

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. 87 NO. 1 JANUARY 2022

***** KCFB erects a landmark *****

KCFB got a new “landmark” on Thanksgiving weekend when Frank Engel of Hampshire and his crew erected a 27’ Aermotor

windmill tower with an 8’ head on the Farm Bureau parking lot at 2N710 Randall Rd. in St. Charles.

The windmill is a reminder of the days when Farm Bureau organized here in Kane County. December 31, 1912 is the date

the Illinois Secretary of State stamped the Articles of Incorporation of what then was known as the Kane County Farm Improvement Association. At that time, wind power was essential to provide water for

livestock and energy for common farm chores. Now, the windmill pays homage to the pioneering spirit that existed in agriculture then, and is still present today.

See page 3 for more photos.



Top photo: Frank Engel, George McCausland and Ed Engel prepare to unload the tower with a crane.

Far left: An 8’ head is secured to the tower.

Left: And a tail fin.

See page 3 for additional photos



Kane CFB President Joe White of Elburn (l) received recognition for the association’s “County Activities of Excellence” efforts in Agricultural Literacy and Local Affairs program work at the 107th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Farm Bureau in December.

White also accepted Kane CFB’s “New Horizon” award for the organization’s efforts to establish an on-premises pollinator-rain garden. The project is a demonstration of approved stormwater best management practices for farmers in the revised Kane County Stormwater Ordinance. Farm Bureau volunteers worked with local government for several years to see these common-sense approaches adopted. The IFB established the New Horizon Award four years ago to represent recognition for new and innovative programs that follow priorities set by the Illinois Farm Bureau Board of Directors. 2021 marks the third such award presented to Kane CFB for innovative program efforts.



KCFB CALENDAR JANUARY 2022

- 1 New Year’s Day – Office closed
- 4 KCFB Finance Committee, 9 am
- KCFB Govt. Affairs Cmte. 11 am
- 5-7 Illinois Specialty Crop Conf., Springfield
- 7-12 AFBF Annual Meeting
- 10 ** *This Blessed Earth* Book Club registration due
- ** “The Consumer is Always Right”, 7 pm
- 12 ** “The Consumer is Always Right”, 11:30 am
- 13 Board of Directors, 7 pm
- 18 ** “The Consumer is Always Right”, 6 pm
- ** *This Blessed Earth* Book Club kick-off
- 20 Ag Committee, Kane County Bd, 10 am
- 21-22 Young Leader Conf., East Peoria

* Illinois Farm Families virtual conversations
** “This Blessed Earth” Book Club. Register for both at: <http://www.ilfb.org/consumerengagement>

Happy New Year!

This Blessed Earth: A book club conversation about a year in the life of an American family farm

Join this Illinois Farm Bureau virtual book club as the group dives into discussion of *This Blessed Earth: A Year in*

the *Life of an American Family Farm*. Participants will be equipped with the tools to have engaging conversations about what goes on behind the scenes on farms in their own communities. The reading will be self-paced, with weekly discussion prompts in an online forum throughout the month-long event and concluding with a live

virtual discussion.

Those registered will receive information on how to log into the discussion portal prior to the kick-off on January 18th via email. A free copy of the book will be mailed to each participant registered by January 10. This opportunity is offered to any and all interested IFB members.

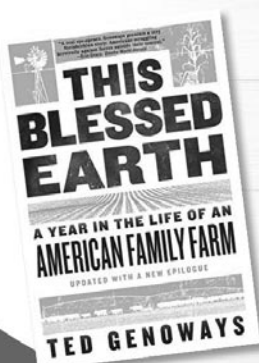
Dates:

- Registration Deadline:**
Monday, January 10, 2022
 - Kick-Off:** Tuesday,
January 18, 2022
 - Live Discussion:** Tuesday,
February 15, 2022 – 6:00pm
- Registration links and additional information can be found at <http://www.ilfb.org/consumerengagement>.

January Featured Food Lemon Rosemary Pork Roast

The special this month is 3 individually wrapped, 24 ounce boneless pork roasts cut from the most tender part of the pork loin. They are boxed together and prepared to be cooked just like beef to an internal temperature of 145°F, sliced thin and used as an entrée. Each roast is netted together and vacuum sealed to preserve the lemon-rosemary marinade. This special is offered for \$25.60 to Farm Bureau members, non-members pay \$27.69 Plus Status members always receive a 5% discount on edible products at the Farm Bureau!

THIS BLESSED EARTH: A Book Club Conversation About a Year in the Life of an American Family Farm



Join this virtual book club as the group is equipped with the tools to have engaging conversations about what goes on behind the scenes on farms in their own communities. The reading will be self-paced, with weekly discussion prompts in an online forum throughout the month-long event and concluding with a live virtual discussion.

DATES:
KICK-OFF: January 18
LIVE DISCUSSION: February 15, 6pm
REGISTER AT ilfb.org/ConsumerEngagement

PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE A FREE COPY!

Register online by January 10th



IFB members uphold tradition through transition at annual meeting

Delegates and members attending the 107th Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) Annual Meeting witnessed the power of “tradition and transition” as the organization’s traditional grass-roots process carried on seamlessly amidst a transition to a hybrid format for its 2021 annual meeting.

Delegates gathered in-person at the historic Palmer House hotel in Chicago over a four-day period, Dec. 4-7, to conduct annual business, introduce and debate new policy and celebrate the year’s successes. Virtual attendance was also offered for IFB members through a dedicated microsite of livestreams and on-demand content.

The meeting kicked off with the president’s address, in which IFB President Richard Guebert, Jr. acknowledged the many ways Illinois agriculture has pivoted during periods of uncertainty while remaining resilient and keeping a steady stream of food on America’s tables.

“More than ever, the impacts of the pandemic have reminded us what a privilege it is to gather in-person, to share perspective face-to-face with your neighbors and fellow farmers across the state,” Guebert said. “These challenging events have also

reinforced the need for relationships, working together and helping others. I believe in our small communities; farm families and Farm Bureau are especially good at coming together to help one another.”

The balance of tradition and

transition, Guebert added, will continue to guide IFB through 2022 as it advocates for incentives, individual responsibility, initiative, freedom and the right to work without governmental dependence.

In addition to listening to keynote speaker Cheryl Mitchell and receiving county and Young Leader awards, members also enjoyed a visit from American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall.

Voting delegates for the meeting, totaling 337, considered 30 policy submissions on a

range of topics such as government farm policy, energy policy, farm equipment, climate change, healthcare and urban agriculture. The language of these approved policies will be forwarded to American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration during its annual meeting, January 7-12 in Atlanta.

