

# 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. 85 NO. 3 MARCH 2020

## 19th annual Shopping Spree a fun, fast win for all

It was a cold Monday, but an ideal day for a heated race between Senator Jim Oberweis and Representative Dan Ugaste to participate in the Kane

Kane County Farm Bureau and donated to Hesus House in Aurora and the South Elgin Food Pantry.

### Farm Bureau's 19th annual Shopping Spree donates thousands to hunger relief



Ready to shop! (L-R, foreground) Representative Dan Ugaste and Senator Jim Oberweis are poised for the challenge of gathering groceries for a good cause in the 19th annual Shopping Spree at the Batavia Jewel-Osco.

County Farm Bureau's 19th annual Shopping Spree for food pantries. The two raced through the aisles of the Batavia Jewel-Osco, and helped to benefit local food pantries. During their 6-minute dash around the store, the pair collected \$2,681.67 in groceries, purchased by the

Steve Arnold, KCFB Manager, and Wayne Schneider, Chairman of the Kane County Farm Bureau's Government Affairs & Public Policy Committee, began the pre-event announcements. They explained the concept of the Food Check-Out Week and why KCFB sponsors this celebration of food and farming.

"The event is traditionally held during February and is devoted to hunger relief, while teaching consumers how to stretch their grocery dollars with healthy, nutritious food," said Schneider.

"U.S. farmers are the most productive and efficient food producers in the world," said Schneider, "but, while food is affordable in the U.S. when compared to the rest of the world, the shopping spree recognizes the fact that for many people, their resources are stretched to the limit." Each year, the "Challenge" allows two food pantries to stock their shelves with much needed items. Two dozen local food pantries have benefitted since the event's inception.

Arnold thanked Jewel-Osco Store Director Gus Eliopoulos for the store's 19 years of support and for hosting the event. Arnold told the crowd gathered

for the event that the Shopping Sprees have raised over \$35,000 for hunger relief and that the Farm Bureau's Harvest for ALL hunger relief effort had contributed the equivalent of 2 million meals to local food pantries since 2009.

KCFB President Joe White of Kaneville introduced the contestants, who were provided with decorated and themed shopping carts. Northern

Illinois Food Bank's Tom Hong took over the store's loud speakers, announced the start of the race, added play-by-plays, and counted-down the minutes.

Both contestants were winded after piling up cart after cart of food from the shelves. Dry goods, canned goods, soups, baking ingredients, cereals and sauces were among the items their "helpers" pointed out to each to collect. Oberweis and

Ugaste then started the "check out" process at opposing registers that began the race for dollars. With each scan of each food item, the tension mounted and when it was all said and done, both contestants were winners as well as the food pantries they represented. It was an exciting race to the finish with everyone coming out a winner!

Senator Oberweis gathered  
(continued on page 8)

## Local Food education—KCFB members register FREE\*

Whether you're a farmer, market manager, retailer, distributor, or simply someone who loves to eat, you are part of the food system. You want your part to grow. Kane County Farm Bureau, IFB & the Illinois Farmers Market Association wants you to not just grow, but thrive. That's why Kane County Farm Bureau is offering FREE\* registration for the Conference for Regular and Professional KCFB members.

Specialty crop, small-scale farmers, small food businesses, and farmer's markets face unique challenges and markets. Workshops and training opportunities allow them the chance to gain new skills,

expand business, and connect with others facing similar challenges. The Live Local Conference will help food businesses learn how to increase profits, develop a sustainable business, and grow market demand to build long-lasting family farms and businesses. This means helping find the right markets for the right business and a path to expansion.

This engaging three-day conference will bring local farmers, local organizations, and local businesses together to network and help build the needed infrastructure for a long-lasting marketplace for food businesses in Illinois.

Conference offerings include a Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Class (a \$115 value), locally sourced meals, "curb-side consulting" with technical service providers, Farm to Fork tours and exclusive Farm to Fork dinner. This year's Live Local Conference is also the host of the 2020 ILFMA Annual Conference and Meeting in partnership with



### KCFB CALENDAR MARCH 2020

- 5** On the Road seminar, Lee County Farm Bureau, Joliet
  - 6** Deadline for nominations for the Kane County Farm Bureau board of directors
  - Young Farmers Euchre tournament, 7pm
  - 9** Return Water Test kits to KCFB
  - 10-12** Live Local Conference, Bloomington
  - Leaders to Washington
  - 12** Board of Directors, KCFB, 7pm
  - Legislative Update, 6pm
  - 13** Lunches to Legislators, 9am
  - 16** Ag Days set up at Mooseheart
  - 17-18** Ag Days at Mooseheart for 4th graders – *volunteer chaperones welcome – call Amy at 630-584-8660*
  - 19** Ag Committee, 10am
  - 21** KCFB Board of Directors retreat
  - 23** Foundation annual meeting and Scholarship review
- (All meetings/events are at KCFB unless otherwise indicated)

### MARCH FEATURED PRODUCT

## Homemade Corned Beef

The special this month is Inbodens's corned beef rounds. Each corned beef will be brined in-house and come sealed for your St. Patrick's Day celebration. Each package will be approximately 4 lbs. The Member price (not including tax) is \$4.99 per pound. Plus status members always receive a 5% discount on edible products at the Farm Bureau. Quantities are limited so please call ahead to reserve!

## Farm Toy of the Month

This month's green machines are a John Deere trio perfect for muscling the farm into shape for springtime. The set includes a row crop tractor with removable bale mover and round bale; backhoe loader and 4 WD tractor with disk ripper.

Regular price is \$37.96, but visit our lobby Farm Bureau Country Store during the month of March, and you can save an extra 10% by downloading the IFB Benefits app from Abenity OR showing us the app on your smart phone. Supplies are limited – get your green today!



### John Deere equipment for grown-ups

Looking to buy a full size John Deere? We can help with

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 108th Annual Meeting of the Kane County Farm Bureau will be held at the Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 on Thursday, April 16th, 2020, at 7:00p.m. for the purpose of receiving and acting upon reports of officers, the board of directors, and management for the fiscal year ended December 31st, 2019, and to announce the five directors elected to serve terms of three years to represent Districts 1 through 5, and for transaction of any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

*Michael Kenyon, Secretary*

that too through Farm Bureau's "John Deere Rewards" program. Kane County Farm Bureau members are eligible for a complimentary upgrade to John Deere Rewards (Platinum 2 status) which unlocks the best of Rewards including valuable equipment discounts like:

- Commercial Mowing – \$300 to \$2,700 off
- Residential Mowing – \$100 to \$200 off
- Utility Vehicles – \$200 to \$350 off
- Tractors – \$200 to \$300 off
- Golf & Sports Turf – \$500 to \$3,700 off
- Commercial Worksite – 17% off MSRP

Don't wait – Visit [JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau](http://JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau) today to register!

#### Details and Restrictions

- Must be a valid member of Farm Bureau for 30 days
- A valid member email address is required for eligibility.

# Kane County farmers asked to meet with local legislators

In mid-March, Kane County Farm Bureau farmer-members will visit the offices of local legislators during this year's "Lunches to Legislators" program. This program, organized by the KCFB Governmental Affairs committee, gives local farmers the opportunity to get acquainted with local legislators and speak with them on behalf of the local agricultural community.

