

# 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. 10 OCTOBER 2021

## Vintage Chevrolet brings back memories

When Vintage Truck Raffle winner **Mark Harbison** of Batavia first saw the KCFB Foundation's 2021 Grand Prize, a 1972 Chevrolet C20 pick-up in placer gold and antique white, he knew he had to have a ticket. "The truck was identical to one my grandparents had while I was growing up," related Harbison. "Same, make, model and colors. My grandparents used it to tow their Holiday Rambler camper."

Whether Harbison was confident of winning or not, only he knows. He was, however, the first Grand Prize winner in the 15 years of the Foundation's raffles to be present at the drawing. A nice surprise for he and daughters Aubrianna, 19 and Chelsea, 18, as well as for the crowd of about 40 onlookers who ate their drive-thru BBQ dinners on the lawn at the Farm Bureau on September 9 in anticipation of the 7 pm raffle drawing.

A "WHOO!" went out with the announcement of the winner. For many, it was first

thought to be the obligatory, polite recognition for an anonymous someone's good fortune. It soon dawned on raffle officials that Harbison, the winner, a remarkably reserved gentleman who was likely willing to wait for the conclusion of the remaining drawing before revealing his presence, was indeed present. It was revealed



Mark Harbison stopped by the KCFB office on Monday September 13 to claim his prize and drove off in his 1972 Chevrolet C20. Congratulations Mark!

through the enthusiasm of his daughters, accompanied by a wry smile on Harbison's face.

Following a brief break to congratulate the Grand Prize

winner and his daughters, drawings resumed for the 2nd and 3rd prize winners, **Glenn Leonard** of St Charles and **David Benge** of Aurora. Both receive a \$500 gift card, for food and fuel, respectively.

Harbison, a COUNTRY Financial client since he turned 16 and long-time Farm Bureau member, obviously chose the truck over the alternative cash Grand Prize. An additional vehicle will come in handy when in-person classes resume for daughters Aubrianna and Chelsea, both students at Waubensee Community College. In the meantime, Harbison can take a short trip down Route 31 to Yorkville where his parents now reside in that house once owned by his grandfather that had an identical 1972 C20 nearly 50 years ago. We did not ask the address, but it is likely on Memory Lane.

See page 8 for additional stories and photos from our Truck Raffle night.



Photos, top to bottom: KCFB President, Joe White, grabbed a bullhorn and climbed into the bed of the raffle Grand Prize to make announcements prior to the raffle drawing on September 9th. Aubrianna, Chelsea and Mark Harbison with the winning raffle ticket are congratulated by KCFB Foundation Executive Director Steve Arnold and President Joe White.

### OCTOBER FEATURED FOOD

*Sausage, sausage,  
sausage!*

October is National Pork Month or as we like to call it, "Porktober." To celebrate, KCFB is offering your choice of pork sausage patties or links. Breakfast sausages are unlike all other sausages, largely thanks to the spice mix. The KCFB member price for a 5lb. box of pork sausage patties from Inboden's (40 to a box/patties or 96 per box/links) is \$28. Plus Status members always receive a 5% discount on edible products at the Farm Bureau. Offered while supply lasts. Available at the Kane County Farm Bureau, Randall Rd. at Oak Street in St. Charles.

**KCFB CALENDAR**  
**OCTOBER 2021**

Mums/Fall decor sale while supplies last  
**14** Board of Directors, 7pm  
**15** IAITC grant application deadline  
**18-29** Pick up water test kit at KCFB  
**31** Happy Halloween!  
*All at Kane County Farm Bureau unless otherwise noted.*

## Pollinator/Rain Garden

Representatives from the County of Kane Environmental & Water Resources Division and The Conservation Foundation met recently with KCFB to evaluate the Pollinator/Rain Garden planted by KCFB volunteers in July of 2020, and to discuss next steps for this public demonstration of an environmental best management practice to improve water quality.

Mid-summer planting in 2020 combined with weather extremes including flooding from the rains associated with the August 10, 2020 derecho, followed by a month of hot, dry weather, affected the establishment of at least two plant species, Butterfly Milkweed and Purple Coneflower. Black-eyed Susans, Prairie Dropseed and Little Bluestem, however,

showed promising improvement in the year after planting.

The group discussed several alternatives. Weather and availability of plant materials permitting, an attempt will be made in October to fill in the "holes" in the garden in order to get it well established before winter arrives. If you'd like to help out, call KCFB at 630-584-8660 and we will notify you of the planting date(s).

The group also discussed expansion of the project, and means to slow the speed of runoff and direct the flow that comes from the parking lot before settling in the lower portion of the rain garden. For information on how area farmers and farm owners can assist in that effort, see **You(r) rock(s)!** at right.

## Fall Harvest Décor while supplies last!

The KCFB FOUNDATION wants to help make Kane County the most festive county in Illinois again this year by providing Farm Bureau members with decorations to complement your homes. In October, while supplies last, the Kane County Farm Bureau office will be your one-stop harvest decoration shop. Choose from a variety of garden mums, Indian corn, gourds, pumpkins,

straw bales and corn shocks all produced by LOCAL growers.

Don't wait, as products are only available while supplies last. Proceeds from all sales benefit the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation's scholarship and agricultural literacy programs.

Hours: M-F; 9am-4pm and weekends 11am-3pm. A self-serve payment box will be set up for those times when the dis-

## ..... You(r) rock(s)! .....

They were the bane of your great-grandfather's existence, the innumerable field stones overturned by horses pulling plows across the rural landscape. Hand dug and carried by hand, on carts or sleds to field entrances where they would be piled, so as to not interfere with tillage or haying operations. Many still remain on farms in the area. Mounds now grown over with grasses mark where stones were piled 100 or more years ago.

Now, Kane County Farm Bureau desires to have some of these one-time "nuisances". Our aim is to build a water flow control structure, 600 or more square feet in area, lined with field stones to dissipate the energy of water rushing off our parking lot and headed toward a pollinator/rain garden before

(continued on page 2)



Field stones the size of softballs to basketballs and 2-3" thick river stones/limestone are being sought by the KCFB to expand a water quality "best management practices" demonstration project on the Farm Bureau lawn along Randall Road in St. Charles. Farmers who have such stones to spare, from field edges or building foundations, are asked to call the KCFB, 630-584-8660. See page 2 for more info.

play is not staffed, so feel free to stop by anytime! For further inquiries or questions, contact our office at (630) 584-8660.

