



# CO-OPERATOR

To serve all our members of the Cook County Farm Bureau® with meaningful and beneficial programs that reflect our agricultural heritage.

## Mark Your Calendar

SEPTEMBER		
17	Farm Crawl	1
17	Fall Planter Workshop	12
20/21	Smart Driver Course	12
29	"Ag-citing" Teacher Workshop	6
OCTOBER		
1	Giant Pumpkin Contest	12
6	Wills & Trust Workshop	12
13	Thankful for Food/Harvest Teacher Workshop	6
15	Shred Day	12

For participation details on these programs and activities, check out the related information in this publication, go to [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org), or contact the office at 708-354-3276.

You can register for most programs by using the member service center at [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org).

## Question of the Month

### SMV stands for what kind of sign?

Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276, fax your answer to 708-579-6056, or email to [fbcooperator@gmail.com](mailto:fbcooperator@gmail.com) to enter the drawing for a \$25 gas card. (Please include name, FB#, and phone number)

Question of month winner is Richard Sweeney

Q. On what date is the 6th Annual CCFB Farm Crawl?  
 Answer: "Saturday, September 17, 2022"



## Join Us...Farm Crawl 2022 Saturday, September 17th | 10 am—4 pm

Visit our diverse Cook County Farm Bureau® member Family Farms, Greenhouses, Garden Centers, Feed Stores, and Agri-businesses on this self guided tour using our Passport:

- Download at: <https://cookcfb.org/discover-local/farm-crawl-event>
- Email: [membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org](mailto:membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org)
- Pick up a copy at CCFB office
- Call: 708.354.3276
- Locations to have limited supply \*\* Location hours may vary

**61st St Farmers Market/Experimental Station**  
**6100 S Blackstone Ave Chicago**  
 Farmers Market open 9am-2pm; visit CCFB members Gorman's Farm & Produce and others

**Barn at the 50 Acre Park**  
**91st Street and Rockwell Ave Evergreen Park**  
 Farm, barn, animals, gardens, disc & golf driving range; claim free 1/2 bucket of balls coupon at the barn, 1 per family for crawlers

**Big John's Farm Market & Greenhouse**  
**1754 E Joe Orr Rd Chicago Hts**  
 Make a Fall Pumpkin Combo Planter with plant choice! \$5 off with passport, Farmstand & Greenhouse

**Brandau's Farmstand**  
**10544 W 191st St Mokena**  
 Farmers Stand, freshest corn around!

**Bultema's Farmstand & Greenhse / U-Pick**  
**2785 E Lincoln Hwy Lynwood**  
 Farmstand, greenhouse, U-Pick

**Clarke's Garden Center & Stone**  
**2061 W 14th Street Lynwood**  
 20% off total purchase with passport in Garden Center

**Crete Garden Center & Nursery**  
**1625 East Richton Rd Crete open 8 am-12 pm**  
 Garden Center—25% off all plants

**Demonstration Farm-U of I Extension, Cook Cty**  
**Prairie State College Property**  
**4821 S Wick Dr Matteson**  
 Farm Tours available 10 am-1 pm

**Goebbert's Farm & Garden Center**  
**40W Higgins Rd South Barrington**  
 Garden Center, Market, Fall Festival—10% discount on purchases in market only with passport; \$4 off Weekend Fall Festival Entry ticket—tax booth

**Honey Bee Garden Farm**  
**8405 Kearney Rd Downers Grove**  
 Farmers market, Buzz around the barnyard and visit barn animals, paddle boats, fishing pond, local honey

**Kopping Farms & Equestrian Center**  
**12300 115th St Lemont**  
 Farm Tours at 10 am & 1 pm; equine / farm

**Ludwig's Feed Store** **12520 Archer Ave Lemont**  
 Animal feed and products, honey, hay/straw; Free Spartan Mosquito Defense kit to crawlers, while supplies last (\$19.99 value)! **open till 3 pm**

**M & D Farms**  
**14946 S Bell Rd. Homer Glen**  
 Farmstand & Greenhouse; fall flowers

**Melka Landsc & Garden Center**  
**11606 179th St Mokena**  
 Garden Center offering Fall planter workshops; Popcorn & discounts, Horse rides 10am-1pm for small fee

**Puckerville Farms**  
**13332 Bell Rd Lemont**  
 Pumpkins, mums, fall décor and flowers

**Ray's Quality Greenhouse**  
**117 231st Street Steger**  
 Pumpkins, mums, straw, cornstalks, fall & Halloween décor; free pie pumpkin for each child

**Schroeder's Garden Center/Ldscp**  
**10800 Southwest Hwy Worth**  
 Make a Fall Planter Workshop 10 am; fee and registration required with CCFB at 708-354-3276

**Smits Farms**  
**3437 E Sauk Trl Sauk Village**  
 Farmstand & Greenhouse, fall decor

**Ted's Greenhouse**  
**16930 S. 84th Ave Tinley Park open till 3 pm**  
 Special free workshops on centuries old Japanese art of Kokedama, growing plants in moss covered balls of soil at 10 am, 11 am, 1 pm & 2 pm. BOGO plants; 10% off CCFB members; free refreshments

**The Feed Store**  
**5400 S Harlem Ave Summit**  
 Free Popcorn

**VanderGriend's Farm Market**  
**2812 Glenwood Lansing Rd Chicago Hts**  
 Farm Market, fall flowers Discount on jams

**Historic Wagner Farms**  
**1540 Wagner Rd Glenview**  
 Fall Festival 2-6 pm wagon rides, fall crafts, music/food

**Whiskey Acres Distilling Company**  
**11504 Keslinger Rd, DeKalb Hours 1:30-8:30 pm**  
 Buy 1 get 1 free Tours at: 2p, 4p & 6pm; food trucks Hours 1:30-8:30 pm

**Windy City Harvest— Farm on Ogden**  
**3555 W Ogden Ave**  
 Farm tour 1 PM, free for zip codes 60624, 60608 residents, produce sale.

## Working To See Urban Farms Thrive: Meet Three Urban Farmers

by Carrie Steinweg, CCFB Special Feature Writer

According to the USDA, "urban agriculture allows for the development of a variety of environmental, economic and social benefits to the surrounding communities." Those benefits don't come easily, however, as urban farmers face a number of obstacles, in addition to the natural challenges of farming, as they aim to operate in busy, landlocked and sometimes blighted areas.

Urban farms don't happen without the dedication of passionate, involved activists. Here we introduce you to three Chicago women who are changing their neighborhoods through the operation of urban farms.

### Natasha Nicholes, Founder and Executive Director of We Sow We Grow

Nicholes first became interested in urban farming when working directly with the Illinois



Photo Credit - @WeSowWeGrow

Farm Bureau® and their Illinois Farm Families® program. Through that experience, she realized that she wanted to see the farm feeling in Chicago. "I knew that it existed, but I didn't see it prominently in my neighborhood, or accessible to the people who didn't know that it was even

a thing being done in our metropolis," she said. She's been involved in urban farming since 2008 and is the founder and Executive Director of the We Sow We Grow Project, a nonprofit urban farming initiative dedicated to increasing the number of home growers around the world. "We aspire to create a world where everyone who has a desire to eat, can do so with dignity and without having to check off certain boxes in order to qualify," said Nicholes.

