

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. 83 NO. 2 FEBRUARY 2018

Shopping Spree to provide hunger relief

On Friday, February 9th, Kane County Farm Bureau will host its 17th annual Food Check-Out "Challenge," a Shopping Spree to benefit local food pantries. The public is invited to come watch Kane County Board Member, District 2, Theresa Barreiro, and Elburn Village President, Jeffrey Walter, race to collect food to help restock the shelves of two area food pantries. The pantries they have chosen to represent are Elburn Food Pantry and Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry in Aurora. The contest will once again be held at the Batavia Jewel-Osco, on Randall Road at Main Street.

Food Check-Out Week teaches Americans how to stretch their grocery dollars with

healthy, nutritious food. Typically, consumers spend just 10 percent of their disposable annual income on food. This low number is thanks to the efficient efforts by America's farmers and ranchers, who work hard every day to provide a safe, abundant and affordable food supply.

All of the groceries collected during the 5-minute spree are purchased by the Farm Bureau and donated to the respective pantries. Many State Senators and State Representatives representing Kane County, local Mayors and elected officials have competed in the event, raising thousands of dollars in groceries for local food pantries.

Through this and other recent hunger relief efforts including Harvest for ALL and the related Million Meal Challenge, KCFB

members have donated the equivalent of more than 1.75 million meals to area food pantries.

Shopping Spree contestants

have raised nearly \$31,000 for local Food Pantries while competing in the Farm Bureau sponsored contest at the Batavia

Jewel-Osco. Many organizations have been represented over the years. Below is a list of contestants and beneficiaries.



For the past 16 years KCFB has sponsored a Food Check-Out Shopping Spree featuring 2 contestants from local government competing against the clock. The event is 5 minutes of fun, excitement, and a race to collect the most groceries for their designated food pantry. Each contestant is awarded a traveling trophy to display in their respective offices for the year, showcasing their participation. Pictured above are 2017 contestants and recipients, Senator Cristina Castro, representing the F.I.S.H. Food Pantry, Carpentersville and Dr. Christine Sobek, President, WCC, representing Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry.

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DATES TO REMEMBER February

- February 1**
Nominating Committee, 6:30pm
Board of Directors, 7:00pm
- February 2**
Young Farmers' Euchre
Tournament 6:30pm, KCFB
Board Room
- February 6, 7**
2018 IL Pork Expo, Springfield
- February 9**
17th Annual Shopping Spree,
10:30am, Batavia Jewel-Osco
- February 10**
The Chicago Farmers- Farmland
Forum, Chicago, IL
- February 12**
Water Test Kits Available
(Through Feb. 25)
- February 15**
KCFB Foundation Scholarship
Applications Due
- February 22**
Chili & Corn Bread Cook-Off,
5:00pm
- February 23**
Young Leaders Farm Safety project,
John Biddle's Farm Shop,
5pm
- February 26**
Lunches to Legislators, 9am
- February 26**
Water test kits/samples to be
returned to KCFB



Year Contestants

- 2002 State Senator Chris Lauzen
State Rep. Pat Lindner
- 2003 U of I Extension Leader Lala Williams
Kane Co. Board Chairman Mike McCoy
- 2004 State Senator Steve Rauschenberger
State Rep Linda Chapa LaVia
- 2005 State Rep Tim Schmitz
State Rep John Millner
- 2006 KC Board Chair Karen McConaughay
KC State's Attorney John Barsanti
- 2007 State Senator Mike Noland
State Senator Linda Holmes
- 2008 State Rep Ruth Munson
16th Circuit Judge Patricia Golden
- 2009 State Rep Keith Farnham
State Rep Kay Hatcher
- 2010 State Rep Randy Ramey
State Rep Sara Feigenholtz

Beneficiary

- Holy Angels Food Pantry
Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry
- Salvation Army, Elgin
Marie Wilkinson Found., Aurora
- Salvation Army, Elgin
Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry
- South Elgin Food Pantry
Salvation Army, Tri-City Corps
- Salvation Army, Tri-City Corps
Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry
- PADS of Elgin
Wayside Cross Ministries, Aurora
- All People's Interfaith Food Pantry, Elgin
Community Crisis Ctr., Elgin
- Centro Informacion, Elgin
Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry
- Northern Illinois Food Bank
Lakeview Pantry, Chicago

Year Contestants

- 2011 Mayor Tom Weisner
Village President Sean Michels
- 2012 State Rep Bob Pritchard
State Rep Christine Johnson
- 2013 State Treasurer Dan Rutherford
State Senator Karen McConaughay
- 2014 Mayor Jeff Schielke, Batavia
State Rep. Stephanie Kifowit
- 2015 State Rep Keith Wheeler
State Rep Steve Andersson
- 2016 Dr. David Sam, President, ECC
T.R. Smith, Chair, KC Ag Committee
- 2017 Senator Cristina Castro
Dr. Christine Sobek, President, WCC
- 2018 Jeffrey Walter, Elburn Village President
Theresa Barreiro, Kane County Board

Beneficiary

- Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry
Between Friends Food Pantry, Sugar Grove
Between Friends Food Pantry, Sugar Grove
Burlington-Hampshire Food Pantry
- Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry
Food for Greater Elgin
- Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry
Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry
- Elburn Food Pantry
Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry
- Spartan Food Pantry
Burlington-Hampshire Food Pantry
- F.I.S.H. Food Pantry, Carpentersville
Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry
- Elburn Food Pantry
Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry

Apply for FOUNDATION scholarships by Feb. 15

The Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION is offering several scholarships to members or dependents of members pursuing college degrees. The scholarship application deadline is February 15, 2018.

There are hundreds of careers in the agriculture industry and hundreds of students from Kane County studying in schools across the country to prepare to take the lead in providing food, fiber and fuel for us all.

Applicants may qualify for

KCFB General Scholarships, Ag Scholarships, the KCFB President's Scholarship, Chuck Swanson Memorial Scholarship, the John Buck Memorial Scholarship, the Heckel-Blickle Memorial Scholarship, AGCO Platinum Scholarship and/or the AGCO Parts Division/AGCO GWN Scholarships. Applications and details on scholarship requirements are available at www.kanecfb.com and at the KCFB office, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles. Call 630-584-8660 with questions.

Find an application for KCFB FOUNDATION Scholarships at www.kanecfb.com.

February SPECIAL Seasoned Pork Chops

Our featured product for this month is Imboden's Meats delicious seasoned pork chops. Each 5 lb. box comes in 8 oz. (10 per box) or 10 oz. (8 per box) and boneless and bone-in varieties. Each chop comes in a vacuum sealed plastic bag. Just thaw, cut it open and you're ready to cook up a perfectly seasoned, thick, juicy pork chop every time. Price is (not including tax) \$25 per box for KCFB members, \$24 for plus members and \$28 for non-members. It's a Farm Bureau member favorite! Available at Kane County Farm Bureau, Randall Road and Oak Street in St. Charles.