Straw bales (full bale)	\$8.00 each
Carving pumpkins (17-24#, approx. 12" dia.)	prices as marked
Ornamental/Heirloom pumpkins	\$6.00 & up
Pie pumpkins (softball sized)	\$3.00 each
Assorted small gourds/mini pumpkins (3-6 in.)	50 cents ea., 2/\$1.00
Indian corn (tied in 3's)	\$5.00 each
Mums (assorted colors), 9" pot	\$9.00 each
Corn shocks	\$8.00 each



# IFB releases Pollinator Habitat Guide

In an effort to address the growing interest, questions and requests for information concerning pollinators, Illinois Farm Bureau has been expanding pollinator resources and efforts. Included in this was a September 1 announcement of a new Pollinator Conservation Grant program available to County Farm Bureaus. Kane CFB will be applying to IFB for a grant to assist with the expansion of a pollinator/rain garden planted at the Farm Bureau in July 2020. We also encourage members to reach out with ideas for similar projects.

KCFB also has, courtesy of IFB, a limited number of *Pollinator Habitat Guides for Agricultural Landscapes*. This guidebook was created to help farmers and landowners who are interested in implementing larger plots of pollinator habitat. A pdf copy of the 16 page guidebook is available at [www.ifb.org/pollinatorresources](http://www.ifb.org/pollinatorresources).

In addition to the Habitat Guide, IFB has also developed several new resources and updated existing resources for County Farm Bureaus and their

members. These resources include:

A Pollinator Toolkit, a document which includes resources in several categories including tools for starting a pollinator project, general project ideas, and a list of some existing projects in Illinois. This toolkit also includes a portal to request IFB-branded Pollinator Habitat signs.

- A Pollinator benefits document which provides some key messages and other points to help guide pollinator conversations within your communities.

- The Illinois Monarch Project Agriculture Action Plan, a comprehensive report of numerous agriculture stakeholders' contributions to Monarch Butterfly conservation efforts.

- Mowing on the Farm and General Mowing Guidance

documents which make recommendations of mowing best management practices with pollinators in mind.

For a copy of the Pollinator Habitat Guide or access to other materials, please contact Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660, or stop by our office on Randall Road in St. Charles and ask for Steve or Alice.



## You(r) rock(s)

(continued from page 1)

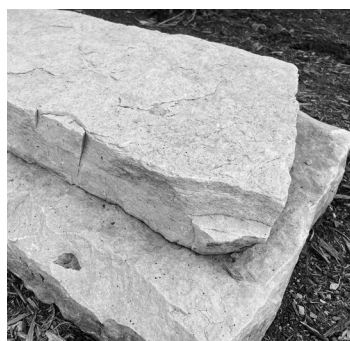
exiting through the storm sewer. Field stones are sought from softball to basketball sized, delivered to our office on Randall Road or, give us a call and let us know where we can pick them up! (Use of a loader tractor most appreciated.) We are also seeking limestone or flat river-stone in sizes that are moveable by hand to create walking paths through the new garden as it is developed.

As proposed, the area will drain across an Illinois shaped "garden" that incorporates the current pollinator/rain garden installed in 2020. The larger size will allow for more plants and environments, to include wetland, pollinator and prairie species. It would likely be built in phases.

If you can contribute your unwanted field stones or river stones to KCFB's garden project, you rock! For more information, 630-584-8660 and ask for Steve.



A preliminary landscape plan for an expanded, Illinois shaped pollinator, prairie plant and rain garden was presented to the KCFB Board of Directors at their October meeting. The FB is seeking field stones and river stone (limestone) from members to begin the first phase of the project.



### 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	X	X	X	X	X		
B. COLLINS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
C. COLLINS	X	*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
J. ENGEL	X	X	^	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
G. GAITSCH	*	*	*	*	*	X	X	X	X	X		
B. GEHRKE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
W. KECK	X	X	X	X	X	X	*	X	X	X		
M. KENYON	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
K. KETTLEKAMP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
D. LEHRER	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
A. LENKAITIS				*	X	*	*	X				
N. LONG	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	X			
D. PITSTICK	X	X	X	*				X	X			
W. SCHNEIDER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
J. WHITE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

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

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Synthetic fabrics? Wool see about that.

Good material for footballs!

Give me a good ball of yarn

Camping calls for pop tents

More books! Read 'em and weep

## Farming Funnies

The Right Camper for Every Camper by Inna Tent, Toby Hind and Toy Hauler  
Oranges - the Perfect Fruit by Minnie Ola and Clement Ines  
Sewing with Synthetic Fabrics by Polly Ester and Ray Ahn

Like us on Facebook for a little end of the work week fun – 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.

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.

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# IL announces 1st Homegrown By Heroes Farmer Veteran of the Year

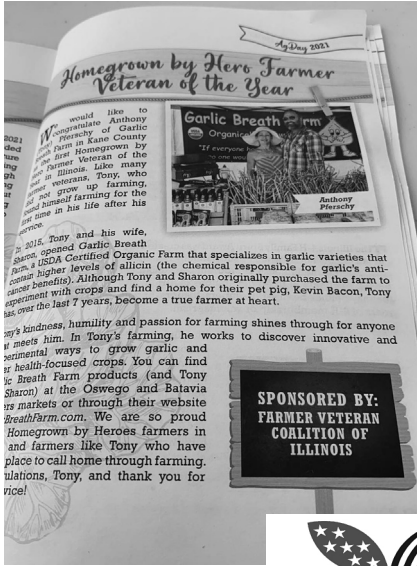
As part of the Ag Breakfast at the Illinois State Fair, Anthony (Tony) Pferschy of Garlic Breath Farm in Kane County was awarded the Homegrown by Hero Farmer Veteran of the Year in Illinois.

Nominated by the Farmer Veteran Coalition of Illinois, Tony is the first Illinois farmer veteran to receive this award.

Like many farmer veterans, Tony, who did not grow up farming, found himself farming for the first time in his life after his service. In 2015 Tony and his wife, Sharon, opened Garlic Breath Farm, a USDA Certified Organic Farm that specializes in garlic varieties that contain higher levels of allicin (the chemical responsible for garlic's anti-cancer benefits). Although Tony and Sharon originally purchased the farm to experiment with crops and find a home for their pet pig, Kevin Bacon, Tony has, over the last 7 years, become a true farmer at heart.

Tony's kindness, humility

and passion for farming shines through for anyone that meets him. In Tony's farming, he works to discover innovative



Tony's acknowledgment in the Illinois State Fair program.

and experimental ways to grow garlic and other health-focused crops. You can find Garlic Breath Farm products (and Tony and Sharon) at



the Oswego and Batavia Farmers markets or through their website [GarlicBreathFarm.com](http://GarlicBreathFarm.com).

Homegrown By Heroes, a label of the Farmer Veteran Coalition, is the official farmer-veteran branding program of America. In Illinois, in partnership with the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the brand gives farmer veterans like Tony an innovative way to show the public that their products represent the labors of a hardworking veteran or service member. The program also provides consumers with a direct and measurable way to "thank a veteran or current soldier for their service" by purchasing their products.

The Illinois Farmer Veterans Coalition thanks our Homegrown by Heroes farmers in Illinois and farmers like Tony who have found a place to call home through farming. Congratulations, Tony, and thank you for your service.



