

# 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. 86 NO. 6 JUNE 2021

## Teeple Barn scale model offers glimpse at ag history

Last month's Touch-A-Tractor event at KCFB held a new addition in the lobby that captivated children and parents alike.

The Kane County Farm Bureau is now proudly displaying a meticulously crafted scale model of the Teeple Barn, the landmark 16-sided structure that stood at I-90 and Randall Road in Elgin for over a century until a 2007 storm toppled it.

The original barn, built in 1885 by Lester Teeple, was constructed as a dairy barn. It

housed cattle for decades and had some clever amenities that made the care and feeding of the herd a little easier in the years before tractors and electricity. Teeple chose the 16-sided design because the lumber that was available to him was not long enough for a standard, eight sided barn.

When Dick and Joann Lichthardt of Plato Township saw the barn, they knew it was special enough to be added to their village of handcrafted scale models that included a schoolhouse, church, buggy shed, hog barn and chicken shed. The couple toured the barn, took measurements and photographs, and struck up a friendship with Lester Teeple's

great-grandson, Ken, who answered questions and found old family photos and memorabilia to help make the model as accurate as possible.

Joann Lichthardt is rightfully proud of the Teeple Barn model she and her late husband painstakingly constructed, and she savored their work as a team to make every detail authentic and beautifully executed. She has written a brief memoir of their Teeple Barn collaboration, and it is included on page 3.

The Farm Bureau is proud to now be home to this beautiful model, and we hope you will stop in to see it, explore the fine details and appreciate this homage to a unique building and to a bygone era.

The 1/2" per foot scale model of Teeple Barn includes a herd of dairy cattle, farm hands and dog, hay stacks and an interesting hay fork. The model was built by Joann and Dick Lichthardt in 2004-05 and now "lives" in the lobby at Kane County Farm Bureau.

See page 3 for her recollections and more photos of the model.



### June is National Dairy Month!

Celebrate this delicious and dairy product diverse month by thanking a dairy farmer. Kane County is home to several dairy farms and nationwide, 99% of dairy farms are family owned. Dairy cows, on average, drink 30-50 gallons of water and eat 100 pounds of feed daily, which allows them to produce 70 pounds, or 8 gallons of milk per day. Dairy farmers work extremely hard to manage their herd so next time you treat yourself to a glass of milk, a slice of cheese, or an ice cream cone, be sure to thank a dairy farmer!

### JUNE FEATURED FOOD Bratwurst or Brat & Hotdog combo box

The special for June is a Brats and Hotdog combo OR a box of Bratwurst. The combo box contains 10 delicious award winning Inboden's bratwurst and 10 Red Hot Chicago all beef hotdogs OR a box of 20 award winning bratwurst ... a definite crowd pleaser!

The member price is \$28.00 and PLUS members always receive a 5% discount!

Available at the Kane County Farm Bureau - Randall Rd. and Oak St. in St. Charles - during the month of May or while supply lasts.

## FFA Acquaintance Day at Northern IL Food Bank

Approximately 30 volunteers from the KCFB Young Farmers Committee and the Kaneland and Central FFA Chapters met at the Northern Illinois Food Bank on the cool spring evening of April 13 to repack food for redistribution to local food pantries. The Young Farmers were especially interested in connecting with 18-35 year olds looking to get involved in community service or agriculture related events.

The assistance of Advisors Brooke Heinsohn and Alison Branz at Kaneland and

Ryan Robinson, Buddy Haas and Katlyn Post for signing up so many students for this service is sincerely appreciated.

The group sorted and relabeled 1,272 cans of veggies totaling 1,484 pounds of food, providing 1,236 meals to hungry neighbors!



At NIFB volunteer events, Young Farmers, FFA members and FB supporters repackage food for distribution to the Food Bank's network of food pantries. In a two-hour shift the group worked together to repackage nearly 1,500 pounds of food totaling almost 1,250 meals for hunger relief in Northern Illinois. To join the Young Farmers and their upcoming volunteer opportunities, please call the Farm Bureau at 630 584-8660.

## Farm toy of the month

June is the time to "make hay while the sun shines," and your little farmer will make hay with this 1:32 scale **John Deere Haying Set**. The baler hitches easily to the tractor and the wagon hitches to the back of the baler for plenty of hauling capacity to feed the herd. The playset is constructed of die-cast and plastic and is suitable for ages 3 and up.

Regular price is \$31.97, but during the month of May, visit our Farm Bureau Country Store and Farm Bureau members will save 10%. Hay, we'll see you soon!



Father's Day  
is almost  
here ...

On her special day, Mom wanted flowers...

Dad, he wants a vintage truck. And we have one.

### 1972 Chevy C20 V8 Automatic

Raffle Drawing September 9.

Tickets \$15, 2 for \$25, 5 for \$50

Call 630-584-8660. Order form on page 8.



1972 Chevy C20 V8 Automatic

### KCFB CALENDAR JUNE 2021

10 Board of Directors, 7pm

20 Summer solstice

30 Last day to register for the Summer Ag Institute (see page 4)

Save the date!

Don't miss out on Fresh Peaches!

Be on the lookout in July's Kane County Farmer for pricing, information for delicious, southern Illinois grown peaches! Distribution will be held in August!



# Representative Underwood visits Kane County farm and farmers

U.S. 14th District Congresswoman Lauren Underwood took advantage of a weekend break in the Congressional session in early May to visit the farm of Wayne Gehrke near Maple Park, and try her hand at soybean planting. Given the early season and very dry conditions, Gehrke, who chairs the Illinois Farm Bureau's Young Leaders Committee, had no problem holding back the planting of his final 40 acres of soybeans to accommodate the Congresswoman, and giving her a chance to operate the tractor.

The visit took place on May 7 on the farm on Ramm Road. Gehrke provided a report of that May 7th meeting with the Congresswoman to the Kane County Farm Bureau Board of Directors at the regular monthly meeting on May 13.

He reported on the Congresswoman's questions

and concerns about the capital needs of new and beginning farmers as one of the primary discussion topics during her

challenges related to farming in urbanizing areas and "outside" investor ownership of farmland were also discussed between rounds of planting before turning the tractor and planter over to the Congresswoman (while he stayed in the buddy seat), for her to complete the last round of planting.

Others present for the Congresswoman's visit included the Gehrke immediate family along with KCFB President Joe White and Manager Steve Arnold. During a brief meeting following the soybean planting experience,

that group stressed the importance of Congress using the opportunity for increased infrastructure spending to talk about needed improvements to locks and dams, roads and bridges and the rail transportation system that serve farmers and help get their product to local markets and customers around the globe.

Although the visit was hasty-



Wayne Gehrke and Representative Lauren Underwood pause in the field before planting Gehrke's last 40 acres of soybeans on May 7. The Congresswoman requested the visit to learn more about capital needs and tax and fiscal issues that affect farmers, especially new and beginning farmers.

half hour tractor ride. The questions she raised about capital needs provided Gehrke the intro needed to discuss the impact of capital gains taxes on farm succession. The value of IRS section 1031 exchanges for farmers. The protection of both are important priorities for the Farm Bureau.

