

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. 10 OCTOBER 2016

ACTIVATOR recognizes 'Friends of Agriculture'

ACTIVATOR, Illinois Farm Bureau's Political Involvement Fund, is a voluntary segregated fund intended to protect and improve the economic and social well-being of farmers. Each year ACTIVATOR tracks voting records of members of the Illinois General Assembly on issues important to agriculture and relevant to farmers. As part of their effort to build relationships with elected officials on both sides of the aisle, Farm Bureau has consistently supported candidates who show support for Illinois agriculture and farmers regardless of their party affiliation. ACTIVATOR's "Friend of Agriculture" designation is a coveted title for both rural and urban members of Congress and the General Assembly. A favorable voting record of a minimum 60% support of Farm Bureau policy positions as well as a recommendation of a majority of District ACTIVATOR trustees is required to earn a legislator the title "Friend of Agriculture." This title and award recognizes incumbent legislators for their support of agriculture.

This year ACTIVATOR presented this prestigious "Friend of Agriculture" award to 12 Kane County state legislators. Those who attended the KCFB awards recognition on September 1 included Senator Jim Oberweis (25th District), Senator Karen McConnaughay (33rd District), Representative Anna Moeller (43rd District), Representative Mike Fortner (49th District), Representative Keith Wheeler (50th District), Representative Robert Pritchard (70th District) and Representative Stephanie Kifowit (84th district). Each "Friend of Agriculture" was gifted a commemorative John Deere model 8345R tractor on a white oak base plaque to publicly display their support for Illinois

Agriculture.

As a volunteer based non-profit political action fund, ACTIVATOR's farmer-Trustees take the initiative to get involved. In order for a legislator to become a "Friend of Agriculture" they must be receive a majority vote from ACTIVATOR Trustees in their legislative district. Each county in each District appoints Trustees for that district. Trustees are county Farm Bureau leaders who volunteer to represent their county for that given district. Serving as state legislative district Trustees for

Kane County Farm Bureau are Bill Collins of Geneva, Jerry Gaitsch of Huntley, Mike Kenyon of South Elgin, Craig Bradley of Elgin, Joe White of Kaneville, Bill Keck of Sugar Grove and Wayne Schneider of West Dundee.



Above: Seven Northern Illinois State Legislators recognized by ACTIVATOR as "Friends of Agriculture" were presented awards at the Kane County Farm Bureau following a BBQ dinner on Thursday, September 1. Pictured (left to right) are Representative

Keith Wheeler (50th District), Representative Robert Pritchard (70th District), Senator Karen McConnaughay (33rd District), Representative Mike Fortner (49th District), Representative Anna Moeller (43rd District), Senator Jim Oberweis (25th District) and Representative Stephanie Kifowit (84th District).

Bottom left: Illinois Farm Bureau's Political Involvement Fund, ACTIVATOR, recognized 33rd District State Senator Karen McConnaughay as a "Friend of Agriculture." McConnaughay recorded an 86% voting record on issues of importance to farmers and agriculture. She was presented with her award on September 1 by KCFB President Joe White and Craig Bradley, ACTIVATOR Trustee for the 33rd District.

Bottom right: On September 1, 25th District State Senator Jim Oberweis was also recognized by ACTIVATOR as a "Friend of Agriculture" with an 82% voting record. KCFB ACTIVATOR Trustee for District 25 Bill Collins and KCFB President Joe White presented Senator Oberweis with a tractor plaque to commemorate his continued support for Agriculture in Illinois.

Legislator	District	Voting Record	Kane Co. Trustee
Senator Jim Oberweis	25th	82%	Bill Collins
Senator Karen McConnaughay	33rd	86%	Jerry Gaitsch
Representative Anna Moeller	43rd	80%	Mike Kenyon
Representative Mike Fortner	49th	82%	Bill Collins
Representative Keith Wheeler	50th	80%	Bill Collins
Representative Robert Pritchard	70th	97.14%	Joe White
Representative Stephanie Kifowit	84th	88.57%	Bill Keck
Senator Dan McConchie	26th	81.25%	Wayne Schneider
Senator Dave Syverson	35th	70%	Joe White
Senator Linda Holmes	42nd	82%	Bill Keck
Representative David McSweeney	52nd	82.86%	Wayne Schneider
Representative Linda Chapa LaVia	83rd	80%	Bill Keck

Young Farmers discuss food with Food Bank

In early August our friends at Northern Illinois Food Bank reached out to KCFB Young Farmers for advice on how to best use a large parcel of farmland from a generous third party donor. The Food Bank sought advice to provide maximum benefit in terms of food production, educational opportunities, community support and public relations.

The Young Farmers committee and the two representatives from the food bank spearhead-

ing the project met on Tuesday, August 30. The purpose of the meeting was to help educate the food bank about the production, machinery, and labor costs associated with growing local foods as well as the educational opportunities that having a farm can provide them. The group was able to answer questions, give advice and beneficial information as to how to best use the land to produce desirable produce for the food bank and to discuss potential farm managers

to operate the farmland for the Food Bank.

As a result of the meeting, the Young Farmers committed to providing primary tillage, planting, spraying and harvesting of the 25 acre farm for the Food Bank in 2017 and until a long range plan for expanding vegetable production, education, PR and community sup-

port can be developed. Young Farmers also pledged to assist the Food Bank in making contacts for soliciting donations of crop inputs for 2017.

Members interested in lending assistance to this program effort to help our neighbors in need are encourage to call Steve Arnold at the Kane County Farm Bureau, 630-584-8660.

Members see Cubs fly 'W'

KCFB's bus trip to Wrigley Field on September 20 was 5 games late to see the drama of "clinching" the NL Central pennant, but members enjoyed the outing which saw the Cubs defeat the Reds by a score of 6-1.

The weather was great and the view from the Budweiser Bleachers spectacular. FB staffers (lower left, clockwise, from top); Steve Arnold, Manager; Kristi Van Oost,

Development & Program Director; Suzi Myers, Ag Literacy Coordinator, and Liz Polovin, Member Services Coordinator enjoyed the game, the win and the company of members on the ride and at the ballpark.