For 2020, the program will concentrate on freshmen members of the Illinois General Assembly and U.S. Congress. Prior to the groups or pairs of farmers sitting down with legislators, the farmers will be invited to attend a dinner to discuss current IFB legislative priorities and further prepare them for their office visits.

During the legislative office visits, information will be shared about the agriculture industry, programs the Kane County Farm Bureau provides for community members, local and state publications, as well as the Farm Bureau Policy Resolutions, voted on by

Illinois farmers at the December 2019 IAA Annual Meeting. The program, now in its 19th year, is something both volunteers and local legislators look forward to every year.

For more information about the program, contact Steve Arnold at 630-584-8660.



Kane County Farm Bureau Board Vice President Wayne Schneider of West Dundee, KCFB Director Beth Gehrke of Elgin, 33rd District Senator Don DeWitte and KCFB Director Craig Bradley of Elgin at DeWitte's office during the 2019 Lunches to Legislators program. (KCFB File photo).

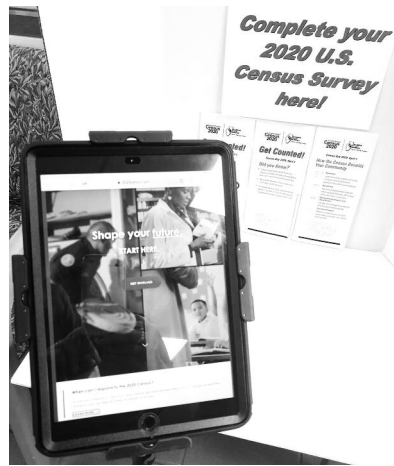
# Kane Co. FB receives iPad to help public get counted in U.S. census

To help mobilize the agricultural community, the Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) has equipped each of its county Farm Bureaus with technology to aid the public in completing the 2020 census.

Kane County Farm Bureau has received an iPad to be used in coordination with IFB's efforts to assist both members and non-members in getting access to the internet to complete their 2020 Census survey. This is the first time the U.S. Census Bureau is asking household residents to complete the survey online.

"The U.S. Census is directly related to Illinois' representation in the U.S. House of Representatives," said Illinois Farm Bureau President Richard Guebert, Jr. "With Illinois losing population over the last sev-

eral years, the state could lose one, maybe two, seats in the U.S. House. That makes this survey extremely important for the state to have widespread



participation and accurate responses from its citizens."

Federal funding heavily relies on Census results. U.S.

Census data determines how \$675 billion dollars is distributed, impacting education, fire and emergency response services, transportation, employment, housing, health care and public policy.

April 1, 2020 is Census Day. IFB members and non-members are encouraged to make this date their goal for census completion and to consider what their household will look like on that date when answering questions.

Locally, Kane County Farm Bureau will have hours of operation from 8:30 to 4:30 Monday-Friday. Farm Bureau members are welcome to complete the census survey at the Farm Bureau office during these hours.

For more information, please contact 630-584-8660.

# Young Farmers euchre tournament

The 15th annual Young Farmers Euchre Tournament promises a competitive, fun evening for young farmers ages 18-35 from Kane, Winnebago-Boone, McHenry, DeKalb and Kendall-Grundy counties.

The evening will begin at Kane County Farm Bureau with a brief, 6:30 pm meeting followed by 7:00 pm pizza and snacks, and then the cards will be dealt and the competition starts at 7:30. A \$5.00 buy-in gets pizza, snacks and free lessons. No experience or partner

necessary – just an appetite for fun and competition with peers. The winners of this highly competitive event will take home the coveted title of Euchre Champs 2020.

Those interested in becom-

ing a Kane County Young Farmer or a Professional Member, ages 18-35, please contact Steve Arnold or Alice Macha by calling 630-584-8660 or emailing us at info@kanecfb.com.

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 100% hormone free beef.  
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 815.895.4691  
 Mark & Linda Schramer, Owners  
 8N840 Lakin Road, Maple Park  
 Sample Packs make great gifts!

**Friday, March 6,  
 7 pm at KCFB**

**EUCHRE NIGHT**

See you at  
**Touch-A-Tractor**  
 APRIL 17-19

# Defensive Driving class

The Kane County Farm Bureau has scheduled a 55 Alive Mature Driving Program for Tuesday and Wednesday, April 28 & 29. The class runs from 9am to 1pm each day at Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles. You must attend both sessions to complete the course.

The eight hour course covers driving in various road and weather conditions, passing techniques, the effects of alcohol and drugs on driving and other defensive driving meth-

ods. Many insurance companies may offer a discount on auto insurance to those aged 55 and older who qualify and attend all eight hours of the course. Contact your insurance agent for more details.

Attendees must be licensed drivers. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$20 per person for AARP members and \$25 for non-members (payable the first day) to cover the cost of materials. For more information or to register, contact Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660.

*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.

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

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

\* Attendance by electronic means.

## Kane County Farmer

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# Items sought for T-A-T

Another year, another exciting Touch-A-Tractor event coming your way! April 12-14 marks our famous farm-to-city celebration of everything "farm": larger-than-life vintage and new tractors, farm equipment, farm toys, farm animals, pedal tractors, corn corrals, and so much more.

Each year our volunteers and donors help to make this event happen. Items we need for Touch-A-Tractor include:

**1. Tractors** – gas, diesel (or steam!); large or small; waxed & polished or muddied & rusted, new, old or antique – it's all the same to a kid.

**2. Hay/Straw bales** – round,

square, large or small, to use as barriers, for traffic patterns and to add to our Touch-a-Tractor children's activities area to be used for climbing and recreational purposes.

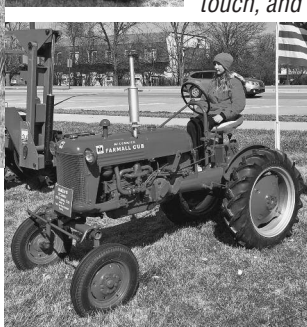
**3. Gently used Farm Toys** for the kids to play with during the event.

**4. Farm animals** – sheep, lambs, pigs, goats, baby calves, chickens, etc. We have the pens, we just need the critters!

Call Steve at the KCFB (630-584-8660) or e-mail him for more information (steve@kanecfb.com) if you could donate or loan any of the above to us for the event or if you know anyone we can contact. We appreciate your help!



The joy on these children's faces is genuine – it's not every day that they get to sit on the back end of a real-life John Deere combine, one they usually only see from a distance! Farm equipment like combines, sprayers, antique tractors, new tractors, and even ATVs and UTV's are all available for you and your family to see, touch, and climb up on



once a year at the Kane County Farm Bureau's Annual Touch-A-Tractor event.



This year, mark your calendar for April 17-19, you don't want to miss Touch-A-Tractor!

# Get your soil ready for spring!

Kane County Farm Bureau offers soil testing to its members at a discount, a great service the Farm to make sure your soil is ready for spring planting. Three different tests available and results are sent by e-mail or mail directly to you. For a soil test form, visit [www.kanecfb.com](http://www.kanecfb.com) and click on benefits and services, or pick one up at the KCFB office. Deliver samples to Kane County Farm Bureau with payment. Prices listed are for Kane County Farm Bureau members, non-members, and PLUS status members. Ask us how to save even more when you upgrade your membership to a PLUS status. Call 630-584-8660 for more details.



months, when soil temperatures are at least 55 degrees. If the soil is too wet to spade, rototill or hoe, it is generally too wet to take a sample. On the other hand, extremely dry soil should not be sampled either.

