

# 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. 6 JUNE 2022

## Drive-thru BBQ's for KCFB Foundation

KCFB Foundation has teamed up with Fay's Finest Foods of Waterman to offer its members and the public a convenient and delicious way to raise money for our college scholarships and agricultural literacy program efforts. Our next BBQ drive-thru is Thursday, June 9th on the parking lot at the Farm Bureau on Randall Road in St. Charles.

From 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., drive-thru diners can choose from 3 meals at \$16 each (if paid in advance), a **2 pork chop meal**; or **2 chicken quarters**; or a **1 pork chop, 1 chicken quarter combo**. All meals will come with baked beans, coleslaw, apple sauce, a roll and butter.

The Farm Bureau parking lot will be set-up for fast and convenient drive-thru service, order for the entire family! Meals will also be available on a limited basis for drive-ups without a

reservation at a slightly higher, \$17.00 price.

All sales will benefit the KCFB Foundation and meal reservation, and pre-payment is encouraged. To reserve your meals and pre-pay, return the form on page 4 or call KCFB at 630-584-8660.

**KCFB Foundation/  
Fay's BBQ  
Drive-Thru  
Fundraisers 2022**

**June 9  
July 14  
Aug 11  
Sept 8  
Oct 13**

At Kane County Farm Bureau,  
Randall Rd. at Oak St.,  
St. Charles

## Farm toy of the month

### John Deere Haying Set

Don't let the green grass fool you – your little farmer will have bales of fun with this 1:16 scale Tomy JOHN DEERE 4020 tractor, hay wagon and bales set.



The tractor hitch accommodates most 1:16 scale implements. The playset is constructed of die-cast and plastic and is suitable for ages 3 and up.

Regular price is \$41.71, but during the month of June, visit our Farm Bureau Country Store and Farm Bureau members will save 10%. Hay, we'll see you soon!

Save the Date!

**Don't Miss Out  
on Fresh Peaches!**

Be on the lookout in July's *Kane County Farmer* for pricing and information for delicious, southern Illinois grown peaches! Distribution will be held in August.

### KCFB CALENDAR JUNE 2022

- 6,7,9** Farm Tours for Teachers
  - 9** Fay's BBQ Drive-Thru Pork-Chop or Chicken dinner (4-7)
  - Board of Directors, 7pm
  - 13** IAA Foundation AITC Golf Outing, Pontiac
  - 14** Flag Day
  - 16** Kane County Board Ag Committee, 10 am
  - 28** Primary Election Day
  - TBD** \*Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden Volunteer Day(s)
- \*(call or email KCFB to be put on a list for notifications!)*  
(All at KCFB, 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles unless otherwise noted)

### June Featured Food

**Bratwurst OR Brat & Hotdog Combo Box**

The special for June is a Brats and Hotdogs combo box OR a box of Bratwurst. The combo box contains 10 delicious award-winning Inboden's bratwurst and 10 Red Hot Chicago all beef hotdogs OR a box of 20 award winning bratwurst ... a definite crowd pleaser! The member price is \$33.00 and PLUS members always receive a 5% discount! Available at the Kane County Farm Bureau – Randall Rd. and Oak Street in St. Charles – during the month of June or while supply lasts.

## AGCO donates books to new Free Little Library

As reported previously in the *Kane County Farmer*, to complement our indoor Ag Literacy Library Kane County Farm Bureau will soon erect a barn-shaped free little library in the parking lot, under the windmill, at the Farm Bureau office. This library will provide 24/7/365 access to farm and agriculture themed books for kids and adults, and Ag-in-the-Classroom resources for students, parents and teachers.

The employees of AGCO Parts Inc. of Batavia, long friends and supporters of the Farm Bureau and its not-for-profit Foundation, recently purchased books for the library and gave Farm Bureau a head-start in stocking its shelves. The 10 books were presented at the KCFB Foundation's April Touch-A-Tractor open house.

The free little library project originated in discussions by our Young Farmers group of "stocking" area free-little libraries with ag-friendly books, and morphed into a plan

to erect our own library in the centrally located and high-traffic area where the Farm Bureau is

barn-shaped library that will soon be placed on posts under the windmill at the Farm Bureau.



At the April Touch-A-Tractor event at Kane County Farm Bureau, the ever-helpful employees of AGCO Parts Inc of Batavia made a donation of 10 farm and ag themed books for the KCFB Young Farmers little free library. Pictured presenting the books are Franky and Andrea Achermann of AGCO, along with their children, Tristyn and Lylah. See a partial list of donated titles on page 4.

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation will supplement the donation by AGCO with funds donated by the Konen Family Foundation to support agricultural literacy. Established in memory of long-time volunteers Bob and Alyce Konen of Aurora, who conceived and supported the idea of an indoor Ag Literacy Library at the KCFB over a decade ago, the Konen Family Foundation continues to support that mission to the present day and its generosity will make it possible to restock books and spread the good stories about agriculture, food and the farms from which they are generated.

If you'd like to support the free little library project or donated new or used books to help stock it, please call Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 and ask for Kelcee or Steve.

located. Mike Meuer of Elburn volunteered his time, talents and resources to build the custom

## Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden

Volunteers are still being sought to assist in the planting of a Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden this summer at Kane County Farm Bureau. Over one dozen individuals signed up to help Kane County Farm Bureau with this environmental and educational demonstration project at our April Touch-A-Tractor open-house, but more are welcome.

KCFB has signed an agreement with Encap Inc. of DeKalb for the design, planting plan and construction documents to build our 2,800 sq. ft., Illinois shaped Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden.

Targeted construction completion is the end of June.



**June is National Pollinator Month. Look throughout this paper for more info about pollinators in Kane County and Illinois.**

While we do not yet have a timeline for planting, placing hardscapes and signage, etc, we

are encouraging members and the public interested in helping with this project to give us a call with their names, phone numbers and email addresses. Our hope is to be able to rally groups to assist with the tasks above on short notice through email blasts and phone calls.

KCFB will provide all volunteers who assist with free lunch, Pollinator Habitat Guides and t-shirts on any day garden activities are scheduled. For more information or to be added to the contact list, please call or email Steve Arnold at 630-584-8660 or [steve@kanecfb.com](mailto:steve@kanecfb.com).

**Father's Day is coming.**  
On her special day, mom wanted flowers.  
Dad? He wants a vintage truck.  
And we have one.

Save for FREE admission to: **Touch-A-Tractor**  
April 8, 9, 10, 2022 | St. Charles

**VINTAGE TRUCK RAFFLE**

Proceeds benefit College Scholarships, Ag Literacy programs, and local FFA Chapters

**2022 GRAND PRIZE**  
1971 CHEVROLET C10 OR \$10,000 CASH  
**\$20 EACH OR 3/\$50**  
Drawing Thursday Oct. 13, 2022, 7 p.m.  
Kane County Farm Bureau, Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL.

18 or older to enter. Winner need not be present to win. Winner responsible for all local, state and federal taxes associated with prize chosen.

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ #<0000>  
Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
To receive future raffle notifications, please provide  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**2022 VINTAGE TRUCK RAFFLE**

**1971 Chevy C-10 V8 Automatic**  
Raffle drawing October 13.  
Tickets \$20 each or 3 for \$50. Call 630-584-8660.  
Order form on page 7

# Six vie for KCFB Board seats

As reported last month, 2022 KCFB elections will be the first since the Board of Directors amended the organization's bylaws to allow for at-large elections. Previously Directors were elected according to geographic Districts comprised of 3 or 4 townships. The change was made to encourage more farmers and farmland owners to seek seats on the governing Board.

Up to 5 Directors will be elected for three-year terms from ballots mailed to regular voting (farmer and farmland owner) members in May. When mailed in late May to voting members (farmers and farmland owners) ballots contained the biographical information on each candidate seeking election which follows:



**Gerald Gaitsch**  
Dundee Township

**Background:** I am 59 years old and have been married to my wife, Cindy, for 32 years. We have 3 children and one grandchild. I have managed and run our family vegetable and grain farm for 40+ years. I also have an Associate's Degree in engineering from Harper College. I was a Boy Scout leader and helped my son achieve his Eagle Scout. I have served on the KCFB Board of Directors for 20+ years and have served on many of the organization's committees.