Join us on our next adventure as we trek to Fair Oaks Farm in Indiana on October 29. Details can be found on page 3.



DATES TO REMEMBER

October

- October 4**
Board of Directors, 7:30 p.m.
- October 7-8**
Family Portraits
- October 10**
Office closed for holiday
- October 19-20**
Defensive Driving Class, 9am - 1pm
- October 29**
Fair Oaks Farm Trip, 7:00 am



Vintage truck raffle coming!



The KCFB Foundation has set its sights on vintage pick-up trucks as a possible prize for the 2017 winner's choice raffle. Pictured here is a blue and white 1965 Ford pick-up purchased by the Foundation as a potential Grand Prize. Watch future editions of the Kane County Farmer for details on the 2017 KCFB Foundation "Winner's Choice" scholarship raffle.

October Featured Product

Bratwurst or Italian Sausage

Kick off your tailgating party with your choice of one of our crowd pleasing featured products for this month! Inboden's Meats award winning Bratwurst or Italian Sausage. Each 5-pound box contains 20 brats or sausages. Price is \$23.50 per box for PLUS members, \$25.00 for members, and \$28.00 for non-members. Available for the month of October or while supply last at Kane County Farm Bureau, Randall Road and Oak Street in St. Charles.

KCFB Board Review

Sept. 1

The September meeting of the KCFB of Directors immediately followed the dinner on the Patio with ACTIVATOR "Friends of Agriculture." The ACTIVATOR "Friends of Agriculture" awards were presented to the following legislators: Senator Jim Oberweis, Senator Karen McConnaughay, Representative Anna Moeller, Representative Mike Fortner, Representative Keith Wheeler, Representative Robert Pritchard, and Representative Stephanie Kifowit.

KCFB Manager Steve Arnold delivered the membership report and announced that KCFB achieved its total member quota on August 31 with 980 voting members. Several directors reported about agricultural topics and local issues.

Arnold's report continued with a recap about a number of items including the AFBF Staff

Conference report from August 9-11, mentioned the Bartlett High School League of Scholars meeting to be held on September 13, and invited the board to participate in a Solar farm solicitation survey. Directors also gave a recap and reported on ACTIVATOR Trustee meetings, the Kane County Cougars KCFB Foundation fundraiser game in August, and the recent Brookfield Zoo "Summer Nights" Food for Thought Committee event. Lastly, new Farm Bureau opportunities were announced regarding Co-op Advertising Grants and Consumer Communication Grants.

In the Government affairs arena Wayne Schneider spoke about the Keep Ag in the Green with Atrazine report. He covered the talking points and requested a postcard to be completed by each Board member by October. This report threatens the use of herbicide in the

Corn belt.

In FOUNDATION news a Super C tractor is now for sale. Proceeds from the sale will go towards the FOUNDATION. In other FOUNDATION news, this year's 2017 raffle prize, a 1965 Ford F100 has been purchased. This truck shows 40,401 original miles and could be a potentially successful change to the raffle. Correspondence for the Cubs game on September 20, and the Fair Oaks Farm Tour set for October 29 fundraisers was distributed to the Board Members. Also new for this year - Harvest decorations to raise money for scholarships will be for sale at the Farm Bureau this fall.

In Young Farmers news, a meeting was held on August 30 with Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) representatives to discuss the use of 20 gifted acres to NIFB.

Upcoming regional and

statewide Farm Bureau meetings include the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting that will be held December 3-6 at the Palmer House Hilton, and the AFBF & National Issues & Activities Annual Meeting in Phoenix on January 7-10.

Lastly, in other news KCFB President Joe White taped an NBC 5 news segment on crop conditions on August 22, it was noted that Eldon Gould received

the "Torch of Leadership" award from the IALF on August 27, and on August 22 at Windy Acres Farm the Illinois Farm Families taped a video by Kristin Srail for the Illinois Farm Families blog titled "Let's talk about what's on your table".

The next scheduled Kane County Farm Bureau Board meeting will be held Thursday, October 4 at 7:30pm.



On Monday, August 1st Farm Bureau and community leaders gathered at the farm of Mike Kenyon in South Elgin for a farm shop meeting with 6th District US Congressman Peter Roskam. Roskam addressed trade, taxes and the economy and solicited the opinions of farmers in attendance on a wide variety of agricultural, tax and fiscal issues.

What do presidential candidates know about Agriculture?

By Stewart Truelsen, American Farm Bureau Federation.

It's been almost 150 years since two men who had farmed squared off against each other in a presidential election, and it may never happen again. But candidates don't need firsthand experience to understand the needs of farmers and ranchers or to appreciate the work they do. As President Eisenhower said, "You know, farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil, and you're a thousand miles from the corn field."

What do the 2016 presidential candidates know about agriculture? Democrat Hillary Clinton attended school in Park Ridge, Illinois, where the general headquarters of the American Farm Bureau Federation once was located. Chances are she wasn't aware of Farm Bureau or farm issues as a young person.

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump feels at home in Manhattan where he negotiated real estate deals - that's the borough of New York City, not Manhattan, Kansas.



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.

He was criticized by a primary opponent for having "New York values." New York State has

thousands of farms producing a wide variety of agricultural

(continued on page 4)

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	X	X	X	X	X
F. CARLSON	X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X	X
B. COLLINS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
C. COLLINS		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
J. ENGEL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
G. GAITSCH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X
B. GEHRKE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
W. KECK	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
M. KENYON	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
K. KETTLEKAMP	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
D. LEHRER	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
N. LONG	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
D. PITSTICK	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X
W. SCHNEIDER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
J. WHITE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mail (including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®)	0	0
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b(1), (2), (3), and (4))		15,578	15,432
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0	0
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	20	20
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d(1), (2), (3) and (4))		20	20
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		15,598	15,452
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I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Harvest decorations

This year, the KCFB Foundation wants to help make Kane County the most festive county in Illinois by providing Farm Bureau members with decorations to complement your home. Starting on September 28th the Kane County Farm Bureau office will be your one stop harvest decoration shop. Choose from a variety of straw bales, corn shocks, garden mums, indian corn, gourds, and pumpkins all produced from local growers.