Gehrke also discussed chal-

## New farm conservation practice program in northern Illinois

A new program providing financial incentives directly to farmers who transition to on-farm conservation practices is now available to farmers in 11 northern Illinois counties.

Launched by the Soil and Water Outcomes Fund, the offering is a component of efforts by PepsiCo and Ingredion to scale regenerative agriculture practices in a

farmer-centric and outcomes-driven manner.

The program pays farmers for adoption of conservation practices that generate verifiable carbon reductions and water quality improvements. The resulting verified environmental outcomes are sold to a diverse group of public and private beneficiaries interested in supporting farmers to advance

regenerative agriculture practices, including companies like PepsiCo and Ingredion, municipalities, state departments of agriculture and the federal government.

Farmers in Bureau, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, LaSalle, Lee, McHenry and Will counties may learn more about the program at [theoutcomesfund.com](http://theoutcomesfund.com).

## Soil tests enhance summer gardens

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

you upgrade your membership to a PLUS status.

Call 630-584-8660 for more details.

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

**When is the best time to test soil?** Proper sampling is important to obtain accurate results. Samples can be taken any time during the warmer months, when soil temperatures are at least 55 degrees. If the soil is too wet to spade, rototill or hoe, it is generally too wet to take a sample. On the other

hand, extremely dry soil should not be sampled either.

**How often should I test?** Ideally, soil should be tested every 3-5 years, more frequently with intensive use. Try to sample during the same season each time for the best comparison.

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

Additional help for your lawn & garden is available through the University of Illinois Master Gardeners. Contact them at 630-584-6166.

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*.



ly arranged, KCFB was pleased to have the opportunity for one-on-one conversation with Representative Underwood and will strive to keep the line of communication open and advocate for the interest of farmers.

### Local cost-share available through KDSWCD

The Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District (KDSWCD) is accepting applications for their Partners for Conservation cost-share program. There is \$6,500 remaining in funds for this year. All

interested applicants should email [patrick.mcpartlan@kanedupageswcd.org](mailto:patrick.mcpartlan@kanedupageswcd.org) for the application form. Projects eligible for funding include best management practices, such as grassed waterways, grade stabilization structures, terraces, pollinator habitats and more. The program pays for up to 75% of a project's total cost, depending on the project. The project must not have started work, and must be complete by December 31, 2021. All applicants will be presented to and selected by the KDSWCD Board of Directors.



Local cost share funding is available through Partners for Conservation at Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District for approved best management practices like grassed waterways.

### KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE JANUARY 2021 THRU DECEMBER 2021

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

\* Attendance by electronic means. ^ Attending IFB Leaders to Washington program.

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### Soil test costs

#### Basic PH Test

\$20 per sample for members, \$30 non-members

This test checks for soil pH, phosphorus, and potassium.

#### Lawn/Garden Test

\$30 per sample for members, \$40 non-members

This test includes the basic test plus organic matter and recommendations on amount and timing of fertilizer.

#### Lawn/Garden Plus

\$50 per sample for members, \$60 non-members

This test includes the Lawn & Garden test plus nutrients, iron, zinc, manganese, copper, sulfur and boron. This test also includes recommendations.



# Recollections from the Teeple Barn model builder

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joann Lichthardt, who teamed with her late husband Richard to build Teeple Barn and many other beautifully crafted scale models, recently shared her story about building the barn and some of the details that make the model authentic and artfully detailed.

The history of the "Teeple Barn replica" Richard and Joann Lichthardt built has an interesting beginning. Upon touring the actual Teeple Barn, Richard and I were so intrigued with the uniqueness of the structure, that we knew we had to find out more information. The more we learned about how awesome the barn was, the more determined we became to create something that would preserve this unique barn from the past for future generations. Even our grandchildren (who had accompanied us on several visits to the site on Randall Road) were really interested in the huge barn.

The great-grandson (Ken Teeple) of Lester Teeple, for whom the barn was built, became a good friend and was most instrumental in providing us with information and the opportunity to take numerous pictures and measurements of the interior and exterior of the barn. With all the information gathered, we began our "special project" on January 1, 2004. There's an old wives' tale that says, "What you do on New Year's Day, you'll do all year." You can see we were devoted to our projects and always doing things together.

The original barn was built in 1885, was 85 feet tall and 85 feet in diameter. It was located in the southeast corner of Randall Road and I-90 in Elgin, Illinois. Lester Teeple hired architect W.W. Abell to design the dairy barn when the area was considered a dairy center and butter prices for the nation were set in Illinois.

When it was decided to build a replica of the phenomenal barn to include with our 1/16th scale farm display, we ran into a little problem. After figuring out the actual dimensions, it was decided it would be unmanageable in that scale because it would be over five feet in diameter and 48 inches tall. It was decided our replica of the "Teeple Barn" would have to be in 1/2" (per foot) scale. That means every half-inch would represent one foot.

The unique method of unloading the hay into the hay-mow with a type of crane fascinated my husband to the point he knew the process had to be replicated. The crane had to be carefully positioned before placing the hay-fork into the load of hay on the wagon. Once the crane was in position the hay-fork engaged into the hay, a horse or team of horses was connected by rope and the horses went down the barn bridge, pulling the hay-fork to the desired location in the mow. Another unique feature was how the "drinking cups" for the cows had one master float control near the end of the milk tank. When a cow drank water from the cup, the float device allowed water to enter the system supplied by a large storage tank in the second floor area. When the cow stopped drinking, the float closed – stopping the water flow.

Red Poll cattle were chosen by the Teeples because the breed had a great milking ability to produce a fast-growing calf. Originally, Red Poll cattle were considered a breed good for milk and beef, unlike a breed of cattle good for milk or beef. There were 65 Red Poll cattle in the barn. I must admit it was interesting putting all their heads in the stanchions before we proceeded to the next level of our little barn. Every facet of that barn was enlightening. It was created with the utmost attention to detail and for the purpose of remembering the past for future generations.

Our project took 18 months to complete and by the grace of God the project became something that everyone seems to think is most fantastic. You can tell by looking at the barn pictures and the fine details that we dedicated countless hours and much loving enthusiasm into this project and every project created in our 1/16th scale farmstead, also!

My husband was the "master builder" and he always said his partner was the "master detailer and roofer." Between us, God had given us what some people call talent, we knew they were countless blessings!

The pictures included show the first silo top that was made – in all the pictures you see of the "Teeple Barn" there's no top on the silo. That includes the pictures of the Teeple Barn in National Geographic's book, *Saving America's Treasures!* We asked Ken Teeple if he could locate any old pictures of the barn and silo top. He graciously said he would try. In the meantime, Richard made what he referred to as a "generic top." The Teeple Barn was completed and shown for the first time at the Illinois Steam Power Show in 2005.