**How often should I test?**

Ideally, soil should be tested every 3-5 years, more frequently with intensive use. Try to sam-

ple during the same season each time for the best comparison.

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

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

**Soil test costs**

**Basic PH Test**  
**\$20 per sample for members, \$30 non-members**  
 This test checks for soil pH, phosphorus, and potassium.

**Lawn/Garden Test**  
**\$30 per sample for members, \$40 non-members**  
 This test includes the basic test plus organic matter and recommendations on amount and timing of fertilizer.

**Lawn/Garden Plus**  
**\$50 per sample for members, \$60 non-members**  
 This test includes the Lawn & Garden test plus nutrients, iron, zinc, manganese, copper, sulfur and boron.  
 This test also includes recommendations.

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

**When is the best time to test soil?** Proper sampling is important to obtain accurate results. Samples can be taken any time during the warmer

## Live Local

(continued from page 1) ship with the Illinois Farmers Market Association.

Online registration is open! Registration closes March 3, 2020. Walk-in registration is

welcome for an additional charge. Register at <http://www.ilfb.org/livelocal> or call 630-584-8660 for more information.

Conference cost includes two breakfasts, three lunches, one dinner, appetizers at networking hour, and snacks and beverages

throughout each day.

\*Proof of conference attendance in the form of payment receipt and conference materials is necessary to claim \$125 reimbursement from KCFB. Feel free to share this information with friends or associates who may benefit from KCFB membership!

**Live LOCAL**  
 GROW. BUY. EAT.

Illinois Farm Bureau & Illinois Farmers Market Association  
**2020 Live Local: Local Food & Farmers Market Annual Conference**  
 AGENDA

**March 10, 2020** FSMA and Farm-To-Fork Tours require pre-registration.

Registration: 7:30AM-8:30AM  
 Produce Safety Workshop: 8:00AM-5:00PM  
 Full Day Workshops: 8:00AM-5:00PM  
 ½ Day AM Workshops: 8:00AM-12:00PM  
 Break: 10AM-11AM (varied by workshop)  
 Lunch: 11:30AM-1:30PM (varied by workshop)

½ Day PM Workshops: 1:00PM-4:30PM  
 Break: 3:00PM-4:00PM (varied by workshop)  
 Networking Cocktail Hour: 4:30PM-6:30PM  
 Optional Farm to Table Dinner: 7:00PM-9:30PM (Ticketed event: The Edge)

**March 11, 2020** BREAKOUT SESSION TOPICS: Business Development, Technology, Funding and Financing, Marketing

Registration: 7:15AM-8:30AM  
 Networking Breakfast: 7:15AM-8:30AM  
 Welcome: 8:30AM-8:45AM  
 General Session: 8:45AM-9:30AM  
 Breakout Session: 9:45AM-10:45AM  
 Break: 10:45AM-11:15AM  
 Breakout Session: 11:15AM-12:15PM

Lunch: 12:15PM-1:15PM  
 General Session: 1:15PM-2:00PM  
 Breakout Session: 2:15PM-3:15PM  
 Break: 3:15PM-3:45PM  
 Breakout Session: 3:45PM-4:45PM  
 General Session: 5:00PM-5:45PM  
 Dinner: 6:00PM-7:30PM

**March 12, 2020** BREAKOUT SESSION TOPICS: Communication, Relationship Building, Policy and Regulation, Market Opportunities

Networking Breakfast: 7:30AM-8:30AM  
 General Session: 8:30AM-9:00AM  
 Breakout Session: 9:15AM-10:15AM  
 Break: 10:15AM-10:45AM

Breakout Session: 10:45AM-11:45AM  
 Lunch: 12:00PM-1:00PM  
 Breakout Session: 1:15PM-2:15PM  
 Closing Remarks: 2:30PM-3:00PM

**Tentative Conference Workshops and Sessions**

**Full Day Workshops:**

- Produce Safety Workshop

**AM ½ Day Workshops:**

- Farmers Market Meeting 1
- Farmers Market Meeting 2
- Farmers Market Meeting 3
- Building a Food Hub
- Funding & Financing
- Farm-To-Fork Tour

**PM ½ Workshops:**

- Building Your Management Skills
- DIY Your Marketing
- Funding & Financing (Part 2)
- Food Hub Collaboration
- Farm-To-Fork Tour

**Business Development Track**

- How to Build a Social Media Platform and Tell Your Story
- How To Build Your Business Story
- TBD
- TBD

**Funding and Financing Track**

- Best Practices to Having a Kick @\$\$ Fundraiser for Your Market
- Talking to Lenders
- Grant Writing 101
- TBD

**Technology**

- Best Practices to Using Social Media to Drive Market Attendance
- Share Your Story, One Profile, Multiple Websites
- Building Your Online Store to Increase Your Presence
- TBD

**Marketing**

- Merchandising Your Display or Booth to Tell a Story
- Buy Fresh, Buy Local: State-Wide Branding
- Changing the Way You Sample
- TBD

**Relationship Building**

- Developing Partnerships to Improve SNAP, WIC, and Senior Box Usage at the Market
- Building a Food Community
- TBD

**Policy and Regulation**

- Sample Laws: What Are the Rules?
- Cottage Food Laws: Dos and Don'ts
- Integrating Food Safety into Your Market

**Market Opportunities**

- Selling Through Farm-To-School Programs
- Identifying the Right Market for You
- Working With Vendors

**Communication**

- How We Learn to Tell Our Story: Soil Health
- Get Engaged: Innovative Story Telling to Connect with Customers
- TBD

# ALL TRACTORS & TRUCKS Welcome!

Touch-A-Tractor will be held April 17-19 on the lawn at the Kane County Farm Bureau. Again this year, we are looking for tractors or farm equipment of ANY vintage. If you would like to put a smile on a kid's face, ALL tractors are welcome – and trucks too! The more, the merrier.

If you are interested in bringing a farm tractor or truck to this family-friendly event, please call the KCFB at 630 584-8660 and ask for Steve or Liz.

Help us make Touch-a-Tractor a success.

**WANTED**  
 by the Farm Bureau

**TRACTORS**  
 all sizes and makes,  
 for Touch-A-Tractor April 12-14

**WHISKEY BARRELS**  
 (OR 55 GAL DRUMS)  
 for Giant Jenga game tables

**CLASSROOM READERS**  
 for the annual SPROUTS program

**REWARDS:**  
 improved agricultural literacy, increased understanding of farms and food, a more informed public & a better community, world, & future!

**RURAL NURSE PRACTITIONER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**MAY 1, 2020 DEADLINE**

**RIMSAP.com**  
 Helping to meet the needs of primary care in rural Illinois.

**ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU**  
 Farm. Family. Food.™

# Nursing scholarship application available May 1 deadline

Applications are now available for nurse practitioner scholarships through the Illinois Farm Bureau® Rural Nurse Practitioner Scholarship Program. There will be 10 scholarships, worth \$4,000 each, granted this year.