Approximately 1,434 IFB members and staff registered to attend the annual meeting, with 132 of those registrations being virtual attendees. Several annual awards and honors were also announced.



Illinois Farm Bureau delegates adopted dozens of changes to national farm policy during IFB’s Annual Meeting. Some of those top-of-mind topics include conservation programs, carbon sequestration, crop insurance, base acres, disaster assistance and the 2023 farm bill. Kane County Farm Bureau’s four voting delegates to the 2021 Annual Meeting were Executive officers Joe White, KCFB President, of Elburn; Wayne Schneider, Vice-President, of West Dundee; and Michael Kenyon, Secretary-Treasurer, of South Elgin. They were joined by Director Beth Gehrke of Elgin. KCFB Director Craig Bradley of Elgin served as an alternate delegate.

KCFB budgets for adult continuing ed

As a not-for-profit established with a primary mission to support scholarships and education for the future of farms and food, the KCFB Foundation Board of Directors has distributed hundreds of thousands of dollars in support of college scholarships, agricultural literacy programs, and agricultural leadership education as well as for support of the local community through Extension, 4-H and FFA. The Foundation has also been a leader in raising local hunger awareness and helping coordinate programs for local hunger relief.

More recently, the Foundation has turned its attention to continuing education and the need for farmer training for existing, new and beginning farmers. And

while the Farm Bureau and its affiliated companies and organizations offer many opportunities for producers of livestock, commodities and specialty crops to learn through statewide conferences and workshops, no single association’s offerings can be comprehensive.

To fill the void, the KCFB Foundation has approved an Adult Continuing Education funding budget. The intent is to provide support for courses, conferences, training and professional development not sponsored by Farm Bureau, and to advance education for the future of farms and food here in Kane County. Funding will be provided through an application process with applications due 60

days before the start of the course of study or conference attendance. A review committee will make final decisions on all funding requests.

Funding will be limited to half of the enrollment, registration or tuition fee and to \$250 per membership per year. It will also be limited to one-time only course enrollment or conference attendance. No successive attendance at annual conferences will be considered.

For more information on the program, contact KCFB Foundation Executive Director Steve Arnold at 630-584-8660 or steve@kanecfb.com, or visit kanecfb.com and click on Get Involved > Scholarships > Continuing Education Application.

IFF offers consumer engagement training

The Illinois Farm Families (IFF) coalition was formed more than ten years ago with the purpose of building trust in Illinois farmers and their farming practices among Chicagoland consumers. In that time, the approach to those conversations and the consumers IFF seeks to reach has evolved as consumer behaviors have changed.

In January of 2022, IFF will offer virtual consumer engagement training opportunities designed specifically for farmers and professional members. In these webinars, Illinois Farm Bureau’s Consumer Engagement Manager and IFF coalition representative Gracie Pierson

will dive into the strategy behind the Illinois Farm Families initiative, including how the coalition identifies the most effective consumer audiences and topics for conversation.

Participants will take a look into recent Illinois Farm Families consumer attitudes research findings and how IFF is adapting as we continue to learn more about our consumer audiences and their evolving behaviors while seeking to continue to build trust in Illinois farmers and their farming practices.

Participants will be equipped to engage in conversations about food and farming, including upcoming opportunities

through IFF or through local off-the-farm opportunities.

“The Consumer is Always Right”, will be presented virtually three times. Members can register at <http://www.ilfb.org/consumerengagement>, where they can find the session that best suits their schedule. There is no cost to register. Dates are:

- Monday, January 10, 2022 – 7:00pm
- Wednesday, January 12, 2022 – 11:30am
- Tuesday, January 18, 2022 – 6:00pm

Registration links and additional information can be found at <http://www.ilfb.org/consumerengagement>.

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE												
JANUARY 2021 THRU DECEMBER 2021												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
C. BRADLEY	*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
B. COLLINS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
C. COLLINS	X	*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
J. ENGEL	X	X	^	X	X	X		X	X		X	X
G. GAITSCH	*	*	*	*	*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
B. GEHRKE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
W. KECK	X	X	X	X	X	X	*		X	X	X	X
M. KENYON	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
K. KETTLEKAMP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
D. LEHRER	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
A. LENKAITIS				*	X	*	*	X		X		X
N. LONG	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	X			*
D. PITSTICK	X		X	*				X	X	X	X	X
W. SCHNEIDER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
J. WHITE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

* Attendance by electronic means. ^ Attending IFB Leaders to Washington program.

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ILLINOIS FARM FAMILIES
 Growing your food with care.

THE CONSUMER IS ALWAYS RIGHT:
 Understanding the Consumer Mindset to Elevate Conversations About Food and Farming

Take a deep dive into recent Illinois Farm Families consumer attitudes research findings and how IFF is adapting as we continue to learn more about our consumer audiences and their evolving behaviors. Participants will be equipped to engage in conversations about food and farming, including upcoming opportunities through IFF or through local off-the-farm activities.

SIGN UP TODAY
 to participate in one of three consumer engagement sessions:
 January 10, 7pm | January 12, 11:30am | January 18, 6pm

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY
 REGISTER to attend at ilfb.org/ConsumerEngagement

KCFB windmill

(continued from page 1)



IAA Foundation offers scholarships to support agriculture, IFB families

Agriculture students and Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) members, spouses and children are eligible to apply for 84 college scholarships offered by the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm. The scholarships, ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500, will be awarded in total of \$164,500 for the 2022-23 school year.

"We are pleased to recognize students through our growing scholarship program," said Jennifer Smith, Development Manager, IAA Foundation. "It is a privilege to support the next generation of leaders and encourage degrees in agriculture related fields."

Students may apply for a variety of scholarships, including three IAA Foundation Top Scholarships, where winners will each receive \$5,000 awards. Another \$7,500 award goes to the Illinois Farm Bureau Legacy of Leadership scholarship winner. In addition to family scholarships often established to honor the memory of a loved one, the IAA Foundation offers scholarships on behalf of organizations such as Prairie Farms Dairy. For 2022, the IAA Foundation is honored to administer the newly created Alvin Eigenrauch Memorial Scholarship, Six Generations

Illinois Farming Scholarship and Steve Willits Memorial Scholarship. Additionally, three new Fellowships have been added to support students pursuing advanced degrees.

All applicants must be current high school seniors, or students already enrolled, at an accredited college or university. Scholarships are awarded based on academic performance, leadership experiences, involvement in activities and community service. Previous winners of an IAA Foundation scholarship are eligible to apply again if the scholarship allows.

