

# 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. 81 NO. 5 MAY 2016

## KCFB Foundation announces 16 scholars

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation will award over \$16,000 in scholarships this year to 16 future ag industry professionals. After a review of 30 applications, the Foundation Board of Directors has awarded 11 Foundation agricultural scholarships, one general scholarship, three memorial scholarships and one President's Scholarship.

"We had another wonderful group of students apply for scholarships this year," said Foundation Vice-President Wayne Schneider. "It is impressive what these students have already accomplished within agriculture, and we look forward to seeing what they will continue to contribute during their time in college and in their careers."

As a not-for-profit entity, the Foundation solicits and distributes private funding for scholarship, education and leadership training, Ag-in-the-Classroom

programs, Ag Literacy, charitable activities and research. The Foundation was established in 1986 by the Kane County Farm Bureau to carry out charitable work in the advancement of agricultural literacy and preparing students for careers in the agriculture industry. In its history, it has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in college scholarships and internships.

Foundation scholarship applications are submitted by Feb. 15 each year and recipients are announced in April. Prerequisites and more details on scholarship requirements are available at [www.kanecfb.com](http://www.kanecfb.com).

KCFB Foundation scholars were recognized at a ceremony at the conclusion of Touch-A-Tractor in April at Kane County Farm Bureau. The Foundation Board extends congratulations to these young leaders of tomorrow and best wishes in their academic pursuits.



KCFB Foundation scholars assembled at a ceremony concluding the 2016 Touch-A-Tractor event at Kane County Farm Bureau in April. Although many recipients are away at school and weren't able to attend, eight scholars were present for the ceremony. Pictured from left to right are: Joe White (KCFB Foundation President), Catherine Gorenz, Vanessa Gould, William Kuipers, Erin Gaitsch, Luke Dunteman, Susie Thompson, Brad Gorenz, Cynthia Roberg, and Wayne Schneider (KCFB Foundation Vice-President).

The following students received \$1,000 KCFB Foundation Scholarships. Their bios will be included in the June Kane County Farmer.

Brenton Bartelt  
Erik Dunteman  
Lauren Dunteman  
Grace Fabrizius  
Erin Gaitsch  
Catherine Gorenz

Vanessa Gould  
Erin Kettelkamp  
William Kuipers  
Allison Steininger  
Alicia Sunderlage  
Hannah Weirich

## Winner's Choice Tractor Raffle winners

The winners of the Winner's Choice Tractor Raffle were drawn on April 10 at Touch-A-Tractor. Volunteers sold over 1,400 tickets, totaling over \$12,050 for this year's raffle. The Winner's Choice Tractor Raffle is the Foundation's biggest fundraiser. Proceeds from the raffle helped the Foundation award 16 scholarships totaling over \$16,000 to local students pursuing degrees in agriculture-related fields. Thank you to all who sold and purchased tickets!

We would like to congratulate this year's winners:

**Grand prize: D.D. McLeod** of Mobile, Alabama. Choice of 1947 Farmall Super A, 1953

Farmall Super C, John Deere X300 riding mower, or \$2,500 cash.

**2nd prize: Eric Orlow** of Batavia – \$500 in groceries.

**3rd prize: Steve Haas** of Elburn – \$500 in fuel.

**4th prize: John Long** of Big Rock – \$250 in Kane County Farm Bureau bucks

The winner of the FREE Pedal Tractor Drawing was 5 year old Dylan Artingstall of Pingree Grove.

5 year old Dylan Artingstall of Pingree Grove is the winner of the free pedal tractor drawing.



### Gorenz receives President's Scholarship

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation has awarded its \$1,500 President's Scholarship to **Brad Gorenz**.

This honor is reserved for the high school senior among this year's applicants with the most outstanding combination of scholastics, activities, goals, and ACT score. Brad's parents are Edward and Anne Gorenz.

Brad is from Maple Park and attends Kaneland High School. He has been active in FFA and 4-H, science and Spanish clubs, and student council. He is on the Kaneland Honor Roll and National Honor Society.

Brad will attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign or UW Madison, majoring in

Agricultural and Biological Engineering. His passion for plants and genetics led him to select his major. In the future, he would like to improve the overall farming experience and improve agricultural sustainability by developing new and improved varieties of crops. Brad hopes to study abroad during his time in college.

### Dunteman awarded Buck Memorial Scholarship



The John Buck Memorial Scholarship is made possible by a generous gift from the family and friends of John Buck, who established the Buck Brothers, Inc. John Deere dealership in Hampshire in 1977.



Luke Dunteman has been awarded the Buck Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship provides \$1,000 for tuition and fees for students pursuing higher education in an agriculture related field.

This marks the 15th year the scholarship has been awarded to students in the seven county service area around the Buck Bros./J.W.Turf John Deere dealership in Hampshire. It is made possible by gifts from the family and friends of John Buck, who

established the company in 1977.

Luke is from Elburn and attends St. Charles North High School. He is active on the tennis and basketball teams, peer leadership club, math national honors society, and DECA business club. He has won several awards in tennis.

Luke is currently deciding where he will attend college, and will major in agricultural engineering. He desires to contribute to the agriculture industry and guarantee it continues developing at the rate it is today. His goal is to develop a higher understanding of agricultural equipment and work to continue advancing it. Luke's parents are Robert and Kelley Dunteman.

### Heckel-Blickle Memorial Scholarship awarded to UIUC grad student



Cynthia Roberg has been awarded the Mary L. Heckel-Blickle Memorial Scholarship. Cynthia is from St. Charles and is the daughter of Matthew and Marianne Roberg.

The Mary L. Heckel-Blickle Memorial Scholarship was started in 2015, and provides a \$1,000 college scholarship annually to a student who resides in Kane or Macon County Illinois. Mary's family established the scholarship to pay tribute to her farming legacy and promote the growth of the next generation of agricul-

(continued on page 4)

### DATES TO REMEMBER

May

**May 5**  
Board of Directors, 7:30pm

**May 6**  
IALF Candidate Interviews

**May 11**  
Women's Committee, 9:15am

**May 18-19**  
N. American Strategy Conf.,  
Animal Ag

**May 19**  
County Board Ag Committee,  
10:00 am

**May 30**  
Memorial Day – Office Closed

### May Featured Product

## Bratwurst & Hot Dog Combo

The special for May is a Brat & Hot Dog combo! This box contains 10 delicious award winning Inboden's bratwurst and 10 all beef Chicago Red Hot Frankfurters. A definite crowd pleaser at any cookout!

The member price is \$25.00, PLUS members \$24.00, and non-members \$29.00. Available at the Kane County Farm Bureau – Randall Rd and Oak Street in St. Charles – during the month of May or while supply lasts.

### CONNECT WITH US



YouTube

# KCFB Board Meeting

April 7

Multiple events took place before the start of the Kane County Farm Bureau Board Meeting. These events included: set up for Touch-A-Tractor and a brief Nominating Committee meeting. A dinner was provided for all volunteers who helped with setting up Touch-A-Tractor, for those who participated in the Nominating Committee, and for the Board members in attendance.

The April meeting of the Kane County Farm Bureau Board of Directors was called to order at 7:34 pm. Directors reported on several topics and events. Engel reported on his participation in the Leaders to Washington event which took place March 21-23. He noted that the legislators were impressed by the influence of IFB and their effectiveness of Action Requests. Arnold reported on the IFB & Affiliates Youth Conference held April 4-5 in East Peoria. Two FFA students from the Kaneland FFA chapter attended the Conference. White,

Kenyon, Schneider and Gehrke reported on the IFB Government Affairs Leadership Conference and the Legislative Reception held earlier in the week.