The Teeples came with pictures that had been located of the old farmstead off Randall Road that included pictures of the silo top. Since we had already made a silo top, even though it was not authentic, we would not make the real one because we had already started another big project. However, when the barn blew down in the early morning hours of May 25th, 2007, we decided a new, authentic top had to be constructed. The "generic Teeple silo top" became a paperweight and the authentic Teeple silo top was completed in September of 2007.

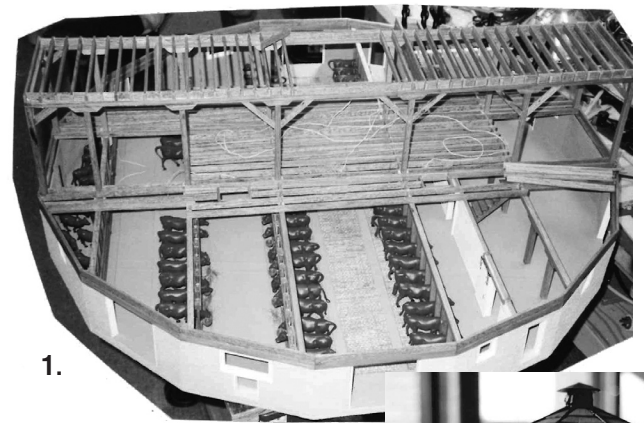
There were many round, six, eight and even 12-sided barns in the United States, but only two, 16-sided barns. The "Teeple Barn in Elgin was one and the other was George Washington's that was built in Mount Vernon. Construction of that barn started in 1792 and was completed in 1794. It measured 52 feet in diameter. In 1996, Washington's 16-sided barn was reconstructed in Mount Vernon. It's unfortunate that the Teeple Barn did not survive because that would have been amazing to behold!

I hope you have enjoyed all my trivia! Glory to God always and forever.

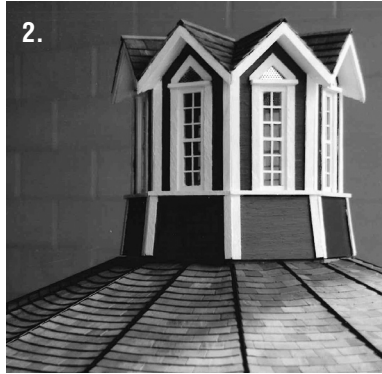
—Joann Lichthardt



Dick and Joann Lichthardt standing in front of their Teeple Barn model. Photo from January, 2007 Toy Farmer magazine



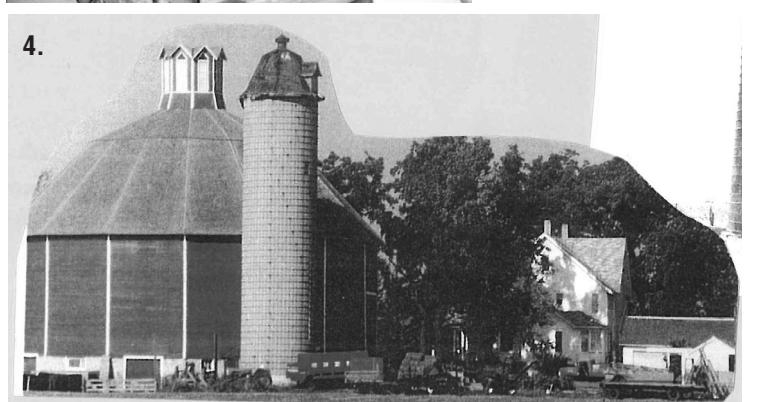
1.



2.



3.



4.

1. The Teeple Barn under construction with cattle placed in stanchions, May 2004.

2. The Lichthardts were sticklers for accuracy when constructing the scale model. The barn cupola is an exacting replica and the accuracy of the silo top required a lot of research and retrieval of old Teeple family photos. The silo top, barn cupola and roof required 6,560 shingles to complete!

3. Many thoughtful and charming details are included in the Teeple Barn model. The tiny calendar to the right of the farm hand shows Joann's granddaughter with her horse, "Bubba." The photo was taken in 2005 when the girl was 10 years old and she is now an adult, accomplished rider.

4. Ken Teeple, grandson of original barn owner Lester Teeple, brought this photo to the 2005 Steam/Power show to give the Lichthardts a good image of the Teeple Barn silo top. Previous to this photo, the silo had been capped by a "generic" top not authentic to the original building.

5. The Teeple Barn model was delivered April 11 to its new home at Kane County Farm Bureau, where it attracted a lot of attention at the recent Touch-A-Tractor event. Adults and children alike were fascinated by the detail, craftsmanship and the glimpse into a bygone farming era.



5.

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**Farming Funnies**  
In the spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours.  
— Mark Twain  
Which month can't make a decision?  
MAYbe.  
Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's Party!'  
— Robin Williams

Like us on Facebook for a weekly chuckle—our Friday Farming Funnies. You'll also find the latest info about ag education, books by local authors and upcoming events and specials at Kane County Farm Bureau.

## Looking to get more involved in the Community? Join Young Farmers

You're invited to join the Kane County Farm Bureau Young Farmers. Join young (18-35 years), local agriculture enthusiasts from around Kane County at their next gathering as they socialize and learn more about upcoming local and statewide activities. Any mem-

ber 18-35 is invited and new faces are always welcome! For more information or to be added to the contact list please contact Kelcee Miller, [aitc@kanecfb.com](mailto:aitc@kanecfb.com) or Steve Arnold at (630) 584-8660 or [steve@kaneafb.com](mailto:steve@kaneafb.com).



## AG LITERACY CORNER

By Kelcee Miller, Development & Ag Literacy Program Coordinator



**H**ello Kane County! Isn't it crazy how quickly the seasons change and how summer is suddenly upon us? Joanie Stiers' column had me thinking about just how much the weather is a topic of conversation in our daily lives – what to wear, morning commutes, and what the day may have in store for us. When it comes to farmers and other professions that rely heavily on Mother Nature cooperating, weather is the single most impactful and sometimes unpre-

dictable variable that can threaten or enhance their production and services.

Growing up, I used to be absolutely terrified of thunderstorms. Absolutely terrified. Like many of our 4-legged furry friends, I needed to hide under a blanket and be held because I was scared. Seeing the dark clouds roll in, strong winds bending the tree branches and making powerlines dance, the slight temperature drop right before it rained and hearing the

loud booms of thunder strong enough to rattle the house; not to mention the flashing bolts of lightning that lit up the dark stormy sky, the heavy sound of rain hitting the windows and roof of the house was enough to make this little girl think the house was going to be blown away!

To this day, I have the complete opposite mindset when it comes to thunderstorms. I love them. I've grown to appreciate the calmness and soothing effects that a storm can bring,

especially during the evening or early morning, not to mention the knowledge and wisdom that storms are good for a multitude of reasons!