A full listing of available scholarships and eligibility guidelines is available on the Foundation website, www.iaafoundation.org. The application opens January 1, 2022 and must be completed online by February 15, 2022.

For more information, contact Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660, the IAA Foundation at 309-557-2232, or e-mail Jennifer Smith at jsmith@ilfb.org.

The mission of the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm, is to fund education, research, and charitable activities that benefit Illinois farm families and agriculture.



1. The tower is lifted and crane operator Dave Eberley swings it onto the parking lot.
2. George McCausland welds the tower to steel plates embedded in the concrete pad.
3. & 4. Ed Engel climbs the tower to remove the straps used to raise the windmill and puts oil in the gear box. Visible on the tail fin is the IAA & County Agricultural Associations logo – a tribute to the names used prior to the change to Farm Bureau.
5. The finished product.
6. The crew, l-r, George McCausland, Dave Eberley, Frank Engel and Ed Engel.

Anhydrous ammonia certified grower training – statewide in-person training information

Farm Bureau members are invited to register for upcoming statewide Anhydrous Ammonia Certified Grower Training sessions to fulfill state requirements on mandatory safety training. Free certified grower trainings will be offered on nine dates in winter 2022 through a partnership between IFB, Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) and Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association (IFCA).

The following dates and locations will host the upcoming sessions. Training starts at 1 p.m. at all locations:

- February 21: Asmark Agricenter, Bloomington
- February 22: Unique Suites,

- Charleston
 - February 23: The Pavilion, Marion
 - February 25: Effingham Events Center, Effingham
 - March 1: Mendota Civic Center, Mendota
 - March 2: Knox Agri Center, Galesburg
 - March 3: Holiday Inn, Quincy
 - March 4: Poe's Catering, Springfield
 - March 14: Asmark Agricenter, Bloomington
- Attendance is limited for each session. Growers may register at <http://www.ilfb.org/NH3> to guarantee their seat and learn more information.

As a reminder, Illinois grow-

ers and grower farm operators who transport or apply anhydrous ammonia, or otherwise maintain anhydrous ammonia equipment, are now required by state regulation (8 IAC 215) to complete certified grower training. Growers and grower farm operators have until April 1, 2022, to be initially certified and must participate in refresher training every three years.

For those who prefer the ease of a free online course, the Anhydrous Ammonia Certified Grower Training can also be fulfilled online at onenet.illinois.gov.

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Farming Funnies

Sadly, Santa and Mrs. Claus are getting a divorce. There are no divorce attorneys at the North Pole, so they got a semicolon. Semicolons are very good at separating independent clauses.

What do you call Santa's little helpers? Subordinate clauses.

Like us on Facebook for a weekly helping of humor – our Friday Farming Funnies. You'll also find the latest info about ag education, local farming folks and news and upcoming events and specials at Kane County Farm Bureau.

AG LITERACY CORNER

By Kelcee Miller, Development & Ag Literacy Program Coordinator



Hello Kane County and Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season! I cannot believe how fast this year flew by! What another wild year, right?

As we kick off the New Year, we often think about goals we want to set for ourselves for the coming year or our New Year's Resolutions. Those who know me personally, know that I look forward to the start of a new month and even a new year. It is a time for anticipation and reflection to see what went well and what areas need some improvement in our lives and with that we can use it as a tool to create new goals or plans. It's no surprise that I am a goal-oriented person with both big and small goals for myself.

In the year 2021, I set 5 goals for myself and every single week for the last year I had a check-in with myself and my training coach about them. Yes,

you read that right. Every. Single. Week. Three of the five were fitness related with two being personal, but all were measureable goals that I could track my progress throughout the year. And with that being said, I am proud to say I hit all 5 of my goals! However, I think it's important to remember that I didn't hit all 5 at once or right away. I hit certain goals throughout the course of the year with a lot of consistent hard work, dedication, and an awesome support system. Little by little, brick by brick, I achieved the goals I set for myself.

Looking back at where I started a year ago, I cannot believe how far I've come and all the lessons learned and memories made along the way all because I was brave enough to step outside my comfort zone and set some big (and intimidating) goals for myself. Whether it's personal, professional, or fitness related, I encourage you all to take the leap of faith in the year 2022 and

set some big goals for yourself – even if they scare you a little bit or seem out of reach – I promise you will come out at the end a better version of yourself for getting the guts to reach for more. The habits and confidence gained throughout the process will spread into other avenues of your life and you will be achieving more than you thought possible all because you had the courage to work toward your goals.

Revved up yet? When it comes to goal setting and my mindset in general, I like to use the analogy of driving a car. I am in control, in the driver's seat. In order to get to my destination or my goal, I have to make sure I am properly fueled up, in good maintenance and to keep my eyes forward and focus on my own lane. If I spend too much time looking in the rear view mirror or getting distracted while driving, it will only slow me down, take my eyes of the road, or worse – get me lost. Sure, not every day will be a smooth and easy drive and some days I may drive more miles than others. There will be bumps in the road and the occasional storm along the way, but as long as I keep moving forward every single day towards my goal; I will get there. So

when it comes to goal setting or working towards the life you want to live – I encourage you to keep your eyes forward and

to consistently moving forward.

Happy January!

Book of the month

A farmer's work is never done. No matter the day or the season, there's always something that needs to be accomplished. And just like you and me, farmer's livestock need to be fed, watered, and tended too daily. Farmers understand that they have a responsibility of having another life depend on them. No extreme temps or holidays can stop a farmer from his or her daily chores and spending some quality time in the barn day and night.

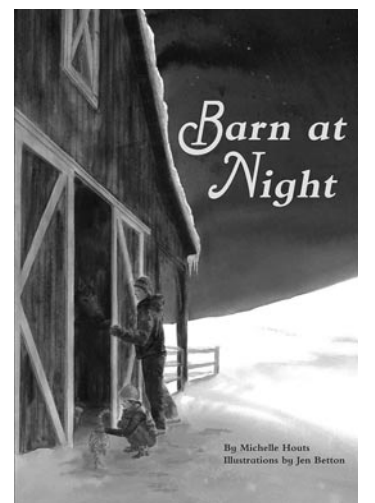
The book of the month for January is *Barn at Night*, written by Michelle Haus and illustrated by Jen Betton. In this beautifully illustrated and sweet story, Haus takes readers on a journey to one farmer's barn at night. Told from the perspective a farmer's daughter, she shows us that even on the darkest and coldest winter days, the barn can be a warm, safe and magical place. For many farmers, the barn is not only a place that is a home to many barnyard animals and equipment, it's so much more than that. It's a place to learn, grow, and achieve whatever you set your mind to – big or small. It's a place where farmers learn some of the hardest lessons in life and have to take responsibility for their actions by having another life or lives depend on them. The barn is the platform to create lifelong memories for both the farmer, their family and their animals. As many farmers know no two days are the same and each day is filled with unpredictability and delight.