Committee Reports were delivered, including a report on plans for the 2016 Harvest for ALL campaign. Due to the fading, damages and cost of replacement for existing 4' x 4' signs, new Harvest for ALL signs will be 18" x 24" aluminum signs. Gehrke provided the Board an update on the Summer Nights campaign at Brookfield Zoo. The event will feature farm/food information at strategic locations in the zoo. The information booth will be near a beer garden, live music, and laser light show; and feature themed peek boards and a farm trivia wheel.

Joe White delivered the Foundation report. He stated that 16 scholarships were awarded to students this year. The scholarships were funded by donors via the Food>Forward Program. Food>Forward raises funds for classroom education about food and farming, and provides col-

lege scholarships to local students studying careers in agriculture.

FB Manager Steve Arnold delivered the Manager's Report. He thanked the Board for assistance with set-up for Touch-A-Tractor and encouraged Directors to volunteer whenever possible over the coming weekend. Tractor Raffle winners and Scholarship awards announcements will conclude this year's event on Sunday afternoon.

Correspondence was circulated including: Living Well Cancer Resource Center, requesting a Bridge Walk \$1,000 sponsorship; (approved), University of Illinois Extension seeking support for Kane County Fair trophies; (approved), Representative Steve Anderson thanking the KCFB for the Lunches to Legislators visit; and Susie Thompson thanking the KCFB for selecting her as the Charles Swanson Scholarship winner.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held Thursday, May 5 at 7:30 pm.

# Calling all teachers – Register for KCFB's SAI's

Once again, the KCFB Foundation has two exciting and educational tours planned for area teachers in June. This is an excellent opportunity to earn college graduate credits from Aurora University, as well as gather lots of lessons to take back to the classroom. Learn through hands-on experience and meet farmers for firsthand knowledge of today's agricultural best practices.

**Summer Ag Institute I is scheduled for June 13-17.**

Our very popular summer class is a week-long look at the many different facets of agriculture in Kane County. This is your chance to tour local farms, have time to speak with individual farmers, tour agri-businesses, see how agriculture affects your daily life, and network with other teachers. Discuss and become knowledgeable about GMO's, sustainability, organic practices, and other hot topics.

**Summer Ag Institute II is scheduled for June 28-July 1, and focuses on our hungry planet.**

Our earth's population will be over 9 billion in 2050. How will we feed our planet? Join our 4 day event focusing on our Hungry Planet. This class is being offered to graduates of any year's SAI I class. This is your chance to visit farms and businesses involved in feeding our hungry planet. Possible sites include a lock and dam site, research lab, ag industries, and food bank.

Please contact Suzi Meyers at 630-584-8660 for more information about the Summer Ag Institutes or to register.



Kane County Farm Bureau's Summer Ag Institutes are an excellent opportunity for teachers to learn about many aspects of agriculture and obtain ideas and lessons to take back to their classrooms.

There are two institutes offered – the first is open to anyone, and the second is open to graduates of the first class.

# Foundation support—make it a tradition

If there is a common theme on the pages of this month's Kane County Farmer, it is the reporting on activities, events and learning experiences that

would not be possible without the assistance of the Farm Bureau's not-for-profit charitable and educational Foundation. It took no great behind-the-scenes coordination to make it so. The KCFB Foundation has become so important to the programming and outreach



By Steve Arnold, Manager Kane County Farm Bureau

efforts of our Association that reports on any community service, educational or leadership development program or activity, in any month, are likely to include at least a passing reference to the Foundation as the entity providing funds to make it possible.

In its early years, the KCFB Foundation concentrated almost exclusively on college scholarships. That is still the primary focus today. In its 26 years it has provided over \$400,000 in tuition assistance to local students studying for careers in agriculture. But like any charitable organization, the identified needs have grown and the Foundation and Farm Bureau members have responded.

Today, in addition to college scholarships, the KCFB Foundation supports a wide variety of youth education and lead-

ership development experiences by helping students with registration, application and participation fees. Included among those are the Illinois Farm Bureau

(IFB) Youth Conference for FFA members, IFB Young Leader Conference for FB members 18-35, IFB Young Leader Ag Tours, the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation and unrestricted annual grants to area FFA Chapters.

The Foundation has also stepped up its efforts in the community through an annual contribution to the University of Illinois Extension, support for local 4-H clubs at the Kane County Fair and through coordination of what is arguably the most successful Harvest for ALL program conducted by any County Farm Bureau in America.

However, perhaps the most significant contributions the Foundation makes are those to agricultural education and literacy. The Foundation is the sole supporter of the KCFB's annual AgDays at Mooseheart for 1,000+ students, Summer Ag Institutes I and II for Teachers, and the ever popular and recently concluded Touch-A-Tractor. Through the generosity of the Bob Konen family, the Foundation also conducts an annual "SPROUTS" in-classroom reading program for 1,500

3rd graders and donates farm themed books to local public libraries.

In order to continue these programs and build capacity for future scholarships, the Foundation has embarked on its first ever "direct-mail" fundraising campaign. An appeal to KCFB members for assistance in helping us fund more college scholarships for deserving students was mailed in late April.

I hope that you will review some of the accomplishments of the Foundation on these pages and in the "Annual Report to Donors and Contributors" on page 8. I also hope you will consider making a donation to support and continue the Foundation's good works in our community – for the future of farms and food.

For more information, go to [www.kanegives.org](http://www.kanegives.org).



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

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

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

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE											
OCTOBER 2015 THRU SEPTEMBER 2016											
	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG. SEP.
C. BRADLEY	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
F. CARLSON	X	X	X		X		X				
B. COLLINS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
C. COLLINS				X	X	X	X				
J. ENGEL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
G. GAITSCH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
B. GEHRKE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
W. KECK	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
M. KENYON	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
K. KETTLEKAMP	X	X		X	X	X	X				
D. LEHRER	X		X	X	X	X	X				
N. LONG	X	X	X		X	X	X				
D. PITSTICK	X	X	X		X	X	X				
W. SCHNEIDER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
J. WHITE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

**Kane County Farmer**  
**KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
**PUBLISHED MONTHLY**  
 Steven J. Arnold, Editor  
 Suzi Myers, Ag Literacy Coordinator  
 Audre Pack, Training Specialist  
 Elizabeth Polovin, Member Services Coordinator  
 Carolyn Gehrke, Interim Communications Consultant  
 Valerie Johnson, Administrative & Program Assistant  
**OFFICE: Randall Rd. between Routes 64 & 38**  
**Address: 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles**  
**PHONE: 630-584-8660**  
**info@kanecfb.com www.kanecfb.com**  
**OFFICE HOURS: 8:30-5:00 Monday through Friday**  
**(USPS No. 289700)**  
**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Kane County Farmer**  
**2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL 60174**  
**Periodical Postage • Paid to St. Charles, IL 60174**  
**Year Subscription: \$2.00**

