois Farm Bureau® Leaders to Washington trip. Our statewide association is eager to assemble a terrific group of leaders to implement Farm Bureau policy in this second session of the 116th Congress.

The program is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10–Thursday, September 12. Eligible participants are farmer-members involved in Kane County Farm Bureau who desire to impact the implementation of Farm Bureau policy in national legislation and federal regulations. While in D.C., they must support Farm Bureau policy during meetings with Congressmen, Congressional staff members and federal regulators.

There will be a considerable amount of walking at a fast pace and participants should be physically capable of keeping up with the group. Past participants would advise you to wear comfortable shoes.

Priority in registration will be given as follows:

**Applicants sought for September Leaders to Washington program**

- First time Leaders to Washington applicants;
- State and County Young Leader Committee Members;
- A C T I V A T O R Trustees
- Members of Congressional Ag Advisory Committees;
- Active FB ACT Members;
- Current SWAT participants;
- CFB directors and general members willing to advocate for agriculture.

Unfortunately, spouses and immediate family members are not permitted to participate or travel together to Washington at the same time as the Leaders to Washington program, as meeting room locations cannot accommodate doubling the group size. The policy will be strictly enforced.

Kane County Farm Bureau hopes to register an applicant electronically by Friday, August 9, 2019. Applications will be reviewed by IFB and the roster will be approved

shortly thereafter. All group air-line and hotel reservations will be made by Illinois Farm Bureau.

Kane County Farm Bureau/IFB will be responsible for travel expenses incurred to and from the airport, roundtrip airfare to and from Washington, two evening meals, a lunch and other miscellaneous costs (such as METRO transportation while in Washington), and shared lodging. Other individual meal expenses will be incurred by the participant.

For an application for this opportunity and a tentative agenda of the Agency and Congressional visits scheduled, contact Steve Arnold at (630) 584-8660.

## Recruiter of the Month

Each month we honor the person who signs the most members into our organization. This month, the honor goes to **Felipe Rocha!** Felipe has been a COUNTRY Financial Representative since August of 2011. His



Felipe Rocha

office is located at 541 N. Lake St., Aurora and he may be reached at: 630-897-7746. Thank you for your continued support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success.

## What's new in the Country Agencies?

**St. Charles Agency, Bob Effner, Agency Manager**

TODD WILCOX has been named the Financial Representative of the Month for June 2019 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Todd has provided tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long term insurance and financial security needs of his 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 Todd's expertise help you! You may contact Todd at his office, 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles or by

phone/email/website: 630-762-1326, todd.wilcox@countryfinancial.com/todd.wilcox.com. Congratulations, Todd!

**Aurora Agency, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager**

Alicia Giglione, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for June 2019. Alicia began her career with COUNTRY Financial in October of 2016 and services clients out of her office located at: 1161 Oak Street, North Aurora, 60542- (630) 423-9888. Alicia's professionalism and vast knowledge of auto, home, life, and commercial products make her a great person to do business with. Congratulations, Alicia!

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**CLASSIFIED AD RATES**  
Classified advertising rates: 20 cents per word/\$20 minimum (60 words or less). **DISCOUNTS** for members: Associate members, 20%; Voting members, 30%; PLUS members, 40%. Advance payment requested. Ads due by the 15th of every month for the next issue. No advertising (classified or display) for financial or insurance services will be accepted. Call 630-584-8660.

### HELP WANTED

**SPECIALISTS**  
Communications/  
Education/Development

KCFB is seeking energetic and organized self-starters in the areas of communications, literacy and/or development. Duties may include coordination of projects with staff and volunteers; maintenance of databases, website and social media platforms; writing of farm food and human interest stories, as well as curriculum and lesson plan development and fund raising appeals.

Education, Journalism/  
Communications or Agricultural Leadership degree and farm background preferred. Strong organizational skills and excellent

verbal and written communications skills required for candidates for all positions. Full Time or Part Time. Options for Retirement, 401K and full complement of insurance.