Photos, top to bottom:

Tony Pferschy is congratulated by Raghella Scavuzzo, IFB Associate Director of Food System Development, in front of IFB's Illinois State Fair display.



Tony and Sharon Pferschy at Garlic Breath Farm in Elburn.

## Kane County farm customers find garlic power appealing

By Kay Shipman, from the 2020 Cultivating Our Communities Stories series in FarmWeek, Oct. 10, 2020.

Tony and Sharon Pferschy, owners of Garlic Breath Farm, find customers appreciate their fragrant, flavorful crop. In fact, customers appreciated this year's crop so much, the Kane County farmers are sold out, except for garlic hot sauces.

In a couple of weeks, the Pferschys will start their 2021 farming season by planting 30,000 to 35,000 organic garlic bulbs. Tony farms full time. Sharon farms and works with the Federal Aviation Administration as a program manager. Visit the Garlic Breath Farm online and follow them on Facebook.

Garlic Breath Farm, near Elburn, grows three varieties of certified organic hardneck garlic: porcelain music, Georgian fire and Romanian red, known for high levels of allicin. Allicin

is an antibacterial, antimicrobial and anticancer component in garlic.

The growers start harvesting and selling garlic scapes, the flowering part, in June and fresh garlic in July. This year, Garlic Breath Farm sold its products online and at the Batavia Farmer's Market and the Oswego Country Market.

When the pandemic hit and markets were cancelled at the start of the Pferschys' busy season, the couple pivoted their attention to online sales, which "picked up the slack," Sharon said.

Then, the farmer's markets reopened, and Garlic Breath Farm's sales took off "like gang-buster," Sharon continued. "Everyone went back to the basics. ... Meet your farmer if you can."

To follow market guidelines, Sharon handled the money, while Tony sold the products. "When someone wants an edu-

cation (about garlic), they talk to Tony," she noted.

But sampling, a main marketing tool that had doubled sales, were eliminated due to COVID restrictions.

"We thought, 'We're toast. How will we help people understand?'" Sharon remembered. "In general, they (customers) didn't care. They tried it, and they came back."

A few years ago, the farmer's market led to Garlic Breath Farm's collaboration with Gindo's Hot Sauce of Batavia, a farmer's market "neighbor." The two entrepreneurs developed a line of hot sauces made with garlic.

This year, Garlic Breath Farm successfully launched two new products: a Garlic Breath Cancer Care Kit, a subscription-based service, and a Garlic Breath Cold Care Kit. Both products sold out. However, the opening of an on-farm store will have to wait until next year.

Although the pandemic has been a dark time, "I've seen a lot of good," Sharon said. She mentioned families spending time together and people cooking meals at home. The Pferschys' sales were so strong, they've had to turn away regular customers used to buying their garlic in October.

Both growers remain confident that consumers' interest in local food will continue into the future.

## Apply for IAITC Grants by October 15

Illinois Ag in the Classroom has book grants and classroom project grants available this school year. Book Grants allow teachers to apply for \$250 in books from one of our themed collections. Apply at [https://ilfb.informz.net/ILFB/data/images/AITC/Teacher%20Book%20Grant%20Application%20Criteria\\_2021-2022\\_website%20doc.pdf](https://ilfb.informz.net/ILFB/data/images/AITC/Teacher%20Book%20Grant%20Application%20Criteria_2021-2022_website%20doc.pdf). Project grants are \$300 and can be applied to projects that incorporate agriculture-related themes into a content-area classroom. Apply at <https://ilfb.informz.net/ILFB/data/images/>

[AITC/Teacher%20Project%20Grant%20Application%20Criteria\\_2021-2022\\_website%20doc.pdf](https://ilfb.informz.net/ILFB/data/images/AITC/Teacher%20Project%20Grant%20Application%20Criteria_2021-2022_website%20doc.pdf).

Applications due October 15, 2021.



## After school S.N.A.C.K. with Illinois AITC

Teachers, join IAITC for an "After School S.N.A.C.K." (Sharing New Ag Content & Knowledge). The Zoom webinar will consist of one hour every couple months to talk about new lessons and resources and to share background knowledge to help you incorporate more Ag into your classroom. The next session on Wednesday, November 3 from 4:00-5:00pm will be all about Pork and Dairy in Illinois. Sign up here: [https://ilfb-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_zRHakJ9Qba3B2A-hN9OuQ](https://ilfb-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zRHakJ9Qba3B2A-hN9OuQ).

[webinar/register/WN\\_zRHakJ9Qba3B2A-hN9OuQ](https://ilfb-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zRHakJ9Qba3B2A-hN9OuQ).



Look for additional Ag in the Classroom info on pages 4 and 6

**30 ACRE JANES FARM BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP**

The Janes Farm is relatively flat, sloping from the west to the east and has a soil PI of 136. It is located in beautiful and rural Kane County along Lukens Road 4.3 miles southwest of Burlington, IL. It is also approximately 11 miles from DeKalb, IL and 13 miles from Northern Illinois University. Price: \$405,000.

**Listing Broker: Douglas W. Deininger, ALC (815)439-9245 • doug@deininger-land.com**

**GOODWIN** Mark Goodwin (managing broker) (815)741-2226 mgoodwin@bigfarms.com

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**St Charles and Wasco 630-584-2024**

**CAUTION, SLOW DOWN, SHARE THE ROAD!**

As autumn harvesting begins across Northern Illinois the Kane County Farm Bureau reminds motorists to exercise CAUTION, SLOW DOWN and SHARE THE ROAD with large, slow moving farm equipment traveling between farmsteads and farm fields. A limited number of FREE 3' x 10' banners are available at the Farm Bureau office in St Charles to do just that. They would be great safety reminders to place in farm field corners, at fire stations, banks, township offices and grain elevators in Central and Western Kane County. Banners are available at the Kane County Farm Bureau on a first come, first served basis.



## AG LITERACY CORNER

By Kelcee Miller, Development & Ag Literacy Program Coordinator



### Hello Kane County!

'Tis the season for football! On a beautiful Wednesday morning in late August I had the pleasure of attending a Chicago Bears Training camp sponsored by Midwest Dairy and their Fuel Up to Play 60 program. In addition, I had a very special guest alongside of me, with whom many in Kane County are familiar, the one and only Suzi Myers!

Inside the fancy suite at Halas Hall that overlooks the entire training field, we had the opportunity to meet and greet other ag literacy coordinators as well as other professionals who are associated with education for our youth, agricultural education, and/or hunger relief. After we concluded our round robin sharing and

presentation by Midwest Dairy, we got to meet and hear from Tom Thayer, former football center/guard for the Chicago



Suzi Myers (left) and Kelcee Miller (right) pose for a quick photo with a life-sized bobble head of Mike Ditka during their visit at the Bears Training Camp.