Previous KCFB Foundation Scholarship winners gather for a photo at an award ceremony at the conclusion of Touch-A-Tractor. The Kane County Farm Bureau FOUNDATION is offering numerous scholarships to members or dependents of members pursuing college degrees in agricultural career fields. The scholarship application deadline is February 15, 2018.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 105th Annual Meeting of the Kane County Farm Bureau will be held at the Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 on Thursday, April 5th, 2018, at 6:30 pm for the purpose of receiving and acting upon reports of officers, the board of directors, and management for the fiscal year ended December 31st, 2017, and to announce the five directors elected to serve terms of three years to represent Districts 1 through 5, and for transaction of any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

Michael Kenyon, Secretary

KCFB Board meeting review

Following the Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call, Directors welcomed Cale Loebbaka of Elburn and Karen Bourbon of St. Charles, 2 of 10 "31 Days of Christmas" raffle winners in the KCFB Foundation's annual scholarship fundraiser. Cale, a Farm Bureau member for over 20 years, was presented with a gift card for \$286 and Karen a gift card for \$260. Karen's winning ticket was given to her by Robert Langguth, owner of Eagle Engraving, as a Christmas gift. Both winners were very excited to receive the Cabela's gift cards. President Joe White thanked all who supported the FOUNDATION by purchasing raffle tickets. The raffle tickets are an important element in funding the FOUNDATION for future scholarship recipients.

Joe White gave the Presidents report. He told the board that the District 1, 5 & 6 President's Meeting would be at Al's Steakhouse in Joliet on January 30th. He asked if the board had questions or topics that should be brought up while meeting with IFB President Guebert and Vice President Duncan. White announced the proposed Nominating Committee for 2018. It consisted of Raymond Feldott, Trent Pierson, Gerard Fabrizius, Carolyn Gehrke and Lloyd Goebbert. Alternates will be

Michael Long, Jim O'Connell, Sarah Lenkaitis, Mark Anderson and Beth Engel. The Committee was approved as presented. The Nominating Committee meeting will be prior to the February Board meeting and may choose to interview candidates for election at the meeting. White also reminded the board that notices regarding election ballots and annual meeting will be mailed out in late March.

Arnold gave the Manager's Report. He informed the board that January meeting dates were needed for FOUNDATION (White) and PR/Membership (B. Collins) committees. COUNTRY Financial renewed a conference room lease and the cell tower 30 year lease extension was signed January 4. Arnold reminded Directors about upcoming grant deadlines and purposes.

Donna Lehrer announced she will be one of the farmers participating in the Food Hub prescription food box program. Dream Hub will host an Open House for farmers (tentative) on February 8th at 7 pm, 51 S. Grove Ave, in Elgin. Farmers are welcome to attend (*note: event has been postponed*).

Committee Reports dominated the remainder of the meeting. Directors heard reports from recent meeting of the Executive, Finance and Government

Affairs & Public Policy committees and updates from, AITC, FOUNDATION, Young Farmers, Marketing, Policy & Procedures, Audit, and Public Relations/Membership committees. President Joe White started out the reporting by summarizing the Executive Committee meeting that was held on December 21st, 2017. Year-end charitable contributions, KCFB contracts, and 2018 budget discussions were reviewed.

Mike Kenyon re-capped the meeting held by the Finance Committee on January 3rd, 2018. The 2018 budget was approved as recommended by the Finance Committee. Year End investment performance and the investment policy status as of 12/31/17 were reviewed.

Government Affairs & Public Policy, reported by Wayne Schneider, included Congressional and Legislative ACTIVOR Trustees, Food Check-Out Challenge Shopping Spree set for February 9th at 10:30 am at the Batavia Jewel-Osco (community members are welcome to come by and watch), Lunches to Legislators, which is scheduled for Monday, February 26th, the IFB Government Affairs Leadership Conference being held in Springfield mid-March and FB ACT Recruitment. Ideas were reviewed for encouraging members to text FARM to 52886 and help participate in our leg-

islative process.

A written report from Ag Literacy Coordinator, Suzi Myers, was handed out. White announced that the FOUNDATION Board would meet on January 23rd at 8:30 am. Dale Pitstick reported that the Young Farmers' holiday party was next weekend, the Young Leader's Conference will be January 19-20 in East Peoria, and FFA Acquaintance Day will be held at Northern Illinois Food Bank on the 1st of March.

KCFB FOUNDATION and Harvest for ALL contributions, received between November 16th and December 15th, were called out for The Kane County Farmer "Thanks for our Donors" article in February. Donors for

the FOUNDATION included: Harold & Denise Marks of Marks Tree Farms and Suzon Scott. Donors for Harvest for ALL included: Suzanne Myers, Northern Illinois Food Bank; Mike & Carol Kenyon, Food for Greater Elgin; Karl & Julie Kettelkamp and Paul "Griz" Stover, Elburn Food Pantry; Alan & Gayle Volpp, Burlington/Hampshire Food Pantry; Jon DeRaedt of DeRaedt Grain Farms, Burlington/Hampshire Food Pantry, and Kane County Farm Bureau, Northern Illinois Food Bank.

The next scheduled Kane County Farm Bureau Board of Directors meeting will be held Thursday, February 1st at 7:00pm.

Lunches to Legislators

Would you like to have lunch with an Illinois State Representative or Senator? Kane County Farm Bureau's Lunches to Legislators (L2L) program gives you a chance to do just that! We need volunteers for this annual visit that allows Farm Bureau members to get better acquainted with legislators.

Farm Bureau volunteers will arrange visits to district offices of Kane County's local legislators, (state representatives and state senators) starting at 9am on February 26th. Equipped with boxed lunches, Farm

Bureau policy books and farm and food facts literature, they'll express their appreciation for the legislators' hard work.



Lunches to Legislators provides FB members with a reason and a support system, for making an "appearance" at a local legislative office to get acquainted with local lawmakers. Members are invited to assist with the lunch delivery on February 26. Simply fill out and return the form below.

Name: _____
 Phone:(_____) _____
 Email Address: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Legislative District: _____
 Congressional District: _____
 Do you have a relationship with a current elected official? If so, whom?: _____
 Are you willing to support Farm Bureau policies on state and national issues? _____
 Please provide a brief description of your agricultural background and views: _____

FOUNDATION 'Winner's Choice' Raffle News Flash!

Be sure to stay tuned and read the March edition of the Farmer for "our big reveal" of what will be raffled off for this year's FOUNDATION "Winner's Choice" Raffle. Trust us, you're going to be excited!

L2L is a part of Food Check-Out Week, celebrated each year in February. It is devoted to helping teach Americans how to stretch their grocery dollars with healthy, nutritious food. Because U.S. farmers are the most productive and efficient food producers in the world, food is a real bargain in the U.S. when compared to the rest of the world. To volunteer to assist with this program, please fill out the form below and mail back to the KCFB office prior to February 23rd.

Welcome new members

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

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

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

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE JANUARY 2018 THRU DECEMBER 2018

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

Kane County Farmer

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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Audre Pack, Training Specialist

Elizabeth Polovin, Member Services Coordinator

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Genoa, IL 60135
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The most recognized voice in Agriculture

By Marty Keltner

December 7th, 2017 is a day I will never forget. It is the day I met Orion Samuelson and Max Armstrong at 22 Creative Group studios. It is the very same day that Steve Arnold and I were generously given the opportunity to interview each of them. Mesmerized is a good word for how I felt, sitting there listening to each man answer our questions, insert personal stories, and just "talk." The following is an account of our interview with Orion, who possesses one of the most recognized voices in ag reporting.

On March 31st, 1934, Orion Samuelson's birth just happened to coincide with a late spring blizzard. This must have been a tell-tale sign of how he would

overcome other odds in the future, including a bone disease that put him on bed rest for 2 years of his young adult life. Had it not been for this disease, he might not be the man of radio and television he is now.