**Why I am seeking a seat on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors:** I would like to continue to serve on the Board of Directors because I want to help the KCFB continue to grow in being recognized as the respected agricultural group in Kane County. I also would like to see the KCFB grow in informing our community about agriculture.



**Brett Dienst**  
Virgil Township

**Background:** I am a 26 year-old son of a grain farmer in Maple Park, where I raised show hogs with my 3 siblings for ten years. I am currently a crop insurance officer at Compeer Financial. I attended Illinois State University and received a degree in Agricultural Business. During that time, I participated in Collegiate Farm Bureau, Hoof and Horn Club and Young Leaders. Recently I was a member of the Farm Bureau ALOT program (Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow) as I continued to be a part of my Kane County Young Farmers. I enjoy spending time with my kids, and getting to show them all that is great about the agricultural industry.

**Why I am seeking a seat on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors:** First, I want to thank the committee for approaching me with this opportunity. I want to join the Board to be a voice not just for farmers, but for young farmers and for our ag industry representatives that are all a part of the Farm Bureau. What I believe I would bring to the Board is enthusiastic and fresh energy that could help the driving force of the farm Bureau and the Kane County farming community as a whole.

*June is Dairy Month*  
**Did you know?**  
The average cow produces 90 glasses of milk each day, or about 200,000 glasses of milk during its lifetime.



**Keith Engel**  
Hampshire Township

**Background:** My name is Keith Engel, I am 50 years old and have been in agriculture my whole life. I grew up on Luck-E Holsteins dairy farm and own registered cattle there with my brothers. I graduated from the University of Illinois in 1994 with a B.S. in Animal Science with a Dairy emphasis. I have worked for GEA Farm Technologies for 21+ years working with milk quality and milk harvest and currently Business Development Manager for Hygiene for North America. I served on the Dane County FB board in Wisconsin for over 6 years. I was very active with events, annual meeting, leadership institute, YFA and policy development. I have served on local, national and global boards. I am currently Sec./Treas. of the National Mastitis Council.

**Why I am seeking a seat on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors:** Myself and my family have been involved in Farm Bureau my whole adult life and I believe in its mission being a voice for agriculture. In 2020, after 18 years in Wisconsin, I moved back to Illinois with my house, pasture and woods across the road from the home farm, my family and cows. After being very involved in Wisconsin Farm Bureau, I am excited to get back involved in Illinois Farm Bureau.



**Beth Gehrke**  
Plato Township

**Background:** Our farming operation raises row crops and makes hay. I farm along with my husband, son, daughter and brother-in-law. I have previously been a dairy farmer and raised beef cattle.

**Farm Bureau involvement:** 2014-22, KCFB Director; SPROUTS Classroom volunteer; AgDays presenter; Ag Institute for Teachers presenter; IFB Annual Meeting delegate; ALOT graduate; Leaders to Washington and Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference attendee. I also served on the Illinois FB Young Farmer Cmte and the AFBF Young Farmer Cmte. Community Involvement: Member, St John's LCMS, Sycamore, served on Board of

Administration, Director of Boards of Evangelism and of Adult Education; Plato Township Clerk; County Farmland Preservation Cmte; County Fair Superintendent; past member FSA Cmte and Extension Council.

**Why I am seeking a seat on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors:** KCFB is an important organization for all types of agriculture in our county. All people are impacted by anything that has an effect on our ability to produce food. The KCFB Board stays abreast of agricultural issues to ensure quality food and stewardship of our land for the benefit of all, while striving to educate the public. I would be honored to serve on this board to help with this mission.



**Joe White**  
Kaneville Township

**Background:** I operate a grain farm raising corn, soybeans, and wheat. My wife Bonnie and I have 4 married children and 8 grandchildren. I am President of the KCFB Board and Foundation. I have chaired numerous committees and have held every FB office. IFB service: resolutions committee, grant committee, FOTO committee, GRITS team, policy review committee, AIAA management committee, annual meeting delegate and AFBF alternate delegate. Community service: PAST 4-H leader, KC Fair swine assistant superintendent, Chairman of the KC Zoning Board of Appeals; CURRENT 4-H Foundation, 4-H building association, KC Farmland Preservation Commission, KC Regional Planning Commission, and the Village of Kaneville Planning Commission. ALOT graduate. Member of St. Gall Catholic Church.

**Why I am seeking a seat on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors:** It has been a pleasure to be involved in the FB organization serving the agriculture community. Bringing benefits and value to our members is a major goal of the association. Over the years the KCFB has built relationships with elected officials at all levels of government in an effort to ensure the ag communities voice is heard. As a director on the board, I will continue working for the members to maintain those relationships and respect. There are many challenges

*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*.

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**Your local source for feed, supplies, and so much more!**

**St Charles and Wasco 630-584-2024**

facing farmers and the ag community, working together with the board I will continue to address those concerns.



**Dale Pitstick**  
Blackberry Township

**Background:** My name is Dale Pitstick and I am 37 years old. I married Scott Rocha in the summer of 2021 on his

family dairy farm in Tillamook, Oregon. Scott and I grow corn and soybeans in Kane County. We are also involved in Scott's family farm operation with dairy show cattle. Scott and I love working alongside our families. Our new endeavors have led us to start an equipment company called Roc-Pit Equipment. At Roc-Pit equipment we sell new and used planting, tillage, hay making and many more tools to help  
*(continued on page 8)*

## KCFB Member Classifications

KCFB members fall into 3 main membership classifications as follows:

- **MM (Regular Member)** – for farmers and farmland owners. Those who qualify for Regular member status will only be accepted as Regular Members.
- **PM (Professional Member)** – for individuals that are employed in farm, food or agriculture related careers and occupations, but their income is not directly from farming.
- **A (Associate Member)** – for those who do not meet the qualifications of Regular or Professional membership.

Individuals (but not entities) who are Regular members, or Professional members, have voting privileges and elect Directors to provide governance for the Kane County Farm Bureau. Entities which have farming interests (partnerships, trust, corporations) will only be accepted for membership as Regular members in accordance with KCFB bylaws, but have NO voting privileges.

### KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE JANUARY 2022 THRU DECEMBER 2022

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

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

## Kane County Farmer

**KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU PUBLISHED MONTHLY**

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|---|---|---|

# Monarchs migrating north to 'land of milkweed and honey'

By Kay Shipman, Legislative Affairs Editor for FarmWeek, Illinois Farm Bureau's weekly newspaper for farmers and farmland owners who are Farm Bureau members.

Illinois' iconic orange-and-black state insects will soon sip nectar from flowers here. Monarch butterflies are winging their way north from Mexico.

"In late May, the monarchs will start coming in. This will be a small number. This is their land of milkweed and honey. They bump up their population a lot here," said David Zaya, a plant ecologist with the Illinois Natural History Survey. "So, we'll have a few individuals showing up, and then the numbers will increase throughout the summer. We'll be seeing more and more of them until late August and early September."

Zaya, an expert on monarchs in Illinois, told FarmWeek Illinoisans might see a "very tattered, tired monarch" before late May, but those would be outliers. He explained most monarchs are flying to Texas, southern Oklahoma and possibly Arkansas where they will lay eggs. After that generation hatches, they will arrive in Illinois in late May.

Unlike the fall migration with north-to-south movement differences, monarchs "just kind of show up" in most of the state when they return, according to Zaya.



Monarch butterflies were expected to return to Illinois in late May. Photo by Catrina Rawson, Illinois Farm Bureau.

This year's cool, late spring may actually benefit the butterflies. "A warm spring is sometimes bad news for monarchs, the generation that flew to Mexico and flew back up," Zaya said. Sometimes, warm temperatures tempt the butterflies to fly farther north than they should and lay eggs. "If it gets cold, even if there isn't frost, their larva will not be able to develop as quickly after the cold, so that could set them back," he added.