<p>■ <b>DISTRICT 1</b>  <b>Aurora, Sugar Grove, Big Rock Twnshp.</b>  <b>Nan Long</b>                  11461 E. County Line Rd.                  Big Rock, IL 60511                  815-693-7214</p>	<p><b>Joe White</b>  <b>President</b>                  47W727 Main St. Rd.                  Elburn, IL 60119                  630-557-2517</p>	<p><b>Mike Kenyon</b>  <b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>                  1250 E. Main St.                  South Elgin, IL 60177                  847-741-1818</p>
<p><b>Donna Lehrer</b>                  7S027 Jericho Rd.                  Big Rock, IL 60511                  630-556-3476</p>	<p>■ <b>DISTRICT 3</b>  <b>Virgil, Campton, St. Charles Twnshp.</b>  <b>Frank Carlson</b>                  104 Sumac Court                  St. Charles, IL 60174                  630-513-9980</p>	<p><b>Craig Bradley</b>                  37W791 Orchard Lane                  Elgin, IL 60124                  847-888-2380</p>
<p><b>William Keck</b>                  P.O. Box 281                  Sugar Grove, IL 60554                  630-466-4668</p>	<p><b>Chris Collins</b>                  1143 Anderson                  Elburn, IL 60119                  630-934-4642</p>	<p>■ <b>DISTRICT 5</b>  <b>Hampshire, Rutland, Dundee Twnshp.</b>  <b>Joe Engel</b>                  516 Sawgrass Ln.                  Hampshire, IL 60140                  847-347-5561</p>
<p>■ <b>DISTRICT 2</b>  <b>Kaneville, Blackberry, Gen./Bat. Twnshp.</b>  <b>Bill Collins</b>                  1125 Lewis Rd.                  Geneva, IL 60134                  630-484-6852</p>	<p><b>Dale Pitstick</b>                  128 N Hadsall St.                  Geneva, IL 60135                  630-816-0223</p>	<p><b>Gerald Gaitsch</b>                  10613 Brittany Ave.                  Huntley, IL 60142                  847-669-2003</p>
<p><b>Karl Kettelkamp</b>                  OS860 Rowe Rd.                  Elburn, IL 60119                  630-365-2713</p>	<p>■ <b>DISTRICT 4</b>  <b>Burlington, Plato Elgin Twnshp.</b>  <b>Beth Gehrke</b>                  12N860 US Hwy. 20                  Elgin, IL 60124                  847-697-2538</p>	<p><b>Wayne Schneider</b>  <b>Vice President</b>                  721 Lindsay Lane                  West Dundee, IL 60118                  847-428-0488</p>

Your Farm Bureau membership means **VALUE**

**Beef store is now open!**  
**By appointment only**

**farmdirectBLACKANGUS.com**

100% hormone free beef.  
 Selling individual cuts. Buy as little or as much as you want.

**815.895.4691**  
 Mark & Linda Schramer, Owners  
 8N840 Lakin Road, Maple Park

**Sample Packs make great gifts!**

# AG LITERACY CORNER

By Suzi Myers



## KANE COUNTY FARMER

and also the county fair. Some of these interns were also recipients of scholarships awarded by the Foundation.

One of the special projects that the Foundation administers for the community is Harvest for ALL. They sponsored the Million Meal Challenge, reached in 2013 and are still supporting local food pantries. Many farmers donate the proceeds from an acre of their farm land. Supporters also give crops or money to the program. Reaching out to those who need help is the basis of this program ... seeing it supported as greatly as it is by the farmers and our community, is heartwarming. Part of this vision is the shopping spree, where 2 governmental representatives have 5 minutes to pile their shopping carts full of foods needed by their chosen food pantries ... the Foundation then pays for all these carts of groceries.

Now to the programs that educate the students, teachers and general public about agriculture that the Foundation supports. The oldest of these programs is Ag Days. We just celebrated our 32nd Ag Days. Thirty-two years of teaching 4th graders about agriculture. The program has changed by including more hands on activities, games, and interactive ways of learning. However, the basis is the same ... how does agriculture touch you in your daily lives?

## Thanks for your support

The KCFB Foundation offers its sincere appreciation to the following for their contributions to our community service, education and scholarship programs. Names shown are pledges made as of March 15, 2016 and not previously recognized.



**Donor:**  
Craig and Angela Bradley  
**Beneficiary:**  
Food for Greater Elgin

Coming next in program longevity is the Summer Agricultural Institutes for Teachers. To do this program, it takes a lot of behind the scenes funding. As I stated before, many times we have an intern that helps with all the busy work of running this program. All the supplies for the program are funded by the Foundation.

Touch-A-Tractor is next on the list as length of time the program has been offered. The success of this popular program would not be possible without the Foundation underwriting the costs.

SPROUTS is in its 8th year. Every spring, volunteers visit 3rd grade classrooms to read *The Heartland* and talk about agriculture throughout the year. Each teacher is left with a book for their classroom library and activities for their students. These books, as well as the books that are available for check out from our library, are financed through donations by the family of Bob Konen. The

Foundation was receptive to the idea of Bob Konen and Dean Dunn many years ago that the Farm Bureau have a library for the members and help with the financing of this library.

How can you help support the Foundation? You could purchase a raffle ticket on sale prior to Touch-A-Tractor, visit our booth at the county fair and purchase something (the bucket raffles are lots of fun), purchase tickets for the 31 Days of Christmas, or simply make a donation to the Foundation.

Now more than ever, we need to educate our children as to where their food, fibers and fuel come from. Most children are at least two generations away from family farming. Today there are so many misconceptions about farming and what certain terms mean. Without the support of the Foundation, the message would not be spread throughout our county. My THANKS to all the Foundation members and the public that supports them.

In the past, when I've done a public thank you in my byline, it has always been to the wonderful volunteers that make my program possible. These volunteers make Ag Days a special day for our 4th graders; they will go into classes during the SPROUTS program to read to 3rd graders and explain what farming means here in the heartland; they share their knowledge of agriculture to my Summer Agricultural Institute teachers; and of course, help out at Touch-A-Tractor. Without the volunteers, these programs

would cease to exist ... I thank them for all that they do.

As important as the volunteers are, another behind-the-scenes group that provides support is the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation.

Each year the Foundation awards scholarships to college students who are pursuing careers in agriculture, as well as provides funding for internship programs at the Farm Bureau. These interns have been a very welcome addition to our office staff. Summer interns help with the Summer Teacher Classes

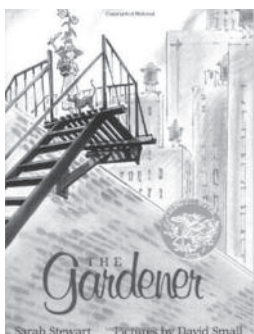
## Book of the month

This story is set during the depression and told through letters written by the main character, Lydia Grace. Lydia's father lost his job, so she has to go live with her uncle in the city. Uncle Jim is a grumpy man who owns a bakery. Lydia's goal is to make Uncle Jim smile.

Lydia brought some seeds with her to the city and planted the window boxes, then planted more in anything she could find. Lydia also learned how to bake, made friends with many of the customers and shared seeds and plants with them. Uncle Jim's customers increased greatly because of the beauty of the plants and the sweetness of Lydia Grace.

The book is a simple read, yet has a powerful message. The illustrations are well done and convey the message of the story well.

It is the perfect time of the year to share this book with the children in your life. It is available for check out at our library. Thanks to a request years ago by Bob Konen and Dean Dunn that Kane County Farm Bureau start a library of agriculturally themed books for public use, we have an ever growing selection of titles. Feel free to come in to browse in our library and to check out books of interest.



*The Gardener*  
by Sarah Stewart

**DONALD J. FEE, DDS**  
FAMILY DENTAL CARE  
26 W. CROSS ST. SUGAR GROVE DONALDFEEDDS.COM  
630-466-4511



## MILK: Most Requested, Rarely Donated

**\$60 helps provide a gallon of milk each week for a year to a hungry family**

Help Northern Illinois Food Bank's Milk2MyPlateProgram provide nutritious, fresh milk to hungry families.