With this theme of weather in mind, I can't help but sit back and think how weather can sometimes be a metaphor for our own lives. We have days where we are radiating sunshine, and spreading warm positive energy to those around us and days where it can feel like a raincloud is following us all day long. No matter the weather we

may be facing in our own lives, we learn to weather the storm and come out stronger. In life, I've learned you cannot grow without a little challenge – or a storm every now and then. The rainy days or challenges we encounter throughout our lives remind us to appreciate the sunshine just that much more and help us realize how resilient we are. And as the saying goes, flowers will never grow without a little rain.

*Happy June!*

## Teachers—your ag opportunity awaits Summer Ag Institute 2021

Teachers in Kane County will have a special and exciting opportunity to tour local farms, meet farmers and earn two graduate credits from St. Francis University this summer. **Kane County Farm Bureau is hosting its Summer Ag Institute beginning July 12th.**

The Summer Ag Institute is scheduled for 4 days, Monday, July 12th - Thursday, July 15th from 8:00am-4:30pm at the Kane County Farm Bureau. **Teachers in Kane County will have an opportunity to tour local farms, meet farmers, and earn graduate credits from St. Francis University this summer – yes, in person!** Teachers will be able to see how local farms run, agri-businesses and manufacturers work, and get a clear picture of how agriculture affects our daily lives and how agriculture concepts can be easily integrated into the classroom

setting.

Kane County Farm Bureau is the gathering point for teachers to board a bus and tour local farms, agri-businesses and manufacturers, where they will see how agriculture affects our daily lives. The tours will reveal the essentials of research, production, processing, marketing, transportation and retailing that takes food from farm fields to dinner tables. They learn from farmers, growers, experts in various fields and a crew of dedicated volunteers who share their knowledge and enthusiasm for agriculture, while networking with like-minded peers.

Topics will include GMO's, sustainability, organic practices, local foods, global populations and other issues that are current in agriculture today.

**To reserve your spot, call Kelcee Miller at 630-584-8660 by July 1st.**



## Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Summer Ag Institute

Join Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom on Tuesday mornings this summer to learn more about how to incorporate agriculture-themed lessons and activities into your classroom next school year. The one-hour weekly sessions will cover the following themes: Natural Resources, Livestock, Row

Crops, and Specialty Crops. Each theme will be discussed in two week blocks. Sign up for as many sessions as you'd like, and IAITC will mail you a session-in-a-box for each theme so you can participate along with us. Sign up and learn more here: <http://iaitc.co/summer21>.

Sign up for Summer 2021 Virtual Teacher Trainings with



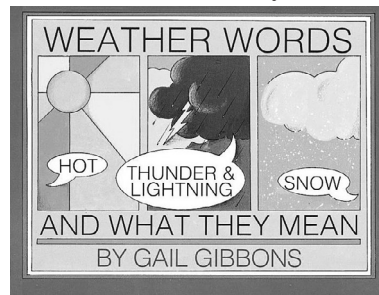
Tuesdays at 9:00 am:  
 Block 1: Natural Resources, June 8 and June 15  
 Block 2: Livestock, June 22 and June 29  
 Block 3: Row Crops, July 6 and July 13  
 Block 4: Specialty Crops, July 20 and July 27

## Book of the month

With spring behind us and planting season complete, summer weather is on the horizon. The months of April and May gave us a taste of a little bit of every season – snow, rain showers, brisk winds, morning frost, sunshine, warmer temps, and a combo of all of the above within a 24-hour span! Weather is one variable that impacts not just how to dress for the day, but it directly impacts the work that farmers do each and every day.

The book of the month for June is *Weather Words and What They Mean*, written by Gail Gibbons. In this youth-friendly book, Gibbons explains

common weather terms and what they all mean in language that is easy to follow and comprehend. Readers are introduced to familiar weather terms such as temperature, air pressure, moisture, and many more.



*Weather Words and What they Mean* by Gail Gibbons

Gibbons takes readers behind the scenes to illustrate what happens inside the clouds during different weather conditions, like what causes lightning to strike during a thunderstorm, what causes thunder to boom, and rain to fall.

To better understand the weather and its variables, come on in to the Kane County Farm Bureau office, visit our FREE KCFB Library and check out *Weather Words and What They Mean*. The Kane County Farm Bureau Library was made possible by Bob Konen and Dean Dunn, and later supported by the Bob Konen Family.

## Helping you protect what matters most



Bob Effner *CLU, LUTCF*  
 St. Charles/Elgin  
 Agency Manager  
 630-584-0001



Edward Stuehm  
 Geneva  
 630-845-8245



Bob Riedel  
 West Dundee  
 847-428-5434



Todd Wilcox  
 St. Charles  
 630-762-1326



Deb Stob  
 Geneva  
 630-208-0890



Gary Bolger  
 West Dundee  
 847-531-6110



Bobbi Boston  
 St. Charles  
 630-485-5155



Michael O'Brien  
 Geneva  
 630-762-0852



Sherri Schramer  
 Elburn  
 630-365-9500



Keith Eakins  
 St. Charles  
 630-762-1324



Jeff Jones  
 Geneva  
 847-989-9989



Dominick Davero  
 Elburn  
 630-365-3737



Kelly Landorf  
 St. Charles  
 630-762-1328



Victor Alvarado  
 Elgin  
 847-742-0003



Chuck Quick  
 Hampshire  
 847-683-2100



Donna Tonovitz  
 St. Charles  
 630-549-7694



Luke Fawkes  
 Elgin  
 847-742-0001



David Berreles  
 Hampshire  
 847-683-2100



Orazio Difruscolo  
 St. Charles  
 630-549-7696



Sherry Lochen  
 Elgin  
 847-742-0001



Dan Cooper  
 Sugar Grove  
 630-466-9600



Ashraf Gerdes  
 Aurora  
 630-898-3750



Bob Kearns  
 S. Elgin  
 847-888-3200



Ted Schuster  
 Sugar Grove  
 630-466-9600







# Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Kelcee Miller, Ag Literacy Coordinator



Weather is the No. 1 factor that can make or break a growing season for a farmer. While there's no controlling Mother Nature, Illinois farmers like Sarah Hastings are implementing practices and adopting technology to ensure a better farm and a better world – no matter the weather.

<https://www.watchusgrow.org/innovation-grows-here/#weather>



WEATHER IS THE NUMBER ONE FACTOR THAT WILL EITHER CONTRIBUTE TO OR DETRACT FROM OUR POTENTIAL YIELD FOR OUR CROP.

Sarah Hastings

Sidney, IL



The American Midwest is one of the most productive agricultural areas in the world. It is rich with excellent soil, is relatively flat, and has rivers and the Great Lakes for a concentration of fresh water. It is one of the few places on Earth where huge amounts of corn and soybeans can be grown with little or no irrigation.