The scholarship program, now in its 28th year, helps encourage and develop the pool of rural health practitioners to help meet primary health care needs in rural Illinois. Students who receive scholarships agree to practice for two years in an approved rural area in Illinois.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must be Illinois residents and be a Registered Nurse accepted or enrolled in an accredited Nurse Practitioner Program. Funding is provided by the Rural Illinois Medical Student Assistance Program.

Applications are available at county Farm Bureaus® throughout the state, on the Rural Illinois Medical Student Assistance Program website at RIMSAP.com, or by writing Donna Gallivan, Program Manager, Illinois Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 2901, Bloomington, IL 61702-2901. Applications are due May 1.

For additional information, contact Donna Gallivan at 309-557-2350, or via e-mail at [dgallivan@ilfb.org](mailto:dgallivan@ilfb.org).

## AG LITERACY CORNER

By Amy Cook, Ag Literacy Coordinator



### Trash or Treasure What discarded and lost items can teach us about our history

When walking or working outside, most of us feel a pang of excitement upon spotting a “treasure” – a shard of a china teacup, a colorful marble, a bottle from a long-gone dairy, or an old coin. As author Lara Maiklem says, “covetable objects in their own rights but which take on a magical quality when found out of context.”

Maiklem is the author of *Mudlark: In Search of London's Past Along the River Thames*, a fascinating recounting of her adventures “mudlarking,” which is the British term for scouring riverbanks to unearth objects and revealing the archeological history of a place. The Thames, being a tidal river and an area inhabited for millennia, is a rich source of items ranging from the Roman Empire to medieval mail worn by warriors on English battlefields to early 20th century toys. Some items were probably accidentally dropped into the river when boarding or alighting from boats (money, handmade pins), some discarded as trash (clay smoking pipes, which are found by the thousands), and

some possibly intentionally tossed into the water for a religious or sacrificial reasons.

The book got me thinking about what kind of items are found under the soil in our local farm fields, backyards, and riverbanks. Common human-made items found in Illinois farm fields include ceramics, glass, and construction materials such as brick, timber and nails. Then of course there are the innumerable personal items lost or tossed such as buttons, leather shoes, toys, buckles, eyeglasses, and jewelry.

Ordinary objects that belong to ordinary people going about their daily business. But all offer a window into the lives of past Illinoisians. Might that silver ring have been a gift marking a life milestone? Who was the knifemaker who etched his initials into the handle?

Maiklem ponders a simple handmade pin, which may have held clothes together or hats on heads: “So many lives have touched each pin: the pin-maker and his family who drew the wire to gauge, the haberdasher who sold it, the ordinary person who bought and used it. The pins were not precious, not

## KANE COUNTY FARMER

loved and looked after, they were just part of everyday life.”

Many Illinois fields have revealed evidence of past inhabitants from remnants of ceramics and glass. Ceramics includes earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain, which were mainly for containers and table service. The earliest American pottery, redware, dates from 1725 through the present. One important manufacturer was located in Galena, Illinois. Referred to as Galenaware, it was produced from the 1840s through 1900.

Some of the first glass

objects to turn up in Illinois include glass beads used as trade goods with Native Americans and for personal adornment. They were followed by glass bottles, jars and containers. All bottles were free hand-blown until the 1830s; a tell-tale sign of such vessels are the irregular air bubbles.

Most bottles produced in the first half of the 19th century were colored glass. The color came from the natural impurities found in the sand from which the glass was produced. The deep olive and brown colors

resulted from the presence of iron oxide. If one wanted to hide the contents of the bottle, say wine sediments, then this was a natural choice. However, clear glass became increasingly desirable as the century progressed.

As spring approaches, *Mudlark* rekindles a desire to get outside, explore and discover the “objects we leave in our wake, and the stories they can reveal if only we take a moment to look.”

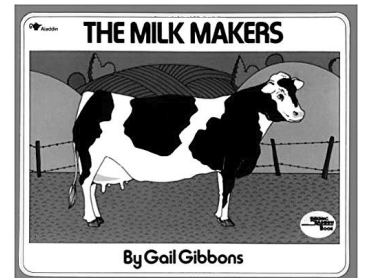
Drop us a note if you’ve ever found anything interesting or unusual in your fields or backyard!

## Book of the month

Check out *The Milk Makers*, by Gail Gibbons, a kid-friendly book that teaches all about dairy cows. The book features eye-catching stylized illustrations. Readers learn about the five common breeds of dairy cow: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein-Friesian, and Jersey. Also explained is the process through which a cow produces milk, including what the farmer feeds them. Dairy cows eat about 50 pounds of food and drink about 15 gallons of water a day! A particularly interesting part of the book explains the cow’s stomach.

While many of us have heard about a cow having four stomachs, the book does a good job explaining how the parts of the stomach work. The food goes into the first two stomachs, called the rumen and the reticulum. Then, after coughing up the food, called cud, she chews it thoroughly again. It then goes into the third and fourth stomachs, called the omasum and the abomasum, where it is finally digested. As for milking, the average cow produces five gallons a day. At the dairy, the milk is tested, clarified, pasteurized to kill any disease-causing bac-

teria, and homogenized, to blend the fat evenly through the milk. The milk is then packaged and loaded on trucks to stores, where it is ready for us to buy and enjoy at home!



The Milk Makers by Gail Gibbons

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

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

SPROUTS volunteers will read the book *Right This Very Minute* by Lisl Detlefsen and relate the story to farms right here in Kane County. Colorful illustrations in the book are the work of Renee Kurilla. The book will be given to each teacher for his/her classroom library.

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

Funds for SPROUTS and library book donations are provided to the KCFB Foundation by the Konen Family Foundation, in memory of long-time Farm Bureau volunteers Bob & Alyce Konen of Aurora. Bob was a former KCFB Director and Alyce a member of

the organization’s Women’s Committee. Both were tireless promoters of Farm Bureau and agricultural literacy.

*Now showing at an elementary school near you ...*

**YOU**

Read to a 3rd grade class through the SPROUTS reading program in April.

Call Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 for details.

Spring Program of Reading Outreach to Urban Teachers and Students

## Helping you protect what matters most



 <b>Bob Effner</b> CLF®, LUTCF St. Charles/Elgin Agency Manager 630-584-0001	 <b>Edward Stuehm</b> Geneva 630-845-8245	 <b>Bob Riedel</b> West Dundee 847-428-5434
 <b>Todd Wilcox</b> St. Charles 630-762-1326	 <b>Deb Stob</b> Geneva 630-208-0890	 <b>Gary Bolger</b> West Dundee 847-531-6110
 <b>Bobbi Boston</b> St. Charles 630-485-5155	 <b>Michael O'Brien</b> Geneva 630-762-0852	 <b>Sherri Schramer</b> Elburn 630-365-9500
 <b>Keith Eakins</b> St. Charles 630-762-1324	 <b>Jeff Jones</b> Geneva 630-492-5293	 <b>Dominick Davero</b> Elburn 630-365-3737
 <b>Kelly Landorf</b> St. Charles 630-762-1328	 <b>Victor Alvarado</b> Elgin 847-742-0003	 <b>Chuck Quick</b> Hampshire 847-683-2100
 <b>Donna Tonovitz</b> St. Charles 630-549-7694	 <b>Luke Fawkes</b> Elgin 847-742-0001	 <b>David Berreles</b> Hampshire 847-683-2100
 <b>Orazio Difruscolo</b> St. Charles 630-549-7696	 <b>Sherry Lochen</b> Elgin 847-742-0001	 <b>Dan Cooper</b> Sugar Grove 630-466-9600
 <b>Ashraf Gerdes</b> Aurora 630-898-3750	 <b>Bob Kearns</b> S. Elgin 847-888-3200	 <b>Ted Schuster</b> Sugar Grove 630-466-9600