### Stephanie Dunn, Founder and Executive Director of Star Farm Chicago

Before launching Star Farm in 2016, Dunn worked developing and implementing public programming centered on community engagement, ecology, environmental justice, growing culturally relevant food and medicine, and developing inclusive public programming



Photo Credit - www.starfarmchicago.com

for institutions such as the Cook County Forest Preserves, Chicago Park District, Center for Green Technology and more. Through additional experience managing food gardens

Continued on Page 2

## CFB Foundation "Evening for Ag Education Gala" recap and photos on page 4 & 5

### Who We Are...

Cook County Farm Bureau is made up of many members including farmers, landowners, foodies, greenhouse operators, specialty growers, food consumers and customers of the Farm Bureau's affiliated companies (Country Financial, Conserv FS, IAA Credit Union, etc.). We bring together many members with diverse backgrounds and food interests to support the success of local farmers and to keep agriculture present and strong in Cook County.

This Co-Operator publication is designed for members to share more about how Cook County Farm Bureau is working for local farmers and agriculture and to help our members know more about farming, food, fiber and bio-fuels. As an added value, we provide great membership deals, savings, discounts, benefits, programming and activities that reflect our agricultural heritage and members' modern expectations.

Please enjoy reading and thank you for your support of area agriculture and your membership!

# Working To See Urban Farms Thrive

Continued from Page 1

for distribution to food pantries, working for landscaping companies and managing farmers markets, she brings a community-centered focus to food and farming. She is a Master Gardener and Master Urban Farmer, a member of the Grown in Chicago Council, an officer with the Illinois Stewardship Alliance Local Food and Farmers Caucus, a licensed General Contractor and holds a certificate in Urban Farming from Triton College and a Bachelors in English and Anthropology from DePaul University. She is also a Back of the Yards resident and mother of two.

## Alicia Nesbary-Moore, Chief Veggie Officer of Herban Produce

Nesbary-Moore co-owns and operates Herban Produce, a two-acre production farm in the City of Chicago where she grows specialty greens, herbs, and flowers. The farm is also an agrotourism destination where events and classes take place and farm tours are offered. Also part of the farm is a "Farmstay" that is



available through Airbnb. "Farming is still an emerging field in metro areas like Chicago. Therefore, the laws and ordinances don't always support our operations, so I find myself lobbying on behalf of urban farmers to make sure that this work is more accessible for future urban farmers," she said.

## What are Some of the Biggest Benefits of Urban Farming?

"They create green spaces in neighborhoods, while also providing a fresh food source for the community. It's statistically shown that neighborhoods with urban agricultural spaces see an increase in community involvement, job creation and general well-being, while decreasing negative effects brought on by no access to quality programming and resources." ~ Natasha Nicholes, Executive Director of We Sow We Grow.

"The biggest benefits urban farms have are the education they are able to engage entire communities in, their creation of circular economies and green space and the massive reduction of fuel and water through the elimination of several steps in the supply chain used by industrial agriculture. Instead of crops being grown in rural areas, shipped to suburban factories to be processed, industrially processed and preserved, shipped to market and bought, urban farms are able to grow, process and sell within the same environment, getting food from farm to table without damaging the earth." ~ Stephanie Dunn, Executive Director of Star Farm Chicago.

"I live and operate my farm in a food desert,

or as I call it apartheid, because deserts actually thrive. Farming gives us the opportunity to increase access to fresh, healthy food options for our local community. I also get to witness the benefits of adding beautiful, edible landscapes to land that was previously vacant. It has helped to add value to the neighborhood by just existing." ~ Alicia Nesbary-Moore, Chief Veggie Officer at Herban Produce.

## What are Some of the Challenges That Urban Farmers Face?

"Land and water access is one of the largest challenges. Also, convincing city officials that what we do is a need, rather than a hobby or trend. Money has also been one of the largest issues, as well. Making sure that we have income to provide what we do, is often one of the things that could make or break an entire urban farming environment. We find ways to bridge the gap the same way that rural farmers do, often leaning on family and community to help us plant, harvest or amend. And we continue showing up for ourselves and our communities because we deserve access to fresh food, too." ~ Natasha Nicholes, Executive Director of We Sew We Grow.

"Some of the biggest challenges urban farmers face are related to the urban environment: the farm's ability to connect with the neighborhood they're in and the domination of the market by industrial agriculture. For example, a rural organic farm would be able to use techniques like land stacking and including animals in the symbiotic relationships that form the circular economy of a healthy farm. A rural farm would also be able to implement a full-scale composting system to regenerate their fields, while urban farms have to be careful about only composting plant waste, so as not to attract vermin to a residential area and food processing site. In addition to this, urban farms have to prioritize the neighborhood they're in. Urban farming is a radical process. Without the support of the local community (as well as the necessity of communicating with your client base), an urban farm would lack its strongest ability to create change. But most organic food and education around circular economies are focused toward an upper-middle class audience. Because of this, Star Farm maintains our mission to present accessible education around nutrition and circular economies in multiple languages to the largely BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) community around us, as they have the same right to a healthy diet and green world, a right so often instead denied by institutional powers. To counter the domination of markets by industrial agriculture, we make our produce widely available at farmers markets, specially organized pop ups and through community supported agriculture programs that bring the produce right to the customer's door." ~ Stephanie Dunn, Executive Director of Star Farm Chicago.

"One major challenge is land access. Often times we are land locked and unable to scale our businesses for profitability. One way we are overcoming challenges is making our operations more productive and diversifying our revenue streams to go beyond food production." ~ Alicia Nesbary-Moore, Chief Veggie Officer at Herban Produce.



## Gratitude Journal

Each month, there are people that go out of their way to lend a hand to help with our cause in many ways, both big and small. We appreciate it greatly!

### The Cook County Farm Bureau thanks...

The Foundation Fundraising Committee, members, sponsors donors and friends who came together for a wonderful "Evening for Ag Education" gala on July 22 in Lemont. We thank all that made the evening special, members and friends...Your efforts raised much needed funds to improve Ag Literacy in Cook County!

Ruth Zeldenrust, CCFB board member, for preparing for and passing the tests to become a County Farm Bureau certified director. The program provides knowledge and professional skills to help build stronger agricultural organizations. Congratulations!

Thank you and congratulations to members Kevin and Molly Gorman of Gorman Farm Fresh Produce on being named 2022 Conservation Farm Family of the year by the Will - South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District.

Jim Gutzmer, CCFB board member for representing the Cook County Farm Bureau during the Lake County Fair 4H Livestock Auction.

The various team members that participated in the August Team meetings to brainstorm ideas, programs and activities to benefit all members for the organization's 2022-23 Program of Work.

Blake Lanphier, Cook County Farm Bureau Young Leaders Team Chair, for setting up, planning and hosting a cookout for the team on August 26 at Wagner Farm in Glenview.

The Cook County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom contract Presenters for gearing up for another year of teaching why farming and agriculture matters to the students in urban classrooms.

## Organization Provides SMV Replacement Decals to Members

Gerry Kopping, Cook County Farm Bureau Vice President, snapped a photo through the window of his truck of a newly replaced Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) emblem display properly on the back of his tractor. The SMV sign is a reflective orange triangle bordered with red that warns other road users that the vehicle displaying the sign is traveling slower than the normal speed of traffic.