Bears and currently one of the radio broadcasters for the Chicago Bears along with Jeff Joniak. The two are behind the mic during the Bear's games as play-by-play announcers. Both gentlemen shared their thoughts about some of the current recruits, current players, their hopes for the season as well as answered questions from the group. It was a really awesome experience, one that sure made my dad jealous!

So, does it all connect you may be asking yourself? We were all invited on behalf of Midwest Dairy and their Fuel Up to Play 60 program. Fuel Up to Play 60 was created by the National Football League, yes, the NFL and National Dairy Council along with America's dairy farmers. As a team, they help schools and communities make a difference in the lives of children and have fun while doing it! Each of the 32 NFL teams participate in the Fuel Up to Play 60 program with one ambassador from each team.

The ambassadors are chosen based on their commitment to child health and community, which are the heart and soul of what the program stands for. The Chicago Bears very own running back, #32 David Montgomery, has been ambassador since his rookie year in 2019.

While getting out of the office for the day and having the opportunity to meet real life celebrities was something I will always cherish, what really stuck with me was seeing all the different professions and people who all come together for a common cause with a side of fun thrown in the mix. I thoroughly enjoyed my time, because I got to see many of my passions come together to form a larger picture. For those of you who know me, I am passionate about promoting healthy and active lifestyles as well as my love of learning. I had a college professor who encouraged us to be lifelong learners and it wasn't until after I finished my degrees that the

encouragement has resonated with me and stuck. In my current role at KCFB, I've become more aware and have helped promote the message about where our food comes from and ways to support local farmers. In addition, we acknowledge the importance of giving back to the community in ways like feeding our hungry neighbors through relief efforts, encouraging ag education in schools, and providing FREE resources to students, teachers and their families about how to build healthier schools and communities while stressing the importance of every day agriculture.

I cannot thank Midwest Dairy enough for this awesome educational opportunity as well as my special guest, Suzi for joining me. I encourage you to check out [fueluptoplay60.com](http://fueluptoplay60.com) to get in the game, inspire others, and make a difference in your school and community!

*Happy October & let's go Bears!*

## Book of the month

Have you ever wondered what kind of magic happens under a harvest moon when you go to bed at night?

The October book of the

month, *By the Light of the Harvest Moon*, written by Harriet Ziefert and illustrated by Mark Jones, shows readers the beautiful surprises on every page. After a long day of work, the farmer on Apple Hill Farm heads toward the house to call it



*By the Light of the Harvest Moon* by Harriet Ziefert, illustrated by Mark Jones

a night. As he gets ready to go to sleep, the excitement on the farm is about to unfold under the light of the harvest moon.

When the wind picks up, the leaves begin to dance in a color-

ful swirl and twirl of warm orange, yellow, and crimson until the gusts subside in the pumpkin patch and the leaf people emerge from the pile. The grown-ups begin to prepare for their harvest surprise while their children and their pets play on a nearby hillside, bobbing for apples, juggling acorns, and their favorite game of all, stacking pumpkins! It's all fun and games until the pumpkins roll down the hill right in the middle of a sweet surprise!

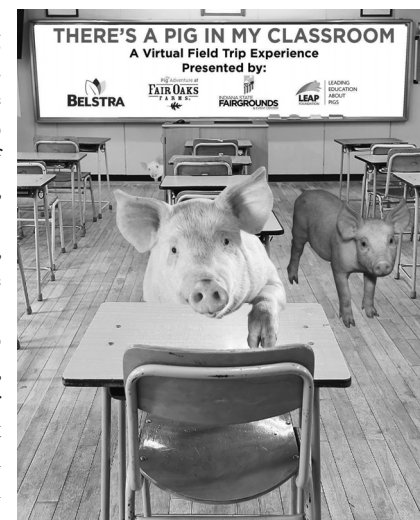
To see colorful and sweet harvest surprise for yourself, come in and visit our FREE Kane County Farm Bureau Library and check out *By the Light of the Harvest Moon*. The Kane County Farm Bureau Library was made possible by Bob Konen and Dean Dunn, and later supported by the Bob Konen Family.

## There's A Pig in my Classroom, A Virtual Field Trip Experience

Hosted by the Indiana State Fairgrounds & Event Center and sponsored by the LEAP Foundation, There's a Pig in My Classroom is a new FREE virtual program designed to teach students where and how pork gets to their plate. Students will learn about how pigs are raised on the farm, production terminology, and purchasing pork in the grocery store. This virtual field trip has the ability to accommodate to classes this fall no matter if you are meeting in person, virtually or a hybrid.

This FREE opportunity, made possible by the Illinois Pork Producers Association has two dates to choose from. Monday, October 18 at 10:00am or Tuesday, October 19 at 2:00pm. Once registered viewers will receive lesson planning items for pre and

post field trip tour. Registration link here: <https://isf.ungerboeck.com/prod/emc00/PublicSignIn.aspx?&SessionID=fc0fdnfafejkej8&Lang&fbclid=IwAR3ace tlvqVqQr63vcGp9RsNXP61w83 ZjlhUAGHqGfi0D7WiK1eZFqOv2P4>.



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847-531-6110



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Dominick Davero  
Elburn  
630-365-3737



Chuck Quick  
Hampshire  
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David Berreles  
Hampshire  
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Dan Cooper  
Sugar Grove  
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1220-509HC\_20503-6/22/2021



Look for additional  
Ag in the Classroom info  
on pages 3 and 6





# Farm Facts & Fun

Compiled by Kelcee Miller, Ag Literacy Coordinator



## Harvest

The season when ripened crops are gathered; a crop or yield of one growing season.

### Local Farmer shares thoughts about 2021 harvest

Kane County Farm Bureau spoke recently to local farmer and board member Chris Collins about the 2021 harvest season. Chris has been farming "all his life" and had some cogent comments about this year's harvest season, which started for him the third week in September.

Chris farms around 325 acres of corn and soybeans in Elburn, St. Charles and Wasco. He said that amounts to about 30 semi loads of corn and 8-10 loads of soybeans.

He calls himself a part-time farmer, having recently retired from a career with IDOT. He enjoys farming and particularly likes harvest – running the combine and harvesting the fruits of his labors makes him feel proud. When asked how the harvest season has changed since he started farming, he responded



Chris Collins

that it has "Evolved along with everything else and is now faster paced and more efficient. We used to run small grain wagons from the fields; now trucks and semis haul tons of grain to the local co-op for processing. That means slow moving vehicles are not on the road as much, but drivers are still impatient with farm equipment."

Chris promotes safety during the harvest season, putting notice signs along the roadways next to his fields when harvesting and posting a safety banner along Route 47 during harvest season.

Chris thinks this year's harvest will be pretty good and that a lower yield due to drought in June will be offset by higher grain prices.

Our thanks to Chris Collins for sharing his thoughts with us.