Haus gives readers a glimpse of what it looks like to be up before the dawn and chasing the light at night in the crisp wintery air and how in the kindest

of ways animals communicate to us. To see the excitement of the Barn at Night, come on in to the Kane County Farm Bureau Library – yes, we have a FREE library! – And check out *Barn at Night*. The Kane County Farm Bureau Library was made possible by Bob Konen and Dean Dunn, and later supported by the Bob Konen Family.

Want to beef up your learning? Check out <https://www.feedingmindspress.com/our-books/barn-at-night> and download the activity kit full of coloring sheets, word searches, and more! Hungry for more? Download the free sample lesson that helps students act out and identify farm animals that could be found on a farm.

While you're on the web, follow Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/aginthe classroom/>) and check out their new video series, "What's happening in your barn at night?" to see a sneak-peak of barns at night all across Illinois!



Barn at Night by Michelle Haus, illustrated by Jen Betton

Join IATC for an After School S.N.A.C.K.

Teachers, learn more about how to incorporate lessons about beef and horses into your classroom with Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom's After School S.N.A.C.K (Sharing New Ag Content and Knowledge) on Wednesday, January 5 at 4:00pm. Teachers will learn new lesson ideas, book recommendations, and more! Sign up for the FREE webinar here: https://ilfb.org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_s9NeGPrlSaqIvHrEfn_YCA.



Special Thanks

The Kane County Farm Bureau would like to thank Jay Schrock and the staff at Heinz Brothers Greenhouse in St. Charles for the use of their greenhouse and assistance with the KCFB annual citrus sale distribution in December. The Schrock family has allowed Farm Bureau to use its greenhouses for citrus distribution to our members on cold December days for a quarter century. We appreciate their generosity in helping to provide this service to Kane County Farm Bureau members.

Didn't get your citrus this year? Watch the *Kane County Farmer* for information on our seasonal sales on citrus, fresh Illinois peaches, local turkeys, hams and other foods throughout the year, or call us at 630 584-8660 to be added to a mailing list for all of our food specials.

We can help protect your business with insurance you deserve



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St. Charles/Elgin
Agency Manager
630-584-0001



Todd Wilcox
St. Charles
630-762-1326



Bobbi Boston
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Keith Eakins
St. Charles
630-762-1324



Kelly Landorf
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Michael O'Brien
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Gary Bolger
West Dundee
847-531-6110



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Elburn
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Dominick Davero
Elburn
630-365-3737



Chuck Quick
Hampshire
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Hampshire
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Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Kelcee Miller, Ag Literacy Coordinator



Animal Care

Dr. Miller and her heart dog, Nemo. The term "heart dog" often refers to a human's pet soulmate. Dr. Miller and Nemo spent 15 wonderful and adventurous years together.

By Kelcee Miller
The theme of the month for our Farm, Facts, and Fun page is Animal Care. At first, I thought about writing about my own experience(s) with animals and then the light bulb went off! I personally know someone who specializes in the field of animal care! Ding, ding! My sister, Dr. Britni Miller! I thought it would be fun to pick my sister's brain about the theme of the month as her job is exactly what the theme is all about, so here's a brief interview with my sister.

Dr. Miller is a veterinarian at Meadow Veterinary Clinic here in Geneva. She received her degree from the University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine. Being in the field for almost ten years and through her own personal experiences of growing up on a farm, being around and raising her own animals, Dr. Miller has a passion in animal care. When asked what animal care means to her, she responded that it means "Being responsi-

The Doc is in!

ble for an animal or group of animal's well-being, 365 days out of the year. Ensuring they have proper food, water, shelter, environmental enrichment, and providing professional medical care when needed." Dr. Miller's advice to her clients and community is to be cautious and that not everything read on the internet is correct. Dr. Miller continues, "Nowadays with the internet, there is a ton of information out there and not everything is accurate, so make sure your information comes from a trusted source, and if you aren't sure it's good, to verify/check-in with your veterinarian for the best information on nutrition, husbandry, medical care, etc."

Being a pet owner of two dogs, two cats, and a mother of three, Dr. Miller believes that animals are constantly teaching us life lessons such as our own humanity, love, respect, forgiveness, compassion, responsibility and mortality. Growing up on a farm, she was around animals

her entire life and they've always been a part of her daily routine of living – feeding them, taking them for walks, cleaning up after them, giving them their medications. She appreciates being their companion for their whole life and learning something new every single day along the way. Knowing she wanted to be a vet ever since she was little, she enjoys diagnosing and treating animals as well as helping educate their owners by creating a plan for their animals' well-being from the beginning of their lives until the end. Dr. Miller also is a big advocate for maintaining the human-animal bond between people and their pets. She summed up her philosophy by explaining, "Humans and animals, whether that be pigs, cats, dogs, cattle, etc. have all evolved together over the years and we're such an integral part of each other's lives no matter where you live – city, country, the human-animal bond is a powerful one!"

Homemade Soft Chew Dog Treats

Ingredients

- 2 bananas
- 1 cup natural peanut butter *make sure it does not contain Xylitol*
- 2 cups wheat flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 cup water

Instructions:

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F
- Mash the bananas in a large bowl
- Add peanut butter to the bananas and mix well
- Add baking powder, flour, and water and mix well
- Use a rolling pin to roll out the mixture until it is about 1/4" thick and then cut out the treat shapes using your cookie cutter
- Line a baking pan with parchment paper (or non-stick spray) and bake the treats for 10 minutes, flip the treats and continue to bake for another 10-15 minutes
- Let treats cool before serving to your furry friend!

Recipe provided by: https://www.handmadeweekly.com/homemade-soft-chew-dog-treats/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest&utm_campaign=tailwind_tribes&utm_content=tribes

Homemade birdseed wreath

Materials

- 3 cups birdseed
- 6 envelopes unflavored gelatin
- 3 cups warm water
- Fresh cranberries
- Greenery clippings (holly, cedar, pine, etc)
- Cooking spray
- Bundt pan
- Large ribbon or burlap/fabric

Directions

In a large mixing bowl, mix 6 envelopes of unflavored gelatin with 3 cups of warm water.

Combine with 3 cups bird seed and mix together.

Spray a Bundt pan with cooking spray. Pour the mixture into the Bundt pan and gently push down.

Place cranberries and sprigs of greenery in groups of 3 evenly around the wreath. Place in the

refrigerator for 2-3 hours to set.