Donate at [SolveHungerToday.org/Dairy](http://SolveHungerToday.org/Dairy)



## American Planning Assoc. honors KCPC with National Planning Award

The Kane County Planning Cooperative (KCPC) was recognized at the American Planning Association's annual conference as a recipient of a National Planning Achievement Award for a Best Practice. The awards jury recognized six Achievement Award recipients as examples of good planning work. Some of the other Achievement Award recipients included the City of Los Angeles, Buffalo Niagara Region of New York and Metro Manila of the Philippines. Kane County was honored collectively with the other recipients during the National Planning Conference awards luncheon. On April 12, 2016 APA Membership Director Karl Schmidt presented the Achievement Award to the Kane County Board, calling the county a "national role model" for "innovative collaboration across county departments."

Launched in 2012, the KCPC serves as the county's inter-departmental working group tasked with carrying out the

Kane County 2040 Plan, "Healthy People, Healthy Living, Healthy Communities." The KCPC consists of planning practitioners representing the county's health, transportation and development departments, ensuring that community health is at the core of land use and transportation planning projects. In addition to hosting policy and training workshops, the KCPC works directly with municipal jurisdictions providing staff support for local planning projects. With over 1,200 subscribers, the Cooperative monthly newsletter is a resource for planning practitioners across the region, sharing training workshops, grant opportunities and highlights of recent publications.

For more information about the county's National Achievement Award or the Planning Cooperative, contact Matt Tansley, Land Use Planner with the Development and Community Services Department.

*Kane County Development Department staffers (l-r) Matt Tansley, Land Use Planner; Janice Hill, Executive Planner and Farmland Protection Manager and Mark VanKerkhoff, Development and Community Services Director display the 2016 APA Achievement Award for Best Practice on the steps of the County building following the April County Board meeting.*



## IFB needs your input!

The following message is from the Illinois Farm Bureau.

As an Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) member, we are asking for your help. Some changes are coming to the IFB website and we would like your input so that we can keep you informed in a manner most convenient to you.

Please take our quick survey. The results will be used to evaluate the website and make decisions regarding content and layout. We are also interested in learning if you use a mobile device, the ILFB App, and the website's Member Center.

Go to [ilfb.org/survey](http://ilfb.org/survey) or click on the "Quick Link" survey button on the IFB home page. If you have any questions, contact Ted Jankowski at [tjankowski@ilfb.org](mailto:tjankowski@ilfb.org) or 309-557-3119.

# Touch-A-Tractor connects the suburbs with farmers

Despite some chilly spring weather, hundreds of families and dozens of faithful volunteers enjoyed the 11th Annual Touch-A-Tractor in April. Touch-A-Tractor is an annual tradition for many families and a perfect way to welcome spring and learn about agriculture and how farmers provide food for a growing population. Machinery on display included small antique tractors, large modern equipment, a steam engine, lawn equipment, and skid steers. Visitors of all ages enjoyed seeing baby chicks, goats, sheep, and a calf. Other attractions included a balloon artist, face painting, the Moo-gician, Scoopie from Culvers, Kuipers Apple Pickin' "Ramblin Race," book readings, movies, and a toy tractor corral.

Touch-A-Tractor visitors helped raise college scholarship funds for the KCFB Foundation through the Winner's Choice Tractor Raffle. This year, the Foundation awarded 16 students with scholarships to assist them in pursuing careers in agriculture.

1. A red Holstein calf was part of the animal zoo, which is always a popular attraction at Touch-A-Tractor. Visitors also enjoyed seeing sheep.
2. Like every year, the chicks were some of the biggest stars at Touch-A-Tractor. Kids and parents alike enjoyed petting and learning about chicks.
3. Kids could pretend to be farmers for a minute when volunteers helped them climb into the combine and sit in the driver's seat.
4. Cecilia Nass demonstrated how to use an antique corn sheller.
5. Many families enjoyed the opportunity to take pictures with farm equipment!
6. Volunteers were on hand to sell Winner's Choice Raffle tickets to support the Foundation's scholarship funds.
7. The Moogician visited Touch-A-Tractor for the first time, and performed a strolling music show and a magic show.
8. Kids were excited to see Scoopie™ from Culvers, who handed out coupons each day for scoops of ice cream.
9. Tom Runty brought his steam engine to Touch-A-Tractor and answered questions the whole weekend.
10. Sugar Grove farmer Bruce Nagel supplied the modern farm equipment.



## Scholarships

(continued from page 1)  
tural leaders.

Cynthia attended Blackburn College where she graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors, and is currently a graduate student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is pursuing a doctorate of veterinary medicine with a specialization in large animal veterinary medicine. She hopes to contribute to agriculture by providing medical care to livestock in rural areas, and plans to eventually open her own practice.

Cynthia is a member of Omega Tau Sigma, American Association of Equine Practitioners, Production Medicine club, Student American Veterinary Medical Association, Veterinary Business Management Association, and Diagnostic Imaging club. She is on the U of I CVM Dean's List, and was previously on Blackburn College's Dean's list. Cynthia was involved in 4-H, American Buckskin Registry Association, Fox Valley Saddle Association, and American Quarter Horse Association. She also volunteered for Kane County Farm Bureau at Touch-A-Tractor.

### Swanson Memorial Scholarship awarded to State FFA Officer

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation named **Susie Thompson** of Maple Park as the

recipient of the \$1,000 Chuck Swanson Memorial Scholarship. Susie is the daughter of Michael and Jennifer Thompson.

The Chuck Swanson Memorial Scholarship was established by the family and friends of the former Farm Bureau Director and long-time volunteer to provide awards for students residing in Kane County pursuing a degree in an agriculture-related career field.

After graduating from Burlington-Central High School and attending Joliet Junior College for one year, Susie served as the 2015-16 State Secretary for the Illinois Association FFA. She was also very active in FFA during high school, serving as president, vice president, and secretary for Section 6, and as president and secretary for Burlington-Central FFA. Susie received numerous awards within FFA, including Top 10 Illinois FFA Section President, the American FFA Degree, Outstanding Senior FFA member, Most Active FFA member, and the State FFA Degree.

Susie was also active in 4-H, the Joliet Junior College Student Agriculture Association Member, and CHS Student Council.

Susie will attend Illinois State University to obtain a degree in Agriculture Education. Her goal is to educate her future students on the importance of agriculture, and expose them to the wide range of careers within the agricultural field.

## Helping you protect what matters most

 <b>Bob Effner</b> St. Charles – Elgin Agency Manager St. Charles 630-584-0001	 <b>Paima Chitambo</b> Geneva 630-262-1059	 <b>Dominick Davero</b> Elburn 630-365-3737
 <b>Bobbi Boston</b> St. Charles 630-485-5155	 <b>Steve Spoerl, Jr.</b> Geneva 630-262-1059	 <b>Bob Riedel</b> West Dundee 847-428-5434
 <b>Keith Eakins</b> St. Charles 630-762-1324	 <b>Elvia Estrada</b> Geneva 630-262-1059	 <b>Gary Bolger</b> West Dundee 847-531-6110
 <b>Todd Wilcox</b> St. Charles 630-762-1326	 <b>Joseph Lynam</b> Geneva 630-262-1059	 <b>Dan Cooper</b> Sugar Grove 630-466-9600
 <b>Donna Tonovitz</b> St. Charles 630-549-7694	 <b>Michael O'Brien</b> Geneva 630-762-0852	 <b>Sonny Ellen</b> Sugar Grove 630-466-9600
 <b>Orazio Difruscolo</b> St. Charles 630-549-7696	 <b>Bob Kearns</b> S. Elgin 847-888-3200	 <b>Ted Schuster</b> Sugar Grove 630-466-9600
 <b>Ashraf Aghes</b> Aurora 630-898-3750	 <b>Luke Fawkes</b> Elgin 847-742-0001	 <b>Josh Austin</b> Hampshire 847-683-2100
 <b>Edward Stuehm</b> Geneva 630-845-8245	 <b>Jonathan Gonzalez</b> Elgin 847-742-0001	 <b>Chuck Quick</b> Hampshire 847-683-2100
 <b>Rowena Ortac</b> Geneva 630-262-1059	 <b>Sherry Lochen</b> Elgin 847-742-0001	 <b>David Murray</b> Montgomery 630-897-2364
	 <b>Sherri Schramer</b> Elburn 630-365-9500	

Your Farm Bureau membership means **Value**



# Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Suzi Myers



## Salad

If you would like to plant lettuce in your garden this year, here are some hints from Kiddie Garden.com for you to keep in mind.