While being nearly immobile for two years, Samuelson turned his focus to listening to the radio, which opened up his world. He began to realize that he wouldn't be able to physically take over the 200 acre dairy farm as was originally expected, but he could enter the world of broadcasting. At the beginning of high school, the local FFA advisor took great interest in Samuelson and sug-

gested he get into public speaking when he was back on his feet. Fast forward 60 years and he now says, "I learned quickly farming is very tough, talking about it is not so tough."

The world of broadcasting has changed dramatically since Samuelson's first days at WGN. For 55 years, he set his alarm for 2:45 am to make the 55-mile trek to downtown Chicago, not leaving the station until 3 or 4 in the afternoon. Three years ago, at age 82, his life changed when he was given the opportunity to "sleep in" until 7 am so he could instead start his day at 9:30 am and have it end it at 1 pm. Not only have his hours changed, Samuelson can now broadcast his reports from almost anywhere. In the early days, it took three trucks of equipment and three engineers to originate a live broadcast while on location. Now he has a gadget he can hold in his hand, broadcast from nearly anywhere, and have it sound like he is in the studio. Traveling between Scottsdale, Arizona and his current home in Huntley makes this technology essential.

Also a published author, Samuelson titled his book *You Can't Dream Big Enough* because sitting on a three-legged stool on a cold Wisconsin dairy farm, his humble beginnings could have never prepared him

for the adventures he has had in broadcasting. He has visited all 50 states, 44 countries, he's met Mikhail Gorbachev, Fidel Castro, nine U.S. Presidents, and numerous Secretaries of Agriculture ranging from Ezra Taft Benson to our current Secretary, Sonny Purdue. He has enjoyed meeting and talking to Earl Butts, Mike Johanns, and Norman Borlaug, who is one of his favorite people of all time. One of his most memorable moments in broadcasting was November 22nd, 1963. This was the day he broke the tragic news to WGN listeners that President Kennedy had been shot in Dallas.

Over the course of his career, Samuelson has seen huge changes in production agriculture. He attributes the monumental change in farming to the invention of the combine. Growing up on the farm, the technology of today didn't exist; instead, everything was done by hand. He and his family cut corn with a binder, then stood the shocks up to keep them away from the weather. They cut hay with a 4-foot mower pulled by horses, and the list goes on and on. 15 years ago, Samuelson was at the World Dairy Expo and for the first time, a company had a robotic milking machine on display. His first thought was "How could the farmer get a cow to come in, position herself, milk

herself, and then walk away! Well, this year at World Dairy Expo I think there were seven companies in this business, so it just continues to amaze me not only with equipment, but with genetics. I mean, when we produced 60 bushel per acre of corn on that Wisconsin farm, it was a good crop. That would be a disaster today and it's happened because of genetics," said Samuelson.

An active member of both 4-H and FFA growing up, Samuelson didn't realize at the time, how big an impact those organizations would make on his life. "I'd still be milking cows in Wisconsin today and be happy about it had it not been for 4-H and FFA, the two best leadership building organizations for young people on the planet today," he said. He believes that the future of farming depends on FFA, 4-H, and our Young Leaders programs and is delighted the new Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Purdue makes a point to promote and to get involved in the National FFA Convention and the National 4-H Congress, most recently in Atlanta. "All you have to do is look at the average age of America's farmers and we better get these young people involved to serve the farming community, but to do the actual production work."

While at 22 Creative Group studios, Steve Arnold and I also had the pleasure of meeting Ryan Ruh, co-owner and creator of the studio. Ryan and Orion have a long history.



Ryan Ruh

Ryan Ruh has known Orion Samuelson and Max Armstrong since his freshman year in high school. He met the two broadcasters on his very first shoot, and it was this meeting that cemented his interest in the radio and broadcast industry.

Growing up in Kaneland, Ryan is a local through and through. His Grandpa, Herb Ruh, was a farmer and his dad currently owns a farm equipment dealership, DeKane Equipment Corporation, in Big Rock, IL. He grew up watching Orion and Max's show and to him, they were celebrities. Dreams do come true and one summer, he was an intern for Orion after his stepfather, Jerry, made the introduction. Jerry was and still is to this day, the pilot for "Air Orion," the plane that takes the broadcaster and his crew around the nation to report on agricultural news, since its start.

After graduating from Illinois State University with a degree in mass communications, specializing in broadcast radio, Ryan was set to begin his career. He has worked on the U.S. Farm Report and This Week in Agribusiness, and also has had the opportunity to work with Orion on creating "Channel Earth", an RFD-TV station.

Wanting to start his own studio, Ryan teamed up with Angelo Lazzara, and after meticulously searching the surrounding area for the perfect location, they landed in Batavia. This location has worked out well for the partners and the show, as well as other agriculture-centric shows. "We pride ourselves on knowing agriculture. When we go to a location to shoot, we know what we're looking at and what we are shooting," said Ruh.

Ruh's favorite "shoot" location is on a farm. "They (farmers) are the nicest people and the most hospitable. They are sincere and treat the crew with the same respect as Max and Orion. Farmers are hard-working people." Ryan has traveled extensively with the duo and has even gone to Norway twice with Orion.

Celebrate National Chili Day and support the KCFB FOUNDATION

Are you famous for your chili and cornbread at family gatherings? Come help the KCFB FOUNDATION celebrate National Chili Day, February 22nd, by participating in our 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off, and the newly added Cornbread competition! Chili judging will be based on ICS criteria: good chili flavor, texture, consistency, blend of spices, aroma and color.

Not a cook but still want to celebrate national Chili Day and enjoy some delicious cornbread?

Stop by the KCFB office for a public tasting at 5:00PM. A \$5 donation will get you 6 tickets and each ticket will get you a Dixie cup of chili or a piece of cornbread. Six tickets will get you a 9.5 oz bowl of the chili of your choice to enjoy at the event or take home. New this year is the "try before you buy" option where a small spoon is provided for a "taste of chili." All entry fees and event proceeds benefit the KCFB FOUNDATION in support of agricultural education and college scholarships.

Awards and entries:

A trophy will be awarded to the top creations in the following:

Best Homestyle Chili: a spicy stew of beef and red chilies or chili powder often with beans and tomatoes or pasta could be added.

Best Non-Traditional Chili: Chili made with pork, chicken, turkey.

Best Wildlife Chili: Chili made using non-domesticated sources of meat protein.

Best Cornbread: Make it sweet, or hot. Any type of cornbread with or without "add-ins" The judging for the best in

each category will begin promptly at 4:30 pm by a panel of "celebrity" judges. Winners will be announced at the conclusion of judging. For more information, check out www.Kanecfb.com/Chili.

A **People's Choice Chili** will be selected at the end of the night based on the number of tickets collected from event patrons. The chili with the most tickets wins! The People's Choice award winning chili (trophy PLUS braggin' rights) will be announced at the evening's conclusion.

To enter just follow the simple steps below. Prizes will also be awarded for best presentation or theme (plan for 30" of table space) and best recipe card. Multiple recipe cards are encouraged.

How to enter:

1. Call, email, or mail in the entry form below by February 16th to: KCFB Foundation Chili Cook-off, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL

60174.