Use a large piece of ribbon to wrap around the wreath. Hang and watch the birds enjoy your homemade birdseed wreath!

This homemade birdfeeder craft found here: <https://acultivatednest.com/homemade-birdseed-wreath/>

For more homemade bird feeder ideas and tips check out: <https://www.birdsandblooms.com/birding/attracting-birds/feeding-birds/make-homemade-suet/>



JOKES

- What do you give a sick pig? *Oink-ment!*
- What do you call a cow with two legs? *Lean beef!*
- What do you call a cow with no legs? *Ground beef!*
- What did the pony say when it had a sore throat? *I'm a little hoarse!*
- What do you give a sick horse? *Cough stirrup!*
- What type of markets do dogs avoid? *Flea markets!*

Animal care

L E M U R P E I R U I A U A Q O Y E C S	Animal Care
N L B L T F L V H E J N N P M Z F V N A	Boots
C I P H A B T U B G K I J J G A M E Z P	Caretaker
Z O V T E Y T V I Q M A Y X L U K B E I	Cattle
C R M Q H N A L F A Z U T B I C O L G G	Chickens
J Y J F N N C Y L O I I N E I H E N S S	Chores
T J U F O A E C S T O O B H R C D V W C	Comfortable
E R M H L R A T A N K S C A T A X M O E	Efficient
F C A H Q R T X U P K S P R F U C I N I	Electric Heaters
F Y Z C E Q G A U V B J I C H O R E S B	Four-Wheel
I X K O T R O Y B A X C D U Z U M K E O	Drive
C P N C F O Z B C L H P G W Q U S R R G	Goats
I O S E V I R D L E E H W R U O F E T O	Heat
E L R T R M E S A I B E V P Y J Z Q M M	Heated Cabs
N B K A A T D T U R G S D T E B P V I Q	Hens
T S I Q A O E Z O Y E A G P U E M X F Y	Obligation
J N T E W R G S T J G J T S P D H B J S	Pigs
L G H D S X L S M D D M Z I X W T S S N	Rain
Y T I L I B I S N O P S E R O A M G L R	Responsibility
N O I T A L I T N E V F P H Y N H A N O	Sheep
	Snow
	Sub-zero
	Tanks
	Tractors
	Ventilation

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone (____) _____ Email _____ Age _____

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 by January 15, 2022 to be entered in our drawing for a fun prize.

Prize must be picked up at the KCFB office within one month of newspaper publication.

January is ... National

New Year's Day	Jan. 1
Swiss Cheese Day	Jan. 2
Chocolate Covered Cherry Day	Jan. 3
Spaghetti Day	Jan. 4
Bird Day	Jan. 5
Whipped Cream Day	Jan. 5
Bean Day	Jan. 6
English Toffee Day	Jan. 8
Houseplant Appreciation Day	Jan. 10
Milk Day	Jan. 11
Hot Pastrami Sandwich Day	Jan. 14
Bagel Day	Jan. 15
Fresh Squeezed Juice Day	Jan. 15
Fig Newton Day	Jan. 16
Popcorn Day	Jan. 19
Cheese Lover's Day	Jan. 20
Hugging Day	Jan. 21
Hot Sauce Day	Jan. 22
Pie Day	Jan. 23
Peanut Butter Day	Jan. 24
Peanut Brittle Day	Jan. 26
Chocolate Cake Day	Jan. 27
Blueberry Pancake Day	Jan. 28
Puzzle Day	Jan. 29
Croissant Day	Jan. 30
Hot Chocolate Day	Jan. 31

- Blood Donor Month
- Hobby Month
- Hot Tea Month
- Mentoring Month
- Oatmeal Month
- Slow Cooking Month
- Soup Month
- Walk Your Dog Month
- Train Your Dog Month

Congratulations

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

Young Farmers recap

KCFB's Young Farmers group gathered for pizza and conversation on November 23 to hear about Farm Bureau updates and upcoming educational opportunities offered by the Farm Bureau.

They learned about the recent construction of a 27' Windmill at the northwest corner of the Farm Bureau building. The windmill, with an 8' head was installed by Frank Engel. In the spring, the Young Farmers will erect a Little Lending Library of agriculture friendly books along the sidewalk near the windmill.

They also discussed the expansion of an 800 sq. ft. pollinator/rain garden, installed last year along Randall Road, into a

much larger landscape feature. When complete, the garden will be over 3,000 square feet, in the shape of Illinois, and use major rivers as walking paths to view interpretative signs. The garden will use prairie, pollinator and wetland plants. Farm Bureau is seeking donations of field stones and river stone/limestone from members to begin the project.

In other news, the group learned that Chair, Carolyn Gehrke would participate in the State YL Discussion Meet at the IFB Annual Meeting in December.

Several members of the group have applied to participate in the ALOT (Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow) program. Established in 1979, more than

1,000 participants have graduated from the program studying five pillars of agriculture including: communication and engagement, political involvement, agriculture economics, current global issues, and professional leadership development. The eight week course involves weekly educational sessions designed to promote and enhance agricultural leadership, involvement, and support. ALOT will interview applicants on December 16 and select the 2022 class shortly thereafter.

Speaking of travels during the month of January, a small group of Young Leaders will be attending the Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leader Conference in East Peoria on

January 21-22, 2022. The highlight of the weekend is the opening keynote speaker, Dr. Temple Grandin, followed by workshops all weekend long categorized by five different tracks designed to provide something for everyone: on the farm (timely production-based agriculture topics for farmers; agribusiness management (resources to effectively manage and grow a successful business; young professionals (gain personal and professional skills for a successful career); education and engagement (learn the empowerment skills to effectively communicate and advocate the values of agriculture in everyday life; and, on the horizon (understand new and emerging trends, agricultural innovation, research, and technology.

Topics of discussion at the Conference will include soil health, carbon credits, managing change, farm finance, and diversification, mastering the media, Ag in the Classroom, accounting programs, IFB policy, mental health, and much

more! In addition, there will be a Silent Auction, Live Auction, as well as a Trivia Night that all benefit Harvest for ALL. The group will report on their experience to the Kane County Farm Bureau Board of Directors in February or March.

Other topics discussed among the group included ideas for next year such as educational, volunteer, and social event; a Young Farmer/FFA Acquaintance; sponsorship of concealed-carry classes and the annual Euchre Tournament in March. Yearly Kane County Farm Bureau activities and events were mentioned as well as tentative dates with more details to come as it gets closer.

The Young Leaders plan to meet again in late January so if you or someone you know is between the ages of 18-35 with an interest in networking and socializing with others who share an interest in the agriculture field, give us a call (630-584-8660) or better yet stop on by the office to become a member today!