Send resume and cover letter, along with college transcript for recent graduates to:

HUMAN RESOURCES  
2N710 RANDALL ROAD  
ST CHARLES IL 60174  
630 587-8479 (FAX)  
steve@kanecfb.com

### SERVICES

Jim Verhaeghe & Sons, Inc. – Tree removal, tree trimming & stump grinding. Backhoe work & Tile Lines. Fully insured – Free Estimates – Jim Verhaeghe Sr. Call: 847 334 5730

### WANTED

**STUDENT HELP WANTED.** Seeking responsible STUDENT for entry level office position. 12-15 hours weekly; flexible hours. Perfect for high school or college student. Office located east side of St. Charles. Call Bob to discuss position – 630-377-7797

**CUSTOMER SERVICE.** Minimum 20 hours weekly, M-F, we do not work Sundays. Applicant must be computer literate with pleasant voice and manner. Applicant must be self-starter and able to work as part of a team. We are located in

St. Charles. Entry-level employment offering paid vacation, self-directed savings plan, partial tuition reimbursement. Call Bob to discuss position. Call: 630-377-7797

Want to buy vintage & used tools. Call Chris – Also, we do cleanouts. Call: 630 550 7182

Construction materials. Wanted to repair the farm's Chicken Coop. Looking for a used small barn door on a track/siding material/metal roofing panels. Call 331-254-0334

### FOR SALE

2007 John Deere X300 Tractor/Snow blower 266.7 hours. Converts from lawn mowing to snow blower – Snow blower is 44 inches. Attachments included: Weather Enclosure Kit (rigging, canopy, frame tubes), Agri-fab lawn sweeper 42 inches, tire chains for snow blower, 4 counter weights for ballast for snow blower. New battery installed May 2019. Asking price for all \$2,600. Please contact Tim Seifrid, Emmanuel Lutheran Church Board of Trustees. 630-851-5373

1987 John Deere utility tractor with loader and 60 inch mower. # cylinder diesel, PTO, 3pt hitch, 4 wheel drive. Garage kept. Asking \$7,000. Ask for Jim. 630-664-8335



We offer wet hosing, bulk tank fills and package lubricants – D.E.F, Oil, Hydraulic, Diesel and Gas for all your needs.

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Call us today at 847-994-3010 or visit us online at [www.luckysenergy.com](http://www.luckysenergy.com)  
Growing To Serve You Better

Kane County Farm Bureau invites you to join us honor **Suzi Myers** for 15 years of service at a Retirement Open House: **Thursday, August 22 • 4-7 pm** KCFB auditorium • Refreshments will be provided.

# Scenes from the Kane County Fair

Kane County Farm Bureau and its not-for-profit Foundation had a large presence at the 151st Kane County Fair, occupying the pavilion opposite the livestock show ring and adjacent to the 4-H fairgrounds office.



Photos, clockwise from top left: Kaneland FFA members (L-R) Grant Baldrige, Maria Rios, Katie Volkening and Zack Beatty take a pause from applying a coat of wax to the KCFB Foundation's Winner's Choice Raffle grand prize at the Kane County Fair. For results and winners, see below.

KCFB summer intern Vanessa Gould welcomed guests to the Kane County Fair and explained the benefits of Farm Bureau membership.

An unidentified Jenga player tips the tower on Farm Trivia Jenga in front of KCFB's Fair exhibit announcing 302,000 membership discounts.

## 2019 Winner's Choice Raffle winners!

This year the Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION'S 2019 Winner's Choice Raffle concluded at the Kane County Fair, Sunday, July 21, directly following the 4-H Blue Ribbon sale. The grand prize was a 1966 Ford 100 Pick-Up Truck OR 1956 Massey-Harris Model 333 Tractor OR \$3,500 cash; 2nd prize \$500 in groceries; and 3rd prize \$500 in fuel.

Ticket sales kicked off in April with Kane County Farm Bureau's Touch-A-Tractor event and the excitement and anticipation grew between spring and Fair time. There were many last-minute ticket sales right up to the moment of the drawing and, with so many

buyers eager to drive away with the vintage Ford pick-up, competition was strong among those waiting for the drawing.

With Joe White, President of the Kane County Farm Bureau, and Steve Arnold, Manager of the Kane County Farm Bureau, announcing, the names listed below were drawn as 2019 winners.

Congratulations to all winners, and thank you to all who bought tickets in support of both the Foundation's Scholarship and Ag-in-the-Classroom programs! Keep reading the *Kane County Farmer* for information about our next Foundation fundraiser and also about the 2020 Winner's Choice prizes!

**Grand Prize (Truck, Tractor or Cash)**  
**Ulyana Lynevykh, St. Charles, IL**

**2nd Prize (\$500 in Groceries)**  
**John Peters, Maple Park, IL**

**3rd Prize (\$500 in Fuel)**  
**Rose Norman, St. Charles, IL**

## FB supports local 4-H'ers

Sunday at the Kane County Fair is Blue Ribbon Sale day. Each year the 4-H Foundation Blue Ribbon Sale Committee hosts an auction of grand champions, reserve champions and other livestock from 4-H exhibitors at the fair. This year, approximately 20 cattle, 20 hogs and 30 lambs, along with numerous chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys and rabbits generated hundreds or even thousands of dollars in income for local 4-H'ers.