The Midwest experiences nearly every variety of severe weather. Heat and cold waves, droughts, floods, blizzards, and tornadoes are all fairly regular events.

The geography and climate of the Midwest encourage the formation of thunderstorms.

Storms occur when there is strong convection in the atmosphere. Because warm air can hold more moisture than cool air can, convective mixing with cool air forces moisture to condense out of warm air, as vapor (clouds) and precipitation.

A strong temperature difference at different heights creates instability – the warmer the air near the surface is relative to the air above it, the more potential energy it has to move up. The Midwest frequently gets warm, moist air moving north from the Gulf of Mexico, and cold, dry air moving in from the Rocky Mountains or Canada. Where they meet, vigorous mixing causes

storms. Typically, a storm blows itself out once the warm air has moved up and the cool air down – a vertical column turning over as a unit. But because the lower air from the Gulf is moving north while air higher up is moving west, more heat and moisture is constantly added to the system, allowing the storm to persist and strengthen. This movement in different directions is also the reason for the area's unusually high incidence of powerful tornadoes.

This unstable weather is difficult to deal with, but it helps make Illinois farmers the most productive in the world.

Weather information from the National Science Foundation.

## A weather craft and a weather snack

### Rainbow Fruit Salad Jars



- 12 oz. yogurt (your choice on brand and flavor)
- 1 tbsp honey (optional)
- 3 oz. green grapes
- 2 kiwi fruits
- Half of a 14 oz. tin apricot halves in light syrup

- 2 easy peel oranges
- 8 medium sized strawberries
- 3 oz. fresh blueberries
- 4 clean mason jars

Mix the yogurt with the honey, then divide between the 4 mason jars

Prep the fruit: wash and halve the green grapes, peel and roughly chop the kiwi fruits,

roughly chop 4 apricot halves (reserve the syrup), peel and break the oranges into segments. Wash, hull and roughly chop the strawberries, and wash the blueberries.

Drizzle a spoonful of reserved syrup from the tinned apricots over the fruit in each jar, serve, and enjoy!

For more rainbow fruit inspiration and alternatives check out the recipe here: <https://www.eatsamazing.co.uk/rainbow-food/rainbow-fruit-salad-jars-recipe>

### Weather Mobile

- Materials:**
- Art paper
  - Oil pastels
  - Water color paint
  - Scissors
  - String
  - Tape
  - Small branch

Draw some weather symbols on your art paper using oil pastels (rainbow, raincloud, raindrops, lightning bolt, and sun).

Paint over your weather designs using watercolor paint,

and let them dry

Cut out your weather symbols Tape a piece of string to the back of each symbol. Tie the weather symbols onto different locations of a branch to create a weather mobile.

Hang your weather mobile craft and enjoy!

This craft found by McKenna Berglind and more ideas may be found here: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/3096293479691547/>



## Weather

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

- Cold
- Conservation
- Dry
- Forecast
- Frost
- Hot
- Impacts
- Improves
- Mother Nature
- Precipitation
- Protection
- Radar Images
- Rain
- Rain Gauge
- Resiliency
- Soil Erosion
- Sunshine
- Technology
- Temperatures
- Threatening
- Water Management
- Weather
- Wet
- Wind

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

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 by June 15, 2021 to be entered in our drawing for a weather themed prize. Prize must be picked up at the KCFB office within one month of newspaper publication.

## June is ...

- National**
- Olive Day 1st
  - World Milk Day 1st
  - Egg Day 3rd
  - Cheese Day 4th
  - Donut Day 4th
  - World Environment Day 5th
  - Gardening Exercise Day 6th
  - Chocolate Ice Cream Day 7th
  - Iced Tea Day 10th
  - Corn on the Cob Day 11th
  - Peanut Butter Cookie Day 12th
  - Flag Day 14th
  - Fudge Day 16th
  - Eat Your Vegetables Day 17th
  - Father's Day 20th
  - Vanilla Milkshake Day 20th
  - Onion Ring Day 22nd
  - Chocolate Pudding Day 26th

## Month-long celebrations...

- National Dairy Month
- National Country Cooking Month
- National Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Month
- National Soul Food Month
- Turkey Lovers Month
- National Candy Month

## JOKES WEATHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!

How do hurricanes see?  
With one eye!

Whatever happened to the cow that was lifted into the air by the tornado?  
Udder disaster!

Why did the woman go outdoors with her purse open?  
Because she expected some change in the weather!

What the difference between weather and climate?  
You can't weather a tree, but you can climate!

## Congratulations

to Joy Fernandez of Big Rock, this month's word search winner. Her name was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's Word Search puzzle. For her participation, she receives a beef-themed prize. Thank you, Joy, for reading the Kane County Farmer and continue to watch each month for more great opportunities from the Kane County Farm Bureau.





**Weather demands resiliency, binds farmers everywhere**

We mount rain gauges on various fenceposts for measuring rainfall totals. My brother can cite the exact date of the previous year's last freeze of spring and first freeze of fall as if they were birthdays. And I would predict an 80% chance of weather talk at the dinner table with my family.

Weather binds farmers from coast to coast and generation to generation. Since farming

began, this single variable impacts everything from morning chores and mental states to profitability and table talk. Rain makes grain, and wind can take it down. We mow hay when the sun shines, yet never rule out an irritating pop-up shower before the forage is baled. When the weather threatens or improves the global supply of food and fuel, the commodity markets react.

Data shows that over time weather comes with greater variability and extremes from cold to hot and dry to wet. Since 1980, the number of days it has rained more than two inches has doubled in Illinois, a statistic cited in a new docuseries at *WatchUs*

*Grow.org*. More rain in a shorter time can trigger crop losses and soil erosion, but farmers have adjusted to protect crops and the environment. More than ever on our farm and farms across the state, grass filter strips along streams, fields of cover crops and reduced tillage practices slow and filter water flowing across the land. In fact, Illinois farmers and landowners have dedicated more than 800,000 acres to land and water conservation.

Technology significantly advances resiliency on the farm. On our smartphones, we view subscription weather forecasts and field-specific precipitation totals. From tractor cabs, we watch live radar images for rain that threatens fieldwork. Bigger or faster planters plant crops quicker, and high-capacity combines gather more crop during windows of favorable weather.

ing. Old bits of soap bars were stuck to new soap bars. He was a master at getting toothpaste out of a tube. One did not stand at an open refrigerator, ruminating food choices and above all, one did not leave electrical appliances and lights on all over the house. My dad would track us down and makes us turn off lights, televisions in empty rooms. An irritation in childhood, but it instilled in me a lifelong habit of not being wasteful, which is oh, so au courant these days!

**Put things away!** My father was generous with his things. We could borrow tools from his workshop, borrow his car, bor-

*(continued on page 7)*

Tile drainage systems improve water management within fields. Even the tedder, a farm implement that aerates mowed hay, helps hay cure sooner to bale before a rainfall that could spoil it.