Illinoisans can support monarchs by planting flowers, such

as coneflowers and black-eyed susans, for adult butterflies. Their larvae depend on milkweeds and only grow on plants in the milkweed family, Zaya pointed out.

In Zaya's view, farmers and rural landowners have an opportunity to make an impact because the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and other large-scale conservation programs "are game changers for pollinator conservation in Illinois ... CRP and other programs like that are going to have a huge impact on conservation of pollinators and other creatures in Illinois. When you create habitat for monarchs and other pollinators, it helps larger wildlife and plants."

Illinois and the surrounding states are a key area for monarch biology, according to Zaya.

"That means the decisions made in rural areas have an outsized effect on monarchs," the scientist said. "In that way, Farm

Bureau members have more per capita effect or influence on conservation, not just of mon-

archs or pollinators but of everything, more than any other group."

## DriftWatch™—a tool for beekeeper, specialty crops & pesticide applicators

Kane County Farm Bureau is encouraging certified pesticide applicators to sign-up for DriftWatch™. Illinois DriftWatch™ is a Specialty Crop Site Registry, a voluntary communication tool that enables crop producers, beekeepers, and pesticide applicators to work together to protect specialty crops and apiaries through use of a registry and mapping program.

DriftWatch™ is intended to assist in the possible reduction of honeybee exposure to various pesticides (herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, etc.).

In an effort to limit exposures, DriftWatch™ helps increase communication between the pesticide user community and the state's beekeepers and specialty crop producers.

The Illinois DriftWatch™ internet site <https://il.driftwatch.org> includes two main portals, one for pesticide-

sensitive crop producers (including beekeepers) and another for pesticide applicators. The producer portal allows producers to register the types and locations of their pesticide-sensitive crops so that they can be viewed by potential pesticide applicators. The pesticide applicator portal allows applicators to register their service area which, in turn, will allow them to receive automatic notifications when pesticide-sensitive crop locations are added to the areas in which they work.

DriftWatch™ has interactive maps that allow any visitor to the website to find the location, name, acreage, crop and contact information of any registered specialty crop grower or beekeeper to foster better communications in regards to application of pesticides near sensitive crops and insects.

## Bee-ware of pollinators when using pesticides

By Kay Shipman, FarmWeek

Farmers aren't the only ones anxious to work in fields. After a late, cold spring, pollinators are busy, or soon will be, foraging across the landscape.

Recently, the University of Illinois Extension Pesticide Safety Education Program focused on spring pollinator tips for applicators.

"I thought it was a good reminder to bring up early in the season," said Sarah Hughson, an entomology specialist with the program who shared the recommendations.

Beekeeper and specialty grower Chris Wyant explained central Illinois honey bees have found few blooming plants to forage after a cold, late spring. Wyant, of McLean County added his bees will get active when temperatures warm up.

"They will swarm and divide up because bees sense there's all this pollen out there," said Wyant, education manager with Agriculture in the Classroom.

Farmers and applicators need to check online databases FieldWatch and BeeCheck for pesticide-sensitive crops and beehive locations, according to Hughson. For Illinois, visit [il.driftwatch.org/map](https://il.driftwatch.org/map) and [il.beecheck.org/map](https://il.beecheck.org/map).

"Check the location and see what's there (in the area where a pesticide will be applied)," Hughson said. The online maps include contact information for participating beekeepers who registered their hives.

Hughson recommended sending notice of a planned application to any beekeepers with hives within three miles of an application site because bees will forage that distance from their hive. A best-case scenario would be 48 hours in advance to give a beekeeper the flexibility

to protect his bees and cover the hives, Hughson said.

Wyant agreed with the importance of farmers checking FieldWatch/DriftWatch and



Farmers and applicators should check online databases FieldWatch and BeeCheck for pesticide-sensitive crops and beehive locations. Photo by Catrina Rawson, FarmWeek

BeeCheck for hive locations. "With more backyard beekeepers, there are more hives around," he added. "It's important to have conversations."

The farmer who farms near Wyant's hives has talked with the beekeeper multiple times. "I was able to lock up the bees so they wouldn't be in danger," he said. Even receiving notice the night before an application would be helpful and allow a beekeeper to close up hives before the bees go out in the morning, Wyant pointed out.

Hughson advised farmers to be aware that bees and other pollinators may be in flowering cover crops, crops and even flowering weeds that serve as an early food source for pollinators. If early season treatment with a contact insecticide is needed, mowing the flowers off clover or weeds before the application is an option to avoid pollinator contact with an insecticide, she said.

When selecting a product, farmers can check for a bee-advisory box on the label. A

bee-advisory box is found in a label's environmental hazard section where surface and water concerns are listed. Hughson said the bee advisory would be set off by a dark, black outline and may include a bee drawing.

She explained an advisory box might state a product cannot be applied when bees are present, can only be used after petal fall, or may give additional information to avoid particle drift.

Hughson recommended farmers avoid applying microencapsulated pesticides. While the coating allows a pesticide to be safely applied and break down to release the pesticide after application, the particles' size is similar to the size of pollen grains, so bees may collect them and carry them back to the hive.

Application timing and conditions are other factors to consider. These include applying pesticides either early or late in the day when bees are not active and making applications when temperatures are below 55 degrees. Avoid applying systemic pesticides prior to or during bloom. If a flowering plant must be treated with a systemic insecticide, the best way to avoid pollinator exposure is to apply after flowering has finished, according to Hughson.

"All of these things are some things if you can feasibly do them," Hughson said. "In an emergency, you might not be able to wait and have to apply."

Now is the right time for farmers to touch base with any neighboring beekeepers, according to Wyant. From mid-April through mid-May, beekeepers get bees and set up hives for a successful season.

"It's a good time to have a conversation," Wyant said.

## KCFB offers free signs to members

In an effort to increase production of specialty and sensitive crops, protect pollinators and increase communications between agricultural producers, Kane County Farm Bureau is making a limited number of signs available for free to Farm Bureau regular members (MM & PM member classifications). The signs are designed to notify neighboring farmers and pesticide applicators of the presence of beehives and specialty crops.

Kane County Farm Bureau strongly encourages growers of specialty crops, sensitive crops and beekeepers to first register their production sites on the Driftwatch specialty crop registry, <https://il.driftwatch.org>.

While supplies last, KCFB MM and PM members can obtain a limit of 2 free 18" x 24" 2-sided signs with "H" stakes to mark field locations. Additional signs are available at cost, \$11.00 each. Messages include

"No Drift Zone", "Beehive" and "Specialty Crop" and all include the url for fieldwatch, a part of the DriftWatch registry. Signs are also available at cost to Associate members and the general public while supplies last.

In addition, for farmers and landowners who have planted a portion of their acreage for pollinators, KCFB has free 24"x36" "Pollinator Plot" signs available for the asking. For more information on these signs call us at 630-584-8660. To obtain signs, stop by the Farm Bureau office on Randall Road in St. Charles between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday, or by appointment.



Keep turning for more pollinator info.



## Raging Waves tickets

This year's tickets have splashed down at KCFB. Enjoy a day at the largest water park in Illinois at a FB discounted price. A limited supply of single day, general admission tickets are available at \$22.00 each (regularly \$44.99), age 2 and under are free. Single day tickets are

valid Memorial Day – September 5, 2022. Limit 5 tickets per FB member/family.



## AG LITERACY CORNER

By Kelcee Miller, Development & Ag Literacy Program Coordinator



### Hello Kane County!

As I sat trying to determine what I wanted to write about this month, the light bulb finally went off! I wanted to share a quote that I received in an email a few weeks ago from Judi Holler, the author of *Fear is My Homeboy*. I loved the quote so much that I saved it to my phone and set it as my watch background for a daily reminder! The quote is, "Where focus goes, energy flows."