Cook County Farm Bureau voting members were offered SMV replacement decals that were funded in a part of a farm safety grant provided by the Illinois Farm Bureau and Country Financial. The office does have a few remaining replacement decals available first come, first served for members interested. Contact the Cook County Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276.

The Cook County Farm Bureau reminds homeowners and businesses that the sign should not be used to mark mailboxes and driveways. Improper and illegal use of the SMV can cause confusion to motorists and create a dangerous situation.



## Co-Operator

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Cook County Farm Bureau

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# Downwind

by Bob Rohrer, CCFB Manager

## “A Run-A-Way Story”

Earlier this summer, my wife and I drove through the mountains of New York during our northeastern U.S vacation. That drive reminded me of a book that I loved in my youth, *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean George. The book was about a boy named Sam who lived in New York City and decided to run away from home and live in New York's Catskill Mountains. The book was great for my imagination...a young boy's wilderness "how-to" survival guide for fire, shelter, foraging, hunting, and scavenging.

After I mentioned the book to my wife, she found and ordered it online as a gift and I am rereading it now.

Who hasn't at one time thought about running away from home as a kid (or adult)? Clubhouses and treehouses provide great escapes for kids to "get away" but there are moments as a kid when that escape just does not seem to be enough. Nearly everyone has some kind of an experience to share. Fortunately, most are innocuous or even life lesson material. Unfortunately, some are much more serious or even devastating. My runaway story was a near non-event.

When I was an early teen on the farm, I learned that life was not "fair." It was not "fair" that I had to do chores before and after school and on weekends. My pay consisting of regular meals and a comfortable bed to sleep in was not "fair." It was not "fair" that I could "only" play one sport as there was too much work to do on the farm. It was not "fair" that when I was not working hogs or crops on the farm, I had to help weed the garden, pick the vegetables, and help prepare the food for canning or freezing.

Did any of my friends have to do any of this work stuff? No! Work is hard. The conclusion: Life is not "fair." Mom and Dad did not understand that I needed my freedom (aka play time) in order to be what I needed to be.

Life was so not "fair" that I decided it was time to run away from home. I talked my brother into running away with me to keep me company. Time to raid the kitchen. We made a packet of snacks to sustain us during the upcoming adventure. Chips, beef jerky, peanuts, cookies. We added a peanut butter and jelly sandwich into the packet to be safe. Our water jug contained iced tea. Thanks mom. We pulled together gear: pocketknife, hat, fishing line and hooks, matches. We set out across the barnyard, hog pasture, and corn field to a stand of trees that lined banks of North Henderson Creek. A mile from home, we were going to live off the land and show Mom and Dad.

That summer afternoon was pleasant enough. We realized that we had not brought a shovel to dig worms for fish bait (I probably blamed my brother). So, we sat around, eating our snacks and convincing ourselves how great it was to be on our own. Time slowed to a crawl...especially when the mosquitoes made their appearance. Did Mom and Dad miss us yet?

I don't recall how long we stayed in the grove of trees, living our independence (we did not bring a watch as a supply item). However, with our food gone and our bodies beginning to serve as mosquito food, we made the difficult decision to head back home and try again tomorrow.

Mom and Dad did not say "squat" when we marched ourselves back in the house. In fact, it was as if they didn't even miss us. I don't remember why but we did not head out for a part 2 runaway experience the next day. I must have gotten over my sulking snit. Now, during family gatherings when the topic of running away from home pops up in conversation, Mom and Dad exhibit subtle smiles with a glint in their eyes!

My immature, selfish self did not connect that fact that living off the land was exactly what Mom and Dad, and all of the family was attempting to do as farmers. In addition to attempting to survive agriculturally, Mom and Dad were teaching a bunch of kids how to work hard, gain farming skills, and appreciate the fruits of labor. Agriculture can yield the sweetest of fruits...I only wish I would have appreciated it during those years!

After thinking about my runaway story, I asked the Cook County Farm Bureau staff if they had ever run away from home during a group gathering. Everyone's hand went up and each had their own version! I am glad they all found their way back and now serve the Cook County Farm Bureau as their work home.

Next time you call the office, ask them to share their story!

## 5 Questions for Linda Tobias, Administrative Assistant – Membership and Programs



I've never encountered co-workers that really care about one another and really wish the best for each other like my co-workers here at CCFB.

### What is a memory stamped into your mind from your work with Cook County Farm Bureau?

One event/activity that really sticks out for me is when the CCFB staff visited the Oak Lawn Ronald McDonald House® (RMDHC) in 2017. As a group, we prepared lunch for the families that were staying at the house at the time. We had partnered with RMDHC for quite a few years prior to this and it was the first time I had the opportunity to see in-person just one of the ways that the charity helped families with sick children. It was great to see first-hand what the charity was all about and how they helped so many families.

### What did you want to be growing up?

Surprisingly, I wanted to be an astronaut when I was younger and would always tell my mom that I would be the first Hispanic woman to go to space. I say surprisingly, because if you know me, you'd know that I'm absolutely terrified of flying! I don't like airplanes and the thought of even being on a plane now makes me nervous! I managed to avoid getting on a plane for about 10 years but had to give in for a family wedding in Las Vegas last fall. That would have been one long road trip! Now, I only fly if I really need to...or if I really want to go on vacation.

### When you are not working on CCFB business, what is something you like to spend time doing?

I LOVE going to concerts! When I was a little girl, my mom used to take me and my sister to concerts. I remember going to concerts as early as four or five years old! I even saw Michael Jackson in concert and vaguely remember it. Going to concerts is something that I've always enjoyed, and I've now passed that on to my daughter. She loves going to concerts just as much as I do, maybe even more! As a matter of fact, we just went to see the Backstreet Boys in concert a couple of weeks ago and she loved it more than I did. The live music, the energy, and the crowd of people singing along to the same songs you enjoy. I love it!

### What is your favorite job within the Cook County Farm Bureau (CCFB)?

My favorite job within CCFB is doing anything that allows me to be creative. Need a flyer for the Co-Operator? Need to create a document to promote member benefits? I'm your girl! I've always enjoyed working on computers and "making things look pretty"! Sometimes it can be very tedious, but I still enjoy it!

### What impresses you about your co-workers?

As surprising as it may sound, I've had other jobs prior to working at the Cook County Farm Bureau! The thing that impresses me most about my co-workers is how everyone genuinely cares about each other. I've worked for the Farm Bureau since 2007 (minus a few years that I was gone, but let's pretend that never happened) and I've gotten to know just about everyone quite well. We've been through so much in our personal lives, good and bad, and no matter what, I've seen everyone be there for each other. It could be the smallest gesture...a joke when someone isn't in the best mood and needs some cheering up, or a hug or kind word to each other every now and then, and it's always been genuine. It could be due to us being a very small office (less than 10 people), not sure, but

## HOW FARM BUREAU SERVED YOU IN AUGUST

- ▶ **Connected Cook County Farm Bureau® members with staff and leadership from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, Forest Preserve District, University of Illinois, and Illinois Farm Bureau® in discussions about avenues to reduce nutrient loss and reuse.**
- ▶ **Connected CCFB Members with ComEd Solar and Energy experts, to hear about solar and energy efficient programs available for the Ag industry in Midwest.**
- ▶ **Connected members with local member farm stands to purchase the freshest local produce.**
- ▶ **Awarded members with cash prizes and Farm Funds for winning photos in our Summer Selfie Contest. (All photos will be displayed in the October issue of the Co-Operator)**



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**Growing To Serve You Better**

# Evening for Ag Education

*Gala Fun Raiser helped plant the seeds of farm and food literacy*

Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation® set to put funds to use in scholarships and programming. The "Evening for Ag Education" Gala Fun Raiser was a fun-filled night to remember, which raised more than \$24,000 for agricultural literacy in Cook County. The Fun Raiser was held Friday, July 22, at Crystal Grand Banquets in Lemont.