Winter brings extra chores for animal care

We had only one item on our Black Friday shopping list: a metal poultry fountain. It didn't satisfy any Christmas wishes, but it was freezing outside, and the chickens needed water, not ice, from their drinking water dispenser. The new container's galvanized metal construction allowed it to rest atop a heated base. We purchased the drinker with a 20% off coupon, and the kids' laying hens now have thawed water until the last freeze of spring.

Responsibility ranks the primary reason that the kids raise chickens. Since elementary school, they have understood the obligation of having another life depend on them. And no matter the species – cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or chickens – they know

that livestock have no regard for homework loads, basketball schedules or holiday weekends. Vacations require hiring a caretaker.

Snowy and sub-zero days demand shovels and layers to handle the task. Raining? That's why we have rubber boots.

Livestock farmers generally dread the weather events that



Photo by Catrina Rawson, Illinois Farm Bureau

cancel school, such as snow, ice, sub-zero temperatures and especially wind associated with any of those. When winter weather lengthens chore time, I suggest that the kids put life in perspective. Their grandpa manually thawed cattle water tanks with wood-fired cowboy heaters when he was a kid. He helped his dad prepare cab-less tractors for winter with tire

chains and heat housers, or a plastic and vinyl liner that captured heat from the engine to warm the driver. And you had to take breaks inside to regain feeling in your extremities.

Now, energy-free cattle drinkers operate nearly maintenance free and have built-in electric heaters. Heated cabs and four-wheel drive options on tractors make winter chores more efficient and comfortable. Even winter work boots are engineered so well that light-weight summer socks will suffice.

Heavy snowfall today could mean digging paths to cattle, scooping outdoor feed bunks or keeping the electricity on for hog barns to maintain heat and ventilation. Just as the pandemic caused people to stock masks and toilet paper, the record-breaking snows of the 1970s prompted our farm to own a snowmobile and tractor-mounted snowblower, the type that moves 4-foot drifts. I rather hope for calm, quiet nights that keep this piece of equipment in the shed.

About the author: Joanie Stiers farms with her family in West-Central Illinois, where they grow corn, soybeans, wheat, hay and cover crops and raise beef cattle and backyard chickens.

COUNTRY, IFB crop insurance updates

There is always uncertainty around what spring, summer and fall may bring. COUNTRY Financial® and Illinois Farm Bureau remain ready to assist farmers through every season. The organizations are again teaming up for ten regional meetings across Illinois to share updates on improved opportunities for farmers to protect their farms and crops in 2022.

"Every farm operation is different, and our goal is always to help our farm clients and Farm Bureau members reach their goals together with options and information from a trusted partner," said Doug Yoder, COUNTRY Financial Crop Agency Manager. "These meetings offer us the opportunity to connect with clients and members prior to the busy planting season, to make sure they have the most up-to-date information about federal crop and hail insurance options, learn about new coverage options from COUNTRY and gain a better understanding of changes in markets and govern-

ment that they may need to consider, so they can make informed decisions for their operation."

The ten meetings co-hosted by COUNTRY Financial and Illinois Farm Bureau will take place throughout January and February. Eight meetings will be held in-person across the state, and there will be two virtual presentations. All meetings will include:

- Crop Insurance Update, including changes to federal crop insurance and new private products offered by COUNTRY, the #1 crop hail insurer in Illinois. (Doug Yoder, Crop Agency Manager for COUNTRY Financial)
- Crop Claims Update (COUNTRY Financial Crop Claims Representative)
- Market Outlook (Tim Tresslar, Grain Origination Manager for Growmark)
- Legislative Update (Illinois Farm Bureau)
- Opportunity for Audience Q&A with presenters

The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18th at Dekalb County Farm Bureau, starting at 8:00 AM. (full schedule of events is listed below) Each event is open to any Illinois farmer.

Registration opened December 13, 2021 for each event. To register and reserve a seat for any of the events, farmers should call Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660. Farm Bureau members can also login at www.myifb.org to register online.

For updates & more info, visit <https://on.ilfb.org/winter-agribusiness-seminars>

Meeting Locations, Dates and Start Times:

Dekalb County Farm Bureau, 1350 W Prairie Dr Sycamore, Tuesday, January 18, 2022 8:00 AM

Virtual #1 www.myifb.org (open to everyone) Tuesday, January 25, 2022 9:00 AM

Virtual #2 www.myifb.org (open to everyone) Wednesday, February 09, 2022 12:00 PM

New leadership for YF

The KCFB Young Farmers elected Michael Long as chairperson and Joseph White as secretary as their new leadership team the coming year.

Michael Long, from Big Rock, is the son of John and Nan Long. He is a graduate of University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 2016 with majors in Soil and Crop Science and Ag Business. Long farms with his father in Big Rock and Kaneville. He also works off the farm as a grain originator at CHS-Elburn, buying grain for the Rochelle Ethanol Plant, barge loading facilities on the Illinois River and for local country elevators. He is involved with the Hinckley-Big Rock FFA Alumni and volunteers at the Hinckley Area Food Pantry. A few of Michael's hobbies include bowling, golf, snow skiing and growing hops. As Kane County Young Leader

Chair, Long hopes to grow the Young Leader program by involving more local Ag industry professionals and host more social events.

Joe White, from Batavia, is the son of Jami and Julie White. After graduating high school, White went to Joliet Junior College and got his Associates Degree in Ag Business, then transferred to Iowa State University where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Ag Studies. White works for the Batavia Township Highway Department and also helps his grandpa and dad farm their corn and soybeans during the spring and fall. White has been a member of the Kane County Farm Bureau Young Leaders for about 6 years and has participated in the Farm Bureau ALOT program and hopes to continue to promote the Ag industry positively.



Left to right: Michael Long, Joe White





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Growing To Serve You Better

IFB releases workshop topics for GALC

Illinois Farm Bureau's Annual Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference will be held Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at the Bank of Springfield Center in Springfield. Attendees will have the choice of 8 topic sessions in addition to the General Sessions and a Tuesday evening Legislative Reception at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel.

The recently released sched-

ule of workshops/topic sessions includes:

Unlocking the Mystery of the General Assembly

The General Assembly session is expedited this year because the upcoming elections have all legislators running in new districts and the voting constituencies they will face are untested. In this session we will look at what is expected for key issues the General Assembly

must face before its April 8th scheduled adjournment. We will also attempt to unlock the new legislative maps to see how they will shape the future of our states policy.