Email: info@kanecfb.com
Phone: (630) 584-8660

2. Pay the entry fee for chili (\$20 per members, \$30 per non-members) and/or the entry fee for cornbread (free with chili entries, \$5 stand-alone). Make checks payable to: KCFB FOUNDATION. Visa, Discover, or MasterCard accepted in person or over the phone
3. Cook a minimum of 4 quarts of chili and bring it along with your favorite toppings (optional) that will accent your homemade chili's flavor to the KCFB before 4 pm on Thursday, February 22.



Entry Form (due by February 16th):

Head Cook: _____
 Chili/Team Name _____
 Type(s) of Chili:
 Homestyle Non Traditional (meat _____)
 Wildlife (meat _____)
 Cornbread:
 Free with Chili Entry Cornbread (w/o chili, \$5 entry)
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (_____) _____
 Entry fee: \$20.00 (Member) and \$30.00 (Non-Member)
 Make checks payable to: KCFB Foundation.
 Visa, Discover, or MasterCard accepted in person or over the phone

Dicamba training requirements for 2018

In November, the Illinois Department of Agriculture announced that due to a change in the product label for the three dicamba-containing herbicides allowed for use on dicamba-resistant soybeans, all certified private

applicators in Illinois or those applying these products under their supervision must attend a qualified dicamba training session this winter. Prior to applying these products in the 2018 growing season applicator(s) must complete dicamba or auxin-specific training. Labels for affected products may be viewed using the following link: <https://ifca.com/IllinoisDicambaTraining/Resources>

Northern Illinois dates and locations as of this writing include:

- Feb. 7, Streator, 9 – 12:30
- Feb. 22, Joliet, 10 – noon
- Feb. 22, Bradley, 3 – 5 pm
- Feb. 23, Freeport, 10:30 – noon
- Mar. 28, Rockford, 3 – 5 pm

Various Illinois agricultural groups worked to facilitate nearly 60 FREE, 90-minute training opportunities around the state this winter. These trainings will assist applicators in meeting the enhanced training requirement and will provide a certificate of completion of the training (needed for certified applicator recork-keeping).

Advance registration is required, please visit: <https://ifca.com/IllinoisDicambaTraining> to find a venue near you and to register.

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AG LITERACY CORNER

By Suzi Myers



Since we are celebrating Food Check-Out Day this month and Ag Days in March, I felt publishing “So God Made a Farmer” is a great way to celebrate our farmers. Paul Harvey delivered the speech to the FFA Conference on November 1978 in Kansas City, MO. It was first published in 1986 in Harvey’s syndicated column. Later, it was used in a commercial by Ram Trucks during the fourth quarter of Super Bowl XLVII, so it might sound familiar to some of you.

I hope you find the writing as much of a description of our hard working farmers as I do. It seems like a farmer’s life hasn’t changed much in the 40 years

since the speech was first given. If you’d prefer to hear it only as Paul Harvey can deliver it, there are many sound recordings found on the internet.

Enjoy ...

“So God Made a Farmer

And on the 8th day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said, ‘I need a caretaker’— so God made a Farmer.

God said, ‘I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper, then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board’— so God made a Farmer.

KANE COUNTY FARMER

‘I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild; somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife’s done feeding visiting ladies, then tell the ladies to be sure and come back real soon – and mean it’— so God made a Farmer.

God said, ‘I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt, and watch it die, then dry his eyes and say, ‘Maybe next year.’ I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make harness out of haywire, feed sacks and shoe scraps; who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, and then pain’n from tractor back,’ put in another seventy-two hours’— so God made a Farmer.

God had to have somebody

willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds, and yet stop in mid-field and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor’s place – so God made a Farmer.

God said, ‘I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bails, yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadow lark.’

It had to be somebody who’d

plow deep and straight and not cut corners; somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed and rake and disc and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the self-feeder and finish a hard week’s work with a five-mile drive to church; somebody who would bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of sharing, who would laugh, and then sigh, and then reply, with smiling eyes, when his son says that he wants to spend his life ‘doing what dad does’— so God made a Farmer.”

Give us your email, win free groceries?

Interested in getting more information on upcoming events, membership benefits, Farm Bureau news, volunteer opportunities, etc. from Kane County Farm Bureau and other local sources? Give us your e-mail address and we will add

you to our list of members interested in being kept up to date on all the latest happenings with the organization.

As an incentive, Farm Bureau Members who send in their email address will be entered into a drawing for a \$25

grocery gift card to Meijer. To enter, fill out the form below and mail it back to the KCFB office prior to March 23rd.

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Rd, St. Charles, IL 60174 by March 23rd.

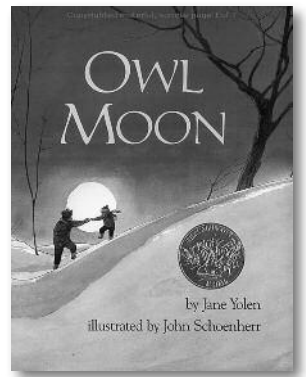
Book of the month

During a cold winter night, a young girl and her father go out to hopefully find an owl in the woods. The book is written in a descriptive manner in the child’s voice. The cold, the beauty of the night, the moon in the sky, the need to be quiet and the wonder of the sighting of an owl are all moments of wonderment to the child. Along with these aspects, the feeling of sharing time alone with her father is also evident.

Wonderfully complemented by John Schoenherr’s soft, exquisite watercolor illustrations, this is a verbal and visual treasure, perfect for reading around and sharing at bedtime.

We have an ever growing

library of books available for check out to our members, due 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.



Owl Moon by Jane Yolen

Member Name _____

Email Address _____

Bring antique tractors to Touch-A-Tractor Apr. 6-8

Now’s the time to think about knocking the dust off that antique tractor in the shed. If you only take that tractor one place this year – make it Touch-A-Tractor at the Kane County Farm Bureau!

Our 13th annual Touch-A-Tractor will be held Friday-Sunday, April 6-8, 2018. We’re making preparations to bring some farm to the city for this ever-popular event that’s fun for the whole family. If you have an antique tractor – whether you’ve spent hours restoring it or it’s a still working tractor with lots of farming memories – please consider bringing it to the event.

There’s nothing like the look on a child’s face when they sit in the seat of a tractor they normally only see from the road or in a book. This year you’ll get a special commemorative gift in appreciation for participating.

Due to space limitations and the size of modern farm

machines, the Farm Bureau will again call on Sugar Grove area farmer Bruce Nagel, a long-time supporter of Touch-A-Tractor and Ag Days, to provide the necessary modern tractors, combine, tillage equipment, sprayer and planter to display for our urban and suburban neighbors. But antique tractors are needed – and the more the merrier!

All tractor participants will also be treated to a free dinner at 5:30 pm on Thursday, April 5 at Kane County Farm Bureau. Bring your tractor that night, or park it on the lawn anytime during the week leading up to the event.

Just clip and send in the form below or call 630-584-8660 to let us know the make and model of tractor you’ll be bringing. We also need farmers, or retired farmers, to explain how the equipment works. So if you can be there any day of the event – please let us know!

Help make Touch-A-Tractor a success.

