

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. 88 NO. 9 SEPTEMBER 2023



FARMS & FOOD GALA

A FUN, FESTIVE TIME AND A FUNDRAISER FOR OUR FOUNDATION

Join us at our inaugural gala!



Scan the QR code to visit the Gala website

We're excited for you to join us at our inaugural For the Future of Farms & Food Gala on Sunday, September 17th at The Venue at Goebbert's in Pingree Grove.

We'll celebrate and share the work and successes of the Foundation. Help us raise vital funds to support our scholarship and agricultural literacy programs and ensure the future of farms and food.

The evening will start with our 2023 Vintage Truck Raffle drawing and cocktails at 5:00 pm, followed by dinner and program at 6:30, and live

music and dancing starting at 8:00 pm.

We look forward to mingling with friends and associates that have helped shape and contribute to the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, including scholarship recipients and local business leaders.

See page 8 for information about pricing, ticket orders and table reservations, or scan the QR code at left to purchase tickets online. **Ticket purchase deadline is September 6th, 2023.** Cocktail attire and complimentary parking.

See you soon!

September Featured Food

Black & Blue or Bacon Cheeseburgers

This month we're offering Inboden's very own Black and Blue Burgers or Bacon Cheeseburgers! It's all in there – ground beef, bacon and cheese. One of the most popular sellers! If you're looking for something a little more savory and sophisticated, try a box of the blackened seasoned, black and blue burgers with a kick of creamy blue cheese. Try pairing your burger with grilled onions and toasting the buns for both these September featured burgers! Each box contains 8, half lb. patties, and priced at \$28.50 per box. **PLUS members always receive a 5% discount. Available while supplies last.**

Please feel free to call ahead and reserve a box.

KCFB CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2023

- 4 Labor Day – Office Closed
- 14 Scholarship fundraiser BBQ drive thru, 3-7pm
- Board of Directors, 7pm
- 17 5pm – 2023 Vintage Truck Raffle drawing,
- 6 pm – For the Future of Farms & Food Gala, 6-10 pm, The Venue at Goebbert's, Pingree Grove. Ticket sales end Sept. 6. See page 8 for more info.
- 17-23 National Farm Safety & Health Week
- 21 Agriculture Cmte, 10 am, Kane County Bd.
- 22 Mums and Fall Décor Sale starts

(All at KCFB, 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles unless otherwise noted)

Chicago Wilderness Alliance tour includes stop at IPPRG

The Chicago Wilderness Alliance hosted an August 15th tour of "hotspots" in Kane County that included the Kane County Farm Bureau's ILLINOIS Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden. The group of 50 plus members met at KCFB in the morning, toured the garden

and listened to a presentation on the design and installation of the garden, and then traveled by bus to subsequent stops.

The group visited Weathered Ways Farm in Geneva, a USDA Certified Organic Agricultural Incubator; ag cooperative CHS Elburn, the nation's leading

farmer-owned cooperative; Birdflower Farm in Virgil, home to an orchard and prairie patch; Heritage Prairie Farm in Elburn for a presentation from U of I State Master Naturalist Duane Friend; the gardens of the Rising Lights Project in Elburn; and Garfield Farm and Museum, the 19th century farmstead in LaFox.

The Chicago Wilderness Alliance is a regional collaborative of hundreds of partner organizations and individuals

working to implement landscape-scale approaches to conservation in and around the southern shores of Lake Michigan including members from Southeast Wisconsin, Northeast Illinois, Northwest Indiana, and Southwest Michigan. The Alliance focuses on landscape-scale efforts across the southern Lake Michigan region because nature needs connections across all geopolitical boundaries.



A group of more than 50 members of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance kicked off their day with a tour of the Kane County Farm Bureau's ILLINOIS Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden before rolling out for visits to local farms with a focus on floriculture. The group concluded their day back at KCFB with a sweet treat provided by Oberweis Ice Cream.

Last chance! Vintage Truck Raffle drawing Sept. 17

Get your tickets for this 1965 International Harvester D900 pickup truck to be raffled at the Venue at Goebberts on Sunday, September 17th, 2023.

Tickets are \$15 each, 2 for \$25 or 5 for \$50 and ticket sales

help provide Ag Literacy programs and college scholarships for Kane County students.

Return the form on page 8, stop by, or call the Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660 to purchase your tickets with VISA or MasterCard.



The KCFB Foundation is sponsoring a Vintage Truck Raffle to raise funds for College Scholarships and Ag Literacy programs. The Grand Prize in the 2023 raffle is this bright blue 1965 IH D900 step-side pickup.

Farm toy of the month

Harvest time is around the corner, and carpet farmers will have plenty to do with this Tomy

our Farm Bureau Country Store and save 10% on this farm toy playset. See you soon!

Case farm toy playset, with 20 pieces including pickup truck, grain wagons, trailer, combine, tractor, horses and more.

The price is \$22.24, but during September, visit



The MUMS are back!

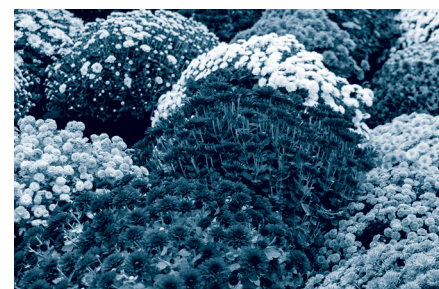
Fall Harvest Décor arrives in September

Back by popular demand – beautiful mums and other décor ready to add a splash of autumn color! With fall right around the corner, it's time to think about decorating your home or business with fall harvest décor from the Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION.

This yearly fundraiser, with all proceeds benefitting Ag Literacy and scholarship programs, is sure to be your one-stop-shop for fall décor. We expect décor to arrive and sale to start Friday,

September 22nd. It will be displayed on our lawn and on the parking lot area directly in front of Costco.

Follow us on Facebook for updates or call (630) 584-8660 with any questions.