Livestock in Illinois

Opportunities for Illinois' livestock industry rely on balance and support. Join this session for a conversation on how Illinois Farm Bureau is working to maintain the livestock sector for Illinois farmers.

Programs and Services Aiding the Illinois Livestock Industry

Illinois Farm Bureau has worked to develop programs and services aiding the Illinois livestock industry. During this session learn what has been implemented to assist livestock farmers including the new Black Vulture Depredation Permit Program, HACCP Training and Certification, animal health, and more.

Rules for the Road

This seminar provides farmers a great opportunity to ask their transportation questions

firsthand for discussion, introduce farmers to new rules, remind them of the current ones that still apply, and help them figure out whether exemptions are available.

Conservation, Climate Change and Carbon Markets: The Latest Developments

Climate change is the new buzzword. Come learn about the latest developments in Washington as it relates to USDA Conservation Programs, climate change mitigation efforts of the federal government, and carbon markets. More importantly, find out Illinois Farm Bureau's role in it all.

Communication Strategies

This session will provide a mix of take-home tips and scenario role playing to help you as a CFB leader learn valuable skills to help advocate for issues in your county and local communities. This session will share real life situations involving social media engagements, media interviews and simple conversations. When it comes to

issue management – the methods are endless.

ACTIVATOR 101

Attendees will learn the ins-and-outs of what ACTIVATOR is and why it works.

Water Policy Developments

Join this session to hear the latest developments in water policy including USEPA's efforts to rewrite the definition of "Waters of the United States" and nationwide efforts regarding nutrients and water quality, and how you can get involved.

Kane County Farm Bureau Regular members (farmers and farmland owners), and Professional Members are invited to participate in the GALC. KCFB will pay the registration cost to attend as a benefit of your membership, and make hotel arrangements at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel for Monday and Tuesday if needed.

For more information on registration and full details about the conference, call 630-584-8660 and ask for Steve or Liz.

What's new in the COUNTRY agencies?

St. Charles Agency, Bob Effner, Agency Manager

Bobbi Boston has been named the Rep of the Month for November 2021 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Bobbi has provided tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long term insurance needs of her clients through COUNTRY Financial's diverse products and services: Auto, Farm, Home, Life, Business, Retirement. Let Bobbi's expertise help you! You may reach Bobbi at 630-485-5155, bobbi.boston@countryfinancial.com, or <https://representatives.countryfinancial.com/bobbi.boston/>. Congratulations, Bobbi!

[cial.com/bobbi.boston/](https://representatives.countryfinancial.com/bobbi.boston/). Congratulations, Bobbi!

Aurora Agency, Alonzo Nevarez, Agency Manager

Ryan Mizgate, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for November 2021. Ryan began his career with COUNTRY Financial in June of 2014 and services clients out of his office located at: 1161 Oak Street, North Aurora, 60542, (630) 907-9485. Ryan's professionalism, community involvement and vast knowledge of auto, home, life, commercial and financial products make him a great person to do business with. Congratulations, Ryan!

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, 2011. His office



Felipe Rocha

is located at 541 N. Lake Street, Aurora and may be reached at: 630-897-7746.

Thank you for your continued support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success!

Welcome to the next level

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

Regular Members	
Natasha Lewis	Big Rock
Ryan Darby	Elburn

We remind you of added perks that accompany your new Regular member or 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 in St. Charles at (630) 584-8660.

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.

WANTED
Want to purchase old chainsaws: 1960's or older. Do not need to work. Call Drew: 630-514-2153

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Barn wood for sale, barn siding and beams available and misc. Located in Burlington. Call: 847-652-6339

2000 New Holland Manure Spreader. Rebuilt. Great Shape. Bed chain great shape, works well. Ready to go. PTO driven. Call for a test drive – 630-940-6778

Happy New Year
from
Kane County Farm Bureau

Young Leaders celebrated at 2021 IFB Annual Meeting

The outstanding efforts of young Illinois farmers and leaders took center stage the morning of December 5th during the Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) Annual Meeting, scheduled Dec. 4-7, at the Palmer House in Chicago.

The 2021 County Young Leader Awards program highlighted the hard work and dedication of Young Leaders and county Farm Bureaus (CFB) across the state, including community projects and member engagement efforts.

For awards recognizing a CFB in each membership group, sections are broken down by membership size, with Group 1 being the smallest and Group 5 being the largest.

Top County Young Leader Chair Award: This award recognizes county chairs that excel

in Farm Bureau involvement and leadership, as well as motivating fellow county committee members to become involved in county, district and state activities. Winners in each membership group receive onstage recognition, a plaque and an expense-paid trip to attend the American Farm Bureau Federation's 2022 Young Farmers and Ranchers Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

Membership Group 1: Katelin Stratmeyer, Massac County

Membership Group 2: Craig Koors, White County

Membership Group 3: Jeff Grady, Knox County

Membership Group 4: Jonathan Griffel, Macoupin County

Membership Group 5: Carolyn Gehrke, Kane County

"This recognition program shows only a fraction of all that our Young Leaders do to support their communities," said IFB Member Engagement Manager Jenny Webb. "It's a great opportunity to come together to show our appreciation for all that they do throughout the year and hopefully spark new ideas for others to execute in the future."

The Illinois Farm Bureau is a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation, a national organization of farmers and ranchers. Founded in 1916, IFB is a non-profit, membership organization directed by farmers who join through their county Farm Bureau. IFB has a total membership of more than 372,326 and a voting membership of 77,462. IFB represents three out of four Illinois farmers.



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Carolyn Gehrke

CHS Elburn brightens Elburn holidays



For over 20 years CHS Elburn, and its predecessor Elburn Cooperative Company, have assisted the KCFB Foundation's Harvest for ALL effort by donating the proceeds from corn and soybean test plot harvests to our hunger relief efforts. 2021 was no exception, and KCFB Foundation Executive Director Steve Arnold was pleased to deliver a contribution of \$2,884.98 to Food Pantry Director Rita Burnham the week before Christmas.

Pictured with Arnold and Burnham are food pantry volunteers (l-r) Linda Smykowski, Nancy Burnette and Marty Bradley who were on hand to unload weekly food deliveries. The KCFB Foundation extends its thanks to these community minded volunteers who are looking out for the best interest of their neighbors, year-round.

We also thank CHS Elburn, along with all of our Harvest for ALL contributors, for doing their part in bringing much-needed attention to the growing need for hunger relief in our communities.

Up to 20 scholarships to help local students study agriculture

The Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION is pleased to announce that scholarships are available to members or dependents of members who wish to pursue higher education for a career in an agriculture related field. Over \$25,000 is available. The applications are for the 2022-23 school year.