Attendees enjoyed dinner, entertainment by the band Libido Funk Circus, both a live auction and a silent auction, a Truth or Hogwash trivia game, as well as other fundraising activities for the Farm Bureau's Ag Literacy Program and Foundation.

Money raised during the gala will be used to support the Cook County Farm Bureau Agriculture Literacy Program and Foundation. The program helps urban children, their parents, and teachers know about where their food, clothing, fuel, and nutrition comes from. The program also offers scholarships to help area young adults attend college to pursue farm and food-related career paths, as well as provide farm experiences, hands-on lessons about farming, and food-based education to the community.

The new Stuenkel Family Scholarship was also announced by Janet McCabe, President of the CCFB Foundation.

Goals/ Objectives Achieved:

- 175 people attended

- We substantially surpassed our fundraising goal of \$16,000
- We expanded our message of the importance of knowledge about food and farming in our urban area
- We showcased the programming efforts of the Cook County Farm Bureau Agriculture Literacy Program and the Foundation
- We expanded our broad-based support of our efforts with increased involvement from members, farm and food entities, influential people in the community, and affiliated leaders

We would like to share our sincere thanks and gratitude to the Fun Raiser Committee, the Board of Directors for the Farm Bureau and the Foundation, the Cook County Farm Bureau staff, donors and buyers for the silent and live auction, and our sponsors, with whom the event would not have been possible. Gala sponsors include presenting sponsor COUNTRY Financial as well as CONSERV FS, Tee Jet Technologies, Chopp Commercial Properties, Excel Printing and Mailing, Parkway Elevators, IAA Credit Union, The Feed Store, and the Todd and Laura Price family.

For more details about the event and photos, visit the Foundation section of our website, [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org).



Dan and Karen Biernacki, pictured on the lower step take a moment for a quick picture before enjoying the Gala.



Attendees enjoy the music and entertainment by Libido Funk Circus.



Libido Funk Circus provided guests high-energy entertainment during the Cook County Farm Bureau® Foundation Gala.



Auctioneer, Ken Freeman



Gerry Kopping, Vice-President of the Cook County Farm Bureau® Foundation and Master of Ceremonies welcomes the crowd at the start of this year's Gala



Generations of the Yunker family take a moment to "bee happy" during this year's Gala.



Jessi McCabe (pictured left) and father Joe McCabe enjoy their success at the live auction after capturing one of the Zeldenrust Farm Market Sunflower Walk and Picnic Lunch donated by Ruth Zeldenrust. A tremendous thank you to our donors and bidders who enable us to support the mission of the Foundation.



Sisters, Allison and Angelica, pose for a BEEutiful photo at the Gala's fun photo booth.



The Silent Auction table offered quality baskets and extras that feature various themes. Thank you to our generous donors and bidders. Funds raised during the Gala will be used to support the mission of the Foundation, including providing educational opportunities to youth and adults in the agricultural industry.

# Foundation Announces New Stuenkel Family Scholarship

The Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation Board has created a new scholarship honoring the many contributions made by the Stuenkel Family to the Cook County Farm Bureau, the Foundation, and the organization's agriculture education and literacy programming.

## "The Stuenkel Family Legacy Scholarship"

The scholarship has been designed for Cook County Farm Bureau members pursuing higher education with a focus on an agriculture related career in the areas of technology, education, leadership development, and/or mental health.

## A Brief History...

Harold Stuenkel (deceased) served as president of the Cook County Farm Bureau and the Foundation. Janet Stuenkel (deceased) served many years on the Women's Committee as a strong Ag in the Classroom advocate. Tim Stuenkel (deceased) served as a Farm Bureau and Foundation board member and chairman of the

Ag Literacy Team. Julie (Stuenkel) Michaels and Jill (Stuenkel) Reiman have actively supported Farm Bureau programming as volunteers for Member Relations, Food Checkout Day, and Foundation fundraising for many years. The entire family has been an important part of the agricultural fabric of Cook County for many decades.



1. Timothy Stuenkel provides farm information during a tour of teachers during the Summer Ag Institute sponsored by CCFB and CCFB Foundation.
2. Retiring President Harold Stuenkel (L) receiving the leader recognition plaque from new President James Brandau (R) in 2006.
3. Julie, Jill, Tim (in the corn suit), and Harry Stuenkel supports a Ronald McDonald House shopping spree benefit in a supermarket during Food Checkout Day.
4. Janet Stuenkel (2nd from Left) attending a Statewide Illinois Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Conference.
5. Julie (Stuenkel) Michaels (Center) awarded the Cook County Farm Bureau Volunteer of the Year award in 2017 by Jim Bloomstand, Member Relations Chair and Janet McCabe, CCFB President.
6. Volunteer Jill (Stuenkel) Reiman (L) chats with Karen Gutzmer (R) at the Ronald McDonald House® in Oak Lawn during the delivery event in which CCFB provided food and funds for all of the Ronald McDonald Houses in Cook County

## 50/50 Raffle Winner

Kevin McCabe, Cook County Farm Bureau member, presented a check for \$3,890 to 50-50 split the pot raffle winner, Goldin Winker. This represented his portion of the winnings. Mr. Winker's name was pulled randomly at the conclusion of the "Evening for Ag Education"

Fun-raising Gala held Friday, July 22 in Lemont. The 50-50 raffle and other fund-raising activities raised funds for the Foundation to provide members with ag career scholarships and support ag literacy activities and experiences for the youth of Cook County.



## Family Farm and Food Bytes

### AGRICULTURE CELEBRATES HERITAGE,

**FUTURE AT STATE FAIR.** At the state fair on August 16, Gov. J.B. Pritzker highlighted the importance of young people studying agriculture, saying their "fate is vital to our state's success and future growth. That's why we're making agricultural education more accessible across Illinois. Pritzker announced a new state appropriation of \$550,000 will pay the FFA membership dues for every student taking ag classes in Illinois. The fee elimination makes Illinois an FFA-affiliation-membership state, ensuring every ag ed student will have his or her FFA dues automatically paid. Previously a third of ag students, nearly 15,000, didn't have access to FFA membership, according to the governor.

**INTEREST RATES ADD PRESSURE TO FARM EXPENSES** - Higher interest rates will necessarily change farm operating loans drastically for next season. However, they will increase the cost of most farm inputs. Farmers are seen costs going up for seed, fertilizer, pesticides and other inputs.