### Autumn chili full of harvest goodness

#### Ingredients:

- 1 pound of ground beef or turkey
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- 1 medium bell pepper, chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 (6oz) can tomato paste
- 1 Tbsp. chili powder
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- 1 can (15 oz.) black beans, rinsed & drained
- 2 cans (14½ oz. each) diced tomatoes
- 1 can (15 oz.) tomato sauce
- 2 cups water
- 1 butternut squash, peeled & cubed (bite size)
- 2 Tbsp. apple cider vinegar
- Salt & pepper, to taste

#### Directions:

In a Dutch oven, cook ground beef or turkey, onion, and bell pepper until meat is browned



Autumn Harvest CHILI  
writtenreality.com

and onion and peppers are tender. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Next, add and stir the garlic, tomato paste, chili powder, and ground cumin together. Then add the beans, tomatoes, tomato paste, and water. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat.

Add the cubed butternut squash and simmer. Keep covered for about 25-30 minutes until squash is tender.

Stir in vinegar and serve! Optional: top your Autumn Harvest Chili with sour cream, avocado, and shredded cheese!

This recipe and more found here: <https://writtenreality.com/autumn-harvest-chili/>

### craft an autumn leaf banner

#### Materials:

- Thick Paper (sketch or watercolor paper)
- Paint brushes
- Liquid watercolors
- Plastic tray
- Art palettes
- Scissors
- Hole puncher
- Yarn
- Stapler

#### Directions:

1. Cut out a bunch of 5½" x 7" rectangles



2. Then take the rectangle and fold in half along. Repeat two more times (hot dog or accordion style).

3. While the rectangle is folded (hot dog or accordion style), punch a hole in one end.

4. Next, unfold most of the folds until it's only folded in half. Cut a slant or curved edge on one side to give a general shape of a leaf.

5. Then, refold the paper into

an accordion, and staple just above the hole-punch to keep the folds together.

6. Open up accordion folds like a fan & begin coloring!

7. Once the paint dries, thread a strand of yarn, hang, and admire!

This craft and other fall craft ideas may be found here: <https://www.pinkstripeysocks.com/2015/09/gorgeous-accordion-fold-fall-paper-leaf.html?m=1>



Local farmer Chris Collins in his combine, loading corn into a semi. See his story at left.

### Harvest

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

- Acre Yield
- Bushel
- Combine
- Corn
- Crops
- Drying
- Ethanol Plants
- Fuel
- Grain Bin
- Grain Cart
- Grain Elevator
- Harvest
- Measure
- Moisture
- Monitor
- Reaping
- Scale
- Silo
- Soybeans
- Storage Bins
- Threshing
- Tractors
- Winnowing

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

Return to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 by October 15, 2021 to be entered in our drawing for a fun prize.

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

### October is ...

#### National

- Cinnamon Roll Day 4th
- Taco Day 4th
- Noodle Day 6th
- Cake Decorating Day 10th
- Sausage Pizza Day 11th
- Farmers Day 12th
- Pulled Pork Day 12th
- Dessert Day 14th
- Cheese Curd Day 15th
- Mushroom Day 15th
- Sweetest Day 16th
- Pasta Day 17th
- Apple Day 21st
- Pumpkin Day 26th
- Chocolate Day 28th
- Oatmeal Day 29th
- Candy Corn Day 30th
- Halloween 31st
- Caramel Apple Day 31st

- American Cheese Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Book Month
- Caramel Month
- Chili Month
- Dessert Month
- Pasta Month
- Pickled Peppers Month
- Pizza Month
- Pork Month
- Pretzel Month

### Jokes:

Did you hear about the magic tractor?  
It turned into a field!  
What's it called when a tractor waits for a pedestrian to cross?  
Crop yield  
I tried to navigate the farmer's field...  
But it was a maize!  
Why are farmers cruel?  
Because they pull corn by the ears!

### Congratulations

Congratulations to **Kristie Decker** of Gilberts, last 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 fun prize. Thank you, Kristie, for reading the *Kane County Farmer*, and continue to watch each month for more great opportunities from the Kane County Farm Bureau.





For most of the 60 days leading up to forming this list, our toddler watched my family hard at harvest. We transferred crops from combine to a wiggle tractor pulling a grain cart. That tractor with cart then unloaded onto a truck, which hauled the crop to corrugated steel storage bins. The cycle repeated field by field until we completed the corn and soybean harvest. In the process, he identified two primary hubs

of activity: the field at harvest and the grain storage bins where we haul the crop. He wanted part of each for Christmas. Generally, grain bins garner less attention than combines and tractors, but he knew this necessary component holds the harvest. Farmers either own the steel storage structures themselves or pay for space at a nearby elevator in the grain storage business. Many store in a combination of both. Our toddler saw the value in owning his own bins without understanding anything about shrink or carry in the market. My husband screwed those toy bins to a

piece of plywood. Our son quickly filled them with handfuls of corn to later sell and deliver to ethanol plants and river terminals with 1/64th-scale trucks. In the full-size world, those bins come with the responsibility to keep grain in quality condition, a task aided by observation and modern technology. Sensors measure the moisture content of a crop to determine the amount of mechanical drying needed before storage. Temperature cables alert of hot spots in stored grain to prevent spoilage. Smartphones and tablets can monitor and even control these activities remotely. This fall, our daughter will keep FFA records on her time and experiences weighing trucks, tak-

ing grain moisture samples and creating delivery tickets to track inventory at our farm's grain storage facility. Between loads, she manages homework from inside the scale house, a building with the scale's digital display. Occasionally, the truckers stop inside for drinks and snacks, which may include her home-baked cupcakes or cookies from her cottage food business The Bakery Bin, another of her FFA projects. Her bakery logo depicts three grain bins topped with frosting, denoting a harvest-time sweet spot in more ways than one. 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.

## Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom online auction – December 3-6

Our partners at the IAA Foundation are eagerly planning an Online & Live Auction to benefit Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom in conjunction with the 2021 Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. The Online Auction will run December 3-6, and the Live Auction will take place in Chicago on Sunday, December 5.

We look to you for assistance in our philanthropic efforts. We know that YOU, our Farm Bureau Family, understand the importance and priority placed on giving back and supporting programs that impact the well-being of farm families. We encourage mindful donations that will ship well to the winning bidder while still infusing hand-crafted items, local goods, farm collectibles, sports memorabilia, and items that make great Christmas gifts into the auction. Please avoid items that are overly large, bulky or heavy, or extremely fragile. Donations may be dropped off at the Kane County Farm Bureau by October 18. Thank you for considering how you can be a part of our success and help fund Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom!

memorabilia, and items that make great Christmas gifts into the auction. Please avoid items that are overly large, bulky or heavy, or extremely fragile. Donations may be dropped off at the Kane County Farm Bureau by October 18. Thank you for considering how you can be a part of our success and help fund Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom!