### Ag Days volunteer opportunity

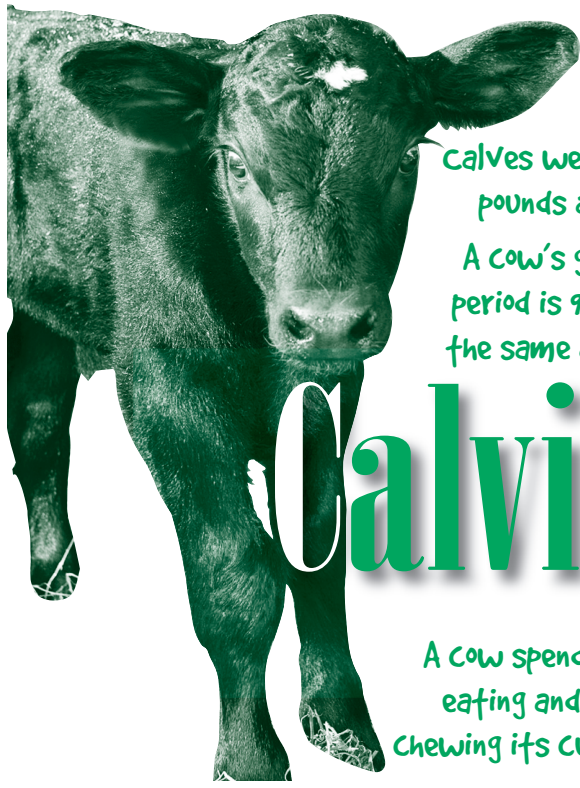
Your help is needed during the following times chaperoning groups of students & teachers or providing 5-minute agricultural lessons at Ag Days at Mooseheart. Please call us at 630-584-8660 if you can help.

Set-up	March 16	
Tuesday	March 17	8:30 am – 12:30 pm
Wednesday	March 18	8:30 am – 12:30 pm



# Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Amy Cook, Ag Literacy Coordinator



calves weigh 60-100 pounds at birth  
A cow's gestation period is 9 months—the same as humans

## Calving

A cow spends 6 hours eating and 8 hours chewing its cud each day.

### Cheese, please!

- It takes over a gallon of milk to make one pound of cheese.
- Cheese can be made from the milk of almost any animal – cows, goats, and sheep are most common.
- Cheese making was probably invented 6,000-8,000 years ago by Middle Eastern herders.
- Cheese has been found in the tomb of an Egyptian pharaoh who lived 5,000 years ago.
- The holes, or eyes, in Swiss cheese are made by carbon dioxide gas.

### Make your own Farmers Cheese

#### Ingredients

- 1/2 gallon (8 cups) skim milk
- 1 cup dried skim milk powder (such as Carnation Instant)
- 1/4 cup lemon juice or white vinegar
- Optional seasoning: salt, pepper, herbs, finely chopped jalapeno

#### Directions

Heat skim milk on the stove. Mix in the skim milk powder. As the mixture begins to simmer, with small bubbles forming, begin to add a little of the lemon juice or vinegar. Stir well. Keep the flame on and keep adding and stirring until the milk solids completely separate from the whey (the yellow watery part). The amounts of heat and acidity have to be in balance for this to work. Drain the mixture in a cheesecloth. This will make a soft cheese, similar to cottage cheese. Spread on toast or crackers and enjoy!

### calves, cows and cattle

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

BROWN  
CALCIUM  
CALF  
CATTLE  
CHEESE  
COW  
CREAM  
DAIRY  
GRAZE  
GUERNSEY  
HAY  
HERD  
HOLSTEIN  
HOMOGENIZE  
ICECREAM  
JERSEY  
LIVESTOCK  
MILK  
NUTRIENTS  
PASTEURIZE  
PROTEIN  
RUMINANTS  
UDDER  
YOGURT

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

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 by March 17, 2020 to be entered in our drawing for a cow themed prize. Prize must be picked up at the KCFB office.

### Raising cattle

The gestation (pregnancy) period for cows is nine months. Beef production begins with a cow-calf farmer who maintains a breeding herd of cows that raise calves every year. When a calf is born, it weighs 60-100 pounds. Beef calves are weaned at six to ten months of age when they weigh 450 to 700 pounds. After the calves are weaned, some are sold at auction, transferred directly to pasture or feedlot, or, if female, may be kept to add to the breeding herd.

#### Feed

Calves are typically given additional feed to supplement the nutrition from their mother's milk. Young, actively growing calves typically need more protein than older cattle. Calves typically eat plenty of forage (dry hay or grass) as well as some corn as part of their daily ration before being weaned.

Once weaned, cattle are kept on grass, hay, or other forages, until approximately 12 to 16 months old. If grass-finished, the cattle are kept on the grass/hay/forage diet until harvest. If grain-finished, cattle

transition to a diet higher in corn or soybean meal, as well as grass or hay, for the next four to six months until harvest.

#### Feedlots



Most grain-finished beef cattle spend about four to six months in a feedlot, or feed yard, until just before harvest. At the feedlot, cattle are grouped into pens that provide space for socializing and exercise. They receive feed rations that are balanced by an animal nutritionist and monitored very closely by farmers and veterinarians to ensure they stay healthy. Feedlots are efficient and provide consistent, wholesome and affordable beef using fewer resources. The time cattle spend in a feedlot is often called the "finishing" phase, and cattle spend most of their lives grazing on grass pasture.

#### Animal care

Animal health and well-being are top priorities for livestock farmers across Illinois. They work hard to use the most recent science-based advancements that keep cattle healthy and our beef supply safe. These advance-

ments mean cattle can be raised much more efficiently than in the past. Farmers and their employees work closely with veterinarians to monitor the health and well-being of the animals. Regular checkups are done on the herd to prevent illness. If any of the animals are ill, they are evaluated before deciding the next step to take care of the animal. Farmers utilize important tools like vaccines along with best management practices to prevent, control, and treat disease. By focusing on good animal care, proper nutrition, and disease prevention, livestock farmers and their veterinarians reduce antibiotic use – using only when necessary for the life of the animal – and save money in the process.

#### From Farm to Plate

Once cattle reach market weight, typically 1,200 to 1,400 pounds at 18 to 22 months of age, they are taken to the processor by semi-trucks. Once the meat has been processed, it is inspected to ensure it is safe, wholesome, and correctly labeled and packaged. The final beef products are shipped to retail and food service establishments for customers to purchase and enjoy.