Take those unproductive low spots and put them into habitat

By Patrick McParlan, CPESC
Kane Dupage Soil & Water
Conservation District

The Illinois Sustainable Agriculture Program (IASP) has released the Edge of Field Incentive Directory for Illinois, a valuable resource for farmers interested in financial and technical assistance for edge-of-field practices. These practices intercept, capture, and treat subsurface drainage or surface runoff at the field level, offering downstream benefits. The directory includes information on publicly and privately funded programs at federal and state levels, as well as stacking



opportunities to maximize incentives.

By comparing programs side by side, you can find options that suit your unique needs. ISAP's

goal is to raise awareness and provide up-to-date information on Edge of Field opportunities, empowering you to integrate

conservation practices into your operations. Explore the directory on their website and reach out to the listed program contacts for more details. Join the network and access valuable resources for your farm!

Use the following website for additional background with a directory of edge of field practices, along with options for cost-sharing these practices!

<https://ilsustainableag.org/isap-publishes-companion-incentive-directory-for-edge-of-field-practices/>

Reach out to Kane County Soil and Water Conservation District – we can help you craft a plan to fit your operation: contact@kanedupageswcd.org.

From the IFB President

IFB was asked by American Farm Bureau Federation to join the “Farm Bill for America’s Families” campaign recently.

Twenty groups representing agriculture, the environment, forestry, wildlife, and nutrition joined together to launch the campaign, which promotes the benefits of the Farm Bill and encourages lawmakers to pass the bill in 2023. The website has great information on the broad positive impacts of the Farm Bill. Farm Bill for America’s Families believes that together, we can ensure our food system remains thriving and sustainable for all Americans, for generations to come.

The educational campaign is geared at urban and suburban consumers, leaders, and lawmakers. Keep in mind that 260 members of Congress have never voted for a Farm Bill. The campaign aims to highlight the Farm Bill’s profound impact on the well-being of all Americans, including in areas of:

- Food security
- Job creation
- Conservation
- Risk management, and
- Addressing hunger

Illinois Farm Bureau has joined the campaign and has extended an invitation to county Farm Bureau boards also to join. (Kane County Farm Bureau has submitted a request to AFBF to join the campaign)

We keep our Farm Bill talking points posted within IFB Weekly and on the Leader’s Portal. Additionally, our National Affairs team invites you to learn more about our Farm Bill work at ilfb.org > farmer and rural resources > 2023 farm bill. Our official campaign began with planting visits with members of Congress in late March.



Richard Guebert,
IFB President

2023 Farm Bill Priorities Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) Farm Bill Priorities

With the current farm bill set to expire on September 30, 2023, IFB has been working with members of the Illinois congressional delegation to ensure our priorities are included in the bill. Priorities for the farm bill come directly from the grassroots policy process and reflect the beliefs and ideas of our membership.

First and foremost, we hope to see a farm bill drafted and enacted before the year is over.

IFB believes the farm bill must:

- Maintain current crop insurance programming.
- Be WTO-compliant, provide price and revenue protection for farmers, and link nutrition and commodity programs.
- Maintain both SNAP and TEFAP in their current form.

Title 1 – Commodity programs

- We Support:
- Allowing farmers to update base acres and yields.
 - Increased commodity loan rates.
 - Inflation-adjusted farm program payment limits.
 - Producers or landowners – subject to a new or a previous farm reconstitution – to combine farms or maintain an individual farm number.
 - Producers who elect to include HPO should be allowed to receive the harvest price if it is higher on prevented plant acres.

- Dairy risk management programs that address negative price differentials; changing or eliminating state-by-state adjustment factors in Dairy – RP that greatly limited support to producers; improving the accuracy of the DMC feed price component; providing NASS with sufficient resources to estimate alfalfa prices more accurately.

Title II – Conservation Programs:

IFB supports improvements to USDA Conservation Programs including:

- Five-year CRP contracts.
- A flexible, renewable one-year program that pays rates like CRP that incentivize nutrient loss reduction and other programs that incentivize water quality improvements.
- Carbon sequestration incentives for farmers who use cover crops.
- A new water quality credit for producers.
- Using CSP to reward operators for practices they have already adopted and allow them to earn more points for maintaining practices over time.
- Hiring more conservation engineers.
- Providing additional flexibility for harvesting cover crops for feed during normal growing conditions.

Title XI – Crop Insurance:

- We support:
- Creation of a local or state-farmer committee to hear farmer appeals of RMA decisions on overspray and planting dates or on any decision that adversely impacts crop insurance policy holders.

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE												
JANUARY 2023 THRU DECEMBER 2023												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
C. BRADLEY	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
B. COLLINS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
C. COLLINS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
B. DIENST^						X	X					
M. DUMOULIN^						X	X	*				
K. ENGEL			*	*	X	X	X					
G. GAITSCH	X	*	X	X	X	X	X					
B. GEHRKE	X		X	X	X	X	X	X				
W. KECK	X	X		*	X	X	X	X				
M. KENYON	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
K. KETTLEKAMP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
A. LENKAITIS		X		*	*	X	*	*				
D. PITSTICK			X	X	X	X	X	X				
W. SCHNEIDER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
J. WHITE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

* Attendance by electronic means. ^ Elected June 2023.



Development and Ag Literacy Coordinator, Kelcee Miller had some special guests surprise her at work last month. Kelcee’s youngest nephew, Oliver Petrizzi (23 months) of Geneva is pictured sitting on the 1755 Oliver Pedal Tractor in the KCFB Country Store.