**MEMBERS ASKED TO TAKE ACTION ON ATRAZINE PROPOSAL** - the Illinois Farm Bureau recently asked its FBACT US Environmental Protection Agency to refrain from implementing

stricter limits on the use of atrazine. Atrazine, a key component in over 90 herbicide mixtures, for decades has been applied to control broadleaf and grassy weeds and aids in sustainable farming practices like no-till.

**Dr. DAVID NAYAK, KENDALL-GRUNDY CFB MEMBER, GROWING FOOD FOR GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY** - On July 28, Chicago physician David Nayak delivered fresh sweet corn to two area food banks including the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD). Nayak Farms worked with Feeding Illinois to donate 16,000 pounds of fresh sweet corn to the GCFD and another truckload was delivered to Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva. With staggered plantings, additional deliveries are expected.

**About Family Farm and Food Bytes:** This is a collection of articles gathered from Illinois FarmWeekNow and other media sources and is designed to keep you informed as a member and leader within the Cook County Farm Bureau® organization. The articles summarized above are not intended to represent Cook County Farm Bureau policy or positions, but rather to provide members an idea of what is being reported regionally, nationally, and globally.



# Planting Seeds

by Katrina J.E. Milton

Happy Pumpkin Spice Latte Season!

Although spring is my favorite season, fall is a close second. Fall is special because there's change in the air: the leaves start to change colors, the temperature starts getting cooler, and harvest is underway.

For me, fall always began with the Sandwich Fair, held the Wednesday through Sunday after Labor Day every year. As a child, I attended the fair as an elementary school field trip, ooh-ing and ahh-ing over the farm animals on exhibition, pressing our noses against the glass of the baked goods on display, and marveling at the needlework and sewing skills needed to make the quilts and blankets. Later in the evening, I returned to the fair with family and friends to ride the carnival rides, play the games, and watch the tractor pulls.

As an adult, I began participating in the fair, submitting photos, arts and crafts, and baked goods. I would exhibit my rabbit, but I'd be a bit disappointed if he didn't win a blue ribbon, because he's number one in my book. However, many of my photos, craft projects, and baked goods have won awards. I can proudly say that I make the best biscuits in the county – as well as the best soap and the third-best chocolate chip cookies.

Attending the fair has given me a deep appreciation of all things agricultural. The fair is more than a competition between who can grow the biggest pumpkin or whose livestock is the best. The fair is an example of the community coming together to share in and celebrate agriculture and the harvest.

Sure, you can ride a large Ferris wheel,



but you can also stand next to a tractor with wheels so big you can fit inside the giant rim. You can stuff yourself silly eating corn dogs and elephant ears, but you can also learn where your food comes from by viewing cows, pigs, goats, sheep, and poultry. It's an excellent chance to talk to a farmer about their jobs, their animals, and their everyday lives.

Sadly, Cook County doesn't have a county fair, but the Cook County Farm Bureau is hosting a Farm Crawl on Saturday, Sept. 17. There are farms right here in Cook County with livestock and barns and lots of opportunities to learn about agriculture.

If you have the chance, visit a fair with family and friends. Bask in the atmosphere and celebrate the joy of growing, raising, and making things to share with others. Dance and sing along at a concert, cheer on your favorite contender during a demolition derby, grab some delicious fried food and a lemonade shakeup, win a stuffed animal at a game, or get dizzy on rides. Just remember to take lots of photos, make happy memories, and have fun!

Katrina J.E. Milton, Director of Ag Literacy  
Katrina can be reached at [aitc@cookcfb.org](mailto:aitc@cookcfb.org).

# Fall Teacher Workshops

Earn 2 Free PDCH



"Ag-citing Ways to Add Ag to Your Curriculum" Workshop

Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022 4:00-6:00 PM



"THANKFUL FOR FOOD and Harvest"  
Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022 4:00-6:00 PM

Registration Required; email Jill at [aitc2@cookcfb.org](mailto:aitc2@cookcfb.org)

## Agricultural Anatomy of a S'more

### Graham Crackers

- Wheat Flour
- Sugar
- Soybean/Canola Oil
- Honey
- Leavening
- Salt
- Soy Lecithin



**Corn Syrup – Corn**  
Used in foods to soften texture, add volume, prevent crystallization of sugar, and enhance flavor.

### Chocolate

- Cocoa Beans
- Cocoa Butter
- Sugar
- Milk
- Soy Lecithin
- Vanilla

**Gelatin – Animal Collagen**  
Made from the collagen of pigs and cows. It is translucent, colorless, and flavorless, and is added to foods for texture.

### Marshmallows

- Gelatin
- Corn syrup
- Corn starch
- Sugar
- Water

**Soy Lecithin – Soybean Oil**  
An emulsifier and fat agent used to make batter smoother and larger-volumed, to control sugar crystallization, and to give chocolate a silky-smooth texture.

## Patrons Learn about Ag at Morton Grove Public Library Program



On Aug. 3, Director of Ag Literacy Katrina Milton led a program at Morton Grove Public Library. During the program, she taught about trees and leaves and about how trees are an agricultural crop. The 12 children and five adults in attendance participated in a leaf art activity, making art using pressed leaves. After reading a

book about camping, Katrina taught more about trees and the forest. Participants learned about the agricultural connections of graham crackers, chocolate, and marshmallows before making S'mores to Go. Before leaving, everyone received a front-and-back copy of the *Co-Operator's* Ag Adventures.

## Become an Ag in the Classroom Presenter

Cook County Farm Bureau is seeking independent contractors for its AITC Program.

Individuals will provide virtual and in-person ag literacy programs during the school year based on demand and contractor availability.

Teaching experience and knowledge of agriculture/horticulture is recommended.

For more information, email [aitc@cookcfb.org](mailto:aitc@cookcfb.org).

For your comprehensive access to membership discounts & offers,  
**Go to [www.cookcfb.org/membership](http://www.cookcfb.org/membership)**

# Agriculture Adventures for Families

## How Sunflowers Got Their Name



On sunny days, immature flower buds of some sunflowers track the sun across the sky from east to west. As the flower bud matures and blossoms and the sunflower heads get heavier during seed production, the stem stiffens, and the flower becomes fixed facing the eastward direction.

Sunflowers are in the plant genus Helianthus and include about 70 species in the Aster family. All but three are native to North America.

The genus name, Helianthus, comes from the name of sun god Helios in ancient Greek mythology. Helios was one of the Titans. He is often portrayed as driving a four-horse chariot across the sky daily. In ancient Roman mythology, Helios is known Sol.



Source: The University of Illinois Extension, <https://extension.illinois.edu/view/blog-category/92/596>

## Sunflower Fun Facts



Sunflowers grow best with about 6 to 8 hours of sun a day, but more is better

On average, sunflowers can grow as tall as 16 feet

Sunflowers typically have between 1,000 to 1,400 florets and potential seeds

The petals around the outside of a sunflower are called ray florets

Ukraine is the largest sunflower producer in the world, followed by Russia

Disc florets in the middle, where the seeds develop, have both male and female organs, and each produce a seed. They can self-pollinate or take pollen transported by insects or blown by the wind

South Dakota is the largest producer of sunflowers in the United States, followed by North Dakota and Texas

Source: AgHires, <https://blog.aghires.com/sunflower-facts/>



### How to Draw a Sunflower

## September Word Search

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

- Blossoms
- Buds
- East
- Florets
- Flower
- Grow
- Insects
- Petals
- Plant
- Pollinate
- Production
- Seeds
- Stem
- Sunlight
- Tall
- Wind

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Membership # is located on front of paper)

If you were to win, check your preference:  
 Beggar's Pizza GC  HRI GC  Movie Tix  
 (If a choice is not made, movie tickets will be sent)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

Choose your prize:  
 Choices include a \$25 Beggar's Pizza Gift Card, a \$25 Home Run Inn Gift Card, OR 2 AMC Movie Tickets.