### Lettuce likes:

- Spring, when the frost has passed and the days are getting warmer.
- A shady spot in the hotter months, especially in the middle of summer. Planting in the shade of tomato plants or cucumbers is a good idea.
- Fertile and well-draining soil, with organic matter added recently.
- Radishes, strawberries and cucumbers.

### Lettuce dislikes:

- Getting too hot in full sunshine during the summer. They dislike it so much, they might try to bolt!
- Being watered in the evening, as it tends to make them more prone to disease. Water them in the morning instead.
- Overcrowding – thin them out to the right distance for the lettuce variety as soon as the true leaves appear.
- Slugs and snails! Slugs will love you for growing lettuce, but lettuces don't like slugs and snails! Protect them from slug attack as soon as they pop up.

Q: Where do cucumbers go for a date?

A: The salad bar.

Q: What is a kayaker's favorite kind of lettuce?

A: Row-maine

Q: What did the salad say to the dressing?

A: Lettuce be friends.



May is National Salad Month. There are so many varieties of salads: classic leaf lettuce salad, bound salads such as tuna and pasta salad, fruit salads, layered salads, main dish salads ... National Salad Month is a great time to take a look at the nutritional benefits of the traditional main ingredient in salad – lettuce.

Lettuce is full of healthy nutrients. It is a good source of vitamins A, K, and C, as well as folate and minerals such as iron, calcium, magnesium, and potassium. 100 grams of fresh lettuce provides just 15 calories, which is an added bonus. Regularly eating lettuce has been shown to prevent osteoporosis, iron-deficiency anemia, cardiovascular diseases, Alzheimer's disease, and cancers. It also improves digestion.

While iceberg is traditionally the favorite lettuce in the United States, Romaine lettuce has been shown to have much higher nutritional values. Romaine has less sugars and sodium, twice the protein and calcium, three times the vitamin K, four times the iron, eight times the vitamin C, and 17 times the vitamin A. Generally, the darker the leaf, the healthier the lettuce.

Lettuce can be classified into four main categories:

**Romaine:** Also known as Cos, as it supposedly originated on the Greek island of Cos. Romaine is a head lettuce with deep green, long leaves that is sweet and crunchy.

**Crisphead:** A head lettuce with a crisp texture and watery, mild taste. It has green leaves on the outside and whiter leaves on the inside. Iceberg is the most popular variety of crisphead lettuce.

**Butterhead:** The leaves of this loose head lettuce are long, green, and sweet. The best known varieties are Boston and Bibb.

**Leaf:** Leaf lettuces are more delicate in both taste and texture. They have broad, often curly leaves. The best known varieties are green leaf and red leaf.

Why not celebrate national salad month and take advantage of salad's health benefits by trying out a few new salad recipes?

## Spring into summer with savory & sweet salads

### Salad in a Jar

This is a convenient way to take a salad to work or school. Easy to prepare ahead – just grab and go the next day. There are endless ways to make this – if you have kids, have some fun with them creating colorful layers or cutting out vegetables in shapes.

**Step 1:** Pour dressing into a mason jar. Note – dressing can also be stored in a separate small container if preferred.

**Step 2:** Add vegetables to the jar. Start with the hardest vegetables, especially if using salad dressing in the jar – this keeps the more delicate ingredients



Photo from www.blueribbonfoods.com

from getting soggy.

**Step 3:** Add meat, if desired.

**Step 4:** Add additional toppings such as cheeses, nuts, fruits, etc. Put croutons in a separate container to maximize their freshness.

**Step 5:** Add leafy greens and seal jar tightly.

Turn the jar over approximately 5 minutes before eating to allow dressing to mix in. Enjoy!

Here are some combination ideas:

- Spinach salad – strawberries, blueberries, feta cheese, spinach, sliced almonds, and poppyseed dressing.
- Caprese salad – tomatoes, fresh mozzarella, basil, fresh spring greens, and oil/balsamic vinaigrette.
- Mexican salad – black beans, cooked corn, tomatoes, shredded cheddar cheese, green leaf lettuce, shredded iceberg lettuce, tortilla chips, cilantro leaves, and ranch.
- Chopped salad – cherry tomatoes, green pepper, red onion,

crumbled bacon, chopped chicken, ditalini pasta, gorgonzola bleu cheese, chopped romaine lettuce, croutons, and desired dressing.

• Pasta salad – tomatoes, black olives, tuna, rotini pasta, parmesan cheese, and Caesar dressing.

### Fruit Pizza

Looking for a fun way to make a fruit salad with kids? Try this creative variation!

### Ingredients

Seedless watermelon  
Fruits such as blueberries, raspberries, sliced strawberries, sliced bananas, sliced kiwi, etc.  
Slice the watermelon in quarter triangular slices. Top the slices with your desired fruits. Make sure to slice any large fruit into smaller pieces.

May is: \* \* \* \* \*

ALS Awareness Month  
Mental Health Awareness Month  
Military Appreciation Month

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 2-6

Wildflower Week – May 2-8

**National**  
Asparagus Month  
Barbeque Month  
Bike Month  
Egg Month  
Hamburger Month  
Photograph Month  
Physical Fitness & Sports Month  
Salad Month  
Strawberry Month

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

CAESAR  
CHEESE  
CHOPPED  
COBB  
CROUTONS

CUCUMBER  
DIGESTION  
DRESSING  
EGGS

FIBER  
HEALTHY  
INGREDIENTS  
LEAF  
NUTRITION

ONION  
PASTA  
ROMAINE  
SALAD

SPINACH  
SUNFLOWERS  
TOMATOES  
TUNA  
VITAMINS

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return to the Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 by Monday, May 16, 2016 for your chance to win a bag of goodies!

### Congratulations

**Justin Hermann**, whose name was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's "Nutrition" word search. April's prize was The Farming Game: Harvest the Fun! May's prize will be salad themed. Thank you for reading the Kane County Farmer and continue to watch each month for a chance to win a prize.

# ALOT helps ag leaders of today

Illinois Farm Bureau® created “Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow” (ALOT), an agricultural leadership development program designed to give participants a head start on tackling tomorrow’s responsibilities.

Seventeen IFB members representing ten counties have suc-

cessfully completed the 37th ALOT program. Heather Pierson, Carolyn Gehrke, and Wayne Gehrke represented Kane County. The 2016 ALOT sessions were held in Oglesby, St Charles, Morris, Yorkville, Springfield, and Bloomington. To date, 1,102 participants have

graduated from the program.