Welcome new members

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

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

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

Kane County Farmer

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Steven J. Arnold, Editor

Audre Pack, Bookkeeper

Elizabeth Polovin, Office Manager

Kelcee Miller, Development & Ag Literacy Program Coordinator

Alice Macha, Communications Coordinator

Jenna Rowe, Office Assistant

Mike Andresen, Building & Grounds

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: 8:30-4:30 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

Joe White
President
47W727 Main St. Rd.
Elburn, IL 60119
630-878-1726

Dale Pitstick
Vice President
2N118 Pouley Rd.
Elburn, IL 60119
630-816-0223

Chris Collins
Secretary/Treasurer
1143 Anderson
Elburn, IL 60119
630-934-4642

Craig Bradley
37W791 Orchard Lane
Elgin, IL 60124
847-888-2380

Bill Collins
1125 Lewis Rd.
Geneva, IL 60134
630-484-6852

Brett Dienst
815-693-6888
6N077 McGough Rd
Maple Park, IL
60151-9367

Michelle Dumoulin
847-778-1418
16N393 Walker Rd
Hampshire, IL
60140-8228

Keith Engel
15N587 Walker Rd.
Hampshire, IL 60140
630-640-3665

Gerald Gaitsch
10613 Brittany Ave.
Huntley, IL 60142
847-669-2003

Beth Gehrke
12N860 US Hwy. 20
Elgin, IL 60124
847-697-2538

William Keck
P.O. Box 281
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
(630) 466-4030

Mike Kenyon
1250 E. Main St.
South Elgin, IL 60177
847-741-1818

Karl Kettelkamp
47W407 Main Street Rd.
Elburn, IL 60119
630-365-2713

Andrew Lenkaitis
6N707 Corron Rd.
St. Charles, IL 60175
630-513-9980

Wayne Schneider
721 Lindsay Lane
West Dundee, IL 60118
847-428-0488



TRELLIS

Pet Food • Propane
Salt • Delivery

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



St Charles and Wasco 630-584-2024

Did you know?

Kane County Farm Bureau has been serving agriculture and community for 110 years, since 1912!

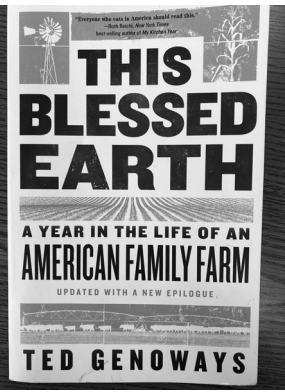
Drive-thru BBQs for KCFB Foundation

Three drive-thru BBQ events remain for this year, and our September BBQ drive-thrus for college scholarships are Thursdays, September 14 & 28 on the parking lot at the Farm Bureau on Randall Rd. in St. Charles.

From 3 pm to 7 pm, drive-thru diners can choose from 3 meals at \$18 each (if paid in advance), a 2 pork chop meal; or 2 chicken quarters; or a 1 pork chop, 1 chicken quarter combo. All meals come with baked beans, coleslaw, apple sauce, a roll and butter.

The Farm Bureau parking lot is set up for fast and convenient drive-thru service — order for the entire family! Meals will also be available on a limited basis for drive-ups without a reservation at a slightly higher, \$19 price.

All sales benefit the KCFB Foundation and meal reservation, and pre-payment is encouraged. To reserve your meals and pre-pay, return the form on page 6 or call KCFB at 630-584-8660.



Special thanks to Suzi Myers of St. Charles for her recent addition to the KCFB Little Lending Library! Find This Blessed Earth – A Year in the Life of an American Family Farm by Ted Genoways along with other little treasures in the little red barn located underneath the windmill at KCFB.

National Farm Safety & Health Week



Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) is again partnering with the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) to promote farm safety and health during National Farm Safety and Health Week, themed, ‘No One Can Take Your Place,’ Sept. 17-23, 2023.

“We’re excited to help promote and support NECAS’s efforts in keeping farmers and farm families safe,” said Steve Arnold, Manager, Kane County Farm Bureau. “Harvest season can be particularly dangerous for farmers with long hours and stress of weather delays, equipment breakdowns or high operating costs, and this year’s activities will reinforce the importance of organizations like ours working together to ensure farmers make it home safely to their families at night.”

Each day of the week has a designated topic of focus to promote various aspects of farm

time can be one of the busiest and most dangerous seasons of the year for the agriculture industry. For this reason, the third week of September has been recognized as National Farm Safety and Health Week.

“Farmers are notorious for their work ethic and determination, both qualities that also can be a detriment when it comes to safety,” said Arnold. “While farm safety is top of mind every week for farmers, their families and their employees, National Farm Safety and Health Week is an opportunity to spotlight safety reminders that keep those both inside and outside the agriculture industry aware and mindful during the busy harvest season.”

For more information about National Farm Safety and Health Week, contact your local county Farm Bureau, visit www.necasag.org, or contact Donna Gallivan at 309-557-2350 or dgallivan@ifb.org.

- safety:
- Monday, Sept. 18 – Equipment and Rural Roadway Safety
 - Tuesday, Sept. 19 – Health and Wellness
 - Wednesday, Sept. 20 – Priority Populations
 - Thursday, Sept. 21 – Confined Spaces
 - Friday, Sept. 22 – Brain Health

The 2019 data for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the agricultural sector is still the most dangerous in America with 573 fatalities, or an equivalent of 23.1 deaths per 100,000 workers. Fall harvest

The IPPRG bustles with bugs & bees

The ILLINOIS Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden did double duty in August. It welcomed wildlife from giant black wasps and monarch butterflies to American Goldfinches seeking coneflower seeds. It also weathered a couple of rain events, processing runoff from the KCFB parking lot

into the “southern Illinois” wetlands and benefiting the swamp milkweed. Stop by, say hi, and enjoy the IPPRG!



Spikes of *Liatris* are exclamation points in the IPPRG; a monarch with torn right wing is busy in the Swamp Milkweed.



Come out and travel with fellow FB members!

See three “Belles of the South”: Charleston, Jekyll Island and Savannah. Tour Dates: March 15-21, 2024.