____ Contact me about volunteer opportunities (Saturday, April 7 or Sunday, April 8)

____ I would like to bring the following farm equipment or livestock to display for your guests

Please provide a brief description of the equipment/livestock. For tractors, include year, make, and model.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Clip and return to Kane County Farm Bureau,
2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174
or call 630-584-8660



Touch-A-Tractor

Helping you protect what matters most



AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT



Bob Effner, CLF®, LUTCF
St. Charles – Elgin
Agency Manager
St. Charles
630-584-0001



Edward Stuehm
Geneva
630-845-8245



Ashraf Gerges
Aurora
630-898-3750



Todd Wilcox
St. Charles
630-762-1326



Michael O'Brien
Geneva
630-762-0852



Sherri Schramer
Elburn
630-365-9500



Bobbi Boston
St. Charles
630-485-5155



Luke Fawkes
Elgin
847-742-0001



Dominick Davero
Elburn
630-365-3737



Keith Eakins
St. Charles
630-762-1324



Jonathan Gonzalez
Elgin
847-742-0001



Chuck Quick
Hampshire
847-683-2100



Kelly Landorf
St. Charles
630-762-1328



Sherry Lochen
Elgin
847-742-0001



Josh Austin
Hampshire
847-683-2100



Donna Tonovitz
St. Charles
630-549-7694



Bob Riedel
West Dundee
847-428-5434



Dan Cooper
Sugar Grove
630-466-9600



Orazio Difruscolo
St. Charles
630-549-7696



Gary Bolger
West Dundee
847-531-6110



Ted Schuster
Sugar Grove
630-466-9600



Bob Kearns
S. Elgin
847-888-3200



David Murray
Montgomery
630-897-2364



Sonny Ellen
Sugar Grove
630-466-9600

Auto, home and business insurance policies issued by COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company®, COUNTRY Preferred Insurance Company® and COUNTRY Casualty Insurance Company®. Life insurance policies issued by COUNTRY Life Insurance Company® and COUNTRY Investors Life Assurance Company®. Fixed annuities issued by COUNTRY Investors Life Assurance Company®. All issuing companies located in Bloomington, IL.



Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Suzi Myers

FOOD CHECK-OUT WEEK

celebrate with fun activities for the family



Farm Bureau®

Food Check-Out Week, in early February, marks when Americans have earned enough disposable income to pay for the average family's yearly supply of food. Americans enjoy the safest and most affordable food supply in the world thanks to the innovative and efficient practices of the American Farmer.

In the mid 1990's, Food Check-Out Day was established to be similar to "Tax Freedom Day." Food Check-Out Day was to honor the contributions of farmers and ranchers. The first official

national commemoration of Food Check-Out Day took place in 1998, at the Ronald McDonald House located in Chicago. Every year the Kane County Farm Bureau participates in Food Check-Out Week. Check this issue of the Farmer for planned activities for this year's Food Check-Out Week.

1. Cut out ads for items you might purchase at the store if you had \$10.
2. Make a string necklace using 37 Cheerios. The 37 Cheerios represents the number of days you must work until you have enough money to pay for your food for the year. You may want to change the number of Cheerios to 152 to represent the number of people a farmer feeds.
3. Donate non-perishable food items to your local food pantry.
4. See how many words you can create using the phrase, "Food Check-Out Week."
5. **Come show support for our Food Check-Out Shopping Spree – February 9 at 10:30 a.m. at the Batavia Jewel, 119 S. Randall Rd. It is a lot of fun to watch the contestants pile food in their carts.**



Interesting Facts about Food Check-out Week:

- More than 21 million American's work for the food and fiber industry.
- The average American is three generations removed from the farm. Food Check-Out Week is a time to recognize the productivity of farmers and ranchers and help educate more people about where their food comes from.
- Designated the third week in February, Food Check-Out Week is traditionally the time that many families have earned enough income to buy their groceries for the year.
- When applied to calendar days, the average American earns enough income to pay for an annual supply of food in just seven weeks. By comparison, the same person must work until mid-April to pay for yearly income taxes. That's seven weeks for food and more than three months for taxes.

Source: Illinois Farm Bureau, New York Times

FOOD CHECK-OUT FACTS

- American's spend 10% of their disposable income on food.
- The French spend 13 percent.
- People in Mexico spend 23 percent.
- People living in India spend 31 percent.
- People living in the Philippines spend 42 percent.
- People living in Nigeria spend 57 percent.

Source: <http://agweb.okstate.edu>

Many of us are lucky enough to purchase fresh foods without much thinking ... sometimes leading to buying too much to consume in a timely manner. Food waste is a problem that is important to address, as we have a growing population that needs to be fed.

Americans waste 25% of the food they buy. That's like buying four bags of groceries and dropping one in the parking lot!



Thrifty ways to reduce food waste

Here's some statics concerning that waste ... and a website to help with this problem.

- 5 percent of the food that is wasted could feed 4 million people.
- Restaurants are offering smaller portions of food.
- Cafeterias are doing away with trays to reduce the amount of food thrown away.
- For every \$1,000 in fast food purchased, 200 pounds of trash are created.
- Fruits and vegetables, plus roots and tubers have the highest wastage rates of any food.
- Up to 40 percent of the food in the United States is never eaten. But at the same time,

one in eight Americans struggles to put enough food on the table.

- Americans waste approximately 100 billion pounds of food each year.
- This equates to roughly 14% of food purchased in an average household.
- This breaks down to approximately \$500 of wasted food on an annual basis per household.
- 15% of this waste comes from food unopened and still within its expiration date.
- On a daily basis, we throw away about 1.5 pounds of food.
- Additionally, this discarded food translates into increased pollution through increased methane production.

the food you have? Here's website to help you out:

<http://myfridgefood.com/>

MyFridgeFood takes all the ingredients you know you have on-hand and gives you recipe options based on those items. It's the way all recipe sites should work, because it provides options for meals that you can make literally right now instead of some hypothetical time in the future when you already went shopping for the required ingredients.

Some ways to use up foods in your refrigerator or cupboard from [ivaluefood.com](http://myfridgefood.com/):

Make soup

The steamed, roasted or grilled vegetables that you served as a side dish one night can become soup on another day. In a blender, puree the vegetables with 3 or 4 cups of vegetable or chicken broth, then warm the soup in a pot. Season to taste with salt and pepper and finish the soup with a bit of pesto, olive oil or croutons.

Salvage stale bread

If that loaf of good bakery bread loses its freshness after a day or two, do what the Italians do: Halve the loaf crosswise, drizzle it with good olive oil and rub it with the cut side of a halved ripe tomato. Season the bread with salt and pepper, wrap in foil and bake until warm.

Stash vegetable scraps

As an alternative to composting, keep vegetable scraps to make stock. Keep a gallon zip-top bag in the freezer and add trimmings: carrot and fennel tops, ends of onions or leeks, tomato cores, stems of herbs and greens, corn cobs, and the like. Any produce that's past its prime in the fridge can go in, as well. When the bag is full, defrost the contents, dump into a pot and add water to cover. Simmer for 2 hours, strain – and you'll have better-than-store-bought veggie stock.

Don't know what to do with

February is...

National

- National Canned Food Month
- National Oatmeal Month
- National Snack Food Month
- Food Check-Out Week 19-23rd

February 4:

Homemade Soup Day

February 7:

National Fettuccine Alfredo Day

February 20:

National Cherry Pie Day

Congratulations

Nancy Shea Boyd of Sycamore! Her name was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's Word Search Puzzle. For her participation, she receives a sampling of canned goods ranging from ingredients to make chili to a can of root beer to "cheers"! Thank you, Nancy, for reading the *Kane County Farmer* and continue to watch each month for more great opportunities from the Kane County Farm Bureau.