It's a very simple quote with such a strong and impactful message that can be applicable in a multitude of scenarios and it made me reflect and ask myself where is my focus and energy going lately? Within the email, Holler had an embedded link associated with the quote. Where the person in the video explains, "Focus is too critical for me not to guard it. You have an alarm on your house because you love it. You have an alarm on your car because you love it. You have alarm set up on your online banking so if anybody tries to fraud you get notified, but yet you leave your focus unguarded." He goes into detail

how distracted people distract people and distraction leads to unproductivity and not fulfilling our purposes/goals. BOOM. I thought the quote itself from Holler's email was bold enough but listening to the video made things even more clear. We have to love and protect our focus and energy now more than ever, especially if we want a happy, healthy, and positive life.

All too often we can find ourselves caught up in the moment or distracted with things that aren't necessarily worth our time or energy, which then can lead us down the road of unproductivity and believe it or not, negativity. And if we let our focus and energy stay in that state then we become our own worst enemy by viewing life through a negative lens, tearing others down vs building them up and it begins to trickle into other aspects of our personal and professional lives. And no one wants more of that in their lives, life is too short and we must make the most of it while we can!

In our world of technology, 24-7 news cycles, and social media, it can be very easy for our focus to get stuck on the

"wrong" things that may not necessarily be serving us in the present moment. I know I have to set a limit on my social media platforms so I do not get sucked down the dark hole that is social media – you all know what I am talking about! Scrolling for a few minutes turns into hours and I've learned over the years it's truly not worth it, so I set a time limit so I create a boundary that allows me to be in control vs. autopilot.

Another example outside the world of media could be something as simple as your morning commute, which can be thrown off by traffic or an accident and it can lead to a small domino effect in your morning by being late to work and then carrying that crabby mentality through your day because your focus is still stuck on putting the blame on someone else, therefore you've got a chip on your shoulder for your entire day. Remember, "Where focus goes, energy flows." In this scenario, we have two options: let our morning commute dictate that we are going to label our day as unproductive and continue to let the dominos fall towards negativity, or control our reactions, take a big deep breath, and focus our attention to things that truly matter so we can be a happier individual at work (and thus more productive)!

I have grown, matured, and learned over the years it is essential to create healthy boundaries. Not every phone

call, text message, or email requires our immediate response. If we've got goals and tasks in our day to accomplish or just want to live happier lives, taking our eyes off the target by getting distracted by things that take away our energy will not help us achieve anything. Like driving a car, our eyes must be forward, focused on where we are going and thus our energy will follow and con-

tinue that momentum forward because we are passionate and care about where it is we are going. Of course, not every day will be a good day but we can choose to see the good in every day and if we keep our focus on those things and continue to build, each day we and those around us will be better people for it.

Happy June!

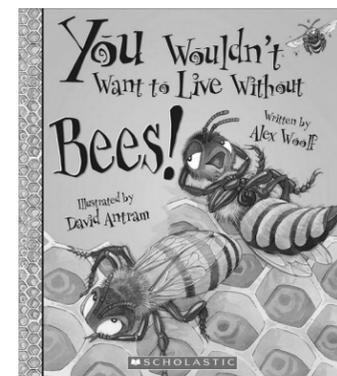
## Book of the month

What's the buzz about this month? I am glad you asked! This month we are celebrating National Pollinator Week which is June 20th – 26th and the book of the month helps readers see what's buzzing in and outside of the hives. The book of the month for June is *You Wouldn't Want to Live Without Bees!* written by Alex Woolf and illustrated by David Antram.

Woolf takes readers on a historical journey with a timeline of bees and breaks down what exactly is a bee? With engaging and comical artwork, Woolf goes into details for readers to understand the parts of a bee and how those parts work. Woolf breaks down so many questions we ask ourselves about bees like how exactly do bees make honey? Or what exactly goes on in that little hive they call a home? Why do flowers need bees? How do bees help us? These questions and more are all answered in this book!

From cover to cover, *You Wouldn't Want to Live Without Bees!* Is full of fun and interesting facts all about bees. Included are tips and tricks for

attracting more bees to your garden, how to make your very own bee home, and other ways to use honey and bee products in your daily lives! To see what the buzz is all about, I encourage you to stop in to the Kane County Farm Bureau office and visit our FREE Library and check out *You Wouldn't Want to Live Without Bees!*. The Kane County Farm Bureau Library was made possible by Bob Konen and Dean Dunn, and later supported by the Bob Konen Family.



*You Wouldn't Want to Live Without Bees!*  
by Alex Woolf,  
illustrated by David Antram

## We can help protect your business with insurance you deserve



Bob Effner  
Agency Manager  
St. Charles  
630-584-0001



Bobbi Boston  
Boston  
St. Charles  
630-485-5155



Keith Eakins  
St. Charles  
630-762-1324



Kelly Landorf  
St. Charles  
630-762-1328



Jeff Jones  
St. Charles  
630-492-5293



Norma Grathoff  
St. Charles  
630-492-5324



Donna Tonovitz  
St. Charles  
630-549-7694



Orazio Difruscolo  
St. Charles  
630-549-7696



Ashraf Gerges  
Aurora  
630-898-3750



Edward Sluehm  
Geneva  
630-845-8245



Deb Slob  
Geneva  
630-208-0890



Michael O'Brien  
Geneva  
630-762-0852



Victor Alvarado  
Elgin  
847-742-0003



Luke Fawkes  
Elgin  
847-742-0002



Sherry Lochen  
Elgin  
847-742-0004



Bob Kearns  
Elgin  
847-888-3200



Bob Riedel  
West Dundee  
847-428-5434



Gary Bolger  
West Dundee  
847-531-6110



Sherri Schramer  
Elburn  
630-365-9500



Dominick Davero  
Elburn  
630-365-3737



Charles Quick  
Hampshire  
847-683-2100



David Berreles  
Hampshire  
847-683-2100



Dan Cooper  
Sugar Grove  
630-466-9600



Ted Schuster  
Sugar Grove  
630-466-9600

Commercial insurance policies issued by COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company®, Bloomington, IL.  
"COUNTRY Financial®" is the marketing name for the COUNTRY Financial family of affiliated companies (collectively, "COUNTRY"), which include COUNTRY Life Insurance Company®, COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company®, and their respective subsidiaries, located in Bloomington, Illinois.  
1220-509HC\_20503-1/6/2022



**AGCO Parts Inc., Batavia employees book donations**  
*Bees Make the Best Pets*, Jack Mingo  
*Chickenology The Ultimate Encyclopedia*, Barbara Sandri, Francesco Guibbilini, & Camilla Pintonato  
*Farming*, Gail Gibbons  
*Good Night Tractors*, Adam Gamble & Mark Jasper  
*Grow! How We Get Food from Our Garden*, Karl Beckstrand  
*Honey Farming*, R.O.B. Manley

## Bucket Raffle donations!

It's officially summertime in Kane County! And that can only mean one thing... the fair will be in town before we know it! With that being said KCFB is starting to get things ready and prepped for the Kane County Fair which will take place July 13-17 at the Kane County Fairgrounds and we need your help to make this another successful year!

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation is asking for local businesses to help promote their business and join our fundraising efforts in our annual Bucket Raffle and Silent Auction

Fundraiser which supports our Foundation that provides tuition assistance for local students pursuing a higher education as well as Ag literacy programming.

The Kane County Fair is one of the most widely attended events in the area! We hope you will consider promoting your business and we appreciate your consideration to join us in providing our community with opportunities to ensure a better future! For more information and/or if you are interested, please contact Kelcee at 630-584-8660 or [aite@kaneafb.com](mailto:aite@kaneafb.com).