The beautiful Spanish Moss-draped oaks, antebellum mansions, lush gardens, and ornate architecture will make you feel like you’ve stepped back in time! Enjoy southern hospitality while visiting coastal islands, historic plantations, and beautiful cities! Our second travel opportunity

will take you abroad. The Danube Explorer tour will visit

five countries: The Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary and enjoy a seven night cruise in a suite or stateroom of your choice onboard an Emerald Waterways Star-ship.

Tour Dates: August 24-September 3, 2024.

Please call for more information – 630-584-8660.

Northern Illinois Farm Bureaus have TWO great travel opportunities



More than 50 members of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance gathered at Kane County Farm Bureau’s ILLINOIS Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden before rolling out for visits to local farms with a focus on floriculture. Here the group chats with Melissa Wheeler, VP of Encap, Inc. See story on page 1.

Illinois is a leading producer of soybeans, corn, and swine. The state’s climate and varied soil types enable farmers to grow and raise many other agricultural commodities, including cattle, wheat, oats, sorghum, hay, sheep, poultry, fruits, and vegetables. Illinois also produces several specialty crops, such as buckwheat, horseradish, lima beans, grapes and Christmas trees.

Illinois ranks third nationally in the export of agricultural commodities with \$8.2 billion worth of goods shipped to other countries. Exports from Illinois account for 6 percent of all U.S. agricultural exports. Illinois is the nation’s second leading exporter of both soybeans and feed grains and related products. Approximately 44 percent of grain produced in Illinois is sold for export. The Illinois Department of Agriculture promotes items produced, processed or packaged in Illinois through international and domestic marketing exhibits, trade missions, industry tours, publications, the Illinois Product Logo program and an electronic database for trade leads.



Thanks to our donors

The KCFB FOUNDATION offers its sincere appreciation to the following for their contributions to our hunger relief, community service, education, and scholarship programs. Names shown are contributions received July 15-August 16, 2023.



Donor	Beneficiary
Gould Family Farms, LLC	GALA Platinum Sponsor
Compeer Financial	GALA Platinum Sponsor
Luck-E Wagyu	GALA Platinum Sponsor
Woodman’s Markets	GALA Platinum Sponsor
Allan J. Larson (Fiorentino, Larson & Associates)	GALA Gold Sponsor
Sandman Insurance Agency Inc.	GALA Gold Sponsor
CHS Inc.	GALA Gold Sponsor
Cargill	GALA Gold Sponsor
Dunteman Ag Partners	GALA Gold Sponsor
State Representative Jeff Keicher	GALA Silver Sponsor
L&H Farm Limited Partnership LLC	GALA Silver Sponsor
Midwest Groundcovers LLC	GALA Silver Sponsor
James O’Connell Farm	GALA Silver Sponsor
Espe Auctioneering	GALA Bronze Sponsor
Stephanie L. Butler Law Office, LLC	GALA Bronze Sponsor
NuTech Seed	GALA Bronze Sponsor
Corcoran Commercial Real Estates	GALA Bronze Sponsor
Martin, Goodrich & Waddell, Inc.	GALA Bronze Sponsor
KCF Market, Inc.	GALA Bronze Sponsor
Midwest Trading	GALA Bronze Sponsor
Terramac	GALA Bronze Sponsor
Doty Nurseries LLC	GALA Bronze Sponsor
Illinois State Senator Donald Dewitte	GALA Bronze Sponsor
Plandscape, Inc.	GALA Bronze Sponsor
BASF	GALA Friend of KCFB Sponsor
The Clausen Group, LLP	GALA Friend of KCFB Sponsor
Johnson Tractor, Inc.	GALA Friend of KCFB Sponsor
ENCAP, Inc.	GALA Friend of KCFB Sponsor
Blain’s Farm & Fleet of Sycamore	GALA Friend of KCFB Sponsor
DeKalb Implement	GALA Friend of KCFB Sponsor
Beulah Swanson	KCFB Foundation (Swanson Scholarship)

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

Thank you to all the generous donors and volunteers who support Kane County Farm Bureau!

AG LITERACY CORNER

By Kelcee Miller, Development & Ag Literacy Program Coordinator



Can we believe school is back in session? Summer sure has a tendency to fly by, but as the saying goes time flies when you're having fun!

Joanie Stiers's Farm Gate column this month has me reminiscing about my college years and I will say they were some of the best and most challenging years of my young adult life. My family was also one of those families utilizing pig and snowmobile trailers when I moved into my college apartments too! So I can confirm – it is a thing!

For those of you who know my story, I chose the non-traditional college route. At the time, I didn't necessarily see it as a blessing until I grew up a little bit. I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to attend a few different colleges (4 different schools but who's counting) during my journey that all helped to mold and guide me to where I am at today. It's not the most traditional route from A to B but as we all know, some of the best adventures happen when you lean into the unknown and embrace the unique moments along the way.

I know if it were not for those experiences I would not be here today writing to you all.

None of those experiences would have been possible if I didn't have the financial assistance of scholarships, assistantships, my parents and student loans. While I know college and higher education is not always for everyone, the future of farms and food is.

In my role at KCFB I wear more than one hat. It is my job to promote ag-literacy opportunities and resources in schools for teachers and their students as well as promote the mission of our KCFB Foundation through various events and activities to support education, scholarships, leadership development, research and charitable activities for the benefit of agriculture and farm families and thus, our futures.

As you may know, the KCFB Foundation is hosting their first-ever Gala event on Sunday, September 17th at The Venue at Goebbert's. These last few months, I have been fortunate enough to have a front row seat alongside the KCFB

Foundation, Gala Organizing Committee and staff as we have talked through decisions, solicited businesses, organized spreadsheets (yes, please note the "s" because it's been spreadsheet city over here!), and shared and made memories along the way. We are all really looking forward to seeing the final product comes together and sharing it with you!