Don't wait, as products are only available while supplies last. Proceeds from all sales benefit the Ag-in-the-Classroom and Scholarship programs of the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation. For further inquiries or questions, contact our office at (630) 584-8660.

Thanks to our donors...

The KCFB FOUNDATION offers its sincere appreciation to the following for their contributions to our community service, education, and scholarship programs. Names shown are contributions received August 20-September 15, 2016



(Contributions for Scholarship & Agricultural Literacy)

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Mike Kenyon

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Children's Hunger Fund
Elburn Food Pantry
Elburn Food Pantry
Food For Greater Elgin, South Elgin
Food Bank & PADS

KCFB volunteers met hundreds of families at last month's "Summer Nights" event at Brookfield Zoo on Saturday, August 6th. Families played a farm trivia game and asked questions about Illinois agriculture.

Volunteers Frank Carlson, Beth Gehrke, Val Johnson, Mike Kenyon, and Karl Kettelkamp made an appearance at the Brookfield zoo "Summer Nights" on August 6th and answered questions about farms in the area, interacted with consumers, and demonstrated how tractors worked.



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Windy Acres farm was chosen to be featured in

Illinois Farm Families "Let's talk about what's on your table" online webseries. ILFB Promotion and graphic arts staff and consultants were in charge of setting up the location for the taping in the farm kitchen of Wayne and Daryl Srail in Geneva.

Windy Acres farm specializes in producing a variety of fruits and vegetables as well as seasonal specialty products. They also host a fall festival which includes a petting zoo, corn maze, tractor rides, and a pumpkin patch.

Windy Acres own Kristin Srail went behind the camera for Illinois Farm Families to film a "Let's talk about what's on your table" segment. These segments allow Chicago moms to ask questions about food to farmers who know the answers.

Illinois Farm Families is a program created by Illinois Farm Bureau with the purpose of educating the public where food comes from. They specifically target the decision makers in the home, founded on the idea of introducing people who grow food to the people who buy it! They bring groups of moms from the urban areas around Chicago right to the farms of Illinois farmers and share it with the world through a series online of videos.

These videos are made to openly and honestly educate on all facets of food production.

One specific series of videos is titled "Let's talk about what's on your table" and touches on a wide variety of 'hot button' topics within the agriculture industry. In these videos, the Chicago moms have the chance to ask questions to real life farmers from all over Illinois.

Recently, one of these "Let's Talk about what's on your table" videos was filmed at Kane County's own Windy Acres Farm. This video, scheduled to air in October, featured KCFB member Kristin Srail as she answered questions about crops grown on the farm. Windy Acres

as it is owned and operated by the Wayne and Daryl Srail. Together the couple works with their three daughters, Amanda, Kristin, and Jamie, and son, Scott, making this farm truly a family business. The farm produces a large variety of seasonal fruits and vegetables as well as some fun farm activities the whole family can enjoy.

To learn more about Illinois Farm families, visit them at watchusgrow.com. Make sure to keep an eye out for the Windy Acres Farm segment on the Illinois Farm Families Facebook page in October.

Free
family portrait for KCFB members

Kane County Farm Bureau has an outstanding opportunity for you to gather the family for a free professional portrait sitting at the KCFB office in St. Charles. As a Farm Bureau member family, you will receive a FREE 8"x 10" full color portrait of your family. Individual poses are available, however this program is limited to one (1) FREE portrait per family or household. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult in the free portrait. You will be able to view your photos immediately on a digital viewing system.

Appointments are available Friday Oct. 7 from 2 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, October 8 from 10 am to 5 p.m. Family photos make a wonderful gift. Appointments fill quickly! Click on "schedule portrait" at www.kanecfb.com or call the Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660.

Don't miss Kane Co Farm Bureau's Fair Oaks Farm Tour on Oct. 29

The charter bus will depart Kane County Farm Bureau parking lot at 7:00 am to the fascinating Fair Oaks Farms (www.fofarms.com) in western Indiana. Granola bars, fruit, juice and water will be provided on the bus. A fast-food rest stop on the way will be at your own expense.

The bus will arrive at the Fair Oaks Visitors Center around 9:30 am for our first tour of the day - the Dairy Adventure, a state-of-the-art dairy farm and learning center where you'll experience the dairy industry from calving to milking to the processing of cheese and ice cream. The Birthing Center allows visitors in auditorium seating to view the delivery of some of the 80+ calves born daily at FOF. The air-conditioned bus tour of one of FOF's 3000-cow production facilities will give you an inside look at the many facets of modern dairy production including animal husbandry, environmental stewardship and food safety issues. The 72-cow milking carousel is a sight to behold.

We'll enjoy a lunch of a ham and Swiss or turkey and Swiss deli sandwich, chips, fruit cup and beverage and we'll allow time to visit FOF's gift shop and restaurant, where you can pick

up some award-winning cheese and enjoy a delicious ice cream treat, at your own expense. There are also many fun activities inside and out for kids of all ages to enjoy.

machinery, soil, careers in agriculture and more. We will depart from the visitor's center around 2 p.m. and arrive back at the Farm Bureau by 4:30.

Cost is \$65.00 per person (FB members), \$75.00/per person (non members) and includes transportation, tour admissions, lunch, and refreshments on the bus.

Mail in the registration form with your check or call the office to register and pay with



credit card 630-584-8660. Tickets are sold on a first come first serve basis ... don't miss out on this fantastic adventure!

The bus leaves from the Kane County Farm Bureau promptly at 7:00 am. Hope to see you then!

FAIR OAKS FARM TOUR

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please include payment with registration. Deadline is Monday, Oct. 17, 2016

AG LITERACY CORNER

By Suzi Myers



Sometimes life throws you chances which come around once in a lifetime. I was lucky enough to have this happen to me recently. My daughter had a business trip to London and Zurich, my grandson didn't have school yet, and I was able to take off a week from work to be my grandson's escort when she was in meetings. The three of us walked many miles a day, laughed a lot, saw things we'd always wanted to and made some wonderful memories.