### calves, crafts and chuckles

#### Milk "Explosions" (... not really)

- You'll need:  
Milk  
Bowl or big cup  
Two or more colors of food coloring

Liquid dish detergent  
A toothpick

1. Pour enough milk into bowl to cover the bottom
2. Carefully add a drop of each of the food colorings; keep the drops as far away from each other as possible.
3. Put a drop of detergent on the tip of the toothpick and touch it to the food coloring.
4. Watch the "fireworks!"

#### How does it work?

The effect of detergent on the surface tension of milk causes this explosion of color. When you touched the surface of the milk with detergent, you weakened its surface tension at that spot, causing a ripple to explode

### March is ...

#### National

- Irish American Month
- Celery Month
- Flour Month
- Nutrition Month
- Peanut Month
- Noodle Month

- March 1**  
Peanut Butter Lovers' Day
- March 7**  
National Cereal Day
- March 14**  
National Pi Day
- March 17**  
St. Patrick's Day
- March 21**  
National Ag Day
- March 24**  
National Chocolate Covered Raisin Day

outward and mix up the food coloring. What colors have you ended up with? Try using different color combinations.



#### Jokes

- What do you call a cow that doesn't give milk?  
A milk dud!
- What do you get when you cross a cow and a Smurf?  
Blue Cheese!
- Where do cows go to lunch?  
The calf-eteria!
- What do you get when you cross a cow with an earthquake?  
A milk shake!

### Congratulations

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

# Farming lessons for 4th graders at Ag Days—you can help!

Fourth grade classes from throughout Kane County will converge on Mooseheart Fieldhouse March 17 & 18 at Kane County Farm Bureau's 37th Annual Ag Days. Guided by Farm Bureau volunteers and their teachers, they will learn about agriculture at 24 learning stations. Topics will include fiber, bees, dairy, vegetables, GPS-guided farming techniques, poultry, health and a host of others. Short presentations by local farmers, representatives from Ag businesses and organizations, and local FFA and 4-H members give the kids

a memorable experience.

This learning experience is only possible through a gener-



ous outpouring of time, talents and energy by dozens and dozens of volunteers, and YOU can help!

No experience is necessary to serve as a "chaperone" to guide the classrooms through the learning stations. You might even learn a bit about the industry that sustains us all!

Chaperones are needed both Tuesday, March 17 and Wednesday, March 18, from approximately 9 am to noon. A breakfast, brief welcome and training session, and lunch are included.

For more information contact the Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 and as for Amy, Liz or Steve. A full report of 2020's AgDays Expo

for 4th graders, and acknowledgement of all the volunteers and contributors will be carried in the April *Kane County Farmer*.

Oh, and as for the animals ... they definitely make the day more memorable for students. While dogs are NOT allowed at

the Fieldhouse – and calves and sheep have already been secured – we would welcome goats, pigs, chickens, rabbits and other small farm animals.

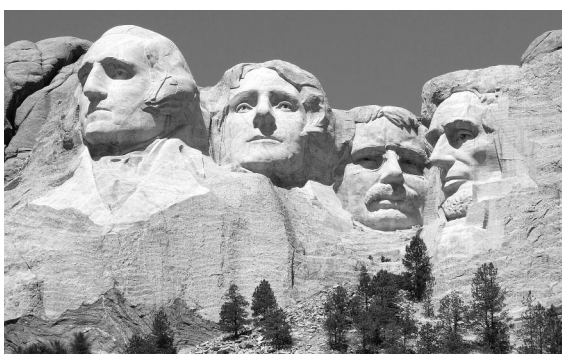
Again, call for more information or email [steve@kanecfb.com](mailto:steve@kanecfb.com)

## Travel opportunities thru FB

Northern Illinois County Farm Bureaus have teamed up to offer a wonderful group trip in 2021. It's never too early to start planning! Free Airfare when booked by June 30, 2020.

Join Fellow members while enjoying a 10 day vacation and tour of Yellowstone, Grand Tetons and Mount Rushmore, featuring Deadwood, Jackson Hole and the Black Hills.

**Tour Dates:** August 4-13, 2021. **Trip brochures and pricing available by calling Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660.**



## KC Corn Growers scholarships

Scholarships are available for both high school seniors and college students. You or your parent/guardian must be a Kane

County Corn Growers member to qualify for the scholarship. For membership details see our homepage. Application must be

received by May 1, 2020. For more information, visit <http://www.kanecountycorngrowers.com/scholarship/>.

*Celebrate Earth Day!* Help us plant a pollinator garden on the lawn at KCFB during Touch-A-Tractor, April 17 & 18. Look for details in the April *Kane County Farmer*.

## Breeze through T-A-T line with your vintage truck raffle ticket

One of the biggest events of the year is coming up April 17-19th right here on the Kane County Farm Bureau lawn: Touch-A-Tractor!

By buying raffle tickets for the KCFB Foundation's 2020 Vintage Truck Raffle, you are not only supporting Ag in the Classroom learning and scholar-

ships for students with agriculture-focused studies, you can get yourself AND your family into our Touch-A-Tractor event for FREE. It's a win-win.

The grand prize winner in the annual raffle will be drawn on July 19, 2020, at 3pm during the Kane County Fair. The winning ticket will take home a

1969 Chevrolet C-10 pickup truck or cash. Second prize is \$500 in groceries and third prize \$500 in fuel.

Tickets are \$15 each, 2 for \$25 or 5 for \$50 and are available at Kane County Farm Bureau (2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles), from the Farm Bureau directors listed on page 2, with VISA or MasterCard at 630-584-8660, or by sending payment with the ticket request form below.

In 2019, over \$22,500 in tuition assistance was provided by the Foundation. Your contributions through the annual raffle and other events throughout the year play a huge role in helping students attain their degrees, reach their goals, and assist in securing a bright future for farms and food.

For more information and rules on this year's raffle, scholarship programs or other KCFB Foundation programs and services, visit [www.kanecfb.com](http://www.kanecfb.com) or contact Steve Arnold at 630-584-8660.



The winning ticket in The KCFB Foundation's 2020 Vintage Truck Raffle will net the grand prize of this 1969 Chevrolet C-10 pickup truck.



### Calving cameras intend to simplify season

How we care for our farm's small herd of beef cows gives off a nostalgic vibe: The lineage of the cows traces back to Grandpa's herd. Cows give birth to calves in the shelter of a century-old barn. Hedge posts harvested from the farm frame the pasture fence, and we paid the local FFA chapter to build the feed bunks in the cattle lots.

I love all that old-fashioned charm but share equal excitement with some modern technology about to bless a barn that predates electricity. Soon, a cellular hot spot and motion-sensing cameras will monitor activity in the calving pens. The men who built that barn in the early 1900s would have passed me off as kooky to tell of such a thing.

This quality-of-life improvement means my dad can use his smartphone to view live video and hear live audio from the calving pens while in bed at midnight. In fact, he can view the barn's activities from any place in the world where he has phone reception. He used to pull on the coveralls and boots to enter the chilly night to check

cows with behaviors that signaled an imminent birth. He still may lose sleep during calving season, but only when the activity on his phone warrants it.

Tech-savvy cattlemen and women adopted this technology years ago, and we're late to the luxury. I don't expect these calving cameras to trump machinery auto guidance, my dad's favorite farm invention of his lifetime. But, fingers crossed, the system makes his top 10 list.