We talk to neighbors about the ground's frost depth in winter, the soil temperatures in spring and the field-to-field rainfall differences by summer. Those same friends understand

the deafening yet therapeutic sound of a much-needed summer rain on the metal roof of the farm shop without discussion. But, several surely will call or text after they've seen the rain gauge.

*About the author: Joanie Stiers farms with her family in West-Central Illinois, where they grow corn, soybeans, wheat and hay and raise beef cattle and backyard chickens.*

**St. Peter's Food Pantry donation**

*Even on a gloomy day in April, Kelcee Miller and her intern McKenna Berglund could bring sunshine and a friendly smile to our hungry neighbors' faces by dropping off food and monetary donations to St. Peter's Food Pantry in Geneva.*

*Thank you to all who donated and contributed throughout the year and at our Touch-A-Tractor event!*



**Entrepreneurs needed to rise to the challenge**

The Farm Bureau Ag Innovation Challenge is a national business competition that showcases U.S. startups developing innovative solutions that address challenges facing America's farmers, ranchers and rural communities. Launched in 2015,

The Challenge was the first national business competition of its kind focused exclusively on rural entrepreneurs.

Now in their eighth year, the American Farm Bureau Federation in partnership with Farm Credit, are looking to identify the top entrepreneurs who are addressing both traditional challenges farmers face on their operation, such as access to labor, optimizing yield and reducing operating costs, to entrepreneurs who are addressing new challenges facing farmers and rural communities.

Farm Bureau will award \$165,000 in startup funds to ten businesses, culminating at a live pitch competition and networking event at the AFBF Annual Convention in January 2022 in Atlanta, GA. The Ag Innovation Challenge Winner will be awarded \$50,000 in startup funds provided by sponsors Farm Credit, Bayer Crop Science, John Deere, Farm Bureau Bank, Farm Bureau Financial Services, and FMC Corporation.

The ten startup businesses selected by Farm Bureau and the Farm Credit Rural Investment and Innovation Workgroup will compete at the AFBF Annual Convention in January 2022 as Semi-Finalists. These ten businesses will be awarded \$10,000 each.

The 10 semi-finalist teams will compete at the AFBF Annual Convention on Friday, Jan. 7, to advance to the final round where the four finalist teams will receive an additional \$5,000 for a total of \$15,000. The final four teams will compete live in front of Farm Bureau members, investors and industry representatives to win:

- Ag Innovation Challenge Winner, for a total of \$50,000
- Ag Innovation Challenge Runner-Up, for a total of \$20,000
- People's Choice Team, for an additional \$5,000

The top 10 semi-finalist teams will participate in pitch training and mentorship from Cornell University's SC Johnson College of Business faculty, and network with representatives from the Agriculture Department's Rural Business Investment Companies.

For more information on the Ag Innovation Challenge, visit: <https://www.fb.org/land/ag-innovation-challenge-2022>

**Farm Bureau offering \$165K in start-up funds to 10 businesses**

**THINGS MY FATHER TAUGHT ME**  
By Alice Macha



During my childhood, my parents were a team, but my mom ran the household. She did 99 percent of the cooking, cleaning, organizing, and household purchasing. She tended to us kids, bandaged scrapes, cooled fevers, helped with homework, taught us how to cook.

My father's contributions were perhaps more subtle, and sometimes irritating and frus-

trating to my young, self-absorbed mind, but they have stood with me and shaped my life for over 60 years now, and I am grateful for his patience, his guidance and his love for his family.

Here are a few life lessons my father taught me:

**Turn off the lights!** My father grew up during the Depression, and he wasted noth-

**Welcome to the next level**

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

**Regular Members**

- Mona Corneilson Elgin
- Joseph Konen Sugar Grove
- Anna Murray Geneva

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, education and hunger relief:

- Professional networking

opportunities & engagement with farmers

- Agriculture, farm & food news delivered to your door
- New subscription to *FarmWeek*, the largest weekly agriculture newspaper
- Access to *FarmWeekNow.com*
- KCFB voting rights & ILFB delegate opportunities
- Continuing subscription to the *Kane County Farmer* newspaper
- Free annual registration at one of 7 statewide conferences
- 302,000 member discounts, including Ford, Lincoln, John Deere, Case IH, restaurants,

hotels & travel

- Discounts at the KCFB Country Store on in-house sales of featured local foods

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

**Uofl Extension offers Four Seasons Gardening webinar series**

The Four Seasons Gardening Webinar Series is one of the most popular horticulture programs offered by the Illinois Extension Horticulture Team. Each season, the team hosts three live one-hour webinars delivered via Zoom. Webinars are free but registration is required and space is limited. Please click on the topics below to register.

Webinars are held on select Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. CDT. Each webinar will last approximately one hour.

**Top 9 Vegetable Garden Insects - June 15**

Learn nine of the most common and destructive insect pests in your vegetable garden and how to control them. Get tips on identification, scouting, prevention, and organic methods of eradication. Whether you are new to gardening or a master,

you will walk away with tips to make the gardening season a greater success.

*Presenter: Horticulture Educator Kelly Allsup*  
**Themed Gardens: Design with Kids in Mind - July 20**

Foster the love of gardening with the youth in your life by creating theme gardens. Explore ideas and tips for creating a special place for your young, hands-on learner to grow, explore, and be creative. Whether it's at a school, community garden, or your backyard, theme gardens use plants and design elements inspired by a specific topic, such as favorite books, colors, foods, animals, or even places to visit. The possibilities are endless!

*Presenter: Horticulture Educator Brittnay Haag*

If you need live captioning support to participate in this

program, please contact Nancy Kreith at [kreith@illinois.edu](mailto:kreith@illinois.edu). It is strongly encouraged to submit your request at least two weeks before the program begins.

**End of Summer Planted Fall Vegetables - August 17**

Foster the love of gardening with the youth in your life by creating theme gardens. Explore ideas and tips for creating a special place for your young, hands-on learner to grow, explore, and be creative. Whether it's at a school, community garden, or your backyard, theme gardens use plants and design elements inspired by a specific topic, such as favorite books, colors, foods, animals, or even places to visit. The possibilities are endless!

*Presenter: Horticulture Educator Bruce J. Black*



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**Growing To Serve You Better**



# IDOA offers free recycling program for agrichemical containers

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) is encouraging farmers and agrichemical facilities to save their empty

agrichemical containers as they will once again be hosting free container recycling days throughout the state.

Beginning in the middle of July, sites throughout the state will collect the empty containers which will be recycled and made into shipping pallets, plastic lumber, and other useful products.

“This program offers farmers and agrichemical facilities a convenient opportunity to dispose of empty pesticide containers while also helping to protect the environment,” said Jerry Costello II, Director, IDOA. “I encourage farmers to gather containers they are planning to dispose and take them to the nearest collection site to be repurposed.”

Metal and household pesticide containers are not eligible for the recycling program. Collection sites will accept only high-densi-

ty polyethylene, #2 plastic agrichemical containers that are clean and dry. Participants are responsible for rinsing them and removing all caps, labels, booklets, and foil seals.