Food Check-out Week

K	K	E	M	C	V	J	V	F	B	I	P	O	O	L	P	C	T	R	C	COMPOST
Y	B	S	Z	E	S	V	A	P	N	F	O	X	X	P	P	O	T	O	K	CUPBOARD
G	U	A	R	O	T	R	R	G	I	F	L	Z	C	Q	W	M	N	K	F	FARMER
X	G	H	X	E	M	H	R	B	R	Z	L	Y	G	R	M	P	E	U	V	FEBRUARY
F	X	C	D	E	G	E	A	O	N	E	U	R	M	O	V	O	Z	H	D	FOOD
C	T	R	R	H	D	T	Z	N	P	C	T	A	Q	T	E	S	L	P	R	FRESH
N	T	U	O	I	H	E	F	I	E	F	I	U	H	A	G	T	R	Y	A	FROZEN
H	H	P	E	I	N	R	C	D	R	Z	O	R	A	R	E	B	E	G	O	FRUIT
S	O	N	R	D	E	E	O	U	C	J	N	B	O	E	T	Q	K	C	B	GARBAGE
K	T	T	A	S	R	O	I	N	E	H	N	E	D	G	A	M	G	S	P	GROCERIES
S	Y	I	H	V	F	T	K	X	F	O	Y	F	S	I	B	D	F	E	U	INCOME
E	R	E	S	T	A	U	R	A	N	T	S	H	U	R	L	Z	C	I	C	INGREDIENTS
G	M	K	K	X	L	I	D	K	X	U	O	H	S	F	E	K	O	R	C	METHANE
D	A	O	W	D	J	F	X	H	H	P	N	E	O	E	S	V	F	E	W	POLLUTION
A	H	R	C	K	I	A	J	C	P	Q	V	O	G	R	P	X	E	C	A	PURCHASE
I	S	U	B	N	Y	Z	Z	I	L	E	Z	A	P	S	D	Q	C	O	S	RECIPE
J	S	H	D	A	I	T	N	H	N	W	W	I	M	E	I	K	E	R	T	REFRIGERATOR
T	R	N	Q	B	G	G	E	G	A	L	I	O	P	S	N	Q	T	G	E	RESTAURANTS
T	U	Q	V	Q	W	E	O	T	C	B	J	L	U	W	O	E	H	G	A	SEVEN
A	M	I	C	A	W	B	K	S	Z	L	F	N	F	V	X	D	D	M	D	SHOPPING

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ Email _____ Age _____

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St Charles, IL 60174 by February 15, 2018 to be entered in our drawing for a food themed prize.

Fourth graders explore farming at our Ag Days

Whether you're someone who doesn't know a grain bin from an airplane hangar, or you log hundreds of hours in the cab of a combine – you can help Kane County ten-year-olds learn about farming and what it does for the world. Call 630-584-8660 to learn how.

Did you know the felt on a pool table comes from a sheep's wool, or that crayons can be made from soybeans? Neither do lots of kids. Many also don't realize that food comes from farms, not the store.

A snapshot of farms and farmers will be on display for two days, March 20 & 21, inside the Fieldhouse at Mooseheart Child City & School near Batavia during AG Days. For three decades this Kane County Farm Bureau agricultural expo has been helping fourth graders

walk away with a better understanding of where their food comes from. Up to 2,000 kids will learn about farm products that go into everything from fuel to clothing, baseball mitts to newspaper print.

It's the perfect time for you, as a Farm Bureau member, to get involved. You can help with activities that are all ready to go – no teaching or farm experience is needed.

Join us at AG Days March 20 & 21 as a Farm Bureau volunteer. Come from 8:30-noon both days or whichever day you're available.

Farm Bureau is the Fox Valley's largest and oldest agricultural association and the leader in education about farming. We promise you an enjoyable volunteer experience! Call 630-584-8660 with questions or to reserve a volunteer spot.



Top left: A long time presenter at AgDays, Klein's Farm Market teaches students about growing vegetables with hands-on, age appropriate conversations about growing and healthy eating – and always has young, growing plants for show and tell.



Top right: Farm animals have been a part of AgDays since the beginning. FFA members, like Jenna Harvell in this KCFB file photo, help 4th graders get up close and personal with the animals and answer their myriad questions. The most common question – "what is his/her name?", followed by "how old is he/she?"

Below: Sugar Grove area farmer Bruce Nagel provides farm equipment each year for AgDays. FFA members from Central-Burlington, Hinckley/Big Rock and Kaneland FFA conduct the students from the tractor, to planter to tillage equipment and the combine and explain the operations of each. Can YOU describe biotechnology? Fourth graders who attend Ag Days can, by the end of their day-long experience with agriculture.



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Growing To Serve You Better

Drendels receive 2017 Dairy Industry Service Award

Kane County Farm Bureau members Dale and Linda Drendel of Hampshire were the 2017 winners of the Dairy Industry Service Award. The award was presented by Don Mackinson, President of the Illinois Milk Producers Association at the organization's Annual Meeting in November.

Dale and Linda began their herd in 1974 with the Lindale prefix. Through the years, the Drendels have been involved in various dairy industry organizations including the IL Junior Holstein Association, IL Milk Producers Association, and Midwest Dairy Association. The Drendel family has hosted numerous Dairy

Breakfast's on their farm in cooperation with other dairy farmers involved with the Kishwaukee Dairy Herd

premier exhibitor 11 times, premier herdsman five times and also held the top herd award for Kishwaukee DHIA five times.



Improvement Association.

As Holstein breeders and exhibitors, Dale and Linda achieved success across the nation. Lindale was recognized as premier breeder six times,

Dale served on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Milk Producers' Association, and also held the position of president of the board. The Illinois Milk Producers' Association provides this award to those who have shown exemplary service and benefit to the state's dairy industry in Illinois. The Kane County Farm Bureau adds its hearty congratulations and appreciation for all the Drendels have done to lead in the dairy industry and to promote farms, farming and agriculture. Well done!

Directors attend AFBF meeting

The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) held its annual meeting January 5-10 in Nashville, Tennessee. Several KCFB Directors were in attendance for the organization's 99th Annual Meeting. In addition to breakout sessions on numerous farm policy, production and farm management themes, Directors also visited the convention exhibit hall and saw the newest offering from companies serving farmers, as well as the best program ideas from County Farm Bureaus across the nation. The highlight

of the conference was an address to attendees from

President Donald Trump on Monday, January 8.



President Donald Trump with members of Congress looking on, signs two executive orders for the expansion of broadband services to rural areas of the country at the AFBF annual meeting in Nashville on January 8. Additional photo on page 7. Photo Credit, IALF President & CEO Lee Strom.

Young Farmers donate to burn victim

Each year during the Young Farmers' holiday party, donations are taken for a local organization or farm family. The group passes the hat, literally, before discussing what to do with the contributions received. These have traditionally be used for area not-for-profits, social service agencies or farm fami-

lies that have suffered a loss or family trauma. This year, the Young Farmers will generously donate \$326 to Michael Koster of Dixon, IL.

On December 5th, 2017, Michael was involved in a serious accident when the tile plow he and three other men were working with hit a natural gas

line. Michael escaped from the backhoe, but sustained second and third degree burns over 65% of his body. He was taken to St. Anthony's in Rockford where he remains in critical condition. Michael will need close to a year of hospital stay and rehab.