The nine-week training program allows participants to study and develop leadership skills in the areas of communication, political process, agricultural economics, and global issues. The 2017 ALOT program will be held in West Central Illinois.



Left: The 2016 Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow (ALOT) class recently completed the 2 month program.



Left: Kane County had three Young Farmers participate in ALOT this year. Pictured (left to right) are Randy Poskin, IAA District 6 Director; Wayne Gehrke; Carolyn Gehrke; Heather Pierson; and Steve Stallman, IAA District 16 Director.

## ALOT – Becoming a voice for Ag

By Carolyn Gehrke

I really enjoy leadership programs, especially those focused on agriculture. This winter, I participated in Illinois Farm Bureau’s renowned Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow (ALOT) program, which educates participants in multiple aspects of becoming a better voice for agriculture. ALOT was founded in 1979, and 1102 individuals have since graduated from the program. Both of my parents graduated from ALOT, and there was one participant this year who is now a third generation graduate in her family.

ALOT held 12 day-long sessions over nine weeks with 17 participants. The program kicked off with an orientation at Starved Rock State Park, where we got to know one another through various ice-breaker activities and a business etiquette dinner.

Our second week was the first time we met for two days. The sessions focused on effective communication and confident public speaking. We also took a test to discover our temperament styles and learned how to improve communication between each of the four styles.

The sessions over the next three weeks covered a wide variety of topics. They included training on a wide variety of social media, building coalitions, local government structures, working with the media, food trends, agriculture advocacy, and a writing workshop. Many of the session presenters were local ag advocates, employees of IFB affiliates, and Illinois Farm Bureau employees who constantly work in these specific areas.

During the first week of March, we had the opportunity to spend two days in Springfield. We attended the Legislative Ag Breakfast, participated in round table discussions with former State Senator Duane Noland and current State Senator Sue Rezin, toured the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, toured the capital building, and learned about campaigning and legislative processes.

The next two weeks gave us opportunities to analyze our personal results of the Strengths

Finder 2.0 test, learn how to efficiently run a meeting, receive updates on U.S. agriculture in the global economy, and learn about agricultural policies worldwide and their impact on competitiveness.

Throughout the program, each participant was required to give two speeches. We were also divided into four groups, and each group created a group project throughout the two months, which was then presented to the IFB Board of Directors during our last session. The group project topics were on social media etiquette training for youth, the future of Farm Bureau membership and potential changes, reconnecting farmers and consumers, and new ways Farm Bureau can reach out to younger generations.

The last two days of ALOT began with a discussion on current agricultural challenges and the future of Illinois Farm Bureau with IFB President Rich Guebert Jr. The rest of the first day focused primarily on interna-

tional topics, including agricultural ties to Mexican immigration in the U.S, and agriculture challenges and policies in China, Africa, and Brazil. We were also given overviews of COUNTRY Financial and GROWMARK. Our last day was a session led by Bryan Dodge, a nationally recognized author and speaker on leadership and successful work-family balance. ALOT concluded with a graduation ceremony attended by the two IFB directors serving on the ALOT advisory committee.

On behalf of myself and the other ALOT participants from Kane County, Heather Pierson and Wayne Gehrke, I would like to thank the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, Conserv FS, and GROWMARK for their financial assistance in sponsoring our participation in ALOT. As ALOT graduates, we are more prepared to continue our leadership roles within agriculture, and sincerely appreciate the investment.

## Ream’s Meat Market opens new location

Ream’s Meat Market, located in downtown Elburn, opened their new location on March 29.

An old-fashioned, family owned business, they offer a large selection of products, including smoked and cooked sausages, jerky and snack stix, fresh meat and sausage, wieners, lunchmeats, bacon, ham, various smoked whole muscle meats, charcuterie, pulled pork, and Italian beef.

Ream’s has become well known throughout the Chicago area for their award winning sausages and

smoked meats. Randy has won over 200 awards in state and national competitions, and was inducted into the Cured Meat Hall of Fame in 2000.

The new store is located just south of the train tracks in Elburn, at 250 S. Main St (Rt 47).



**M.A.R.S., Inc.**  
**Starters - Alternators Generators**  
 HIGH QUALITY FAST TURN AROUND  
 Automotive • Agricultural • Construction  
 Lawn Equipment • RVs • Motorcycles  
 High Amp Alternators  
**1-800-TEC-CITY**  
 815-756-9019 800-832-2489  
 DENSO BOSCH HITACHI MITSUBA MAGNETI MARELLI DELCO Remy Valeo  
 No time to have your unit rebuilt? Call for 100% NEW units

## TOUCH-A-TRACTOR - VOLUNTEERS MADE IT HAPPEN

By Val Johnson



If you weren’t able to attend Touch-A-Tractor this year, you definitely missed an exciting event. Touch-A-Tractor provides a unique look at the machines farmers use to grow the world’s food. Not only did I have the privilege to be a part of the event this year, I had an inside look on how Kane County Farm Bureau’s volunteers simply know how to make this event happen.

If you remember seeing something exciting, you can be pretty sure a volunteer helped set up or run it. There were many enjoyable parts of the event – an impressive display of antique and modern equipment, live farm animals, a tractor tire “sandbox” filled with corn, a tire swing, raffle ticket sales that raised funds for agriculture education, and food fresh from the grill. The Farm Bureau office was converted into a center for agriculture education, which included the documentary “Farmland,” farming music

videos by The Peterson Brothers, and puzzles and games for children. Parents and children alike were able to touch baby chicks and learn about their development inside the egg, all with the help of knowledgeable and eager volunteers.

The purpose of many volunteers was to educate the public about the exciting field of agriculture, and to help them view farming from the perspective of a farmer, all while having fun. Growing the world’s food is no easy task, and we hope you learned a bit about what farmers do while viewing their equipment before the busy planting season begins. Look for farmers driving tractors in their fields soon. You may even see a tractor that you or your child took a picture with! Please remember, never go near operating machinery, and have patience when behind slow moving farm machinery. We hope to see you back at Touch-A-Tractor next year!

*Thank you...*

Many volunteers contribute to the success of Touch-A-Tractor. The bringing together of families, the smiles on the faces of the kids ... and the farmers, who are rightly proud of their profession, made it all worthwhile! Kane County Farm Bureau and our Foundation offer thanks to the following individuals for making equipment available, for demonstrations, help with set-up and staffing during the event and otherwise assisting in the success of this farm-city relations program. We apologize to anyone we inadvertently omitted. Without your help, Touch-A-Tractor would not be possible.