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

**June 9**  
**Drive Thru BBQ**  
**Fundraiser**

Please reserve:

\_\_\_\_\_ Pork chop dinners \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken quarter dinners  
\_\_\_\_\_ Pork chop/chicken combo dinners

Please enclose payment of \$16 per dinner. Make checks payable to Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Visa / MC \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

CRV \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

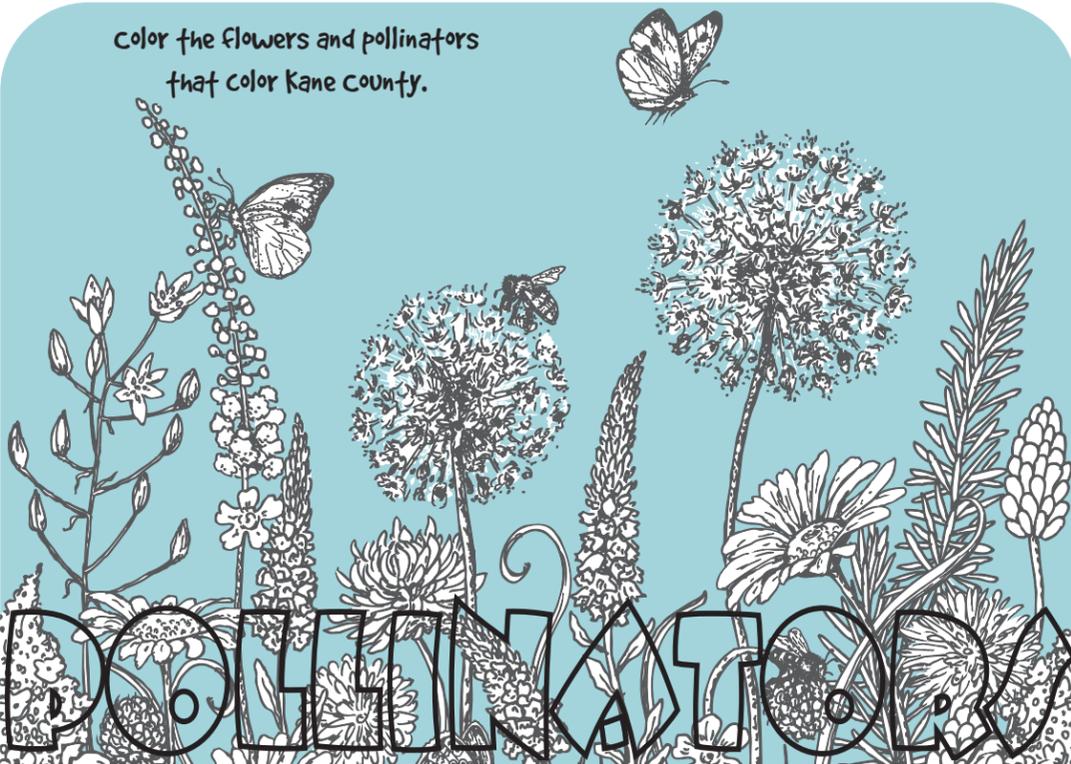
Return to: KCFB Foundation • 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL 60174  
or call 630-584-8660.



# Farm Facts & Fun

Compiled by Kelcee Miller, Ag Literacy Coordinator

Color the flowers and pollinators that color Kane County.



## Protect and promote pollinators

National Pollinators Month started as National Pollinators Week (June 22–28). The week was first celebrated in 2007 when the U.S. Senate passed sanctions regarding it. National Pollinators Month encourages people to protect pollinators by providing them with the right environment to flourish. This includes planting pollinator-friendly plants and avoiding pesticides as much as possible. Over the centuries, specific pollinators have developed a special relationship with the specific plants they pollinate. For example, monarch butterflies have an affinity for milkweed. The plant is food, haven and protection for the butterflies. Furthermore, certain insects and other types of pollinators only come out when the plants they pollinate are in season. By protecting pollinators, we will, in turn, ensure the steady production of food resources.



The conservation of pollinators through research, education, and awareness has become of utmost importance. According to the National Wildlife Federation, every one in three bites of food you take comes from a pollinated source.

Photo by Catrina Rawson, Illinois Farm Bureau

## Protect pollinators

X	A	C	G	G	H	L	B	P	S	N	P	Z	F	M	E	O	B	S	H	Apiaries
U	I	F	F	N	P	S	N	E	S	E	B	K	J	W	E	F	U	R	O	Beehives
E	M	L	T	J	E	D	N	F	N	Z	I	U	J	G	T	S	T	E	N	Bees
F	R	Q	Z	E	K	A	R	M	S	E	A	R	Y	F	P	C	T	W	E	Beeswax
F	I	V	B	Z	K	K	J	S	E	T	F	K	A	B	G	C	E	O	Y	Beneficial
B	E	E	S	W	A	X	D	F	V	S	W	I	D	I	O	Z	R	L	B	Butterflies
S	K	U	D	R	S	H	E	A	I	J	E	M	C	N	P	S	F	F	E	Conservation
V	T	E	A	V	P	L	E	V	H	B	I	G	S	I	H	A	L	Z	E	DriftWatch
H	R	C	Y	O	N	J	W	D	E	G	L	E	D	C	A	F	I	N	S	Field Edges
N	O	X	E	O	O	M	K	A	E	L	R	H	R	E	C	L	E	V	Y	Flowers
O	Q	N	U	S	R	V	L	S	B	V	O	A	J	A	D	Q	S	J	V	Gardens
I	Q	T	E	K	N	J	I	V	A	G	N	I	F	V	T	L	Y	L	T	Habitats
T	T	J	I	Y	K	I	M	T	D	O	N	E	C	T	A	R	E	O	M	Honey
C	U	T	Q	A	V	S	I	Z	M	J	R	U	Y	N	L	E	D	I	O	Honeybees
E	L	A	K	V	N	O	S	D	R	I	B	G	N	I	M	M	U	H	F	Hummingbirds
T	K	H	N	E	N	B	S	R	O	T	A	N	I	L	L	O	P	F	P	Insects
O	Z	Y	D	H	A	B	I	T	A	T	S	A	N	P	L	Y	G	T	L	Milkweed
R	G	R	S	K	G	Q	Z	D	P	T	X	J	Y	T	W	Y	F	K	S	Monarchs
P	A	B	O	T	D	C	H	K	H	C	T	A	W	T	F	I	R	D	Z	Nectar
G	S	T	E	W	A	R	D	S	H	I	P	Y	A	U	L	Y	H	U	J	Pollinators
																				Protection
																				Stewardship

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

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 by June 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.

## DIY mason bee habitat

### Materials

- 1 Tin Can (an empty canned good works well)
- Bamboo pieces, length of the can & enough to fit tightly inside can
- Craft paint or spray paint (yellow & black)
- Paintbrush
- String
- Hammer & nail

### Instructions

- Paint the outside of the can yellow & let it dry.
- Paint 2 black stripes around the can & let it dry.
- Using the nail & hammer, have an adult pound 2 little holes in the can, one on each end of the sidewall.

Tie a piece of string through the holes, so you have a hanger for your Bee House!

Place all the bamboo pieces in the can, make sure they are snug.

Hang your Bee House outside in your favorite tree & wait for the bees to move in!

Find this craft and more bee facts here: <https://www.naturalbeachliving.com/mason-bee-habitat/>.



## Honey Nut Cheerio balls a sweet treat

### Ingredients

- 1 cup of marshmallows
- 1/2 cup of peanut butter
- 1/2 cup of honey
- 5 cups of Honey Nut Cheerios

### Instructions

Grease and/or line with wax paper, a large cookie sheet and set aside.

Place marshmallows, peanut butter, and honey in a saucepan and cook over medium-low heat, stirring constantly.

When the marshmallows are completely melted, remove pan from heat and stir in the Cheerios until evenly coated in honey-marshmallow mixture.

Grease a 1 cup measuring cup and portion out the mixture. Roll each cup into a ball and place on the prepared cookie sheet.

Place sheet in the fridge and allow to set for at least an hour before serving.

Bee happy & enjoy!  
 Find this recipe and more tasty treats here: <https://thesoccermomblog.com/honey-nut-cheerio-balls>.