On Sunday, September 17th we will be kicking off the event by selecting the winner of our 1965 International Harvester D900 and then celebrating the hard work and successes of our KCFB Foundation! And what better way to do that than with good food, cold beverages, a live band, dancing, and great company! An event you definitely won't want to miss!

Don't worry, there's still time to purchase tickets, sponsorships, or even donate an item for our auction! Want more info? Look on page 8 for the QR code or give us a call anytime, 630-584-8660. I hope you are able to join the fun and help us celebrate not only the accomplishments of the Foundation but the legacy it has created and continues to provide for the future of farms, food, and families.

See you on the dance floor & Happy September!

You're invited to our inaugural *For the Future of Farms & Food Gala!* See page 1

Helping you protect what matters most



Jeffrey Orman
Agency Manager
St. Charles
630-584-0001



Bob Effner
St. Charles
630-588-2002



Kelly Landorf
St. Charles
630-762-1328



Jeff Jones
St. Charles
630-492-5293



Norma Grathoff
St. Charles
630-492-5324



Laura Osters
St. Charles
630-762-1326



Chris Regula
St. Charles
630-485-5155



Donna Tonovitz
St. Charles
630-549-7694



Orazio Difruscolo
St. Charles
630-549-7696



Ashraf Gerges
Aurora
630-898-3750



Edward Stuehm
Geneva
630-845-8245



Michael O'Brien
Geneva
630-762-0852



Luke Fawkes
Flgin
847-742-0002



Victor Alvarado
Flgin
847-742-0003



Miryam Cabrera
Flgin
630-762-1329



Bob Riedel
West Dundee
847-428-5434



Gary Bolger
West Dundee
847-531-6110



Sherri Schramer
Flburn
630-365-9500



Dominick Davero
Flburn
630-365-3737



Charles Quick
Hampshire
847-683-2100



David Berreles
Hampshire
847-683-2100



Dan Cooper
Sugar Grove
630-466-9600



Ted Schuster
Sugar Grove
630-466-9600

"COUNTRY Financial" is the marketing name for the COUNTRY Financial family of affiliated companies collectively, "COUNTRY", which include COUNTRY Life Insurance Company, COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company, and their respective subsidiaries, located in Bloomington, Illinois.

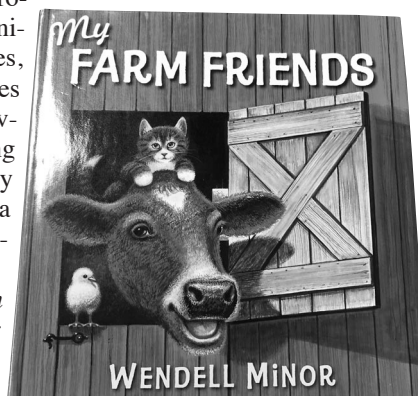


Book of the month

The September book of the month is *My Farm Friends* by Wendell Minor, the Aurora born author and illustrator of over 50 children's books.

This charming book introduces us to "All kinds of animals on the farm – furry ones, feathered ones, woolly ones too." We explore their behavior through simple rhyming prose and charming, richly colored illustrations. It is a perfect book for young animal lovers.

To check out *My Farm Friends* or any of the other agriculture and nature themed titles in our library, visit Kane County Farm Bureau and claim your book!



My Farm Friends by Wendell Minor

The Kane County Farm Bureau Library was made possible by Bob Konen and Dean Dunn, and later supported by the Bob Konen family.

IL Ag in the Classroom grant opportunities

Illinois Ag in the Classroom is excited to be offering two classroom grant opportunities for Illinois teachers for NEXT! Educators can apply for \$250 in ag-accurate books curated by our staff or \$300 for a new ag-themed project for your classroom. Applications due Friday, October 10, 2023. Apply for the Book Grant: <http://iaitc.co/bookgrants>

Apply for the Project Grant: <http://iaitc.co/projectgrants>.

IAITC Book and Project Grants due 10.10.23.

Illinois AGRICULTURE in the Classroom

BOOK AND PROJECT GRANTS

Classroom grants for Illinois teachers to stock your classroom library and fund your newest project!

Application deadline: Friday, October 20, 2023

Teachers selected for funding will be notified on or before November 10, 2023

Find the applications online at <http://iaitc.co/bookgrants> and <http://iaitc.co/projectgrants>

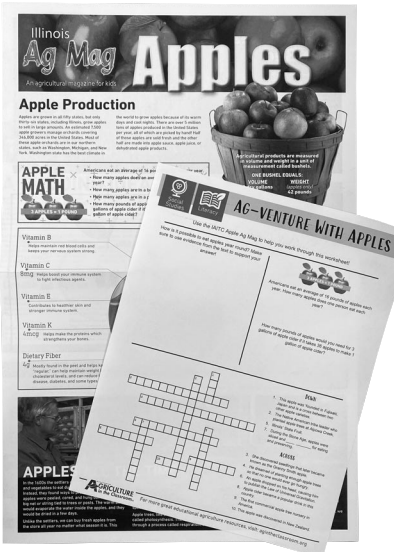
Lesson-In-A-Bucket

Are you or a loved one a teacher in Kane County? Have you been searching for new ways to inspire your students? Then you NEED Lesson-In-A-Bucket! KCFB has monthly themed ag-lessons in a 5-gallon chore bucket – yes, like the ones you would find on the farm! Each bucket is loaded with themed books, activities, and Ag-Mags geared toward K-5 classrooms, concentrating on ag topics like apples, pumpkins, and soil.

We couldn't have picked a more perfect topic to kick-off the school year we are running again in September because it was a hot seller last month! So if you missed it, you're in luck! September's Lesson-in-a-Bucket theme is all about Apples. Inspire students with a bucket of lessons about apples and its importance to agriculture including a classroom set of Apple Ag-Mags and Apple Ag-Ventures. Students will learn how to form a quality hypothesis and complete an experiment while learning about the tasty fruit, with an activity called "Browning Apples." Also included is a new and interactive lesson called, "Healthy Trees: Apple Addition" that is designed to help students better understand the many factors necessary to grow healthy apple trees, all while practice multiple step math equations.