The potential impact extends to all of us in the family, kids included. Between afterschool activities and homework, the kids can check calving action from my phone, keeping them connected to the farm when middle school schedules sometimes limit it.

I remember those impressionable moments of my childhood when I watched Dad or Grandpa milk a cow to feed colostrum to a newborn calf struggling to nurse. On occasion, they pulled calves, assisting the cow with a difficult birth. I learned the reality that a few didn't make it. Yet, I witnessed healthy calves taking their miraculous first steps within just 20 minutes of birth.

Now, modern technology makes this viewing experience accessible miles from the barn.

*About the author: Joanie Stiers' family grows corn, soybeans and hay and raises beef cattle and backyard chickens in West-Central Illinois.*

Save for FREE admission to **Touch-A-Tractor** April 17, 18, 19 2020 | St. Charles

## VINTAGE TRUCK RAFFLE

Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION

Proceeds benefit college scholarships, Ag literacy programs & local FFA chapters

**2020 GRAND PRIZE**  
1969 CHEVY C10 PICKUP OR \$3,500 CASH

**\$15 EACH 2/\$25 5/\$50**

Drawing Sunday July 19, 2020, 4H Blue Ribbon Sale, Kane County Fairgrounds, Randall Rd., St. Charles, Illinois.

#0000

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.

### Vintage Truck Raffle

KCFB Foundation

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ tickets (\$15 each, 2 for \$25 or 5 for \$50)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**Trucking & Dumpster Service Available**

*"Helping to keep America Picked up for 45 years"*

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301 Industrial Drive, DeKalb  
(815) 756.8600

# Kane Co. 4-H Foundation Sponsors 12th Annual Dinner & Auction

## Save the Date for the March 28 Fundraising Event

The Kane County 4-H Foundation will host its 11th annual pork chop dinner and auction fundraiser on Saturday, March 28, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in St. Charles.

“Last year, the event raised over \$20,000 for University of Illinois Extension programming in Kane County, and the goal this year is to match that,” said Bill Collins, treasurer of the Kane County 4-H Foundation and event co-chairperson. “This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and it helps support 4-H Youth Development programs in our communities, as well as other valuable University of Illinois Extension programs.”

The dinner will be held in the Prairie Events Center at the Kane County Fairgrounds located on Randall Road in St. Charles. Attendees have the choice of a 2-chop dinner for \$14, a 1-chop dinner for \$12, or a pulled pork sandwich dinner for \$8. The pork chops will be prepared by the Elburn Lions Club, and served by Kane County 4-H members and Extension volunteers.

Throughout the evening, there will be a silent auction of items and themed baskets donated by Kane County 4-H Clubs, Master Gardener volunteers, local Home and Community Education (HCE) groups and other area sup-

porters. At 7 p.m., silent auction bidding ends and the live auction begins. This year’s line-up features an Amish quilt.

Tickets for the dinner are available through 4-H families or at the University of Illinois Extension office at 535 S. Randall Road in St. Charles, or contact the dinner co-chairs Bill Collins at 630-484-6852 and Karen Sunderlage at 815-766-2955. A limited number of tickets will be available for purchase at the door for an additional \$1 per meal.

Proceeds from the dinner and

auctions will benefit University of Illinois Extension programs in Kane County including: 4-H Youth Development, Home and Community Education Association, Horticulture, Master Gardener, and Nutrition and Wellness Programs.

Sponsorship opportunities are available at the bronze, silver and gold levels. According to Collins, sponsors help ensure the event’s success and are a vital part of the support needed to continue Extension programming.

“We are grateful for the community support we receive each

year and are proud to give back to Extension,” said Collins. “As state funding becomes less available, local support through fundraisers such as this one is vital to maintain the quality of Extension programs offered to the entire county.”

Sponsors may request a set number of complimentary tickets, and all donations are tax deductible. All donors and sponsors will receive recognition at the event. To sponsor or donate, contact Bill Collins at 630-484-6852 and Karen Sunderlage at 815-766-2955.

## KCFB Foundation scholar stands out

*Adapted from College of Veterinary Medicine General News, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

When it comes to pork production, Illinois lags behind the states of Iowa, North Carolina, and Minnesota. But when it comes to preparing veterinary students to enter the swine industry, the University of Illinois is hard to beat.

One local student studying at the University’s College of Veterinary Medicine is Erin Kettelkamp of Elburn. Kettelkamp, the daughter of Karl and Julie Kettelkamp is a five time winner of scholarships from the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation – earning the President’s, General Agricultural (2 times) and AGCO Parts Platinum (2 times) scholarships in her five years at the University of Illinois.

The University leverages research, large-scale animal care, ethical business practices, and strategic decision-making

and encourages a variety of opportunities for students to receive training early in their schooling in order to jumpstart careers in swine medicine. Summer externships or internships are one way for students to rub shoulders with the people in the industry.

Third-year student Erin Kettelkamp held an internship last summer through the Swine Veterinary Internship Program (SVIP) at Iowa State University. She was placed at Carthage (Illinois) Veterinary Service, founded by Illinois alumnus Dr. Joe Connor.

“I had the opportunity to learn how to organize and complete a research trial in a field setting. In addition to conducting research, I was able to spend a lot of time shadowing the Carthage vets on herd visits, working alongside farm staff in various areas of production, and honing my sample collecting skills for disease surveillance,” said Kettelkamp.

Illinois educators believe that

involvement with the American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV) is a must for students hoping to enter the swine industry’s unique community. With 1300+ swine industry professionals in attendance at the annual AASV meeting, it is the place to be.

Kettelkamp presented at AASV in 2019 on the efficacy of different aerosolized chemical disinfectants and decontamination practices on swine farms. Student oral presentations are said to have the highest attendance of any session at the meeting – and she was one of only 15 students in the nation to receive the honor of presenting. She will also attend the 2020 meeting and present a poster.

“These meetings and internship experiences to me have really highlighted the importance of evaluating animal health individually and on a population basis,” Kettelkamp said. “I get excited to think that, as a swine vet, my career does not just revolve around wrangling pigs in a barn, but it is overseeing the health of entire populations, helping to train farm staff, being involved in research and disease surveillance, even dabbling in public health and food safety.”



*A summer internship at Carthage Veterinary Service gave Erin Kettelkamp the opportunity to learn how to organize and complete a research trial in a field setting. Kettelkamp is a third-year student in Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois.*



*Approximately 30 volunteers from the KCFB Young Farmers Committee and the Kaneland and Central FFA Chapters met at the Northern Illinois Food Bank on a cold February 11 to repack food for redistribution to local food pantries. The Young Farmers were especially interested in connecting with 18-35 year olds looking to get involved in community service or agriculture related events. The assistance of Advisors Brooke Heinsohn and Alison Branz at Kaneland and Ryan Robinson, Buddy Haas and Katlyn Post for signing so many students up for this service is sincerely appreciated.*

*The group repackaged 18 food items into backpacks for delivery to area schools for weekend lunches for our hungry neighbors. In total, the 2 hour shift repackaged 3,990 pounds of food providing 3,225 meals to hungry neighbors!*

## Recruiter of the Month

Each month we honor the person who signs the most members into our organization. This month, the honor goes to Sherry Lochen! Sherry has been a COUNTRY Financial Representative since November 2012. Her office is located at 1750 Grandstand Pl., Elgin and

may be reached at: 847-742-0004. Thank you for your continued support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success! **Sherry Lochen**