## Jokes

What did the bee say to the flower?  
*Hey bud!*

What kind of gum do bees chew?  
*Bumble gum!*

What's a bee's favorite sport?  
*Rug-bee!*

What do you call a bee who is having a bad hair day?  
*A Frizz-bee!*

Jokes provided by: <https://growingfamily.co.uk/exploring-nature/bee-jokes-bee-puns/>

## Congratulations

Congratulations **Tannie Foiles** of Batavia, this month's word search winner. Her name was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's Word Search puzzle. For her participation, she receives a beef-themed prize. Thank you, Tannie, for reading the *Kane County Farmer* and continue to watch each month for more great opportunities from the Kane County Farm Bureau.

## June is ... National

National Olive Day	1st
Rotisserie Chicken Day	2nd
Egg Day	3rd
Donut Day	3rd
Cheese Day	4th
World Environment Day	5th
Gardening Exercise Day	6th
Chocolate Ice Cream Day	7th
Strawberry Rhubarb Pie Day	9th
Iced Tea Day	10th
Corn on the Cob Day	11th
Peanut Butter Cookie Day	12th
Flag Day	14th
Fudge Day	16th
Eat Your Vegetables Day	17th
Father's Day, Sunday	19th
Vanilla Milkshake Day	20th
Smoothie Day	21st
Onion Ring Day	22nd
Porridge Day	23rd
Strawberry Parfait Day	25th
Chocolate Pudding Day	26th
Ice Cream Cake	27th

### Dairy Month

- Country Cooking Month
- Great Outdoors Month
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Month
- Perennial Gardening Month
- Pollinators Month

# Exercise your civic duties—Vote 2022

By Ashley Cravens  
Illinois Farm Bureau  
assistant director of  
political engagement

It's an unusual feeling preparing to head to the polling place on a warm summer's day. All primary elections during my lifetime, outside of the rare special election, have taken place during spring.

With the primary election happening at a different time of year than normal, it's just as important to remember and prepare yourself as you head into the booth, especially with it being the first post-redistricting election.

Taking that a step further,

perhaps you or someone you know might have more flexibility to serve your community as an election judge this year.

The role of an election judge lies in the very values we hold true in America – ensuring the electoral process is administered fairly in accordance with the law.

All election judges swear to uphold the United States Constitution and are a critical piece in protecting the integrity of our elections. Trainings are held so that election judges are well prepared ahead of the big day. It is not a terribly difficult job, but one that matters deeply to the fabric of our country.

Workers help set up their

polling place, check in voters and maintain a safe and orderly environment. As a bonus, election judges are paid for their time, too. The entire process from start to finish is a great educational opportunity to learn how our electoral system functions.

Recently, election officials have had difficulties recruiting election judges, particularly in rural areas.

Yet the importance of easily accessible polling places and local friendly faces cannot be understated.

Rural voters in particular have to travel farther from home to cast their vote but that doesn't make the journey any

less vital.

A chronic lack of election judges can lead election authorities to cut polling places and make that journey even longer.

This is the perfect opportunity to engage with your community by safeguarding their right to vote.

In order to volunteer to be an election judge, you must live in the county you're intending to work in and be registered to vote. Election judges also need to be 18 or older or at least a junior in high school with a 3.0 out of a 4.0 grade point average. Interested individuals can apply by contacting your local election authority, which is often-times your county clerk.

Whether you decide to volunteer as an election judge or not, one thing is sure heading into this post-redistricting primary election: you need to do your research.

With legislative boundaries changing in response to 2020 Census results, the same candidate(s) you may have seen on your ballot over the last decade

may not be on this year's. Study the new maps and find out who wants to represent you at all levels of government from county board to U.S. Congress.

State legislative and congressional maps can be found by visiting [www.ilfb.org/vote](http://www.ilfb.org/vote).

If your county has a website, it's likely you will be able to find the new map online. Many election authorities will provide you with a sample ballot, too.

Once you know the candidates, go online, check their official social media pages and learn where they stand. Read, listen to and watch local news as well.

June 28 will be here before we know it. Do not let the 2022 primary catch you off guard. Volunteer if you are able, do your research and make a plan to vote.

Exercise the right we as Americans are so blessed to have!

*Editor's Note – Kane County election maps can be found at <https://www.kanecountyclerk.org/elections/pages/maps.aspx>.*

## SEC overreach could put family farms at risk

Over 2 million farms dot our nation's landscape, across all 50 states and in territories like Puerto Rico. You can find farmers and ranchers raising nearly every type of crop and livestock to keep our nation fed. You can find us serving our neighbors and communities and employing the latest innovations to improve sustainability. But there's one place you will not find us, and that is on Wall Street. So why is the Securities and Exchange Commission about to grant itself authority to functionally regulate our family farms and ranches, when in fact we have never been under the SEC's authority? It's an alarming question, and one we are facing head on right now.

A little background here—recently the SEC proposed a new rule, "The Enhancement and Standardization of Climate Related Disclosures for Investors," which would require publicly traded companies to provide climate-related information from their entire value chain in their filings and annual reports. This would mean that businesses not owned or controlled by the public company would fall under these extensive reporting requirements. As farmers and ranchers know, there are few products in the supply chain that don't trace their beginnings back to a farm

or ranch. And those farm and ranch products already face extensive regulations at the local, state and federal level. With this rule, it is likely the reporting requirements would pile on farms and ranches of all sizes and could even force farmers and ranchers to disclose personal information and farm business data.

It is difficult to fully grasp the far-reaching impact of this rule, but it will no doubt place many American farms and ranches at risk—98% of which are family businesses.

This is overreach—plain and simple—by a federal agency that was never designed or intended to regulate farms. What's more the entire action lacked transparency and oversight. The SEC released its proposed rule, all 510 pages of it, with initially just 39 days for public review and comment. The American Farm Bureau joined with 119 other agriculture organizations in calling the SEC to extend its comment period to allow time for meaningful public review and input. Just this week, the SEC announced an extension for public comment until June 17. The fact that the SEC budged at all on the comment period is a testament to the importance of standing together across the agriculture community to make our voices heard.

It is difficult to fully grasp

the far-reaching impact of this rule, but it will no doubt place many American farms and ranches at risk—98% of which are family businesses. Unlike the large corporations currently regulated by the SEC, family farms and ranches don't have teams of compliance officers. Onerous reporting requirements could disqualify small, family-owned farms from doing business with public companies, or companies that supply those value chains. The SEC's rule could place a greater strain on our food system at a critical time and lead to further consolidation of agriculture as family farms and ranches lack the resources to meet requirements designed for major corporations. Finally, the rule undermines decades of sustainability efforts and achievements by America's farmers and ranchers who have led the world in reducing agricultural emissions and adopting practices that improve soil health and water quality.

Farm Bureau and our partners across agriculture will continue to engage with the SEC, and our representatives on Capitol Hill, to urge the agency to take into account the burden they are placing on farmers and ranchers, who are critical to the value chain, our economy and our nation's food security. We also encourage you to join in making your voices heard on how this rule will affect your farm or ranch. Together, we can stand strong to protect our nation's sustainable food, fiber and renewable fuel supply.

## Background: Climate related disclosures for investors

On March 21, 2022, the Securities and Exchange Commission proposed a rule that would require registrants, which are companies that register with the SEC, to include certain climate-related disclosures in their registration statements and periodic reports, including information about climate-related risks that could impact their business, results of operations, or financial condition. In addition, certain climate-related financial statement metrics would have to be included in a note to their audited financial statements. Most notably for agriculture, the required information about climate-related

risks would also require disclosure of the greenhouse gas emissions of the registrant and its entire value chain, which the SEC claims can help investors assess a registrant's exposure to such risks.