Unlike most of my travels, there wasn't much time to prepare for this trip, but I did as much research as possible. We all flew to London, where we visited Greenwich – learning about the Greenwich Mean Time, and of course, stood on

the Prime Meridian at 0 degrees. To have a foot on each side of the earth was an exciting thing, not to be forgotten.

We made many trips on the "Tube." Thanks to an app that laid out the pathway of each trip, we found this to be an easy way to travel. Some of the trips on the "Tube" lead us to the Arsenal Soccer Stadium, Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, Nike town (my grandson is 13 ... this was visited for him), Winston Churchill's War Rooms, Big Ben, the London Eye, and much more.

On a long day's excursion, we visited Windsor Castle, the town of Bath – home of the Roman baths and then Stonehenge. Some folks say that Stonehenge is just some big

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rocks out in farm fields, but we found it fascinating to realize how these stones still hold the mystery as to why they were constructed all those centuries ago. There are many theories, but nothing is for sure. The burial mounds dotting the countryside were easily spotted.

Zurich was a beautiful city, where we soaked in the beauty, history, chocolate, cheese fondue, and the lovely people. Winston Churchill came back into our trip when we visited the building where he gave his Europe Unite speech.

While traveling to Stonehenge, we started to notice all the wheat being harvested. Wheat was everywhere we looked. The combines were busy eating their way through the fields. Agriculture followed me to Europe ... farmers working hard to feed the world. I wonder if I'd have even noticed or thought about this wheat harvest, had I not worked here at the FB ... a thought to ponder.

Then we were on the train to the airport and we again were surrounded by wheat. Once on the plane to Zurich, we saw the wheat fields creating a patchwork quilt of browns and tans. We thought of the fields we saw when flying in the US, the greens, browns, tans of our Midwest soybeans, wheat and

corn quilt. What do you think we found in the countryside of Zurich? More wheat ... that's right, even more. This area of Europe was full of wheat.

So, my grandson and I started noticing all the "processed wheat" we encountered in a day. We consumed many different types of "processed wheat", but I think our favorite was the soft pretzel we ate in Zurich.

This once in a lifetime chance to travel together last minute, was a wonderful experi-

ence. I'm so glad we were able to experience this small part of Europe together.

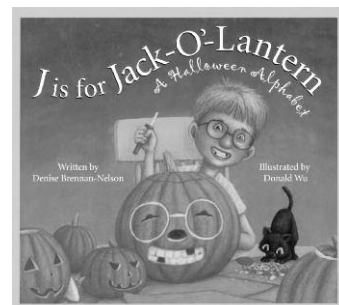
Epilogue: A few years ago, I wrote about taking my grandson to Fair Oaks Farm in Indiana. I received so many comments on that article ... folks wanting to duplicate my experience. Well, now's your chance. The Kane County Farm Bureau is hosting a Fair Oaks Farm Trip on October 29th. Look for details in this Farmer ... I hope to see you there.

Book of the month

An alphabet book that has a simple rhyme for each letter of the alphabet and then in the side bar, there is additional information for the older reader concerning that letter. "Discover how carving pumpkins, dressing up in a costume, and trick-or-treating originated. Learn a few "tricks" to help your Jack-o-lantern last longer and find new treats for your next Halloween party, including a tasty witch's brew." The illustrations are done by Donald Wu, "who mixes have just enough fun with fright to provide the perfect visuals of the trick-or-treaters, ghosts and goblins, and of course the witches in the moonlight."

We have more of this series of A-Z books in our library,

which was started 10 years ago, 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.



J is for Jack-O'-Lantern - A Halloween Alphabet by Denise Brennan-Nelson

Know about ag?

(continued from page 2)

products on about a quarter of the state's land, so the value of agriculture must not be overlooked in the Empire State.

In the nation's history, some candidates arrived on the campaign scene with a good knowledge of agriculture and a strong desire to win the farm vote. President Truman not only tried his hand at farming but was a county Farm Bureau president as a young man. His rural background helped him defeat a more cityfied Thomas Dewey. President Carter's family owned a peanut farm and warehouse at Plains, Georgia.

In the election of 1868, both Republican and Democratic candidates had been farmers. Democrat Horatio Seymour preferred farming to holding political office and is said to be the only presidential candidate ever compelled to run against his will. Convention delegates drafted him over his strong objection. He lost to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant who farmed for several years near St. Louis before the Civil War.

Presidential candidates run on party platforms that always include agriculture. Whoever is elected will be advised on agricultural matters by the secretary

of agriculture they appoint to their cabinet. President Franklin Roosevelt had Henry A. Wallace to steer the farm economy through the Great Depression and Dust Bowl. Ezra Taft Benson was secretary during both of Eisenhower's terms. President Reagan, who understood the importance of agriculture as former governor of California, relied on John Block and Richard Lyng.

Congress drafts farm legislation, so it is a plus to have men and women in the House and Senate with farm backgrounds. Sen. Mike Johanns, who received American Farm Bureau's Distinguished Service Award this year, grew up on a farm, served as secretary of agriculture under George W. Bush, and senator from Nebraska before his retirement. But there are few like him in Congress anymore.

Perhaps the most we can hope for is that presidential candidates are willing to listen to farmers and ranchers and realize that the federal government doesn't have all the answers. Eisenhower again said it best. "The proper role of government, however, is that of partner with the farmer – never his master." If this year's candidates know little else about American agriculture they should learn that much.

2017 Farm Bureau Calendars available

Believe it or not, the New Year is just a few months away! While supplies last, members can pick up one 2017 Antique Tractors Calendar at the Farm Bureau office in St. Charles.

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Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Suzi Myers



Yum!

Pick a peck of pecans for these sweet treats

Sugar coated Pecans Activity

What You Need:

- 1 pound pecans
- 1 egg white
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup plain sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

What You Do:

1. Help your child preheat the oven to 250° Fahrenheit and cover a cookie sheet with a piece of parchment paper.
2. Help your child to separate the egg. Separating an egg is a true talent – so encourage your child to take her time.
3. Have your child place the egg white in the mixing bowl and froth lightly with a fork.
4. Now she/he can add the pecans and stir with a spatula until they are all evenly coated



with the egg white.