## 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**
- Gold Fern Farm LLC
  - Weathered Ways Farm
  - David Brown
  - Jarett Sanchez
  - Gilberts Geneva
  - Batavia
  - Carpentersville

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.*

## Last recycling events of 2021 upcoming

A final shredding event for 2021 will be held **Saturday, October 23** from 8am-noon at the Kane County Circuit Clerk building, 540 S. Randall Rd., St. Charles. The event is for residential material only, not for businesses. Please arrive between these hours – do not arrive early as you create the problem you are trying to avoid – a long line that is not moving! PLEASE take time to sort your material making sure that it all truly contains confidential material. They accept: tax records, medical records, bank statements, or anything with your

social security number on it. They do NOT accept: cash register receipts, magazines, empty envelopes, junk mail, kids school papers, photocopies of jokes, books, tissue paper or wrapping paper, photographs, CDs or floppy discs, credit cards, shoes, Christmas decorations, plastic sleeves on files, plastic covered binders, or garbage. Please SORT it OUT! Quantity limit is approximately equal to 4 banker boxes (12"width x 16"depth x 10" height) but you can bring them in any kind of boxes or paper bags. No plastic bags please.

Staples, paperclips, spiral bindings, file folders without metal, and envelope windows are fine to leave in. Please REMOVE all binder clips, three-ring plastic binders and any larger metal pieces. This service provides on-site shredding trucks. Documents are cross-shredded into confetti-sized pieces as they are tipped into the shredding trucks. Please note that we will receive documents for shredding only until the trucks are full. **Saturday, November 6 – Pumpkin Composting** at Pushing the Envelope Farm, 1700 Averill Rd., Geneva, from 9am-noon.

**FOR KANE COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY**

## GROWMARK FFA essay contest open

FFA members across the country will compete in GROWMARK's 2022 FFA essay contest. Contest entries are due by midnight Oct. 29. Previously, Illinois FFA members competed in a state contest. This year's theme is: "What, in your opinion, has changed for the better in the agricultural industry as a result of the pandemic?" Essays should be submitted online to [bit.ly/GMKEssay2022](https://bit.ly/GMKEssay2022). Agriculture teachers have received contest details. Information also is available at [growmark.com](https://growmark.com). A national winner will receive \$1,000 and the student's chapter will receive \$750. Four national runners-up will each

receive \$500, and their chapters will each receive \$300. A state winner will be selected in states that have at least 25 submitted essays. A school may submit one essay. This marks the 29th year for the essay contest sponsored by the GROWMARK System and FS member cooperatives.

receive \$500, and their chapters will each receive \$300. A state winner will be selected in states that have at least 25 submitted essays. A school may submit one essay. This marks the 29th year for the essay contest sponsored by the GROWMARK System and FS member cooperatives.

## Shop ... and support KCFB Foundation

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](https://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."

Tree & Brush Clearing • Fence Row Clearing  
Ditch Line Clearing  
Stump Grinding • Mobile Wood Grinding

**847-989-9048** [www.CentralTree.net](http://www.CentralTree.net)

## Local woman honored as 4-H Hall of Fame recipient

For more than 20 years, Kim Halverson of DeKalb has volunteered for Kane County 4-H, including 17 years as leader of the Lincoln Highway 4-H Club. She currently serves on the Blue Ribbon Auction Livestock Committee and the Kane County 4-H Foundation. She is instrumental in the Foundation's annual pork chop dinner fundraiser, including the first drive-thru version held this spring. Over the past decade, the fundraiser has garnered more than \$200,000. "Her leadership, hard work, and initiative are an

asset to both the 4-H Foundation and Kane County 4-H," says Doris Braddock, local program coordinator. "We appreciate her commitment to our youth and communities."



Kim Halverson

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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 Lulu Medina! Lulu has been a COUNTRY Financial Representative since January, 2017. Her office



Lulu Medina

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

DONNA TONOVITZ has been named the Rep of the Month for August 2021 in the St. Charles/Elgin Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Robert J. Effner, Sr., CLF®, LUTCF. Donna 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 Donna's expertise help you! You may reach Donna at 630-549-7694, [donna.tonovitz@countryfinancial.com](mailto:donna.tonovitz@countryfinancial.com), or <https://representatives.country>

[financial.com/donna.tonovitz/](https://financial.com/donna.tonovitz/). Congratulations, Donna!

## Aurora Agency, Alonzo Nevarez, Agency Manager

Zach Fox, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Financial Representative of the Month for August 2021. Zach began his career with COUNTRY Financial in May of 2007 and services clients out of his office located at: 1920 Wilson Street, Batavia, 60510, (630) 406-6981. Zach's professionalism and vast knowledge of auto, home, life, commercial and financial products make him a great person to do business with. Congratulations, Zach!

## 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.

## HELP WANTED

Barn help wanted for Sundays. Near St. Charles. 2 old horses. Good Pay. Call: 708-710-3630  
"JILL OF ALL TRADES" - Minimum 20 hours weekly M-F in our St. Charles office. Applicant must be computer literate, self-starter, have pleasant personality and phone voice and be willing to

learn a variety of tasks. We offer vacation pay, Self-directed retirement plan, and partial tuition reimbursement. Perfect position for college student or stay-at-home mom. Call Bob or Laurie at 630-377-7797 to arrange interview

## SERVICES

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

## WANTED

HOUSE MATE WANTED - Non-smoker to share my residence in Saint Charles. Assistance needed to and from my vehicle morning and evening. Do shopping, general house cleaning, and meal prep. Perfect job for college student or other wanting flexibility and to save rent. Please call after 5:30 pm for additional information. Call: 630-443-6949.



Visit Kane County farm stands and farmers markets for autumn fun and flavors!

**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

# How does a combine work?

Combines are a common sight during the harvest season.

Could you imagine harvesting all the corn in Kane County by hand, then shelling each ear individually to collect the grain? Truly a revolutionary machine! See how it works: <https://youtu.be/F93u851FdYk>.

.....

## Harvest Terminology:

**Harvest** - The season when ripened crops are gathered; a crop or yield of one growing season.

**Combine** - A machine designed to efficiently harvest a variety of grain crops, the name derives from the machine combining three separate harvesting operations—reaping, threshing, and winnowing—into a single process.