Each of the lesson plans inside the bucket lay out the

learning blueprint including target grade, subject, length of lesson, objective, materials needed, standards, suggested readings as well as instructions from beginning to end. Your students will apple-solutely enjoy learning all about apples the paired readings such as *The Apple Orchard Riddle* written by Margaret McNamara and *The Apple Pie Tree* by Zoe Hall. The double-sided posters complete with information about Illinois grown apples and facts on one side and pumpkins on the other will make your students give you all the in-cider information about this month's theme of apples and give you a glimpse into next month's topic! We hope you are excited to branch out and bring agriculture into your classroom! Call Kelcee at 630-584-8660 to reserve your bucket or a previous topic today!



See you at the Gala!



Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Kelcee Miller, Ag Literacy Coordinator



Off to college!

Livestock trailers double as moving vans for students heading off to college from farms. Not a baa-d idea!

3 ingredient Slow cooker salsa chicken

Joanie's content this month (Farm Gate, page 6) has me reminiscing about my college experiences. And with it being back-to-school time for most, I thought it would be a perfect time to share one of my favorite college staple meals, crockpot chicken salsa! What I loved most about this meal was how easy it was to doctor it up or easily pair it with tacos or chips - or all of the above! It's a quick and easy meal that didn't break the bank and I could eat over the course of the week, definitely a win-win in my book! Give it a try and let me know what you think!

- Kelcee

Celebrate National Chicken Month with an easy, nutritious,

and budget-friendly chicken meal!

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 jar salsa (15-16oz)
- 1/2 package taco seasoning

Instructions:

Place chicken, salsa, and taco seasoning in the crockpot

Cook on low for 4-6 hours or until it shreds

Grab your favorite taco shell, rice, or tortilla chips, serve & enjoy!

*Optional: Try adding canned corn, different salsa flavors, or beans! Add over a bed of salad and rice or top with sour cream, shredded cheese and avocado! So many different varieties to try!

This simple and delicious recipe may be found here: <https://livelough-rowe.com/3-ingredient-slow-cooker-salsa-chicken>



off to college

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

- Bookshelf
- College
- Equipment
- Experience
- Fair
- Farm
- Floats
- Furniture
- Hayracks
- Lamp
- Livestock
- Microwave
- Move-in
- Pickup
- Pigs
- Resources
- Sandboxes
- Shareable
- Television
- Tractor-tires
- Trailer
- Transport
- Unique
- Water tank

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

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 by September 15, 2023 to be entered in our drawing for a fun prize.

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

10 minute DIY milk & honey soap

Supplies

- 2 lb goat milk soap base
- 5 tbsp raw honey
- Gold soap colorant
- 91% isopropyl alcohol, in a spray bottle
- Microwave-safe measuring cup
- 12" silicone honey comb mold

Instructions:

Slice the goat's milk soap base into small cubes and place into a microwave-safe measuring cup. Melt in the microwave in 30-second increments, stirring well after each session, to ensure that the soap is completely melted.

Carefully stir in gold soap colorant and honey. Pour the melted soap into the mold and spritz with isopropyl alcohol to remove any air bubbles.

Allow the soaps to sit undisturbed until completely firm (approximately 60-90 minutes depending on temperature and

humidity) before unmolding.

See what the buzz is about & enjoy the fruits of your labor!

Find more tips & tricks here: <https://www.happinessishomemade.net/10-minute-diy-milk-honey-soap/>



10-MINUTE DIY MILK & HONEY SOAP
HAPPINESSISHOMEMADE.com

Congratulations

to this month's Word Search winner, **Marilyn Macarthur** of St. Charles. Her entry was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's Word Search Puzzle. For her participation, she receives a fun prize to be picked up at the Farm Bureau within the next 30 days. Prizes will not be mailed. Thank you, Marilyn, for reading the *Kane County Farmer* and continue to watch each month for more great opportunities from the Kane County Farm Bureau.

JOKES

How did the farmer fix a hole in his trousers?
With a cabbage patch!

Why did the farmer want to bury all of his money?
To make the soil rich!

What did the farmer say when one of his cows escaped?
It was a miss-steak!

Why is it hard to talk to goats?
Because they are always kidding!

Jokes provided by:

<https://kidadl.com/funnies/jokes/funny-farm-jokes-for-kids>

September is ...

<i>National</i>			
Blueberry Popsicle Day	2	World Gratitude Day	21
Macadamia Nut Day	4	Ice Cream Cone Day	22
Wildlife Day	4	White Chocolate Day	22
Cheese Pizza Day	5	Apple Cider Vinegar Day	23
Acorn Squash Day	7	Great American Pot Pie Day	23
World Literacy Day	8	Snack Stick Day	23
Farmer's Consumer Awareness Day	9	Cherries Jubilee Day	24
Ants on a Log Day	12	Cooking Day	25
Peanut Day	13	Lobster Day	25
Coloring Day	14	Quesadilla Day	25
Cream Filled Donut Day	14	Pancake Day	26
Food is Medicine Day	14	Chocolate Milk Day	27
Double Cheeseburger Day	15	Strawberry Cream Pie Day	28
Linguine Day	15	Coffee Day	29
Cinnamon Raisin Bread Day	16	Extra Virgin Olive Oil Day	30
International Eat An Apple Day	16		
Apple Dumpling Day	17		
Cheeseburger Day	18		
Rice Krispies Treats Day	18		
Butterscotch Pudding Day	19		
Fried Rice Day	20		
String Cheese Day	20		
Queso Day	20		
Pecan Cookie Day	21		

National Month of:

- Baby Safety Month
- Better Breakfast Month
- Chicken Month
- Food Safety Education Month
- Honey Month
- Papaya Month
- Whole Grain Month

<https://nationaltoday.com/september-holidays/>

Plus membership winner

Congratulations this month to Chris Arnold of Beach Park, IL, the September winner of our Plus (+) member monthly drawing for a FREE KCFB monthly special food product.