5. Give your child a 1/2 cup measuring cup and have her/him measure the sugars into the bowl. Using teaspoons, she/he can also measure and add the salt and cinnamon.

6. After your child has stirred together the ingredients and coated the pecans with the sugar mixture, she/he can evenly spread them on the sheet pan.

7. Now she/he can place the sugared pecans in the oven and let bake for an hour.

8. The finished sweet treats can be enjoyed as is, in a salad, or sprinkled over ice cream or yogurt.

Easy cranberry Pecan cookies

TOTAL TIME: Prep: 10 min. Bake: 10 min./batch

Ingredients

- 1 tube (16 1/2 ounces) refrigerated sugar cookie dough, softened
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 2/3 cup white baking chips
- 2/3 cup dried cranberries
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl, combine cookie dough, pecans, chips, cranberries and vanilla. Drop by tablespoonfuls 2 in. apart onto ungreased baking sheets.

2. Bake 10-12 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool 2 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks. Store in an airtight container. Yield: about 3-1/2 dozen.

Nutritional Facts: 87 calories: 1 each, 5g fat (1g saturated fat), 4mg cholesterol, 50mg sodium, 10g carbohydrate (5g sugars, 0g fiber), 1g protein.

Did you know?

- The name "pecan" is a Native American word that was used to describe nuts requiring a stone to crack.
- The pecan tree, *Carya illinoensis*, is a species of hickory, native to south-central North America
- The pecan capital of the world is Albany, Georgia, which boasts more than 600,000 pecan trees. Pecans are also grown in Southern Illinois.
- Pecan trees can grow and produce edible nuts for over three hundred years
- 3 Pecan trees are native to

North America and over 80% of the world's pecan crop comes from the United States.

- Pecan trees only produce nuts every two years.
- The pecan pie was created by French people who had settled in New Orleans.
- The pecan is heart healthy and contains antioxidants, 19 vitamins and minerals and healthy fat. One of the mineral components is zinc, which is important in producing testosterone in both males and females.
- About 78 pecans are used in the average pecan pie.
- Pecan trees can live to be over 200 years old.
- One ounce of pecans provides 10% of the recommended daily fiber intake.

Uncommon Uses for pecans

1. Shade

Considering that pecan trees can grow up to 80 feet tall (some grow as high as 150 feet) and spread to a width of 40 to 75 feet, it makes for a pretty good shade.

2. Grilling & smoking meats

Pecan wood is suitable for backyard BBQs, as well as smoking meats.

3. Furniture

Pecan tree wood makes furniture, flooring, and paneling. It is a hard wood that stands up to wear and tear.

4. Cooking oils

Pecan oil is neutral in flavor and takes on the taste of whatever

seasoning is being used with it. It is also considered healthy, as it is rich in monounsaturated fats. It has lower unsaturated fat (9.5%) than olive oil (13.5%), peanut oil (16.90%) or corn oil (12.70%).

5. Pecan shells

Pecan shells can be collected in piles and allowed to age. After a while, they become mulch.

Finely ground pecan shells are added to plastic resin and painted or stained to give it an authentic wood look.

Pecan shells or processed pecan shell pellets serve as an inexpensive source for renewable biofuel.

You can grind small amounts

of pecan shells in a food processor to make soaps, body scrubs and bath salts. The rough granules help exfoliate dead skin cells.

6. Beverages

Distillers and craft brewers use pecans to flavor their spirits and beers.

7. Olympic torches

According to the Georgia Pecan Commission, in 1995, Georgia pecan wood was selected by the Atlanta Committee to make the handles of the torches for the 1996 Olympic Games. The torches were carried in the 15,000-mile U.S.A. relay and in lighting the Olympic flame in Atlanta on July 19, 1996.

Congratulations

Congratulations **Bill Haberstien** of Elgin! Bill's name was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's "Food Safety" word search. For his participation, he received a meat thermometer compliments of Kane County Farm Bureau. Thank you, Bill, for reading the *Kane County Farmer* and continue to watch each month for a chance to win a prize!

The Pecan Song

by Suzi Myers

(Sing to tune of Frère Jacques) Adding the actions in () will add a physical dimension to the song)

Have you ever eaten a pecan, a pecan, a pecan? (Pretend to put a pecan in mouth and chew)

Have you ever eaten a pecan, oh, they taste so good. (Rub tummy and smile)

They grow on a tree, (Spread arms out above head like a tree)

They're so good for me. (Thumbs up sign)

Have you ever eaten a pecan, oh, they taste so good. (Chewing action and rub your tummy)

October is:

National

- Apple Month
- Caramel Month
- Chili Month
- Cookie Month
- Pretzel Month
- Rhubarb Month
- Spinach Lovers Month

- 10/12: National Farmer's Day
- 10/17: National Boss's day
- 10/22: National Nut Day
- 10/24: National Food Day
- 10/26: National Pumpkin Day
- 10/30: National Candy Corn Day
- 10/31: Halloween, National Caramel Apple Day, National Knock-Knock Jokes Day

Fire Sale

Locally grown pecans Pieces or whole 1 pound bag Great for cookies, breads, pies, snacks, salads and more.

\$6⁰⁰ a bag

Nuffy jokes

Knock knock *Who's there?* Pecan *Pecan who?* Pecan somebody your own size. How do you tell the circumference of a pecan? *You use Pecan pi*

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

ALBANY
 ANTIOXIDANTS
 COOKIES
 CRAFTS
 FAT
 FIBER
 FRENCH
 FURNITURE
 GEORGIA
 GRILLING
 HEALTHY
 HEART
 HICKORY
 MINERALS
 MULCH
 NUT
 OLYMPICS
 PECAN
 PIE
 SHADE
 SNACK
 TORCH
 TREE
 VITAMINS
 WOOD

Pecans

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

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St Charles, IL 60174 by October 15, 2016 to be entered in our drawing for a prize of assorted pecan treats.