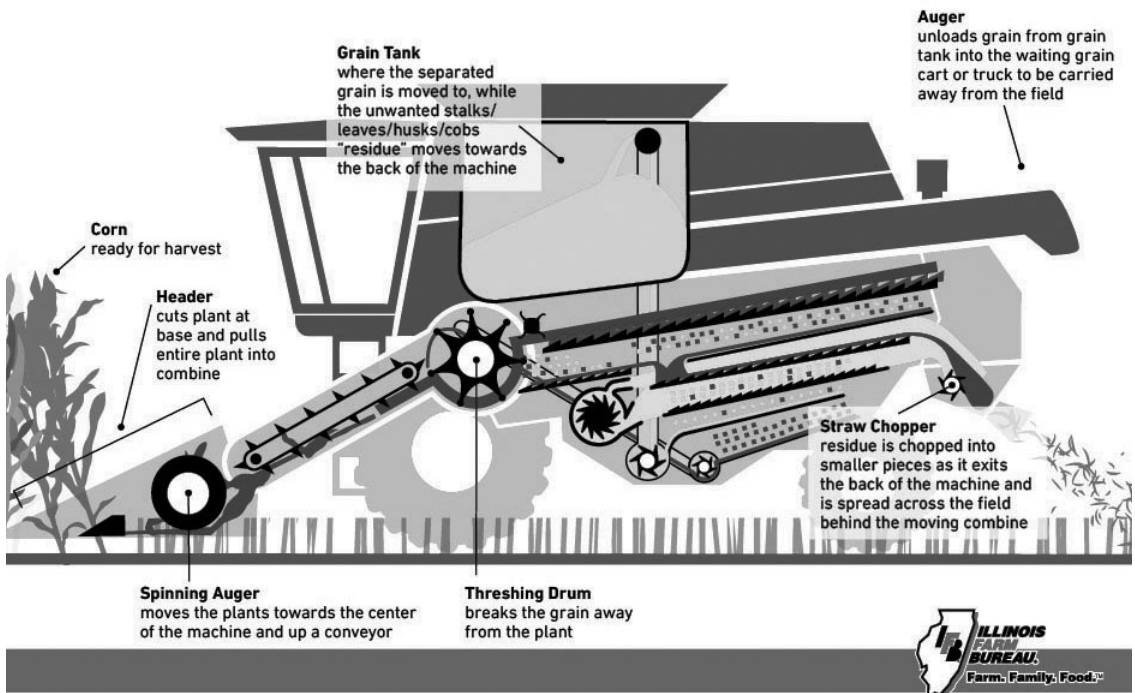
**Bushel** - A measurement of capacity or size pertaining to agriculture crops. One bushel of wheat is equal to 60 lbs., one bushel of soybeans is equal to 60 lbs., and one bushel of corn is equal to 56 lbs.

**Acre** - A unit of land area measuring 43,560 square feet. This unit of measurement is believed to originate from the amount of land one person could work in a single day with a yoke of oxen and a wooden plow.

**Yield** - The amount of a crop produced in each time or from a given place.

**Drying** - The phase of the post-harvest system where the harvested grain is rapidly dried until it reaches the optimal moisture level for storage.

## How A Combine Works



# Tax proposals put future of American farms at risk

The American Farm Bureau Federation, along with 46 state Farm Bureaus and 280 organizations representing family-owned agribusinesses, sent a letter recently to congressional leaders urging them to leave important tax policies in place as they draft legislation implementing President Biden's "Build Back Better" agenda. The letter addresses four key tax provisions that make it possible for farmers and ranchers to survive and pass their businesses on to the next generation: estate taxes, stepped-up basis, 199A small business deduction and like-kind exchanges.

"The policies Congress enacts now will determine agricultural producers' ability to

secure affordable land to start or expand their operations," the letter states. "Regardless of whether a business has already been passed down through multiple generations or is just starting out, the key to their longevity is a continued ability to transition when a family member or business partner dies. For this reason, we firmly believe the current federal estate tax code provisions must be maintained."

These tools are as crucial as ever as the number of farmers and ranchers 65 and older outnumber those 35 and under by a four-to-one margin. More than 370 million acres are expected to change hands in the next two decades.

"As the economic backbone

of nearly every county and rural community across the U.S., the importance of American agriculture and related industries cannot be overlooked," the letter continues. "Farmers, ranchers, and family-owned agribusiness operators are responsible for producing the safe, affordable, and abundant food, fiber, and fuel supplies Americans enjoy every day. As the stewards of nearly 900 million acres of crop and rangeland, farmers and ranchers play an important role in terms of natural resource and land conservation. For agricultural producers, carrying on the legacy of our predecessors and setting the next generation up for success is critically important."

**GRAIN BINS**

- Store dry grains like corn, soybeans, and wheat.
- Found on grain farms and at grain elevator sites
- Wide, made of corrugated steel (shiny metal color)

**SILOS**

- Store silage or fermented pasture grasses used for animal feed
- Found on farms with livestock (usually cattle)
- Tall and narrow
- Airtight; made of concrete (brown/gray) or glass-fused steel (often blue)

# Master Gardener Help Desk

University of Illinois Extension is still here to help you grow! They can assess and give advice on issues with vegetable and flower gardens, trees and lawns.

Please send a detailed message with your question to [uiegm-kane@illinois.edu](mailto:uiegm-kane@illinois.edu), and a volunteer will get back to you.





# Bartels family promotes Ag Education thru KCFB Foundation

When Ken Bartels of Plato Center passed away in June of 2020, his family established memorials to both his church and to the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation. Family, faith and farming dominated Ken's life and the Foundation was pleased to be named a beneficiary of the generosity of friends and family for his memorial, and to hold those contributions pending the final decision of the family on their ultimate use.



**KEN BARTELS  
1933-2020**

A farmer and Farm Bureau member for over 50 years, Ken was a Korean War veteran, and an FFA student at Elgin High School in his youth. At the time of his passing, Ken was still farming the family farm he moved to in 1964.

With a variety of educational, career and memorial options available through the KCFB Foundation and in the community, his daughters Cindy Kuschel and Pam Neisendorf considered several options to honor their father's memory. In the end, the association with FFA and Youth education, given their importance to Ken in his early years, won out.

Since the Central FFA has undertaken a project to build a mobile agricultural education trailer for students in elementary schools in the district, the family could think of no better tribute to Ken's memory than to present the memorial contributions collected toward that effort.

At the September 9 BBQ

Fundraiser and Vintage Truck Raffle drawing, Kuschel and Neisendorf presented a KCFB Foundation check to Central FFA Advisors Ryan Robinson and William (Buddy) Haas toward completion of that project, to the future benefit of students in the area where Ken spent his entire career in farming.