The next time Chris stops in our office he will receive a box of FREE burgers from Inboden's Meats in DeKalb, one of the fine food products we

offer each month.

In addition to the discounts and benefits of Plus membership, ALL KCFB PLUS (+) members are entered in a monthly drawing for a featured food product or seasonal prize.

For more information on member benefits, membership upgrades, or PLUS (+) member status, call Liz at 630-584-8660.

What's new at COUNTRY?

St. Charles Agency, Jeff Orman, Agency Manager

Congratulations to Ashraf Gerges, who has been named the July Rep of the Month in the COUNTRY Financial® St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Jeffrey Orman. Ashraf is a great asset to our team and is dedicated to providing tangible plans for addressing the immediate

and long term insurance needs of his clients through our Auto, Home, Farm, Life, Business, and Retirement products and services. Let Ashraf's expertise help you! You may reach Ashraf at 630-898-3750, or Ashraf.Gerges@CountryFinancial.com, or <https://representatives.CountryFinancial.com/AshrafGerges/>.

Congratulations, Ashraf!

Recruiter of the Month

Each month we honor the person who signs the most members into our organization. This month, the honor goes to Alicia Giglione! Alicia has been a COUNTRY Financial Representative since October 2016. Her office



Alicia Giglione

is located at 2000 W Galena Blvd., #206, Aurora and may be reached at: 630-423-9888. Thank you for your continued support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Classified advertising rates: 20 cents per word/\$20 minimum (60 words or less). DISCOUNTS for members: Associate members, 20%; Voting members, 30%; PLUS members, 40%. Advance payment requested. Ads due by the 15th of every month for the next issue. No advertising (classified or display) for financial or insurance services will be accepted. Call 630-584-8660.

SERVICES

MASSAGE THERAPY: Treat yourself to 60 or 90 minutes of relaxation, pain relief, or both. Deep tissue, acupressure, or Swedish. Certified, experienced. Call Susanne Marshall, L.M.T 630-699-5610

WANTED

HOUSE CLEANER WANTED – a few hours per week to fit your schedule, after 5:00 pm or week-ends. Ranch home, no stairs, no heavy lifting, supplies provided. West side of St. Charles, Perfect for student or person wanting extra income. Call: 630-443-6949, after 5 pm

CUSTOMER SERVICE – 30-35 hours weekly, M-F. Applicant must be computer literate, self-starter, with pleasant voice and manner. Some overnight travel required. Office located east side of St. Charles. Offering vacation pay, self-directed savings plan, and partial tuition reimbursement. Call Diane or Bob at 630-377-7797 to arrange an interview.

PRODUCTION ASSOCIATE – 15-25 hours weekly; normal business hours 09:00 to 16:00, M-F. Duties include; Engraving, Laser Production, and Full-Color sublimation. Applicant must be computer literate, self-starter, and able to work independently and as part of a team. Office located east side of St. Charles. Offering vacation pay, self-directed savings plan, and partial tuition reimbursement. Call Diane or Bob at 630-377-7797 to arrange an interview.

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

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous household items Collector toy tractors, small rocking chairs, wood boxes, singer sewing machine. Please call with questions and pictures. Call: 331-642-4818

THE NIGHTS THAT SAY 'KNEE'

By Alice Macha
Communications Coordinator



I am the proud recipient of a total knee replacement, completed in late July. My new knee and I are getting to know each other. It's a joint effort.

My knees performed well for 65 years, accompanying me on countless miles of walks, acres of stairs, hiking in Washington state, and at Midwestern forest preserves and parks. I have enjoyed walking my whole life and it is one of my favorite things to do, whether in cities, on wooded paths or around my neighborhood.

Last November, my knee became "cranky," grinding, snapping, aching and giving me a weekend of constant pain. A few days later, something inside snapped and the pain was impossible to quell or ignore. A visit to an orthopedic surgeon elicited the following comment, "Yep, that knee is worn out. No cartilage – bone on bone."

And so began my odyssey of education and preparation for total knee replacement, a jaunty title for a rather sobering event. I learned about the possibility of infection in a joint that the body does not recognize as its own, the chance that without commit-

ment to physical therapy, the knee will never have the range of the original model, and that artificial knees last about 20 years with reasonable care.

I am pleased to report that my surgery went smoothly. It was bizarre and disquieting to wake up in recovery and not feel my feet, due to spinal anesthesia. I was amazed that after the spinal block wore off, I was able to slide off the bed, stand up and walk with the aid of a walker on an unfelt, foreign object. I hobbled and clumped around the hospital corridors with my still numb new knee, was instructed about how to manage stairs, and was sent home to recuperate and begin home visit physical therapy.

It's interesting that so many of the body functions one takes for granted – joint movement among them – become the focus of concentration after the joint is replaced. I had to seal my surgery wound in Saran Wrap before showering, think and plan my day around PT appointments and ibuprofen doses, and constantly consider simple movements like getting out of bed, up from a chair, and strid-

ing heel-to-toe. All had to be relearned with a new knee.

My knee and I are getting along fairly well now, with the aid of a cane and an "Ice Man" device that pumps cold water through a sleeve over the knee, reducing swelling and easing the aches and pains. The knee chooses 2:00-3:00 a.m. to wake me with aches and pains that are lessened by stretching and flexing at the bathroom vanity, an odd exercise session in the middle of the night. The nights that say knee, indeed.

I am grateful to my sister and friend for alternating visits with me over a two week period, filling my Ice Man, doing laundry, and caring for my confounded cat, who wondered what the heck was wrong with me. I am grateful to my coworkers for their support and for allowing me to concentrate on recovery.