Complete the Word Search puzzle for your chance to win! Winners will be contacted by mail.

Mail to: Cook Co. Farm Bureau  
 Ag Adventures Word Search  
 6438 Joliet Rd  
 Countryside, IL 60525  
 Fax to: 708-579-6056  
 Email to: FBcooperator@gmail.com

Complete and submit an entry every month all in 2022 and your name is automatically entered into an "End of Year" drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies.

Good luck!

## Last Month's Word Search Winner Is...

**Mahmoud Zegar**

# Agriculture Cultivates Better Communities



"My life is one big volunteer commitment. LOL."

That's an accurate assessment. I inquired about a project of our FFA Alumni organization, and my aunt was fresh off two community events for separate volunteer groups that weekend. Mind you, this is after a week of watching grandkids, preparing meals for the farm crew and caring for aging parents. It seems appropriate to insert a cross-eyed, slightly stressed emoji face to our message exchange. Her bank account didn't reflect it, but she impacted many lives for the better and profited in satisfaction.

My aunt's level of commitment to giving and volunteerism places her in an elite category of service and selflessness. But generally speaking, farmers and other agriculture professionals are among the most giving people I know, and their explanation for this servant attitude is about as simple as the desire to farm: It's in their blood, and it's the right thing to do.

Previous generations taught us to volunteer out of duty and necessity. In small towns like ours, volunteers even handle firefighting and first-response medical care. Thanks to volunteers, our communities are safe, my kids have a 4-H fair and youth in our small town have soccer and summer baseball programs. Volunteers provide amenities in our parks and coordinate the

town's largest events. They share hours of their time, skills and resources to improve schools, churches, hospitals and non-profit groups for the betterment of our community. Rural areas lack paid staff to handle such life-impacting essentials.

Across Illinois, Farm Bureau families make impacts when they sponsor youth safety programs from bikes to farm equipment. Volunteers coordinate blood drives and health screenings at their county Farm Bureau buildings. The same families give their time in the church kitchen for a community dinner. They organize the school carnival, decorate for the annual FFA banquet, and understand the commitment of running a quality food stand as a fundraiser.

Just before COVID, our community won the Governor's Cup for exemplary volunteerism to build our small town's playground. In a tremendous effort, volunteers raised \$150,000 in funds and physically built that two-story, barn-shaped playground using their farm-based skills and donated use of resources, from power tools to tractors.

At that same park, more than 100 local FFA and 4-H volunteers will gather this month to transform that space into an agritourism attraction with free admission for more than 20 activities – a bale climb, farm chore course, high-tech sprayer simulator, and farm animals among them. Local youth eagerly help organize and operate this annual agriculture festival, and seasoned volunteers find satisfaction knowing they have instilled an ethic of service in the next generation.

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

# CCFB Team Volunteers' Visits to 2022 Community Garden Grant Recipient Gardens



Olga Arias, Garden manager, and Rick Johnson, Team volunteer, are inspecting the new raised beds at the Rainbow Beach Community Garden. A real gem of a garden located near Rainbow Beach at 79th and Lakeshore Drive.



Team volunteer, Ellen Phillips, visits Roots Community Garden in Palatine stating, "Beautiful Garden! Amazing community service helping their community."

## Recipe of the Month:

# Beef Tenderloin Cranberry & Pear Salad

II Farm Families

### Ingredients

- 4 beef Tenderloin Steaks, cut ¾ in thick (4 oz each)
- ½ t freshly ground black pepper
- 1 package (5 oz) mixed baby salad greens
- 1 med red or green ripe pear, cored, cut into 16 wedges
- ¼ c dried cranberries
- ¼ c coarsely chopped pecans, toasted
- ¼ c crumbled goat cheese (optional)

### Honey Mustard Dressing:

- ½ c prepared honey mustard
- 1 ½ t olive oil
- ¼ t freshly ground black pepper
- 2-3 T water
- 1 t white wine vinegar
- ¼ t salt

Season beef tenderloin steaks with pepper. Heat large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Place steaks in skillet; cook 7 to 10 minutes for medium rare (145°F) to medium (160°F) doneness, turning occasionally. Meanwhile, whisk Honey Mustard Dressing ingredients in small bowl until well blended. Set aside. Divide greens evenly among 4 plates. Top evenly with pear wedges and dried cranberries. Carve steaks into thin slices, season with salt, as desired. Divide steak slices evenly over salads. Top each salad evenly with dressing, pecans and goat cheese, if desired. Recipe adapted from *The Healthy Beef Cookbook*, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Recipe courtesy of Beef – it's what's for dinner. Cook's Tip: To toast pecans, spread in single layer on metal baking sheet. Bake in 350°F oven 3 to 5 minutes or until lightly browned, stirring occasionally. (Watch carefully to prevent burning.) Set aside to cool.

2022 Recipe Collection Booklets are available!

**To receive a free copy:**  
Email: [membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org](mailto:membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org)

**Download a digital copy at:**  
<https://cookcfb.org/discover-local/recipes>

**Call the Farm Bureau at**  
708-354-3276

# This Month in Cook County Agriculture...

The Will – South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District is currently taking orders for the Fall tree and fish sale. Plants, shrubs, and trees are available this spring in various starter sizes. Tree order deadline is Wednesday, September 21. Tree order pickup is on Thursday and Friday, October 6 and 7 and Saturday, October 8 from 11 AM – 3 PM.

Fish varieties include channel catfish, largemouth bass, triploid grass carp, rainbow trout, black crappie, bluegill, and minnows. Fish orders must be placed by Wednesday, September 14. All orders are prepaid only. Fish stock pickup is scheduled for Saturday, October 8 from 11 AM – 3

PM.  
All pickups will be at the Will – South Cook SWCD building located at 1201 S. Gouger Rd. in New Lenox. Order forms are available on the District Facebook page, website, or from the office. Contact 815-462-3106 x3, [info@willscookswcd.org](mailto:info@willscookswcd.org), [www.facebook.com/willsouthcookSoilandWater/](http://www.facebook.com/willsouthcookSoilandWater/), [www.will-scookswcd.org](http://www.will-scookswcd.org) \*\*\*\*\*

The Chicago Farmers September Luncheon - Farmland Return and Price Outlook

11:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Monday, September 12, 2022  
Illini Center, 200 South Wacker Drive, 19th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606  
Dr. Gary Schnitkey, Soybean Industry Endowed Chair in Agricultural Strategy within the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois, will be discussing how corn and soybean prices have increased and remained at high levels since 2019. As a result, profitability has been good in recent years. However, costs have risen dramatically, and break-even levels for corn and soybean production have

increased significantly. He will discuss the recent history of agricultural returns, giving an outlook for the coming year. A view on farmland price will be provided.  
Go to [www.chicagofarmers.org](http://www.chicagofarmers.org) for details and ticket prices.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Cook-DuPage Beekeepers Association is asking members to save the date of Saturday, October 22 for the CDBA Fall Picnic. The CDBA October in person Fall picnic will be at Churchill Woods in Lombard. Go to [www.cookdupagebeekeepers.com](http://www.cookdupagebeekeepers.com) for more details.