- |                  |                    |   |
|------------------|--------------------|---|
| Maura Anderson   | Bill Keck          | Mike Pappas                             |
| Julia Barnes     | Mike Kenyon        | Heather Pierson                         |
| Craig Bradley    | Jackson Kettelkamp | Trent Pierson                           |
| Frank Carlson    | Karl Kettelkamp    | Dale Pitstick                           |
| Paima Chitambo   | William Kuipers    | Tom Runty                               |
| Bill Collins     | Rich Leasure       | Wayne Schneider                         |
| Chris Collins    | Andy Lenkaitis     | Sydney Seritella                        |
| Flo D’Angelo     | Sarah Lenkaitis    | T.R. Smith                              |
| Chloe Daufenbach | Kathy Lindstedt    | Stevi Steorts                           |
| Beth Engel       | Shemy Lochen       | Krysie Swanson                          |
| Joe Engel        | Nan Long           | Jake Thompson                           |
| Ryan Ford        | Jarod Metz         | Joe Vyskocil                            |
| Gerald Gaitsch   | Hannah Mitchell    | Doug Walls                              |
| Beth Gehrke      | Bruce Nagel        | Joe White                               |
| Bob Gehrke       | Greg Nagel         | American Agricultural Insurance Company |
| Wayne Gehrke     | Cecilia Nass       | Burlington Central FFA                  |
| Lisa Geisler     | Jim Nass           | COUNTRY Financial                       |
| Joe Gorenz       | Paul Nepermann     | Kaneland FFA                            |
| Dan Heinrich     | Sue Nepermann      |   |
| Louise Johnson   | Jim O’Connell      |   |



### Recycle Scrap for CASH

Steel, Copper, Aluminum & Cars

Trucking & Dumpster Service Available

“Helping to keep America Picked up for 45 years”

Zimmerman Recycling, Inc.  
301 Industrial Drive, DeKalb  
(815) 756.8600

**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.

**FOR SALE**

Alfalfa grass hay – large 3x3x8 and 3x4x8 bales – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd cuttings. Nutrient content available upon request. Call: 847-436-2538

Portable Hutchinson Drive Over Grain Pit, 4 years old, \$8,500. Call: 847 436 2538

**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

Farm site demolition & clean up. New horse barns with underground utilities and earthwork. Drainage tiles, pasture mowing,

spraying, new seeding, inter seeding & fence installation. We follow SIU Plant & Soil Science Practices. 10% discount for Farm Bureau members, 5% if you mention this add! Berning Earthwork Inc., Tom Berning 630-330-9970, BerningEarthWorks@comcast.net; Galusha Farms, Steve Berning, 630-878-6350, steve@GalushaFarm.com. Call: 630-330-9970

Do you need property improvements? I can save you money. Windows, doors, cabinets, basement finishing. More than handy man. I have more than 40 years experience and work for very reasonable rates, even if you purchased your materials at the "big box" stores. Get your projects done by calling Al – call: 630 453 2447

Tree Pruning & Removal in North/Central Kane & Dupage Counties – www.ArborJoe.com – ISA Certified Arborist. Call Joe, (224) 789-8773.

**WANTED**

Will pick up for free unwanted or old snowmobiles. Call Jon: 630-254-9446

Want to buy vintage & used tools Call Chris, 630 550 7182

High School Boy to help with garden & yard work. Call: 630 584 3274

**WOMEN'S CORNER**

By Louise Johnson  
Women's Committee Chair



**Happy May Day!** And May the Fourth be with you! (A little 'groaner' for Star Wars fans.) Look below for the Women's Committee announcement about our June 23rd luncheon. Our

featured speaker is "Harry, The Beekeeper." There are a limited number of seats, so call soon. Did you ever make Honey Butter? It is delicious with biscuits, rolls, scones, waffles/

**Attention farmers: Nutrient loss testing**

Testing your tile, ditch or stream water for nitrates is an important part of your conservation efforts on your farm. After all, if you don't know what you're losing, it's hard to know how to keep it for your crops.

A nutrient testing program for nitrates in runoff is being conducted throughout the state. Water will be tested at the DeKalb Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) office.

The DeKalb County SWCD office will perform water testing on the water sample collection dates below. The water testing is offered by DeKalb and LaSalle County SWCD offices and the Kane County Farm Bureau.

This program is designed to engage farmers in the nutrient and water quality issues facing agriculture by providing information on possible nutrient losses from farming.

By comparing water testing results to other known concentrations and research results, farmers can begin to understand their own impact on water quality and consider management practices which may reduce their losses.

Nutrient levels of runoff water can vary greatly depending on the time of year, temperature, rainfall and in-field practices. A measurement of flow would also be needed to determine the total nutrient loading into a water body and a measurement of acreage being drained would be needed to

know the pounds per acre leaving the field.

Water samples need to be at least eight ounces. Test results will be confidential.

This water testing program is being sponsored by the Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Corn Growers, Illinois Council on Best Management Practices and the Zea Mays Foundation as part

pancakes, and more! Make it with locally produced honey for possible, non-tested, allergy-resistance benefits.

**Honey Butter**

3 parts butter & 1 part honey-butter (Examples: 3/4 c. to 1/4 c. or 1 c. to 1/3 c. or 3 T. to 1 T.) – or –

1/2 c. butter & 1/3 c. honey (Much sweeter!)

Mix softened butter with honey. Store, covered, in refrigerator, but serve at room temperature.

of the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. The Kane County Farm Bureau, Kane-DuPage SWCD, and the Kane County Corn Growers hope to establish additional dates and locations for this testing in 2016. Stay tuned.

For more information contact Dean Johnson at 815-756-3234, ext. 3.

**Recruiter of the Month**

Kane County Farm Bureau honors the person or persons who sign the most members into our organization. This month, the honor goes to Jonathan Gonzalez, who signed 7 new members. Jonathan has been a financial representative with COUNTRY® Financial since March of 2010. He serves clients from his office at

1750 Grandstand Place Suite 20, Elgin and may be reached at 847-742-0001. As a token of our appreciation, Jonathan will receive two tickets to the Charlestowne Movie Theater. Thank you Jonathan for your continued support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success!



**Jonathan Gonzalez**

**What's new in the COUNTRY agencies?**

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

SHERRY LOCHEN has been named the Financial Representative of the Month for March 2016 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Sherry has provided tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long term insurance and financial security needs of her clients through COUNTRY Financial's diverse products and services. Let Sherry's expertise help you! You may contact Sherry at her office, 1750 Grandstand Place, Ste. 20, Elgin, 60123, or 847-742-0004, sherry.lochen@countryfinancial, countryfinancial.

com/sherry.lochen. Congratulations, Sherry!

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

Brian Guenther, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for March 2016. Brian began his career with COUNTRY Financial in January of 2002 and services clients out of his office located at: 1920 Wilson Street, Batavia, 60510, (630) 406-6017.

Brian's professionalism and vast knowledge of auto, home, life, commercial and financial products make him a great person to do business with. Congratulations, Brian!



**Free Water Analysis**

**Water Softeners  
Iron & Sulphur Filters  
Drinking Water Systems  
Sales-Rentals-Service  
All Makes**

*Kane County Farm Bureau members receive 10% discount on all service work.*

**FACTORY DIRECT PRICES**

**◆◆◆◆ NO FIX - NO CHARGE ◆◆◆◆**

**630-584-5559**

**www.johnsonwater.com**






**WHAT'S YOUR STRATEGY?**



**TEST YOUR FARM'S WATER**

**Kane County Farmers**

This program was designed to engage farmers in the nutrient and water quality issues facing agriculture by providing information on possible nutrient losses from their production operations. These results are simply a snapshot in time of ambient nutrient levels in water collected from tile drainage, surface runoff or nearby streams. Nutrient levels in runoff water can vary greatly depending on the time of year, temperature, rainfall and in-field practices.

**Free, confidential water testing beginning April 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Open House 9-11 a.m.  
Testing at DeKalb SWCD**

April 26, May 3, May 24, May 31 June 21, June 28, July 5, August 2, August 23, August 30 September 20, September 27, October 18, and October 25, 2016.