Specifically, the proposed rule requires a registrant to disclose information about its direct greenhouse gas emissions (Scope 1) and indirect emissions from purchased electricity or

other forms of energy (Scope 2). In addition, a registrant would be required to disclose greenhouse gas emissions from upstream and downstream activities in its value chain (Scope 3) under many – if not most – circumstances. The SEC (continued on page 7)

### SCOPE 1, SCOPE 2 & SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS

**Scope 1 Emissions**  
Direct Emissions  
GHG emissions directly from operations that are owned or controlled by the reporting company

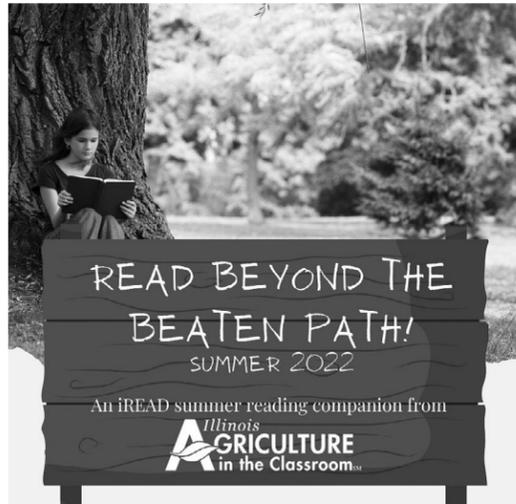
**Scope 2 Emissions**  
Indirect Emissions  
Indirect GHG emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, steam, heating, or cooling consumed by the reporting company

**Scope 3 Emissions**  
Indirect Emissions  
All indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions

## Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom summer opps

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom is looking forward to summer and excited for summer reading to kick off! IAITC has

put together a lesson booklet that pairs well with this year's theme of "Read Beyond the Beaten Path." The lesson book-



let will be a great resource to help enhance your summer reading program and keep your reader learning beyond the books! For more information, contact Kelcee at 630-584-8660 or [aitc@kanecfb.com](mailto:aitc@kanecfb.com) or visit: <https://iaitc.org/iREAD22>.



## ANTIBIOTICS IN YOUR MILK



If a cow gets sick, farmers work with veterinarians on the right medicine to use.



Milk from cows treated with antibiotics is discarded.



All milk must test free of any trace of medication before it is used.



All milk at the grocery store is antibiotic-free, label or not.

# What's new at COUNTRY?

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

Congratulations to **Jeff Jones**, who has been named the April Rep of the Month in the COUNTRY Financial® St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Jeff is a great asset to our team and is dedicated to providing tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long-term insurance needs of his clients through our Auto, Home, Farm, Life, Business, and Retirement products and services. Let Jeff's expertise help you! You may reach Jeff at 630-492-5293, or [jeff.jones@countryfinancial.com](mailto:jeff.jones@countryfinancial.com), or

<https://representatives.countryfinancial.com/Jeff.Jones/>. Congratulations, Jeff!

**Aurora Agency, Alonzo Nevarez, Agency Manager**

Alicia Giglione, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for April 2022. Alicia began her career with COUNTRY Financial in October of 2016 and services clients out of her office located at: 2000 W. Galena Blvd., #207, Aurora, 60506, 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!

## 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!

**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**

Love to sew? Looking for a creative team member to join our St. Charles custom sewing studio. Flexible, part-time hours to fit your schedule. Perfect for retiree, home maker, or student. Training provided. Call Susan at 925-336-0934 to apply.

**HELP WANTED** for **AWARD COMPANY** – JACK OF ALL TRADES NEEDED to assemble wood plaques and awards. Prefer 20-30 hours weekly; no weekends. Great for retiree or part-time student. Office located east side of St. Charles. Call Bob, Shannon, or Laurie at 630-377-7797 to schedule interview.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** – 30-35 hours weekly, M-F. Applicant must be a computer literate, self-starter, with pleasant voice and manner. Some travel possible. Office located east side of St. Charles. We offer vacation pay,

self-directed savings plan, and partial tuition reimbursement. Perfect position for stay-at-home-Mom or college student. Call Bob or Laurie at 630-377-7797 to arrange interview.

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

**FOR SALE**

Vintage New Deal manure spreader complete unit with approximately 8' long x 3.5' wide x 2' tall material hopper. Complete pull behind spreader with all parts and large tractor tires. Some minor repairs needed to place back in service. Overall good condition. Free delivery available within 25 miles. Located in Wayne, IL. Available for inspection by appointment only. Asking price \$200 or best offer. Contact John for more info or pictures at: 781-795-6454 (mobile) or [jjdonleavy@gmail.com](mailto:jjdonleavy@gmail.com).

Set of 4, Ford F-150 STX OEM Alloy Rims, 20 x 8.5 (fits 2017-2019) – 6 x 135 bolt pattern, 44mm offset, machined face 12 spoke split with dark charcoal inserts, ceramic coated. In very good condition. Very few (minor) scratches on 1-2 of the rims. Includes tire sensors and lug nuts. Mounted and balanced on set of Goodyear Wrangler SR-A P275/55R20 (very minimal wear - lots of tread left). \$1,200 – please call or text. Pictures available. Call: 847-849-9696

## Disclosures

(continued from page 6)

claims that this requirement for greenhouse gas emissions disclosures would “provide investors with information useful in decision-making as an investor assesses a registrant’s exposure to, and management of, climate-related risks, and in particular transition risks.”

### Impact on Agriculture

The SEC has a three-part mission of protecting investors, maintaining fair, orderly, and efficient markets, and facilitating capital formation. To accomplish this mission, the SEC requires companies to disclose important financial information with an accurate picture of the company’s present and potential performance. The SEC’s pro-

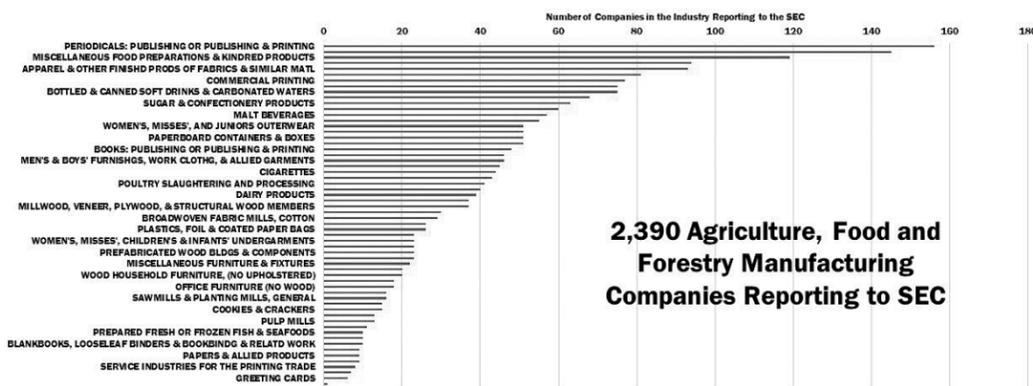
posed climate rule is said to only apply to registrants with the SEC, meaning a company that goes public with offerings.

There are an estimated 63,485 companies listed on the SEC website with some sort of registrant reporting requirements, with industries ranging from life sciences to energy and transportation, real estate and construction, manufacturing, technology, trade and services, finance, structured finance and international corporate finance.

Looking further into the companies that are registered with the SEC, each company is classified with a specific industry title and assigned a standard industrial classification (SIC) code that indicates the company’s type of business. Notably, none of the registrants listed on the SEC’s

website has an SIC code corresponding to agricultural production. That is, for the SIC codes titled “Agricultural Production – Crops,” “Agricultural Production – Livestock & Animal Specialties,” “Agricultural Services,” “Forestry,” and “Fishing, Hunting and Trapping,” there are no reporting companies that disclose to the SEC. However, all five of these industries produce most of the raw products used by publicly traded companies and is, therefore, part of the value chain of that publicly traded company (i.e., Scope 3). For agriculture, food and forestry manufacturing alone, there are nearly 2,400 companies registered with the SEC that would be subject to reporting Scope 3 emissions from its farm suppliers.