## 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.

- SERVICES**  
Jim Verhaeghe & Sons, Inc. – Tree removal, tree trimming, & stump grinding. Backhoe work & Tile Lines. Fully insured – Free Estimates – Jim Verhaeghe Sr. Call: 847 334 5730
- WANTED**  
Want to buy a push-type reel lawn mower made by Sandwich Manufacturing Company, Sandwich Illinois. Call Tom: 630-661-9293  
Want to buy vintage & used tools Call Chris – Also, we do cleanouts. Call: 630 550 7182

## What’s new in the COUNTRY agencies?

**St. Charles Agency, Bob Effner, Agency Manager**  
SHERRY LOCHEN has been named the Rep of the Month for JANUARY 2020 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Sherry has provided tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long term insurance needs of her clients through COUNTRY Financial’s diverse products and services:

Auto, Farm, Home, Life, Business, Retirement. Let Sherry’s expertise help you! You may reach Sherry at 847-742-0004, sherry.lochen@countryfinancial.com, or https://representatives.countryfinancial.com/sherry.lochen/. Congratulations, Sherry!  
**Aurora Agency, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager**  
Zach Fox, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial

Representative of the Month for January 2020. Zach began his career with COUNTRY Financial in May of 2007 and services clients out of his office located at: 1920 Wilson Street, Batavia, 60510, (630) 406-6981. Zach’s professionalism and vast knowledge of auto, home, life, commercial and financial products make him a great person to do business with. Congratulations, Zach!

## Buy Fresh Buy Local Illinois registration

Registration is coming in March for Buy Fresh Buy Local Illinois – the first comprehensive directory and local food marketing campaign in Illinois to help shoppers find local food direct from area farms. Buy Fresh Buy Local Illinois is managed by a coalition of 10 food and farm organizations across Illinois, working together to col-

lectively promote your farms and local food businesses. Registration is open to all farms that sell their products directly to consumers in Illinois, as well as the direct-to-consumer business outlets – farmers markets, farm-to-table restaurants, and grocers – that carry their products. Farms in neighboring states that sell their

products through direct-to-consumer outlets in Illinois are also encouraged to join. Registration is FREE to be listed on the Buy Fresh Buy Local Illinois website, and for a small fee, farms and local food businesses have the opportunity to be listed in the corresponding print directory as well, which will consist of 30,000 copies distributed across Illinois. For more information, visit [www.buyfreshbuylocalillinois.org](http://www.buyfreshbuylocalillinois.org).



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Growing To Serve You Better

# 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

Thomas Beiler Roseville, CA  
Brooksen Farms Geneva  
Wilmar Farms Geneva

### Professional Members

Michael Chancey Elburn  
Laura Polito Pingree Grv.  
Ian Linnabary St. Charles

We remind you of added perks that accompany your new Regular membership 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.*

# 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 from January 15, 2019 - February 14, 2020.

### AGCO employee donors to the KCFB Foundation AGCO Scholarship fund

Anthony Meyer  
Demetria Bowen  
David Rotolo  
David Ward  
Ana.E. Falcon Rivera  
Kate Dillon  
Sandra Enockson  
Pamela Magnus  
Jeffrey Turk  
Rita Williams  
Mary Iliopoulos  
Belinda Meyer  
Erik Arana



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

Andrea O'Sullivan  
William Huber  
Lisa Green  
Judy Schuett  
Greg Acton  
Mike Petingalo  
Harshana Reyhart  
Katherine Wagner  
Mary Lasswell  
Maria Evans  
R.M. Vitellaro  
C Pollack  
Therese Yackley

Andrea Achermann  
Pamela Bolander  
James Siddons  
Phyllis Lessen  
Karen Groll  
Paul Nicks  
Stephen Davis  
Brian Sieg  
Amanda Dieter  
Amado Rodriguez

*Thank you!*

## Shopping Spree

(continued from page 1)

\$1,288.79 worth of approved food items with the help of Lauren Jernigan from Heses House. Representative Ugaste collected \$1,392.88 in non-perishable items, assisted by Lori Lancaster of the South Elgin Food Pantry.

Special thanks to Jewel-Osco and the Northern Illinois Food bank for their partnership in this Food Check-Out Week activity, sponsored by the KCFB Government Affairs Committee.

Photos, left to right:

Senator Oberweis is all smiles as his shopping spree bounty for Heses House in Aurora is tallied at check-out at the Batavia Jewel-Osco.

L-R: Representative Ugaste poses with Lori Lancaster, South Elgin Food Pantry representative, and Jeff Hopkins of Hopkins Ford in Elgin, who lent a Ford F150 Raptor pickup truck to transport the truckload of groceries to the South Elgin Food Pantry.



## Win a Pedal Tractor at Touch-A-Tractor

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation will draw the name of one lucky child to win a FREE pedal tractor at the conclusion of Touch-A-Tractor on April 19. Return the form below to KCFB by April 19 or sign up at Touch-A-Tractor, April 17, 18 and 19. The pedal tractor drawing is open only to children 8 and under. Entrant's name, age, and phone must appear on the form.

You can also receive one (1) additional entry to the FREE Pedal Tractor Drawing for each child or grandchild in your family by bringing non-perishable food items to Touch-A-Tractor. Food items will then be donated to a local food pantry. Winner need not be present to win.



Give your child or grandchild the chance to win a pedal tractor! In 2018, 5-year old Liam Sickafoose of St. Charles was the winner of the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation's Pedal Tractor Drawing at Touch-A-Tractor.

## Celebrate Agriculture and the coming of Spring!

15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

ADMISSION:  
A donation of  
\$2—Adults,  
\$5—Families  
or  
show a  
**VINTAGE TRUCK RAFFLE**  
ticket stub for FREE  
family admission all  
weekend long.



# Touch-A-Tractor

## Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION

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

### Bring the whole family!

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



### Friday-Sunday, April 17-19

Fri. 12 - 4  
Sat. 10 - 4  
Sun. 10 - 3

Kane County Farm Bureau  
Randall Road  
at Oak Street,  
St. Charles, IL

Bring non-perishable food items for an additional ticket for the free pedal-tractor drawing for kids 8 & under.

## VINTAGE TRUCK RAFFLE



Grand Prize:  
1969 Chevrolet C-10  
pickup truck

2nd prize: \$500 in groceries  
3rd prize: \$500 in fuel

Tickets:  
\$15 each / 2/\$25 / 5/\$50

Drawing 3pm,  
July 19 at Kane Co. Fair

### Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION Scholarship Awards

Join us April 19 as we congratulate these future agricultural industry leaders!



**KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU**

Farm. Family. Food.

Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION  
2N710 Randall Rd, St. Charles, IL 60174  
info@kanecfb.com 630-584-8660 www.kanecfb.com



Find us on Facebook

**FREE PEDAL TRACTOR DRAWING**  
*(For children 8 and under. Entrant's age must appear on the form below)*  
Please enter me in the Kane County Farm Bureau's FREE Pedal Tractor Drawing.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Return by Sunday, April 19 to: Kane County Farm Bureau,  
 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174