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Recruiter of the Month

Each month we honor the person who signs the most members into our organization. This month, the honor goes to Sherry Lochen! Sherry has been a COUNTRY Financial Representative since November 2012. Her office is located at 1750 Grandstand Pl., Suite 20, Elgin. As a token of our appreciation, Sherry receives two tickets to Charlestowne Movie Theater.

Thank you for your continued support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success!



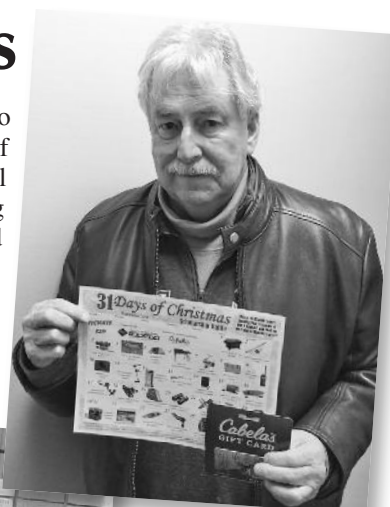
Sherry Lochen

'31 Days' raffle winners

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation extends its thanks to everyone who purchased and sold tickets for the third "31 Days of Christmas" college scholarship raffle and fundraiser. The raffle will provide nearly \$4,000 for college scholarship to students pursuing higher education in 2018-2019, toward farm and food related careers.

With roughly 40% of the available tickets purchased, 10 lucky winners had their holiday brightened on 11 different days with gifts ranging from \$130 to \$475 in value. In lieu of actual prizes as depicted in the "31 Days" calendar, winners were provided with gift cards to Cabela's for the actual value of the prize won, allowing, for example, the winner of a grill to purchase a winch, tree ladder, metal detector, parka, etc.

The following people had an exact match to their ticket on the Illinois lottery evening Pick 3 numbers during December: Pasquale Latrofa, Larry & Cindy Bohr (won twice!), Doug Musser, Rusty Lemcke, Carrie Mellom, Albert Lenkaitis Sr., Molly Farrell, Bill Freiberg, and Karen Bourbon (via Robert Langguth) ... Congratulations!



Above: Bill Freiberg of Elgin was the winner of \$300 on the 28th of December. Bill has been a Farm Bureau member for over 40 years!



Left: Molly Farrell of West Chicago was our BIG winner on the 25th of December! She takes home a \$475 gift card and is so excited that she won!

What's new in the COUNTRY agencies?

St. Charles Agency, Bob Effner, Agency Manager

EDWARD STUEHM has been named the Financial Representative of the Month for December 2017 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Ed has provided tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long term insurance needs of his clients through COUNTRY Financial's diverse products and services: Auto, Farm, Home, Life, Business, Retirement. Let Ed's expertise help you! You may reach Ed at 630-845-8245, edward.stuehm@countryfinancial.com, or https://representatives.country

financial.com/edward.stuehm/. Congratulations, Ed!

Aurora Agency, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager

Cornell Shaw, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for December 2017. Cornell began his career with COUNTRY Financial in August of 2015 and services clients out of his office located at: 1161 Oak Street, North Aurora, 60542, (630) 423-9885.

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

Thanks to our Donors...

Our FOUNDATION is dedicated to providing agriculture based education for the next generation, and to meeting the challenge of providing food for a hungry planet. We look forward to continuing support for these scholarships, along with local classrooms and teachers, leadership training, and community youth education through grants to local FFA Chapters and 4-H.

The KCFB FOUNDATION offers its sincere appreciation to the following for their contributions in response to our December Agriculture in the Classroom fundraising appeal.

Names shown are pledges received from December 16th through January 15th. Additional donors will be listed in the March Farmer.

KCFB FOUNDATION

Donor

- Sara Gramley, in memory of Elmer Gramley
- William & Patricia Watson, St. Charles
- Robert Swanson, in memory of Chuck Swanson
- Darlene & James Sims, St. Charles
- Jay Schrock, Heinz Brothers Greenhouse Garden Center
- J Michael & Helen Biddle, Elburn
- Michael Wurtz, St. Charles
- Francis Geisen, Maple Park
- Ryan Doty, Elburn
- Eldon & Sandy Gould, Maple Park
- Richard Jenkins, St. Charles
- Roger & Theresa Biddle, Maple Park

- Lester & Joyce Landmeier, Big Rock
- Janet Lee Spohr, South Elgin
- Diane Christian, Aurora
- David Feiza, St. Charles
- David Earl Marshall, Sugar Grove
- James O'Connell, Elburn
- Bill Keck, Sugar Grove
- Richard & Linda Kelley, Maple Park
- Craig Spohr, Waterman
- Phyllis Koppen, Huntley
- John Maynard Jr., Hampshire
- Paul Diehl, Elburn



Beneficiary
Northern Illinois Food Bank

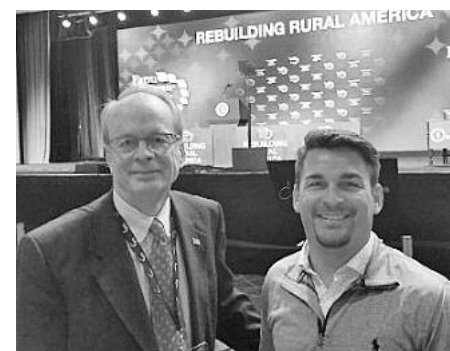
HARVEST FOR ALL

Donor

Jon Van Bogaert

Left, Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation President and CEO Lee Strom of Elgin and KCFB Director Dale Pitstick of Genoa on the floor at the AFBF Annual Meeting before remarks from President Trump.

See story on page 6.



Health Tip of the Month

Since February is National Heart Month, choose whole grains. Foods like brown rice, oats, whole wheat and barley are packed with fiber, antioxidants, and other nutrients. A diet rich in whole grains can help lower cholesterol and improve heart health.

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.

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HELP WANTED, MULTIPLE ENTRY LEVEL POSITIONS:

CUSTOMER SERVICE Position, 30-35 hours weekly, applicant must be computer literate with pleasant phone voice and manner. Some over-night travel required.

Part-time CUSTOMER SERVICE position, perfect for the parent with child in school. Applicant must be computer literate with pleasant phone voice and man-

ner. This day-time position may include over-night travel.

SHOP ASSOCIATE position, 15-20 hours weekly depending on available work; Basic computer skills necessary to use engravers and other equipment.

All applicants must be self-starters and able to work as part of a team. Our office is located on East side of Saint Charles. We work occasional Saturdays as required and do not work Sunday. We offer paid vacation, a Self-Directed Saving Plan, and Partial Tuition Reimbursement. Call: Bob at: 630 377 5807

FOR SALE

Looking for placement for cats: homes, nice barns, workshops. Several Friendly males, two skittish females (mouser cats) reply: jspriet2@aol.com, reference: Farm Bureau. Cats are fixed and vaccinated.

2nd Location in Wasco

40W296 Wasco Rd. Wasco, IL
2N492 Kirk Rd. St Charles, IL
630-584-2024

Locally Owned & Operated Feed Store where everyone is treated like family

Recycle Scrap for CASH

Steel, Copper, Aluminum & Cars

Trucking & Dumpster Service Available

"Helping to keep America Picked up for 45 years"

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

Donations for T-A-T

KCFB is gearing up for its 13th annual Touch-A-Tractor event scheduled for April 6-8. The team is working hard to make it the best one yet, but we need your help! KCFB is now seeking donations of items to help with this endeavor.