KCFB membership benefits

KCFB has many money saving benefits including movie tickets to the Charlestowne Movie Theater at \$6 each. With \$500 savings on Ford vehicle purchases, prescriptions, vision, dental, hearing products, hotels, rental cars, and many other member discounts, the annual dues are easily recouped.

For additional savings, think about upgrading your membership. For an additional \$10 you can purchase a Plus member package. Benefits to upgrading to a Plus membership include 40% discount on classified advertising in the Farmer, special notice and discounts on specialty and seasonal foods, spe-

cial notice of new discount programs, 10% discount on soil testing, and \$20 discount off meeting room rental for professional, organizational or club meetings.

We also have a wide variety of specialty products for sale at

the office year round. For your convenience, a full list of all the products we currently offer can be found below.

Stop by and see us on Randall Road in St. Charles in front of Costco or call 630-584-8660.

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU PRODUCT LIST

Prices subject to change without notice

PRODUCT	"PLUS +"	Non-Member	MM or A MBRs"
NUTS			
SKINLESS PEANUTS, 17.5 OZ. CAN	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.50
HNY KRNCN PEANUTS, 12 OZ. CAN	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$3.85
PECANS HALVES, 12 OZ. BAG	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
MILK CHOC. PECANS, 12 OZ. CAN	\$11.50	\$10.00	\$9.00
PORK SPICE 12 OZ	\$11.00	\$9.50	\$8.50
POPCORN			
YELLOW, 2 LB BAG	\$3.50	\$3.00	\$2.50
Steakhouse Boneless Pork Chops	\$28.00	\$25.00	\$23.50
Pork Back Ribs	\$28.00	\$25.00	\$23.50
PORK CHOPS (BONE IN/LESS)	\$28.00	\$25.00	\$22.50
CHICKEN BREASTS, 5 LBS.	\$28.00	\$25.00	\$23.50
Honey BBQ Chicken Breasts - ANY Marinade - Same Price	\$28.00	\$25.00	\$23.50
Hamburgers (15 per 5lb box) 1/3lb	\$28.00	\$24.50	\$22.50
Bourbon Steaks, 5 LBS.	\$57.00	\$49.50	\$44.50
10 Brat/10 Hotdog (Frankfurters) Combo	\$28.00	\$25.00	\$24.00
Italian Sausage-(20 per 5lb box)	\$28.00	\$25.00	
Bratwurst - Award Winning (20 per 5lb box)	\$28.00	\$25.00	\$22.50
PLAT BOOKS - KANE COUNTY	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
MOVIE TICKETS - Charlestowne 18	\$6.00	\$6.00	
Deep Roots DVD	\$15.00	\$15.00	
GREAT AMERICA TICKETS -DISCOUNT ONLINE			
SOIL TEST			
SOIL TEST 1	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$18.00
SOIL TEST 4	\$40.00	\$30.00	\$27.00
SOIL TEST 3	\$60.00	\$50.00	\$45.00

What's new in the COUNTRY agencies?

St. Charles Agency, Bob Effner, Agency Manager

ORAZIO DIFRUSCOLO has been named the Financial Representative of the Month for August 2016 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Orazio has provided tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long term insurance and financial security needs of his clients through COUNTRY Financial's diverse products and services: Auto, Farm, Home, Life/Disability/Health/Annuities/Long Term Care, Retirement Planning, Business and Investments. Let Orazio's expertise help you! His contact information is: 1118 E. Main St., Ste. 1A, St. Charles, 60174, Phone 630-549-7696, email orazio.difruscolo@countryfinancial.com. Congratulations, Orazio!

Aurora Agency, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager

Brian Guenther, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for August 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!

Learn how to make an Evergreen Wreath or Cross

Denise Marks from Marks' Christmas Tree Farm is holding a wreath making class at the Kane County Farm Bureau on Monday, November 18th at 10am. Choose to make a 24" wreath or cross that you can decorate yourself. The cost of the class is \$30 and includes the materials for your make and take wreath or cross.

To sign up or for more information, call the Farm Bureau office at (630) 584-8660.



Order Fresh Evergreen Wreaths

The Kane County Farm Bureau is now taking orders for fresh, handmade evergreen wreaths, crosses, and garland directly from Marks' Christmas Tree Farm located on site at KCFB in December.

These decorative essentials are made from fresh cut evergreen sprigs and keep their fresh scent all season long. Wreaths are individually decorated with pine cones, and finished with a signature red waterproof bow. Wreaths come in two sizes; 24" and 36". Crosses are handmade from fresh evergreen trees and come with a waterproof red bow as well. Decorative garland is sold by the foot in coils and makes the perfect finishing touch for all of your holiday decorations.

The price for a 24" wreath or an evergreen cross is \$20. A 36" wreath costs only \$35 and garland is just \$2 per foot (minimum of 25ft). **PAYMENT IS DUE WITH ORDER.** You can order by filling out the form and sending it in with your check, or call the Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 and pay with a Visa, MasterCard or Discover. The deadline to place an order is 5:00PM on Friday, November 4th and items will be ready for pick up any time after Monday, November 28th at 10am during normal business hours (8:30am - 5:00pm).

Fresh Evergreen Wreaths

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Telephone No.: (____) _____

Email Address: _____

I would like to order ...

____ 24" Wreath(s) for \$20 ____ Evergreen Cross(es) for \$20

____ 36" Wreath(s) for \$35 ____ ft. of Garland (min. 25") for \$2 per foot

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

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS 5 p.m. Friday, November 4th

Items can be picked up any time after Monday, November 28th at 10 am during normal business hours (8:30am - 5:00pm).

Foundation awards FFA Chapter Grants

The KCFB Foundation has awarded \$1,500 in grant funds to three FFA Chapters in the county to recognize their contributions to the success of 2016 Farm Bureau events as well as their own community service projects. FFA Chapters from Burlington Central, Hinckley-Big Rock and Kaneland high schools each qualified for \$500 in grant funds.

This marks the seventh consecutive year that the Foundation made grants available to FFA Chapters for their help at Ag Days at Mooseheart, Touch-A-Tractor and the Kane County Fair. The Foundation selected these three Farm

Bureau programs to help promote leadership development skills in FFA members.