The Blue Ribbon Sale provides an additional opportunity for 4-H'ers to get in the show ring, exhibit their livestock and learn by doing. It also allows businesses, families, politicians

and organizations to purchase quality animals which were raised and cared for by Kane County 4-H'ers. The Blue Ribbon Sale supports the entire 4-H program, with a portion of the sale proceeds going to the 4-H Foundation. Perhaps best of all for the successful bidder, buyers of Blue Ribbon livestock are invited to an annual Buyer's Picnic at Lions Park in Elburn – an end-of-the-show-season celebration – for a delicious meal and a plaque with a photo of the exhibitor and his/her animal.

The Kane County Farm Bureau has always been a proud supporter of the Blue Ribbon Sale. This year the Farm Bureau placed the winning bid on sev-

eral different animals. For numerous others, KCFB helped drive the price, and therefore the income of 4-H'ers.

In addition to a celebratory meal and taking pride and satisfaction in supporting 4-H'ers and the 4-H Foundation, all buyers are publically recognized in news releases and radio programs. The fairgrounds prominently displays a buyer recognition sign at next year's fair. And the thank-you cards from 4-H'ers can be, well, priceless.

For more information on the Blue Ribbon Sale or to learn how to support 4-H or the 4-H Foundation, contact the 4-H Extension office at (630) 584-6166.

## Thanks to our Donors...

The KCFB FOUNDATION offers its sincere appreciation to the following for their contributions to our community service, education, and scholarship and hunger relief programs. Names shown are pledges received from June 17-June 29.

### 10,000 Gallon CHALLENGE

- Country Donuts patrons
- Hills Country Store patrons
- Lenkaitis Dairy OPEN HOUSE attendees
- Lenkaitis Dairy OPEN HOUSE sponsors
- Agromatic
- B&C Enterprises
- Wesemann Feeds
- Heritage Animal Health
- Blue Frost Heating & Cooling
- Kaeb Sales, Inc
- Carpe Diem Hoof Trimming LLC
- Buck Brothers Inc.
- Meinholz
- Pete Miller Foot Trimming
- A.I. Supply
- Hayes Home Improvement, Inc.
- Fritz Landscape Contractors, Inc
- Ace Concrete
- Dean Birschbach
- Chad Heimsoth
- Dave Wesemann
- Ashley Durst
- Tracey Berg
- Trent Kaeb
- Matthew Sloan
- Matt Meinholz
- Pete Miller
- Gale Shelborne
- Scott Hayes
- Paul Fritz
- Chad Fox

- Adams Veterinary Service
- Maurer-Stutz, Inc.
- WM. C. Reiser Trucking
- Renaissance Nutrition
- Prairie State/Select Sires
- Animat
- Field's
- Cargill
- First Midwest Bank
- Sunshine Genetics
- TechMix, LLC.

#### COUNTRY Financial Representatives

- Kevin Gomes
- Bob Effner
- Stan Butler
- Kevin Laurie
- Josh Austin
- Zach Fox
- Dr. Stacey Adams
- Gayle Baker
- Bill Reiser
- Brian Gerloff
- Devin Albrecht
- Ryan Lindsey
- Brian Peterson
- Nicole Hibbard
- Michael Hawley
- Greg Schueller, D.V.M.
- Zach Jassen
- Chuck Quick
- Nick Reynolds
- Victor Alvarado
- Edward Stuehm
- Dan Cooper
- Calin Marchis
- Kelly Landorf
- Keith Eakins
- Deborah Stob
- Todd Wilcox
- Dominic Davero



for the future of farms & food

## 2019 Bucket Raffle

The Bucket Raffles are Kane County Fair traditions, hosted by the Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION, to support and provide scholarships and internships as well as Agriculture-in-the-Classroom activities and learning experiences.