## Manifolds, Manolos, and Manure



By Bona Heinsohn,  
CCFB Director of Gov.  
Affairs and Public  
Relations

For many families, August and September bring the return of school. Routines. Schedules. Fall sports. And another month closer to Halloween. For our family, the tail end of summer brings the county fair.

Our fair count to date is four. The big red dragon and his space cadet brother raced around the rodeo pen at Illinois Horse Fair in Springfield and again at Lee County Fair in Amboy. In a solo appearance, the space cadet graced the horse arena at the McHenry County Fair in Woodstock. And our herd of fiery red and black-and-white Holstein calves graced the dairy showing at Boone County in Belvidere.



Arguably, it was our flock of fiery red and black-and-white Holsteins that had the most fun at the fair. Our daughter's favorite spring heifer, *Ala Mode*, the very same one she bottle-fed from day two of life, made her maiden voyage to fair. With our blue-eyed girl in tow *Ala Mode* strutted her way to a Champion Showmanship win over older 4H members and older animals.



Our infamous *Velociraptor* made her return to fair. Last year, her size and her late birthday put her deep in a class of winter calves. This year her lack of height didn't hold her back, next to *Ala Mode* she's arguably our blue-eyed girl's most eye-catching and feminine looking animal. *Velociraptor* again excelled at the fair vibe. She delighted at being tied closest to the main aisle, which meant that most hands involuntarily petted her as they walked by. Her namesake only appeared a handful of times during fair, most notably when she nearly took out an older couple with her swinging head.

Our daughter's winter calf, *Apala*, is closely related to both *Ala Mode* and her mom, *Apple Crisp*. As in *Apala* and *Ala Mode* share the same dad and *Apala* and *Apple Crisp* share the same mom and grandma. There's a grandpa that they share too but it's a little more distant. We

affectionately refer to the three of them as our "Apple babies" as a throwback to *KHW Regiment Apple-Red* who is, depending on the calf, either their grandma or great-grandma. In the dairy industry, *Apple* is truly a legendary cow in both the showing and in milk production. Her genetics remain some of the most sought-after ones on the market. *Apala* like our other *Apple* babies started her show career a tad on the short side. If she follows *Apple Crisp's* path, she'll put her height on this fall and winter and be a hard one to beat as a yearling. *Apala* returned to the show ring three times this year, most notably with my two-year-old niece for Pee Wee Showmanship.

For the past year, our blue-eyed girl has harbored a desire to show at World Dairy Expo. World Dairy Expo isn't something you decide you want to show at the month or even 90 days before. You plan years in advance. You breed for it. You monitor the possible animals at every step and then debate if its best to bring a calf, yearling, or cow (and then what stage of cow). Last year, two percent of the Holstein animals that showed at World Dairy Expo were our genetics. While two percent doesn't sound like a lot, these are the top animals internationally. In a nod to her desire to show at a premier level, *Red Carpet Alleyoop Gonzaga* entered her first show ring as spring yearling. Yearlings walk a fine line between being a gangly teenager, an early bloomer, or chunky. *Gonzaga* who by the time she stepped onto the trailer to head to fair, had earned herself the nickname "Godzilla" leaned a little too heavily towards the gangly teenager but should make a phenomenal looking cow next year. Fortunately, other than breaking a gate and tearing up the bedding pack, "Godzilla" kept her true unpleasant nature in check. Though it took three of us to clip her face. One holding her and two running the clippers.



Rounding out our fair crew was *Burrito* our big-little-boy's first calf. Both timid and kind, *Burrito* graced the show arena not once but twice. In her second appearance, she and the big-little-boy entered the show ring for what should be his last year showing in Pee Wee Showmanship. If I'm right, next year he'll enter the showing as a 4H member like his sister and father before him. He spent the better part of his summer walking *Burrito*, usually from the barn to the front of the house so she could chew on the bushes.

As our fair season comes to a close, our blue-eyed girl and our big-little-boy's love of animals, 4H, and fair continues to grow. As parents, we want nothing more than our two to want to milk the cows. Drive the tractors. Farm. Just like their dad, grandfather, and great grandfather before them.

Bona can be reached at [Bona@cookcfb.org](mailto:Bona@cookcfb.org)

## Cook County Farm Bureau Seeks to Update and Add Policy

The following policies were approved by the Cook County Farm Bureau® Board of Directors, made it through a preliminary hurdle in July, and will be considered by the full Farm Bureau delegation in December.

### Directors approved revisions and updates to policy 66 Organic Agriculture. Updates include supporting:

1. All methods of agricultural production and marketing provided they offer opportunities to all farmers who qualify or meet required standards.
2. Broad availability of information on the USDA-certified organic program, certification process, and labeling requirements, as well as other unbiased information on organic products or production.
3. Clarity and integrity of organic standards in the marketplace.
4. Increased funding for organic agriculture, production, education, and technical assistance by non-government organization, land-grant universities, and extension.
5. Enhanced marketing opportunities for producers of organically grown commodities just as we support such efforts for conventionally produced crops.
6. Responsible use of buffer strips or others appropriate measures by organic farmers to protect their crops from pollen drift or other factors affecting the integrity of their crops.

### Federal Programs and Support

1. Research into methods for improving soil health and the development of biological and cultural management of disease, weeds, and pests.
2. Organic farmers using organic prices for all federal farmer support programs.
3. Allowing first-year organic crop insurance applicants to the Organic Crop Insurance Program to receive the organic price for their crop insurance providing that organic inspection occurs by the Risk Management Agency before the crop insurance deadline without final review and the final certificate required at a later date.
4. Assisting farmers meet current and future consumer demand and expand outreach and education opportunities using the National Organic Cost Share Certification Program.

### Certification and Enforcement

1. Third-party certification to verify compliance with NOP (National Organic Program) standards.
2. Full and equitable enforcement of NOP standards.
3. A certification and accreditation process that is transparent, risk-based and requires producers and certificate holders to uphold high integrity in their organic production practices.

4. Transparency about enforcement actions taken by NOP.
5. Strict consequences for ACA implicated in domestic or foreign fraud and significant non-compliance.
6. Strengthening USDA import inspection, review, and testing protocols to ensure organic label integrity.
7. Requiring farmers selling organic products to display the USDA Certified Organic logo and their certification number.

### Directors also approved updates to policy 69 Specialty Crops to support:

1. Enhancing the specialty crops industry's image through marketing, promotions, legislative engagement, and programming.
2. Efforts to increase individuals' access to fresh, healthy, local food through direct marketing outlets.
3. The continued growth of the industry and development of various specialty crops that are not already defined by the USDA.
4. Funding for specialty crop research, Extension services, pathologists, and entomologists to assist with the growth of the industry.
5. The simplification and expansion of the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program to provide financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops, including those grown for food or horticultural, to protect against natural disasters that prevent crop planting or result in lower yields or losses.
6. Cost-share funding for USDA Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification.
7. Reduced cost of Good Handling Practices (GHP) certification for small and very small producers.
8. Standardization and clarity in the food grading system.
9. Adoption of the FDA-State Produce Safety Implementation Cooperative Agreement Program.
10. Implementation of and funding for the Value-Added Producer Working Grant Program for both food safety-only and working capital applicants.
11. Funding for the Food Safety Intervention Technologies Research Unit to develop new processes to improve the safety of the food supply and to determine the efficacy and suitability of new biological, chemical, and non-thermal physical technologies.
12. Development of technologies to reduce, control or eliminate foodborne pathogens from food products and contact surfaces.
13. Simplification of state and federal agency food procurement processes.