Participation in two or more of the selected programs earned FFA Chapters a minimum \$250 Chapter Grant and participation in all three earned \$400. Chapters received \$100 for completing community service activities which included collecting non-perishable food items at a local parade, volunteering at a local food bank and participation in KCFB's Harvest for ALL program by donating crop proceeds from a school test plot.

Each chapter uses grant funds at their discretion to support Chapter activities and programs.

acresfarmstand.com or call: 630-232-6429. We are still scheduling fieldtrips and parties! Book your event today!

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 ad! 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

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

WANTED

Will pick up for free unwanted or old snowmobiles. - Weed mowing bobcat work deliveries of black dirt/topsoil, sand, lime stone, gravel, or anything else you need hauled in or out sod and seeding call Jon @ J.P. Rippinger. Call: 630-254-9446

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

HELP WANTED

Entry Level Position, 30-35 hrs. weekly, must be a self-starter & team player. Applicants should be computer literate with pleasant phone voice & manner. Some overnight travel required. Office is located on St Charles, east side. Call Bob to discuss this position. Call: 630 377 5807

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

ARISTOCRAT ASF 80 WOOD BURNING SUPPLEMENTAL/STAND-ALONE FURNACE, beat high propane costs, \$450.00 OBO - WINCO 25kw PTO GENERATOR, trailer mounted, long pig tail, transfer box w/plug, \$4435.00 value, used less than one hour, \$2,500 - FAIRBANKS MORRIS PLATFORM FEED SCALE, balance bar to 1,000 lbs, great condition \$200.00 OBO. Call: 630 365 2147

SERVICES

Windy Acres Farm - Located 1/4 mile west of Randall Rd in Geneva(37W446 Fabyan Prkwy, Geneva IL 60134. FALL FESTIVAL OPEN DAILY FROM SEPTEMBER 24th TO OCTOBER 31st. Week days 9am-630pm. Weekends 9am-8pm. New this season: Hand Crank Train Ride!, Education Barn & Mini Golf!. Visit our newly remodeled Bakery for freshly made cider donuts, pies, caramel apples and sweet treats! We sell a wide variety of pumpkins, gourds, straw, indian corn, apples, cider and much more! Visit our website today: windy



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Pumpkins and pecans and fall, oh my!

By Kristi Van Oost



The other evening while taking my Australian Shepherd for a walk at our favorite local forest preserve I was reminded just how beautiful the beginning of the fall season can be. The

leaves on the trees were just starting to change color, painting the forest in a variety of reds, oranges and yellows creating a truly picturesque scene. Of course, when I stopped to try and snap a picture,

KANE COUNTY FARMER

my needy dog demanded we keep moving, more interested in the animals she smelled than the colors of fall.

Fall has always been my favorite season, as it marks the beginning of some of my favorite activities; fall harvest, apple picking, pumpkin patches, corn mazes, and of course Halloween. We get to say goodbye to the blistering heat and humidity of summer with the crisp smells and cooler breezes of autumn. I personally have no problem trading in my shorts and tank tops for tall boots and vests. And of course, no fall season would be complete without pumpkin flavored everything and lots of pecan pie!

If you go to any store and purchase a pumpkin, there is a good chance that it was grown in Illinois. When it comes to growing pumpkins, Illinois smashes the competition, producing more than 90% of the canning pumpkins in the country. This is largely thanks to the state's climate and soil types. Pumpkins take about 120 days to grow, from planting to harvest

and are rather labor intensive. Seeds are planted in April and May and harvest starts in August, continuing all the way through November. While there are many different varieties of pumpkins, carving pumpkins are my favorite. As a kid, my parents would take my two sisters and me to a local pumpkin patch where we would each get to pick out a pumpkin to carve later on. The outing would always conclude with visit of the apple orchard, a trip through the corn maze, and a warm glass of apple cider. Sadly, the farm we used to visit is no longer open to the public; however I was surprised to discover how many similar farms there are right here in Kane County! Find a list of those places below along with a few other ones for all of your fall needs. Access more detailed information at www.bountyofkane.org.

Now that I am a little older and things like jumping into leave piles and family trips to a pumpkin patch are in my past, I have to be creative when it comes to celebrating the autumn

season. Lately, my favorite activity has been to watch my dog Lacey play with the leaves while enjoying a warm cup of pumpkin flavored coffee and a slice of pecan pie. The key to making a good pecan pie is always fresh pecans, which can sometimes be hard to come by. Luckily, the Kane County Farm Bureau has some bags of pecans available for purchase that have been frozen to preserve their freshness. I was skeptical about pecans grown in southern Illinois at first, but after making my favorite pie with my grandmother's recipe my doubts went away. I was surprised by how fresh the pecans tasted, and I am excited to make another pie! In case anyone is wondering, now is actually a perfect time to buy a bag of Voss pecans as we are having a flash sale ... one bag of whole or pieced mammoth pecans for just \$6! Next time you are in the area, why not stop by and purchase a bag for yourself for a wonderful pecan fall creation of your own; maybe I'll even share my grandmother's pecan pie recipe with you.

Pick perfect pumpkins and more this fall!



Abbey Farm
2855 Hart Rd, Aurora
630-966-7775

Pumpkins, Corn Maze, farm activities

Norton Farm

39W389 Route 64, St. Charles
630-377-8118

Pumpkins, gourds, Indian corn and corn bundles

Kuiper's Family Farm

01N145 Watson Road
Maple Park • 815-827-5200

Family u-pick apples, pumpkins, kids' activities, corn maze & more

Enjoy Pioneer Farm

17N400 Big Timber Road
Hampshire • 847-683-2863

Pumpkins, broom corn, corn stalks, Indian corn, straw, gourds, squash & petting zoo

Gould Cider Mill

2S230 Green Road, Elburn
630-365-2233

Fresh cider, apples, pumpkins, squash gourds, honey, (u-pick apples).