I am thankful that knee replacements are possible, and that I don't have to live with grinding, limping pain for the rest of my life. I look forward to improving enough to resume walking in nature, gardening, and mowing my yard, tasks that have been painful and often impossible for many months. And I look forward to sitting on the sidelines at our For the Future of Farms & Food Gala on September 17th, watching all of you glide across the dance floor with your original equipment knees. See you there, showoffs.

Big Rock Plowing Match dates

The 2023 Big Rock Plowing match is September 16-17, 2023. The 129th Big Rock Plowing Match & Festival – one of the oldest events of its kind in America – will unfold at Plowman's Park, 48W508 Hinkley Road, Big Rock.

The celebration of farming traditions features the plowing competition and includes an array of activities for everyone

in the family, including a Friday night carnival, petting zoo, old-fashioned races and games, pedal tractor pull and train rides.

People of all ages can enjoy the craft and art show, horse show, cattle show and vegetable and grain show, participate in the bags tournament, round bale roll, old time baseball or 5k fun run/walk. The Junior and Ladies Fairs showcase baked goods,

canned goods, handicrafts and photos by kids and adults in competition for over \$3,000 in prize money. Food and beverages are available, and admission and parking are free.

For more information, visit bigrockplowingmatch.com, the Big Rock Plowing Match Facebook page or email bigrockplowingmatch@gmail.com.

Welcome to the next level

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

We remind you of added perks that accompany your new Regular member or Professional Status and thank you for supporting KCFB's efforts at advocacy,

Regular Members

- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Robert Ash | Huntley |
| Jason Biddle | Elburn |
| JB Long Farms | Elburn |
| John McCafferty | St.Charles |
| Thomas Trujillo | St.Charles |

education and hunger relief:

- Professional networking opportunities & engagement with farmers
- Agriculture, farm & food news delivered to your door
- New subscription to *FarmWeek*, the largest weekly agriculture newspaper
- Access to *FarmWeekNow.com*
 - KCFB voting rights & ILFB delegate opportunities
 - Continuing subscription to the Kane County Farmer newspaper
 - Free annual registration at one of seven statewide

conferences

- 302,000 member discounts, including Ford, Lincoln, John Deere, Case IH, restaurants, hotels & travel
- Discounts at the KCFB Country Store on in-house sales of featured local foods

**KCFB Regular membership is required of all who join our association that have a vested interest in and receive income from the production of farm products as an owner or operator of a farm business. Professional Membership status is available for all those employed in agriculture-related occupations, even with no farm income. If you are interested in "next level" membership and the benefits it carries, please contact KCFB in St. Charles at (630) 584-8660.*

You're invited to our inaugural
For the Future of Farms & Food Gala! See page 1

Support what MATTERS
with the IFB VISA CARD

A portion of every purchase on your IFB Visa Card from the IAA Credit Union goes to benefit Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom!

Already a member of your County Farm Bureau? You're eligible to join IAACU.
800.676.2541 www.iaacu.org



Young Farmers gathered for an August get-together at Brett Dienst's family farm shop. They enjoyed pizza and beverages while they conversed about Farm Bureau updates. See the story on page 6.



The KCFB Foundation offers its sincere appreciation to the following businesses for their Platinum sponsorship of our FOR THE FUTURE OF Farms & Food Gala.

Thank you, sponsors!

Platinum Sponsors



ST. CHARLES-ELGIN AGENCY



EMPLOYEE OWNED



Ticket purchase deadline is September 6th, 2023.

Join us at our inaugural gala! SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 AT THE VENUE AT GOEBBERT'S

KCFB Foundation For the Future of Farms & Food Gala Sunday, September 17 • 5:00-10:00 PM The Venue at Goebbert's

_____ tickets @ \$125 per person Ticket sales end September 6th _____ \$900 table of 8.

Sponsorship opportunities

- _____ Platinum sponsor (\$3,000)
_____ Gold Sponsor (\$2,000)
_____ Silver Sponsor (\$1,000)
_____ Bronze Sponsor (\$500)
_____ Friend of the KCFB Foundation (\$250)



OR Scan the QR code to order tickets online

- I cannot attend but would like to donate \$_____ to the KCFB Foundation to support its mission.
I would like to donate an item(s) for a live or silent auction or raffle(s):

Name _____
Organization _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (_____) _____
Email _____

Make checks payable to: KCFB Foundation 2N710 Randall Rd, St. Charles, IL 60174 Call (630) 584-8660 to pay with Visa/MC.

KCFB at August National Night Out in Campton Hills

Last month the Kane County Farm Bureau Young Farmers helped to celebrate National Night Out in Campton Hills with Sarah & Andy Lenkaitis.

A special attraction at National Night Out was the day-old newborn baby calf provided by Andy & Sarah Lenkaitis of Campton Hills. Visitors loved being able to snap pictures and pet the calf!

The 1965 IH D900 pickup truck was a sight to see for all ages! Youngsters had blast sitting in the driver's seat and dreaming of driving down the road while adults purchased tickets to hopefully make their dream a reality in winning the truck!

The Kane County Farm Bureau Young Farmers had a variety of ag-literacy and other materials to give to kids and parents including Ag-Mags, IAITC '23-24 calendars, crayons, and coloring books!



Did you know? Kane County Farm Bureau's new Prairie Pollinator Rain Garden and Little Lending Library are outreach and community service efforts to help educate the public about the importance of agriculture, farmers, farms and food, and about farmers efforts to protect the environment.

KCFB Foundation/Fay's BBQ Drive-Thru Fundraisers

Sept 14 & 28 Oct 12 YUM! At Kane County Farm Bureau, Randall Rd. at Oak St., St. Charles

Vintage Truck Raffle • KCFB Foundation

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

Drawing is Sunday, Sept. 17th!

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____ Phone (_____) _____

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

_____ Visa _____ MC _____ Discover: _____ Exp _____ / _____

Signature _____ Date _____