## Agriculture, Food and Forestry Manufacturing Industries with Companies Reporting to SEC



**2,390 Agriculture, Food and Forestry Manufacturing Companies Reporting to SEC**

Source: Securities & Exchange Commission, Farm Bureau Compilation  
 AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION® www.fb.org

## 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 April 16 – May 15, 2022.



Donor	Beneficiary
James Fidler Family	Centennial Grove at KCFB – Red Oak
in Memory of James Michael Fidler	Centennial Grove at KCFB – Tulip Tree
KCFB in memory of Mary Nagel	Northern Illinois Food Bank
Thomas Richter	

We sincerely appreciate your willingness to help support agricultural education, scholarships, leadership training, and community youth education as well. We could not do it without your support!



Two 8" x 8" aluminum plaques like the one above will soon join the more than 1 dozen in KCFB's Centennial Grove of hardwood trees planted in 2012 to recognize the organization's first 100 years. The plaques will honor James Michael Fidler of Maple Park who passed in 2021 and Mary J Nagel of Sugar Grove who passed in April 2022.

For options on how to recognized the service and commitment of loved ones through the KCFB Foundation, contact Steve Arnold at 630-584-8660 or [steve@kanecfb.com](mailto:steve@kanecfb.com).



June is Dairy Month.  
 Did you know? Despite its creamy texture, milk is actually 85-95% water.

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Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Return with check made payable to Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL 60174 or charge my:

Visa  MC # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

# Kane Co. farmers comment on spring planting

We asked a couple of Kane County farmers on May 18th to share their thoughts about spring planting during a season challenged with cold temps, rains, and rising prices and input availability. Comments from Elburn farmer and KCFB Board President Joe White and Dale Pitstick, Elburn farmer and KCFB board member, are included below. We asked the following questions.

**What percentage of your fields is planted now?**

**Do you feel confident about "catching up" after the cold/rainy spring?**

**Have you done any re-planting?**

**Is fertilizer availability a problem?**

.....



**J o e White** has 15 acres of corn left, 160 of soybeans left to plant and 98% of corn, 80% of soybeans in the ground.

Joe said he is caught up with spring planting. He started planting May 10th, which is typically around finishing time for planting, but the warm, dry weather window allowed for full days in the fields. Some corn and soybeans are sprouting – warm temps make a big difference for germination.

Joe applied the majority of his nitrogen fertilizer last fall. He commented that some herbicides are hard to get right now.

He purchased fuel last fall. He said the concern with fertilizer availability will be going forward. Potash in particular, will be scarce, along with anhydrous ammonia.

He thinks the crops are in good condition so far. La Niña could mean a dry summer. Timely rain during corn pollination and in August for soybeans is important. He expects an average crop year.

.....

### Dale Pitstick

Dale said 50% of his corn and 100% of his soybeans are in the ground. He is planting each at the same time.

He is confident that he is "caught up" after the cold rainy weather. He commented that seed planted in cold wet weather

er will not germinate and may have to be replanted. He does not anticipate any replanting this season.

Next month, he will wrap up planting and get started on crop protection (spraying). When corn is 1" tall, he will add nitrogen between rows. He said after that farmers wait for weeds and

mother nature.

Their supply chain has been good – he has plenty of fertilizer. Fuel and fertilizer prices are way up, which is challenging.

He is excited for a great 2022. Rainfall was 12" short in March, but spring rains have put them right where they want to be now.



Dale and Atwood (Woody), his canine companion, ready for a day of planting.

## Looking to get more involved in the community? Join Young Farmers

You're invited to join the Kane County Farm Bureau Young Farmers. Join young (18-35 years), local agriculture enthusiasts from around Kane County as they socialize and learn more about upcoming local and statewide activities for 2022 at their next gathering.

Any member 18-35 is invited and new faces are always welcome! For more information or to be added to the contact list please contact Kelcee Miller, [aite@kanecfb.com](mailto:aite@kanecfb.com) or Steve Arnold at (630) 584-8660 or [steve@kanecfb.com](mailto:steve@kanecfb.com).



**FARM GATE**  
By Joanie Stiers

### Farmers natural partners in pollinator effort

It seems an unlikely thought that farmers would respect a plant with "weed" in its name. Yet the last few years, our farm has mowed or sprayed around patches of milkweed in pastures, ditches, field edges and grassy knolls in support of the monarch butterfly. Now, our kids experience and identify this signature orange-and-black pollinator as I did as a kid.

More importantly, scientists estimate that one of every three bites of food directly depends on pollinators like butterflies, bees, hummingbirds, moths and more, a fact more widely celebrated during Pollinator Week in late June. The amount of field edges, ditches and conservation lands under farmer

care position farmers to partner in this effort to support the pollinator population.

Illinois farms like ours allow more milkweed to proliferate and other flowering plants to bloom. The state's private landowners have committed more than 825,000 acres of sensitive lands to government-administered conservation practices sometimes mixed with native blooming plants. Nearly 120,000 of those acres – roughly the equivalent of 120,000 football fields – bloom spring to fall as dedicated habitats for honeybees.

Farmers increasingly voice their desire to support the survival of pollinators, so the Illinois Farm Bureau this year launched a program to financially and technically support members wishing to start pollinator conservation projects. The Farm Bureau created a mowing guide for agricultural landscapes. It sponsored outreach programs and developed a video series to

highlight notable projects.

The results are promising. In just 10 years, my kids are spotting more monarch butterflies around the farmyard and seeing more ditch flowers to attract bees.

With proper precautions, pollinators and pesticides also can co-exist. The pesticide applicator training and exam that I completed this winter emphasized the importance of following label directions and noted responsible practices to keep local pollinators safe. Programs like DriftWatch allow voluntary communication between applicators and owners of apiaries. And we find the 4R's apply to pollinator stewardship as much as agronomic success: Right product at the right rate, the right time and in the right place.

Not to mention, leaving the land better than we found it is the right thing to do.

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, backyard chickens and farm kids.



Kane County Farm Bureau Young Farmers were at KCFB for April's Touch-A-Tractor event and gathered at the site of the Ag Literacy Free Little Library which is under construction and will soon be installed next to the windmill on KCFB property.

KCFB has books and resources about pollinators available through its Ag Literacy Library and coming soon to our barn-shaped Free Little Library. Be the first to check them out when you sign up to help plant our Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden this summer on the KCFB lawn.



## Partners for Conservation cost-share available

The Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District (KDSWCD) is accepting applications for their Partners for Conservation cost-share program. There are \$8,000 remaining in funds for this year. Projects eligible for funding include best management practices, such as: cover crops, no-till/strip till, conservation cover, critical areas planting, grassed waterways, grade stabilization

structures, pollinator habitats, raingardens and much more.

The program pays for up to 75% of a projects total cost or the state average cost (whichever is lower). The project must not have started work, and must be complete by December 31, 2022. Projects are not eligible for PFC if other cost-share dollars are being received.

All interested applicants should email [patrick](mailto:patrick.mcpartlan@kanedupageswcd.org).

[mcpartlan@kanedupageswcd.org](mailto:mcpartlan@kanedupageswcd.org) for the application form and state average costs for each practice. All applicants will be presented to and selected by the KDSWCD Board of Directors.

For more information, contact Patrick J. McPartlan, CPESC, Resource Conservationist, Kane-DuPage SWCD at 630-584-7960 ext 3.

## Board candidates

(continued from page 2)

local farmers succeed. I have been involved with Farm Bureau since 2004 from the state to local. I served our District on the State Young Leader Committee for 4 years. Farm Bureau is a passion of mine.

I am seeking re-election to the Farm Bureau Board of Directors. I seek this position to be the voice for the local agricultural community. Farmers reach out to me often for local, state and national issues. I have a good working relationship with elected officials. Garbage drifting off busy highways and into crop fields and trees has been my biggest issue that I have been working on with local government.

Help plant a pollinator rain garden!

**COMING SUMMER 2022**

**HELP US PLANT... AN ILLINOIS PRAIRIE POLLINATOR RAIN GARDEN.**

SHARE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SPRING/SUMMER POLLINATOR PLANTING AT KCFB.

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