If you are interested in providing a donation, or know of a business or individual that might be interested in doing so, please contact the KCFB office at (638) 584-8660 or feel free to stop by our office with your item(s).

Your donations will help make our 13th Annual Touch-a-Tractor a success.

Touch-A-Tractor Wish List

1. 30" Plastic culverts will make fun additions to our children's activities center.



1. Plastic culverts



2. Hay bales

2. Hay bales, round, square, large and small, to add to our Touch-a-Tractor children's activities area to be used for climbing and recreational purposes.

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

Farm safety project retrofit

On February 23rd, 2018, at 5 pm, the Kane County's Young Farmers group will gather to make improvements to their mobile Grain Bin Safety Display. The essential elements of the display, a 6' grain bin and grain rescue sleeve, were made possible by a generous gift from AGCO Parts, Batavia and their business subsidiary, GSI Inc., one of the nation's premiere manufacturers of grain bins and grain handling equipment. KCFB contributed additional funds to purchase a trailer to make the display mobile, and to add complimentary items for safety training and education for all audiences.

The Young Farmers group has determined that to get full educational benefit of the display,

a larger viewing platform is needed. Their work on the 23rd will include design, layout and construction of that platform, steps and guard rails. This will provide better access and accommodate more viewers when safety classes are held.

Farm Bureau members aged 18-35 are welcome to join the Young Farmers for this and other events. Check out events on Facebook at KCFB Young Leaders.

RSVP's for the 23rd are appreciated as dinner will be provided. Bring your tools, know-how, or your favorite beverage and join in. The event will be held at the Biddle's Farm Shop located at 42W611 Campton Hills Road in Elburn.

Specialty crops or local foods policy ideas?

KCFB has many members that are actively involved in local foods, specialty crops, or are seeking ways to diversify their farming practices. While these farming operations may not be large percentage of our membership, as a general farm organization, we want to make sure our public policies promote, encourage and represent the best interests of all farmers - farms of all sizes, all products and all production methods.

Some public policy issues, like Food Safety, Cottage Food Laws, Labor and others have a more direct impact on specialty crops and local foods than on commodity producers. If Farm Bureau policy is lacking on our member's needs, we want to do better. We want to ensure we are meeting the needs of our specialty crop farmers, small to mid-size farmers, and those invested in the local food movement.

Farm Bureau policy has always come from the "grass-roots". Our annual Policy Book

of positions on local, state and national issues is developed each year by farmer-members, from submissions by farmer-members. Farm Bureau is also one of the few, if not the only, organization that willingly and confidently shares that entire policy book with any member, elected official or member of the general public.

Now, we are looking to strengthen that policy in regards to the interests of those in the local foods and specialty crop markets. Your ideas are welcome as our organization looks to develop potential policy for submission to a Specialty Crops/Local Foods policy day/summit.

For more information on Illinois Farm Bureau and AFBF policy on any topic, visit <http://www.ilfb.org/policy-issues/policy-for-ifb-and-afbf.aspx> To submit topics for policy discussion, return the form below to KCFB, 2N710 Randall Rd, St Charles, IL 60174 or email steve@kanecfb.com

Name _____

Policy topic/subject _____

Contact info _____

Reason for submission _____

Action FB should take: _____

How resolution should be stated: _____

Get peace of mind with water test

Kane County Farm Bureau and Kane/DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District will cooperate to offer a water testing program in February. A high quality water supply is vital for families. This program helps provide peace of mind and identifies potential problem areas.

Kits are available at KCFB from Monday, Feb. 12-25. Pick up test kits from Kane County Farm Bureau, 8:30-4:30pm or from the Kane/DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District, 8:00-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Collect the water sample on Sunday, Feb. 25 and return it to KCFB on Monday, Feb. 26.

Costs vary for depending on which tests you have performed on your water. Three kits are available:

A. Basic Package (Nitrate Package) - \$45.00

Tests for nitrate, nitrite,

ammonia, chloride, sulfate, soluble phosphorus, silica and specific conductivity.

B. Pesticide Screen - \$80.00

Indicates the presence of triazine herbicides, lasso, dual or harness.

C. Metals - \$95.00

Tests for 23 different metals.

Detailed sampling instructions will be included in each kit and additional information on how each test can help you is provided at the Farm Bureau or Kane/DuPage Soil and Water Conservation's District

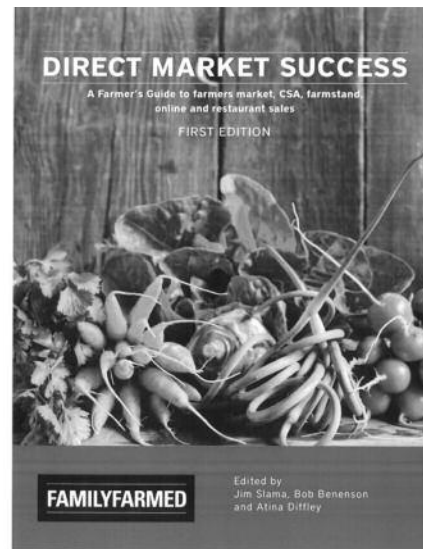
offices. Testing will be performed by Heidelberg College Water Quality Laboratory in Tiffin, Ohio, a certified lab that has been nationally recognized for its work in testing rivers and lakes, and results are mailed directly to your home.

We are able to provide these deeply discounted testing fees only because we are providing the laboratory a bulk number to be tested. Testing will be offered in February only. For more information, call Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660.

Kits available at KCFB starting Feb. 12

Direct Market Success Workshop March 13th in Elgin, Illinois

Closely modeled after FamilyFarmed's Wholesale Success manual and training program, Direct Market Success is intended to be the definitive farmer's guide to selling, food safety, postharvest handling, and logistics for farmers who are seeking to enter and grow in this burgeoning consumer sector, mainly composed of farmers markets, CSAs, online retail sales, and farm stands.



Look for time, location, and registration information in the March Kane County Farmer.

Open House postponed

The February 8 Open House for farmers at the Dream Hub in Elgin has been postponed to a later date. Kane County Farm Bureau and Kane County's new food hub operator, the Dream HUB, will invite area farmers and those interested in accessing healthy vegetables, fruits, and proteins from across our region to an open house to learn more about the new food hub's operations and opportunities for farmers in the near future. We apologize for any inconvenience.

NATIONAL CHILI DAY

CHILI and CORN BREAD!

COOK-OFF and FUNDRAISER

Kane County Farm Bureau, Randall Rd at Oak St. - That's in Saint Charles, Pardoner

Thursday, Feb. 22nd, 2018

BEST
Recipe Card

BEST
Homestyle Chili

BEST
Display

BEST NON-TRADITIONAL CHILI

BEST WILDLIFE CHILI

PEOPLE'S CHOICE CHILI

BEST
Hat?

ENTRIES Members - \$20 per chili category, non - \$30 Set up by 4pm.
4 quarts. Call 630 584-8660 to register by February 16.
Cornbread entries FREE with Chili entry! (\$5 separately)

JUDGING 4:30 pm, judges rank 'The Good, The Bad and The Ugly'

TASTING 5:00-? while they last, with 'try before you buy' servings
'A Fistful of Dollars' (\$5 donation) for a 6 cup 'flight'.
A bowl of your favorite 'For a Few Dollars More'

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

A FUNDRAISER FOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AND AGRICULTURAL LITERACY PROGRAMS

For rules visit: www.kanecfb.com/chili