Goebbert's Pumpkin Patch

Rt. 47 & Reinking Road
Hampshire • 847-464-5952

Pick your own pumpkin, petting zoo, pony rides, corn maze, & more

The Pumpkin Wagon

12N860 Rt. 2, Elgin
847-697-2538

Pumpkins, squash, straw.

Tom's Farm Market & Greenhouse

10214 Algonquin Rd., Huntley,
847-669-3421

Pumpkins and fall ornamentals

Ben's Giant Pumpkins & Farm Market

43W200 Jericho Rd.,
Sugar Grove • 630-466-1331

Pumpkins and fall ornamentals

Sugar Grove Pumpkin Farm & Produce

4S041 Merrill Rd, Sugar Grove
815-901-6887

Pumpkins, kids activities and corn maze

Theis Farm Market

6N953 County Line Rd.
Maple Park • 815-757-1090

Pumpkins and fall ornamentals

Windy Acres Farm

37W446 Fabyan Parkway
Geneva, IL • 630-232-6429



Women's Corner

By Louise Johnson
Women's Committee Chair



Happy Fall!

Get your Fall decorations from farmers' markets, family farm centers or even the Kane County Farm Bureau office. Get your ornamental corn, pumpkins, gourds, and fresh-from-the-field cornstalks, from a local farmer who has grown them. Other items are carried, too, for your decorating pleasure.

Prior to bringing in an outside plant, you may want to treat it for insects. Spray it with a well-mixed solution of 1 T. vegetable oil, 1 tsp. mild liquid dish soap, and 1 qt. water. Or purchase a product at your local

nursery.

Now that students have been in school a month, do their gym shoes reek? Put baking soda in each shoe and shake it all around. After letting the shoes sit overnight, dump out the baking soda. The smell should disappear. (I suggest all the shaking and dumping be done outside.)

Are you a home-gardener? Do you wish you could save some of this abundance for later? Here is a recipe posted online by my friend, Betty P.

Fresh Cucumber Salad...

stays in the frig up to 2 months!
7 cups unpeeled pickling cucumbers, sliced thin (about 7 large dills)

1 cup sliced onions
1 cup sliced bell peppers
1 Tbsp. salt
1 cup white vinegar
2 cups sugar (Betty replaces the sugar with a sweetener/sugar-substitute.)

1 tsp. celery seed
1 tsp. mustard seed
Mix cucumbers, onions, peppers and salt; set aside.

Put vinegar, sugar, celery seed and mustard seed in a pot and bring to a boil.

Remove from heat and let cool for one hour.

Pour cooled mixture over cucumber mixture; put in jars; store in refrigerator.

This will keep up to 2 months in the refrigerator.

What is Agritourism?

by Jane Eckert, Agritourism speaker/consultant

Agritourism is where agriculture and tourism intersect, as farms and ranches invite the public onto their property to experience the out of doors, the leisure pace, and the healthy and nutritious produce that is only possible when it is fresh picked at the peak of perfection.

Agritourism, one of the fastest growing segments of the travel industry, includes visits to working farms, ranches, wineries and agricultural industries. Agri-destinations offer a huge variety of entertainment, education, relaxation, outdoor adventures, shopping and dining experiences.

Why is Agritourism growing

so fast?

People want a new experience – an escape from the stress of traffic jams, office cubicles and carpooling! Parents want their children to know how food is grown and that milk actually comes from a cow – not a carton! Families enjoy a drive to the country and spending the day together, especially in these times.

What is the emotional appeal of Agritourism?

Most of us have a farm somewhere on our family tree. Maybe our parents were raised on a farm, or we have fond memories of spending summers on our grandparents' farms. Agritourism rekindles the positive emotions from these family visits.

Recruiter of the Month

Each month we honor the person who signs the most members into our organization. This month, the honor goes to Felipe Rocha! Felipe has been a COUNTRY Financial Representative since August of 2011. His office is located at 541 N. Lake Street, Aurora. As a token of our appreciation, Felipe receives two tickets to Charlestowne Movie Theater. Thank you for your continued

support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success!



Felipe Rocha

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Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation 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.

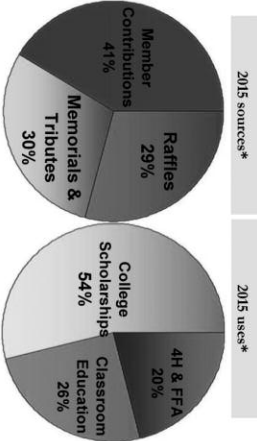


Chuck Swanson Memorial Scholarship

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



*Excludes Harvest for ALL, where 100% of contributions are channeled directly to local food pantries, with no administrative costs.

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.

Mary L. Heckel Blicke 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 Roberg** of St. Charles.



John Buck Memorial Scholarship

Luke Duntzman 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 Tomorrow

FOOD FORWARD

Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION

FOOD>Forward is an initiative to raise funds for classroom education about food and farming & to provide college scholarships for local students studying for careers in agriculture. There will be 2 billion more people to feed globally by 2050. It is estimated that between 2015 and 2020, there will be approx. 57,900 annual openings for careers within agriculture. Statistics show a gap of 22,500 college grads annually for jobs in agriculture related fields.

The best way to meet the global food challenge is for farming, agriculture and food policy to attract and retain the best minds. Support of FOOD>Forward funds classroom outreach, getting kids excited about the industry and teaching them how their food is raised. It also provides dozens of annual college scholarships for students in ag majors.



Food for Today

KCFB was awarded the 2014 Service 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.



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SPROUTS

During SPROUTS (Spring Program of Reading 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. SAII2 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.

Foundation Memorials have been established by the family and friends of several Farm Bureau Members upon the passing of a loved one. Funds may be earmarked by contributors to benefit specific Foundation programs/scholarships.



Mary L. Heckel Blicke

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.



Alexandra Ruse
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 County 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.

Bucket Raffles - The Foundation holds an annual Bucket Raffle at the County Fair. Local business donate items & gift certificates & farmers buy raffle tickets to place in the bucket of the prize they hope to



U of I Extension Grant

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

National AITC Conference

Annual participation in National AITC Conference tours, workshops, exhibits & contracts 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)

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