Mini-Bulk and Intermediate Bulk containers can be recycled via the Department’s container recycling program by making the following container preparations: Mini Bulk (cage) containers are required to be cut into separate top, bottom and sides, fittings discarded (no metal, no wood) (6 slabs of plastic). Intermediate Bulk Containers are to be cut in to 1-foot square pieces, fittings discarded (no metal, no wood). In 2021, G. Phillips and Sons, LLC Began offering services to pick up Mini-Bulk and Intermediate Bulk containers throughout the

year. Contact G. Phillips and Sons, LLC at 678-232-6047 to learn more.

The program is a cooperative venture between the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Container Recycling Council, GROW-MARK, Inc., Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association, G. Phillips and Sons, L.L.C., Illinois Farm Bureau, and the University of Illinois Extension.

Additional information can be found on the IDOA website at [agriculture.illinois.gov](http://agriculture.illinois.gov), click on the “Environment” tab and then “Agrichemicals”. To obtain a free brochure about the program, call the Illinois department of Agriculture toll free at 1-800-641-3934.

## Recruiter of the Month

Each month we honor the person who signs the most members into our organization. This month, the honor goes to Lulu Medina!



Lulu Medina

January, 2017. Her office is located at 1161 Oak Street, North Aurora and may be reached at: 630-449-0910. Thank you for your continued support of the Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success!

## What’s new in the COUNTRY agencies?

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

Kelly Landorf has been named the Agent of the Month for April 2021 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Kelly has provided tangible plans for addressing the immediate and long term insurance needs of her clients through COUNTRY Financial’s diverse products and services: Auto, Farm, Home, Life, Business, Retirement. Let Kelly’s expertise help you! You may reach Kelly at 630-762-1328, [kelly.landorf@countryfinancial.com](mailto:kelly.landorf@countryfinancial.com), or <https://representatives.country>

[financial.com/kelly.landorf/](http://financial.com/kelly.landorf/). Congratulations Kelly!

### Aurora Agency, Alonzo Nevarez, Agency Manager

Ryan Mizgate, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for April 2021. Ryan began his career with COUNTRY Financial in June of 2014 and services clients out of his office located at: 1161 Oak Street, North Aurora 60542, (630) 907-9485. Ryan’s professionalism, community involvement and vast knowledge of auto, home, life, commercial and financial products make him a great person to do business with. Congratulations, Ryan!

located east side of St. Charles. Offering vacation pay, self-directed saving plan, and partial tuition reimbursement. Perfect position for college student or person entering the field. Call Bob or Laurie, 630-377-7797

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**-Minimum 20 hours weekly M-F. Applicant must be a computer literate, self-starter, with pleasant voice and manner. Some travel possible. Office located east side of St. Charles. We offer vacation pay, self-directed savings plan, and partial tuition reimbursement. Perfect position for stay-at-home mom or college student. Call Bob or Laurie at 630-377-7797 to arrange interview

### WANTED

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

### FREE

Cement mixer, 4 steel wheels, early 1920’s. Last used 1963, needs work. Must pick up. Call: 847-695-2701

The collection sites and dates for the 2021 Pesticide Container Recycling Program are as follows:

### Single Day Collection Sites:

AM Site hours are 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

PM Site hours are 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

\*\*\* Site hours are 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

| Date/Time | County/City     | Location            | Contact       | Phone        |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 8/9 AM    | DeKalb/Kirkland | Helena Chemical Co. | Dan Moore     | 815-522-3251 |
| 8/9 PM    | Kane/Maple Park | CHS Inc.            | Mike Buchanan | 630-365-5027 |
| 8/10 AM   | McHenry/Marengo | Conserv FS          | Brett Wolter  | 815-568-7211 |

## Domestic pork sales continue to heat up

By Daniel Grant, FarmWeek

U.S. consumers’ appetite for pork continues to grow at home, even as an increasing number of people venture out to restaurants more than a year after coronavirus restrictions went into effect.

Kiersten Hafer, of One Mind Consulting, reported nearly half of all shoppers currently purchase more meat than they did prior to the pandemic.

Meat sales increased 13.4%, including a 15% increase in pork purchases, since the start of the pandemic, Hafer noted during a webinar hosted by the National Pork Board (NPB).

“Pork is winning with consumers,” she said. “Forty-three percent of shoppers are still buying more meat than they previously did. COVID really changed and reshaped how we buy and eat food. It created new needs and new behaviors.”

Many shoppers placed more emphasis on adding balance and variety to meals as they cooked more at home while also seeking convenience and the ability to stretch their food dollar.

NPB responded by promoting ground pork, available in

more than 1,700 stores, and shoppers responded, as 45% of purchases were made by consumers who had not purchased ground pork in the previous 12 months, according to Neal Hull of NPB.

“We saw a sales surge during the pandemic,” Hull said.

Another promotion with Sam’s Club and Kinder’s Seasoning allowed shoppers to scan a code to receive recipes for easy bake boneless pork chops. It generated a 42% increase in sales of those items.

NPB continues to promote sales and cooking tips for pork at home while also eyeing a resurgence of dining out.

“There’s pent-up demand to go out to restaurants,” Hull said. “Fifty-five percent of consumers are ready to return to restaurants.”

NPB recently partnered with the International House of Pancakes to promote its bacon obsession menu, which includes cuts five times thicker than traditional bacon, and EG America convenience stores to promote the Big Pig breakfast sandwich, which contains 9 ounces of pork (bacon, sausage and ham) along

with two new breakfast pizzas containing pork.

Upcoming NPB promotions include partnerships at Quiznos for The Smiling Pig sandwich, four new cuts of fresh pork at Target and a commemorative promotion for Dickey’s Barbecue Pit’s 80th anniversary.

Strong domestic and international pork demand, coupled with a slightly smaller swine herd, helped push hog prices above \$100 per hundredweight in recent months. But high feed costs continue to weigh on margins.

“Demand has been strong for pork products,” said Scott Brown, director of strategic partnerships and associate professor at the University of Missouri. “We’re pretty optimistic about prices. Make sure to take advantage of market opportunities.”

Annual U.S. meat consumption increased from about 86 billion pounds in 2014 to about 100 billion pounds since 2019. Meanwhile, hog slaughter declined about 3% so far this year compared to the same time a year ago, thus reducing supplies, Brown added.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### CLASSIFIED AD RATES

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

### SERVICES

Jim Verhaeghe & Sons, Inc. – Tree removal, tree trimming, & stump grinding. Backhoe work & Tile Lines. Fully insured – Free Estimates – Jim Verhaeghe Sr. Call: 847 334 5730

### HELP WANTED

GRAPHIC DESIGN-Minimum 20 hours weekly M-F. Applicant must have good design layout skills. Must be computer literate, self-starter, and team player. Office



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## Father

(continued from page 6)

row money. He was a stickler about putting the tools back, returning the car on time and in good working order, and paying back loans. *These little hacks have certainly made my adult life simpler.*

**Be polite and gracious – always.** My father, who was a WWII Marine and didn’t take “guff” from anyone, always led with eye contact, a firm handshake, and a straightforward manner. I think because he had traveled around the world and seen the way segments of societies were sometimes relegated to second class status, he did not want to perpetuate that behavior. He taught us to enter with digni-

ty, to be welcoming and polite to everyone. These “social graces” have become a bit tattered in today’s more casual society ... but will never go out of style.