Applications available for KCFB FOUNDATION Scholarships—deadline 2/15.

College students and high school seniors are invited to apply for these Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION scholarships. Go to www.kanecfb.com and click on "Scholarships & Internships" to download an application, or, pick one up at the KCFB office, Randall Rd. and Oak Street in St. Charles. A brochure is also available online to assist students in identifying potential

careers and areas of ag-related study.

Farm Bureau internships are also available for the 2021 winter, and 2022 spring and summer breaks. A separate Internship application is available on the website. The KCFB FOUNDATION provided 14 scholarships last year and since 1989 has awarded over \$500,000 in tuition assistance to local college students.

Rodholm Charitable Trust Veterinary Scholarship, (1) up to \$2,000, for an Illinois resident and student accepted to or enrolled in a School of Veterinary Medicine in the state of Illinois. The scholarship seeks to help develop the next generation of animal care practitioners.

President's Scholarship (1) \$1,500, reserved for the most outstanding application for a KCFB Foundation General Agricultural Scholarship from among high school seniors, will provide a minimum \$1,500 to be applied towards tuition.

General Agricultural Scholarships (up to 10 available) @ \$1,000, for a KCFB member or dependent in good standing since February 1, two years prior to application deadline. Student must be pursuing higher education for an agriculture related career. A brochure is available to assist students in identifying those careers and areas of study.

John Buck Memorial Scholarships (2) @ \$1,500, through an endowment to the Foundation and supplemented by an annual John Buck Memorial Open golf outing, the fund provides for two (2) \$1,500 scholarships for higher education for agriculture students. Students in Kane, DeKalb, McHenry, Boone, Lake, DuPage or Will County are eligible to apply.

Buck was the founder of Buck Brothers, Inc. and J.W. Turf, both of Hampshire, deal-

ers and distributors of John Deere farm equipment and golf course maintenance equipment, respectively. The family & friends of John Buck established the John Buck Memorial Scholarship for agriculture students through the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation.

Chuck Swanson Memorial Scholarship (1) @ \$1,000, established by the family and friends of the former Farm Bureau Director and long-time volunteer to provide an annual award for a student residing in Kane County pursuing a degree in an agriculture-related career field.

AGCO Global Women's Network (AGWN) Scholarships (2) @ \$1,000, for women residing in Illinois, pursuing degrees in agriculture related career fields. AGCO GWN scholarships are supported by members of the local chapter at AGCO Parts in Batavia.

AGCO Parts Division Scholarships (2) @ \$1,000, for students residing in Illinois, pursuing degrees in agriculture related career fields. Local AGCO Parts division employees in Batavia raise funds to support this scholarship effort.

AGCO Platinum Scholarship (1) @ \$2,500, for an Illinois resident and currently enrolled college sophomore, junior or senior pursuing a degree in an agriculture related career field. Funds provided by special activities and projects carried out by our friends at AGCO Parts in Batavia.

General Scholarship (1) @ \$1,000, for a KCFB member or dependent in good standing since February 1, two years prior to application deadline, pursuing higher education for a career in ANY field.

For more information on FOUNDATION scholarship programs, call Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660, or go to www.kanecfb.com and click on "Scholarships & Internships".

Application deadline is February 15, 2022.

Thanks to our donors

The KCFB FOUNDATION offers its sincere appreciation to the following for their contributions to our hunger relief, community service, education, and scholarship programs. Names shown are contributions received December 16, 2021 – January 14, 2022.

Donor	Beneficiary
Mary and William Lenert Konan Family Foundation	KCFB Foundation KCFB Agricultural Literacy
Harvest for All DeRaedt Grain Farms – Jon DeRaedt Karl & Julie Kettelkamp & Paul "Griz" Stover Wayne Schneider & Lisa Geisler	Burlington Hampshire Food Pantry Elburn & Countryside Food Pantry Northern Illinois Food Bank

*For more information on KCFB Foundation scholarship, education or community service programs, contact Steve Arnold, Executive Director at 630-584-8660.



Farm toy of the month

Cooped up, cold weather kids will appreciate the Tractor Mac series of books, our farm "toy" of the month.

This series of books, written and richly illustrated by Billy Steers, are geared toward 4-8 year olds, and are engaging read-aloud bedtime stories. We follow the activities of Tractor Mac, an anthropomorphic red tractor, and his animal farm mates as they live, work and interact on the farm. Each book gives simple illustrations and

diagrams of farm equipment featured in the book.

Regular price for each title is \$8.99, but visit our lobby Farm Bureau Country Store during the month of January and receive a 10% discount on your Tractor Mac book purchase.

Supplies are limited, so we'll see you soon!



KCFB seeking Board candidates

The Kane County Farm Bureau is seeking eligible candidates for election to the association's Board of Directors. A Farm Bureau director is an individual who helps provide governance, set policies, and supports the philosophy and actions of the organization. Directors should be willing to dedicate

time to make a difference in agriculture and to provide direction, inspiration, and motivation to the largest, most influential and effective farm related organization in Kane County.

Eligible candidates are regular Farm Bureau members (farmers and farmland owners) residing in Kane County.

Five directors will be elected, by ballots mailed in in the spring of 2022 to voting members in Kane County.

To suggest potential candidates for election, members should call 630-584-8660, or fill out the form below.

TO: Nominating Committee, Kane County Farm Bureau
2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174

Name (please print) _____
Mailing Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Township _____ Telephone (_____) _____
Signature _____
Membership # (if known) _____

Form completed and returned by: Name _____
Mail to this form to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174
Return on or before January 15.
The Nominating Committee will evaluate candidates and propose a slate to run for directors.

Private Well Testing program will be offered in February or March

The Kane County Farm Bureau and Kane/DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District are cooperating again to offer a water testing program in February or March of 2022. A high quality water supply is vital for families, and this program helps provide peace of mind and identifies potential problem areas for homeowners of Kane County. As of this print date, exact well testing dates have not been set. Please check your February Kane County Farmer for more information.

Touch-A-Tractor set for April 8-10

Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION's 16th Touch-A-Tractor weekend of family fun will be held Friday - Sunday, April 8-10. We will bring some farm to the city for this ever-popular event. It could be your first chance to get the kids out of the house this spring!

Kids get to touch and even sit in the seats of big farm machinery they typically only see from the road. They can participate in hands-on activi-

ties, ride pedal tractors, frolic in the corn corral, crawl through culverts, bang on pots and pans, play with toy tractors and farm equipment and see farm animals.

Parents tell us their kids ask them to come back year after year, so be sure to add this event to your 2022 calendar.