**DeKalb County SWCD**  
1350 West Prairie Drive, Sycamore IL

For more information, call  
Dean Johnson 815-756-3234 ext. 3

The Women's Committee of Kane County Farm Bureau invites you to a ladies luncheon

**"A Picnic with the Pollinators"**  
featuring retired educator and local beekeeper  
*Harry Patterson*

Thursday, June 23, 2016  
at the Northern Illinois Food Bank  
273 Dearborn Court, Geneva, IL 60134  
Registration starts at 11:30am, lunch served at 12pm

**Please RSVP by June 7**  
Cost: \$10/person, payable to KCFB

# Kane County Farm Bureau 2016 Report to Donors & Contributors



## 2016 Report to Donors & Contributors

### College Scholarships

**Foundation General Scholarships**  
Awarded to students of KCFB members pursuing higher education for degrees and careers in agricultural fields of study. Recipients receive a minimum of \$1,000. This year, 16 students received this award.



### President's Scholarship

Recognizes the most outstanding local high school seniors seeking higher education in an agricultural field of study. The 2016-17 award of \$1,500 went to **Brad Gorenz** of Maple Park.

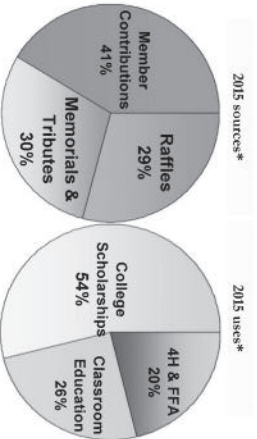


### Chuck Swanson Memorial Scholarship

**Susie Thompson** of Maple Park was named the recipient of this award, established by the family & friends of former Farm Bureau Director and long-time volunteer, Chuck Swanson. It provides a scholarship for a student residing in Kane County pursuing a degree in an ag related



### FOUNDATION Funding



### Ag Literacy Library

The Foundation helps fund many Ag Literacy Programs. The Ag Literacy Library at the Farm Bureau has hundreds of books with agricultural themes. Farm Bureau members check out books on topics ranging from gardening to children's stories about life on the farm. Thanks to donations and memorial contributions, the collection continues to grow.

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation is an IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization that supports education, leadership development, research & charitable activities for the benefit of agriculture and farm families.

### Food for Tomorrow



**Mary L. Heckel Bieckle Memorial Scholarship** In her memory & to support young people's agricultural aspirations, provides one \$1000 award for a student residing in Kane or Macon County, pursuing a degree in an agriculture related career field. This year's recipient was **Cynthia Koberg** of St. Charles.



### John Buck Memorial Scholarship

**Luke Duneman** of Elburn was chosen to receive this \$1,000 award offered to students in the 8 county Buck Bros./J.W. Turf service area. It was established in 2001 by an endowment in memory of Buck Bros. Inc. founder John Buck by friends & family of the late John Deere dealer.



### Raffle Fundraisers

The **Winner's Choice Tractor Raffle** is the Foundation's biggest fundraiser. In 2016, the raffle gave our supporters a chance at winning one of four prizes. The grand prize winner could choose between a 1947 Farmall Super A, a 1953 Farmall Super C, a John Deere X300 riding mower, or \$2,500 cash. Other prizes included food, fuel, and Farm Bureau Bucks. The raffle gives tractor enthusiasts something to look forward to as they help provide funds for the Foundation.



### Internship Programs

Internships are offered by the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation during summer, winter & mid-term breaks, to students who have completed 30 undergraduate hours. Structured to meet student needs, develop professional skills & build on their knowledge about agriculture.



### Food for Today



KCFB was awarded the 2014 Service Club Philanthropic Award from the West Suburban Philanthropic Network for hunger relief efforts, including Harvest for All, administered by the Foundation. WSPN honors individuals and organizations committed to philanthropy in our west suburban communities and beyond. In total, Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation and Farm Bureau members have provided more than 1.4 million meals through the Harvest for ALL and hunger relief program.

Suburban Philanthropic Network for hunger relief efforts, including Harvest for All, administered by the Foundation. WSPN honors individuals and organizations committed to philanthropy in our west suburban communities and beyond. In total, Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation and Farm Bureau members have provided more than 1.4 million meals through the Harvest for ALL and hunger relief program.



### SPROUTS

During SPROUTS (Spring Program of Reaching Outreach to Urban Teachers & Students, volunteers visit classrooms to read a agriculture themed book, *Peas to the Table*, to third graders and explain how farmers grow the world's food, fuel & fiber. A copy of the book was donated to each classroom. SPROUTS is supported through a memorial fund in honor of Bob Konen, established by his family and friends.



### Summer Ag Institutes

The Foundation provides support for KCFB Summer Ag Institutes & Agricultural Tours for teachers. SAII is a one-week graduate credit course on ag research, inputs, production, and marketing. It provides a broad overview of



Kane County farms and agribusiness. SAII focuses on our hungry planet, and is open to graduates of SAII. Possible sites include a lock and dam site, research lab, ag industries, and food bank.

### Memorials & Tributes

Whether to remember a loved one, celebrate a family's agricultural heritage, or simply show support of Farm Bureau and the Foundation, **Centennial Grove**, a grove of hardwood trees on the Farm Bureau property, offers a fitting & permanent public venue.



A commemorative tree sculpture and sign were added in 2013 to be viewed by Farm Bureau visitors for generations.



Mary L. Heckel Bieckle

### Scholarship Spotlight

Thanks to the support of Kane County Farm Bureau, my experience at UIUC has been outstanding. The university has truly become a home to me and has offered me many different opportunities. I am truly grateful to be involved in Sigma Alpha, Hoof'n Horns, Pre-Veterinary Club, Phi Eta Sigma and several other organizations. It has been a great experience meeting professors and learning about all of the experiences that are ahead of me. The support and encouragement provided by KCFB has pushed me to strive for my goals and give back to the agricultural industry.



Alexander Kruee  
Scholarship Recipient 2015  
College: UIUC  
Major: Animal Sciences

### FFA Chapter Grants

FFA Chapter Grants recognize the contributions of Kane County FFA Chapters in the success of Foundation programs. In 2015, three Kane County Chapters capitalized on the grant, receiving a total of \$1,350 for participation in KCFB activities.



### Touch-A-Tractor

This annual community service event offers the public a unique look at the machines that farmers use to grow the world's food. Activities at the 11th Annual Touch-A-Tractor at the Farm Bureau included tractors, family fun, & interactive activities for the kids.



### Ag Days

This was the 32nd year for our largest ag education program. About 1000 fourth graders and teachers from urban and suburban schools learn about farming through a series of 5-minute presentations from farmers, local businesses and agricultural groups. The program's longevity and volunteer support show its importance & explain why the Foundation provides financial support.



### 'FUN'draising

**John Buck Memorial Golf Outing** Established in 2001 by an endowment in memory of the late John Deere dealer, the proceeds raised from this annual benefit fund John Buck Memorial Scholarships, administered by the Foundation.

### Kane County Fair Country Store

The Fair provides the opportunity to raise funds and friends by the sale of farm-themed items. Buck Bros. Inc. of Hampshire cooperate in this effort, allowing the Foundation to sell farm toys & ag-themed items.



### U of I Extension Grant

An annual Foundation grant to U of I Extension, Kane County helps fund Extension's 4H, youth education, food and nutrition programs.

### National AITC Conference

Annual participation in National AITC Conference tours, workshops, exhibits & connects help keep local AITC materials and presentations up-to-date on the latest technology in agriculture.

### For the Future of Food

YES! I'd like to support the future of farms & food with this donation to FOOD>Forward in the amount of:  
 \$25  \$50  \$75  \$100 \$ (Other - Surprise us!)  
 Please make this a recurring monthly gift (Your credit card will be billed this amount each month)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please charge my donation of to mp:  
 VISA MC AMEX Discover  
 Name (as it appears on card) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION  
 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL 60174  
 By phone at 630-584-8660