*Left to right: Central FFA Advisors Ryan Robinson and William (Buddy) Haas accept a contribution of over \$2,000 for a mobile agricultural education trailer from Cindy Kuschel and Pam Neisendorf prior to the KCFB Foundation's Vintage Truck Raffle drawing on September 9th. The contributions, held by the KCFB Foundation, were from family and friends of their father, long time Plato Center area farmer Ken Bartels, who passed in June 2020.*

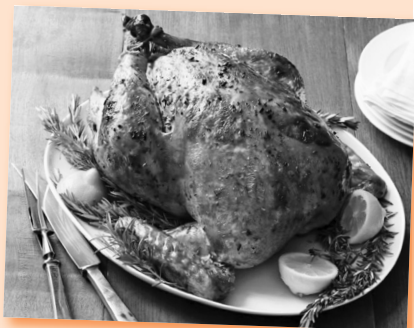


The KCFB Foundation sincerely appreciates the consideration of the Bartels family in naming our Foundation as beneficiary of the generosity of friends and neighbors. We hold out their example of how the KCFB Foundation can assist area farm families in finding the best way to in honor the lega-

cies of their loved ones. For more information on opportunities to support farm and food education or support your local community through the KCFB Foundation, contact Steve Arnold, Executive Director at 630-584-8660 or [steve@kanecfb.com](mailto:steve@kanecfb.com). **Raffle winner info is on page 1.**

## Start planning your Thanksgiving feast!

Order a fresh, never frozen, Ho-Ka turkey from Kane County Farm Bureau for pick up at our St. Charles office the week of Thanksgiving. Watch next month's issue of the *Farmer* for an order form and pricing or call (630) 584-8660 for pricing and to order by phone.



## Farm toy of the month

Ag-minded youngsters will plant themselves for hours with this John Deere farm playset that includes a pickup truck, trailer, gator, tractor and wagon, fencing, hay rack and cows and horses. There's plenty of equipment and animals for young farmers, 8 and up, to manage.

pumpkin picking photos, and pick up your farm toy today!



Regular price is \$45.88 with tax, but Farm Bureau members get a 10% discount in October. Stop by, show us your apple or

## Water testing offered in October

The Kane County Farm Bureau and Kane/DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District will offer water testing in October this year. A high quality water supply is vital for families, and well testing helps provide peace of mind and identifies potential problem areas for homeowners in Kane County.

The well testing program has three simple steps: (1) pick up and pay for a water test kit at Kane County Farm Bureau between Monday, Oct. 18-Friday, October 29, (2) at home, collect a water sample as close as possible to turning it in; and (3) return the water sample to KCFB or Kane/DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District on Monday, Nov. 1st. Results will

be mailed to your home.

Two kits are available and prices vary:

**A. Basic Package (Nitrate Package)—\$45.00**

*Test for nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, chloride, sulfate, soluble phosphorus, silica and specific conductivity.*

**B. Metals—\$95.00**

*Test for 23 different metals.*

All kits include detailed sampling instructions. KCFB or Kane/DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District can provide additional information about each test.

The certified lab at Heidelberg College Water Quality Laboratory in Tiffin, OH tests all samples. The lab is

nationally recognized for its work testing rivers and lakes.

Mark your calendar for a FALL water test or call Kane County Farm Bureau at (630) 584-8660 with questions.



**TEST YOUR WELL NOW IN OCTOBER! Private well test kits available Oct. 18**

## Road safety hinges on patience, good judgement

Along with combines in the fields, tractors, grain carts and trucks are a familiar sight on rural Kane County roads during fall harvest. Sometimes the trucks may be loaded on the roadside. Equipment used in farm fields is generally equipped with tracks or flotation tires to reduce soil compaction and allow operations in less than ideal conditions. Trucks, designed for road use, are not similarly equipped. Loading them in wet fields generally results in them getting stuck and/or bringing mud on the roads.

Kane County Farm Bureau urges all drivers on rural roads to SLOW DOWN during this harvest season. If you see farm equipment, flashing lights or Slow Moving Vehicle emblems on the road please exercise CAUTION and let's let everyone work safe and arrive safely!

There is much to improve in road safety. The federal government updated its report Federal Highway Traffic Safety Policies: Impacts and Opportunities in July 2019. It explained "the vast majority of crashes are due to driver behaviors... , and these are errors of judgment rather than of ignorance or lack of skill." The report gave a common statistic: "as many as 90% of road deaths are due at least in part to driver error or misbehavior." The same report cited motor vehicle crashes as a leading cause of death for Americans overall, and the number one cause of death for teenagers. It also said "motor vehicle crashes are estimated to have cost some \$242 billion in 2010 in lost productivity, medical costs, legal costs, property damage, and time lost in congestion caused by crashes." Last, data showed Illinois residents in rural areas are more likely to die in car crashes than residents in urban areas.

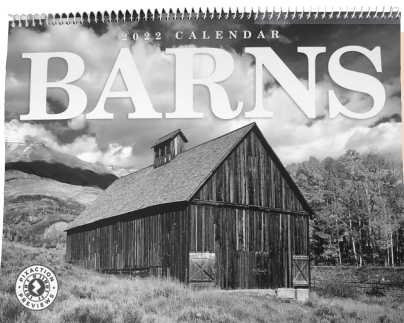
### SHARE THE ROAD SAFELY with farm equipment.

He is moving the planter to the next field. She is hauling corn to the grain elevator. Farm equipment travels at a slow rate of speed and may be wider than other vehicles. If road and shoulder conditions are safe, the farmer may try to pull over to let you pass safely.

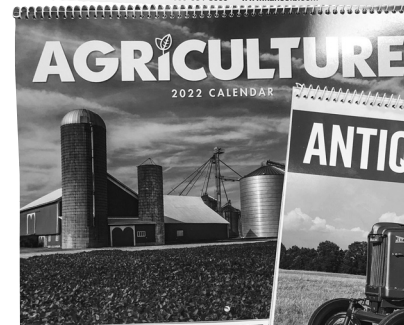
*Above all, slow down and be patient.*

- ▶ Reduce speed when encountering farm equipment on public roads. Flashing amber lights mean "caution."
- ▶ Slow down when you see the Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem—the orange and red reflective triangle warns you that the tractor or combine travels at a slow rate of speed.
- ▶ Keep a safe distance from the farm equipment so the farmer can see you. If you can't see his mirrors, he can't see you.
- ▶ Pass wide, large farm equipment only if you know conditions are safe and you are sure the farmer will not be making a left-hand turn. Be cautious when pulling back in.
- ▶ It is illegal to pass in a no passing lane or within 100 feet of an intersection, railroad crossing, or bridge.
- ▶ Be prepared to yield to wide equipment.
- ▶ Always wear a safety belt and heed the road's speed limit.
- ▶ Watch for the farmer's indication of a turn. Newer equipment has one or more amber lights flashing rapidly to indicate a turn. Older equipment is typically not equipped with turn signals so watch for the farmer's hand signals.

Endorsed by **JESSE WHITE** SECRETARY OF STATE  
Illinois Sheriff's Association  
Illinois High School & College Driver Education Association, Inc.



**KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
FARM • FAMILY • FOOD  
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St. Charles, IL 60174  
630-584-8660 [www.kanecfb.com](http://www.kanecfb.com)



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## Farm Bureau 2022 calendar gifts to members

In appreciation of our Kane County Farm Bureau members, we have 2022 wall calendars featuring antique tractors, barns or scenic agricultural landscapes. Pick up your FREE calendar at our St. Charles office while supplies last.