**Be honest.** My father was always honest with us. It might be a watered down truth that was appropriate to a six- or sixteen-year old, but it was the truth. We trusted our parents to be forthright with us and they expected honesty from us. *Not a bad way to live.*

**Love your family.** My dad traveled around the world on business, and was gone for weeks at a time. He loved and respected my mother for her skills in keeping the family and household running in his absence, and he expected us to do the same. Rude, selfish or

dishonest behavior in public was an embarrassment to the entire family and my father was proud of his family and did not want the family name to be compromised. *Brand protection – what a contemporary concept!*

**Lead by example.** My dad occasionally blew up at us kids, but often our infractions were followed by “teaching moments.” I think back on his commendable patience with four kids who could be brats at times. I always knew in my heart that, even if I screwed up, my father had my back. *Solid reassurance for a kid.*

My father was unique, but not alone. I respect all the dads out there who provide consistent, unwavering support to their families. *Happy Father’s Day, all.*



# Thank you ...

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

Gladys Arnold  
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 Bob Gehrke  
 Lisa Geisler  
 Wayne Schneider  
 Louise Johnson  
 Mike Kenyon  
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 Joe White  
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 Bill Collins  
 Chris Collins  
 Tyler Fabrizio  
 James Reynolds  
 Alison Jones  
 Alison James  
 Olivia Wiggins  
 Emily Lambillotte

### COUNTRY Financial

Todd Wilcox  
 Keith Eakins  
 Kelly Landorf

### AGCO Parts Employees, Batavia

Andrea Achermann  
 Austin Henkelman  
 Belinda Meyer  
 Franky Achermann  
 Joshua Converse  
 Will Huber

### Central FFA

Jayne Munoz  
 Madison Marcum  
 Emily Delagado  
 Ravenia Zillmer  
 Stevie Jaworski  
 Jimena Sanchez  
 John Lenz

Cody Hanlive  
 Christopher Agviland

### Kaneland FFA

Ty Vaughan  
 Grant Baldrige  
 Dean Baldrige  
 Georgia Harwell  
 Ethan Volkening  
 Katie Volkening

### Hinckley-Big Rock FFA

Madeline Noble  
 Bridget Wilkening  
 Ciera Woods  
 Bryan Gorgky  
 George Baumann

### Elburn Lions Club

Ed Stuehm  
 Phil Van Bogaert

### For providing Tractors, Farm Animals & Farm Equipment

Tom Runty  
 Larry Koesche  
 Dan Kocher  
 Dennis Erikson  
 Eldon Gould  
 Tim Kehoe  
 Randy Pauli  
 Randy Wilkening  
 Bruce Nagel  
 Scott Horton  
 Jim Lickteig  
 AC McCartney Implement  
 Karl Kettelkamp  
 Jim O'Connell  
 Mark Anderson  
 Joe White  
 Lenkaitis Holsteins  
 Bob Gehrke  
 Katherine Carnell  
 Primrose Farm



## Scenes from Touch-A-Tractor 2021

Clockwise from top left:

These boys had fun clambering onto the giant Kubota tractor with hay cutting attachment.

Folks lined up to climb aboard and explore the "cockpit" of this 1912 Port Huron Steam Engine.

This overview of Touch-A-Tractor 2021 shows some of the tractors and toys that were on hand to insure a good time. Visitors were fascinated by antique tractors and the massive combine in background, while kids had fun on the farm hoppers in the straw bale corral.

This little girl was intent on mastering her farm hopper cow.

The Elburn Lions Club was on hand to grill hamburgers, brats and hotdogs and feed the hungry farm enthusiasts.

# Simple ways to shop and share with KCFB Foundation

### GroupRaise:

On behalf of the KCFB Foundation, we would like to say THANK YOU to our friends and families who participated in our GroupRaise fundraisers last month at Salsa Verde on Tuesday, May 4th as well as Oberweis on Friday, May 28th. We appreciate your support and commitment to assist the future of ag education, leadership development, and scholarships!

### AmazonSmile:

Shop on AmazonSmile and support KCFB Foundation at the same time? It sounds too good to be true! AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable

organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the extra bonus that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation.

Step by step instructions:

1. Click the following link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-3691384>

2. Click the yellow "Start

shopping" box

3. Sign in using your Amazon log-in info

4. Begin shopping!

To verify that you've followed the steps properly, at the check-out portion of your purchase there will be a box stating, "Supporting Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation" You will also see on various items that it will say, "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation."

### Our Caps, Your Cause:

In 2018, we encouraged the community to join us in our 10,000 gallon milk challenge by buying and donating to the Northern Illinois Food Bank. With the successful event in mind we are shifting gears a lit-

tle bit in 2021. We are excited to be working with Prairie Farms Dairy in their Our Caps, Your Cause program. Simply purchase Prairie Farm Dairy white or chocolate milk in a gallon or a half gallon or Prairie Farms iced coffee and peel off the special Our Caps, Your Cause sticker to reveal a unique, redeemable code. For every redeemable code, Prairie Farms will give 5-cents to Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation. We hope you will join us in our next challenge and bring your milk caps into KCFB or mail them to us. In the meantime, keep drinking your milk and save your caps all year long! It's a small change that

can make a big difference!

If you'd like to enter the codes yourself online follow these steps:

1. Go to <https://www.prairie-farms.com/>
2. Click "Our Caps, Your Cause" at the top of the page
3. Click the orange box that says "Redeem Codes Now"
4. Under the first category menu select "Education"
5. Under the next category select "Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, St. Charles, IL"
6. Enter your codes in the boxes below
7. Click "Donate" in the orange box at the bottom to submit your cap codes

# Vintage truck + fun ride = great Father's Day gift idea

## Vintage Truck Raffle KCFB Foundation

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

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 # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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

The grand prize winner in the annual raffle will be drawn in September, 2021. The winning ticket will take home a 1972 Chevrolet C-20 camper special pickup truck. Second prize is \$500 in groceries and third prize \$500 in fuel.

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

request form below. In 2019-20, over \$22,500 in tuition assistance was provided by the Foundation. For 2021-22, the KCFB Foundation has already approved \$18,000 in Scholarships. Your contributions through the annual raffle and other events throughout the year play a huge role in helping students attain their degrees, reach their goals, and assist in securing a bright future for farms and food.

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