Thank you to these local businesses and individuals who donated prizes for the bucket raffles at the 2019 Kane County Fair. Your support of the Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION'S college scholarship and agricultural literacy programs is greatly appreciated. Winners will be notified via phone and will be listed in next month's *Farmer!*

- Alexa's Sweets & Treats – Kaneville
- Café Roma – Elgin
- C & C Mulch – Geneva
- Centre of Elgin – Elgin
- Colonial Café – St. Charles
- Costco – St. Charles
- Country Donuts – Elgin
- Country House Restaurant – Batavia
- Craig & Angie Bradley – [town]
- Dave Klussendorf – Batavia
- Eddie Gaedel Pub & Grill – Elburn
- Elgin Symphony Orchestra – Elgin
- Fast Frame – St. Charles
- Flo Dangelo – Glendale Heights
- FunWay Ultimate Entertainment Center – Batavia
- Geneva Park District – Geneva
- Graham's Fine Chocolates & Ice Cream – Geneva
- Heinz Bros. Greenhouse and Garden Center – St. Charles
- Hill's Country Store – Kaneville
- Hughes Creek Golf Club – Elburn
- J & R Feeds – Hampshire
- Jimmy's Charhouse – Elgin
- Johnsen's Farm and Country Store – Elburn
- Kane County Farm Bureau & KCFB Foundation – St. Charles
- Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District – St. Charles
- Kathleen Chwee – Elgin
- Morton Arboretum – Lisle
- Penrose Brewing Company – Geneva
- Raging Waves Water Park – Yorkville
- Ream's Meat Market – Elburn
- Spirels Frozen Yogurt – Elgin
- St. Charles Bowl – St. Charles
- Sugar Grove Family Fun Center – Sugar Grove
- Town House Books & Café – St. Charles
- Trellis Farm and Garden – St. Charles
- Whiskey Acres – DeKalb

Summer sweet **Fresh Peaches** see page 6 to order

**10,000 GALLON CHALLENGE**  
 Support local farms & our neighbors in need.

**KCFB Foundation salutes the following for helping us achieve our 10,000 GALLON MILK CHALLENGE GOAL!**

AGCO Global Women's Network  
 Luck-E Holsteins  
 Lenkaitis Holsteins  
 Kane County Farm Bureau  
 CHS Elburn

Janet Gramley  
 Daniel Brummel  
 Marilyn Swift  
 Jeffrey Rosengren  
 Thomas Richter  
 Lindale Holsteins  
 Christine Zollers  
 Marcia Konen  
 DeReedt Grain Farms  
 Paul 'Gris' Stover  
 Trish Hayden  
 Bryn Nelson  
 Julie Ashton  
 Jodie Wolnik  
 Deborah Allen  
 Donna Lehrer  
 Marty & Elverna Strausberger  
 Kathy & Tomoko Konishi  
 Leroy & Carol Herra  
 Rosemarie Geier-Grant  
 Andrew & Sarah Lenkaitis  
 Mike & Carol Kenyon  
 Dale & Linda Drendel  
 Eldon & Sandy Gould  
 Bill & Karen Collins  
 Nan & John Long  
 Steve & Gladys Arnold  
 Dominic Davero  
 Kelly Landorf  
 Edward Stuehm  
 Chuck Quick  
 Bob Effner

Phyllis Koppin  
 George Stare  
 Ann Parish  
 Catie Hall  
 Wardlyn Farms  
 Michael Wurtz  
 Susan Styr  
 Mary Lee Pitstick  
 Gray-Urban Farms  
 Pitstick Farms  
 Whiskey Acres  
 Ellen Kamps  
 Myrna Melina  
 Marguerite J. Jensen  
 James Lickieig  
 Barbara & Marcia Roiser  
 David & Judy Klussendorf  
 James & Germaine Campbell  
 Joe & Margaret Engel  
 Wayne Schneider & Lisa Geisler  
 Craig & Angela Bradley  
 Dennis & Beth Engel  
 David & Lynette Werdin  
 Christine & Keith Kmiec  
 Al Hintt & Sons Trucking  
 Ryan & Juanita Klesay  
 Jon DeRaedt  
 Kevin Laurie  
 Calin Marchis  
 Victor Alvarado  
 Nick Reynolds

And the staff/ members/patrons of the following businesses & organizations:  
 Kane County Corn Growers | Country Donuts | Old 2nd Bank - Wasco | Buck Bros Inc | Esther's Place  
 Calamity James | Northern Illinois Food Bank | Kiwanis Club of Geneva | Kiwanis Club of St. Charles  
 John Stewart Elementary 3rd Graders | Elburn Lions Club | Elgin United Civic Association  
 U of I Extension - Kane County Unit | Kane County Young Farmers | Elgin Riverside Club | Hill's Country Store  
 Batavia Jewel-Osco Patrons | Randall's Pancake House | Lenkaitis Dairy Open House Ice Cream Social

**Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION**  
 for the future of farms & food