Members interested in providing comments or feedback are encouraged to contact Bona Heinsohn at [bona@cookcfb.org](mailto:bona@cookcfb.org).

## Forest Preserve Ballot Question Offers More Questions Than Answers

In November, voters will be asked to approve or deny a property tax increase of 0.025% or less than \$1.66 per month for the majority of property owners.

Proponents of the measure argue that the funds are needed to protect, restore, and expand the forest preserves to ensure clean air and drinking water and reduce area flooding. Cook County Farm Bureau® has not joined the "Vote Yes" coalition in support of the property

tax increase. At the end of 2021, CCFB Board of Directors opted not to support the referendum due to numerous concerns about the use of the funds.

A stated use of the funds anticipated to be generated is the acquisition of more forest preserve property. The district presently owns 70,000 acres or 11% of all county land. A tremendous number of existing acres is located in north and south Cook County. Due to existing

budget limitations, much of the maintenance and restoration of these acres has not been completed. Forgotten land located further from population centers suffer from fly dumping. Fly dumping occurs when individuals intentionally dump rubbish in an unauthorized place, like a forest preserve. Arguably if the land was restored, routinely visited, or patrolled by police officers, fly dumping would not occur. While this situation can be used as an argument to increase

funds for the district, it can also be seen as the district already owning more land than they can manage. It can also be seen as the district not prioritizing maintenance when establishing budget priorities.

Members are encouraged to contact Bona Heinsohn at [bona@cookcfb.org](mailto:bona@cookcfb.org) with questions or concerns. Additional information about the referendum will also be available in October.



Nutrient Loss Reduction Stewardship Information Exchange participants toured Ostara at the Stickney Reclamation Plant in Cicero. Ostara's technology enables the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to remove and repurpose phosphorus and nitrogen into a high value fertilizer.

In addition to visiting Ostara, participants also visited the control room at Stickney Reclamation Plant, a brownfield site testing the application of biosolids, a composting site, the McCook Reservoir, and a biosolids processing site. Participants also engaged in conversations about future collaborations related to the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. The strategy guides state efforts to improve water quality by reducing nutrient levels in our lakes, streams, and rivers. The strategy lays out best management practices for reducing nutrient loads from point sources (e.g., wastewater treatment plants) and non-point sources (e.g., agricultural lands), with long-term goals of reducing loads of total phosphorus and nitrogen by 45%, with interim reduction goals of 15% nitrate-nitrogen and 25% total phosphorus by 2025.

Since 2021, Cook County Farm Bureau® has been actively engaged in conversations and collaborations related to nutrient reduction and reuse. Projects include two Nutrient Loss Reduction Stewardship Information Exchanges, compost and biosolid promotions, and preparation to launch two research projects studying the effectiveness and application rate of struvite. This year's Nutrient Loss Reduction Stewardship Information Exchange was made possible through granting funding from Compeer Financial and Illinois Farm Bureau®.



U.S. Congresswoman Robin Kelly (pictured left) takes a moment with Farm Bureau staff Bona Heinsohn after a summer 'barn hall' meeting to discuss pertinent agricultural and economic issues impacting residents of the second congressional district. After the recent remap, Kelly's congressional district will include parts of Cook, Kankakee, and Will Counties.



Senator Julie Morrison (pictured center) receives a 2022 Friend of Agriculture award from Cook, Lake, and Green County Farm Bureaus during a recent Adopt-a-Legislator® visit. The Friend of Agriculture award recognizes Sen. Morrison's outstanding voting record on agricultural and small business issues during the past two years.

## Cook County Solar Projects

Cook County Farm Bureau® has been notified of three pending solar projects seeking to build in the county. Cottage Grove Ave. Solar 1 LLC, Torrence Ave. Solar 1 LLC, and North Cottage Grove Solar 1 LLC is seeking to build a 2 megawatt alternating current commercial solar energy facilities consisting of up to 17.5 and 15 acres, respectively. All three facilities are located in south Cook County specifically Sauk Village and Glenwood.

All three projects have entered into Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreements (AIMA) establishing standards and policies that the companies must follow as they construct the facilities over agricultural land. AIMA are

designed to provide a high level of protection to agricultural land and address concerns of neighboring landowners.

Landowners near the facilities would have received a communication concerning the facilities. Approval of the AIMA is generally the final step in the pre-building process assuming that appropriate permits and zoning changes have previously been approved. A quick search of Cook County Zoning Appeals Board items appears to indicate that this step remains.

Members with questions or concerns are encouraged to contact Bona Heinsohn via email at bona@cookcfb.org.

## Illinois Specialty Growers Association Award of Excellence Presented Posthumously to Cook County Farmer



Ted Biernacki, founder, and namesake of Ted's Greenhouse Inc. in Tinley Park was named an Illinois Specialty Growers Association Award of Excellence during Agriculture Day at the State Fair in Springfield. Biernacki passed away in January of 2021 and was a pioneer in specialty crops and the greenhouse industry. Today, Dan

and Karen Biernacki own and operate Ted's Greenhouse in Tinley Park. Visitors can find over 10,000 square feet of undercover space with warm, cool, and overwintering houses containing everything from flowering succulents to hanging baskets to cacti, all grown from seed or cuttings. Photo by Amber Selman.

## Lake County Fair



Cook County Farm Bureau® purchased two lambs and one hog from 4H members during the Lake County Fair in Grayslake. Meat from the animals will be donated to partner food pantries including Church of the Holy Spirit Food Pantry, Elk Grove Township Food Pantry, Elsie's Food Pantry, Hattie B. Williams, Nourishing Hope, and Share Food Share Love. Farm Bureau Board Member Jim Gutzmer (pictured left) is pictured with a Glenview Clovers 4H member after the animal auction at the end of July.

## Cook County Financial Agents of the Month

The Financial Representative of the Month program is designed by COUNTRY Financial Agency Managers of Cook County to recognize overall Insurance Leaders in Life, Disability, Auto, Home, and Health production during the month. The agent earns the award through efforts to provide quality service to existing and new clients. Listed below are the various agents honored by their agency manager with the Financial Representative of the Month designation.

\*Indicates that this Financial Representative is a CCFB Financial Certified Representative. The Cook County Farm Bureau Certified Financial Representative Program is designed to strengthen the partnership and relationship shared by Financial Representatives from Country Financial with the Cook County Farm Bureau organization.



Representative since August 2009.

### Omar Ariza

Chicago North Agency, Victoria Nygren, Agency Manager  
\*Omar Ariza has been named Financial Rep of the month for July 2022. His office is located at 4306 N Lincoln Ave., #2F, in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-728-2957. Omar has been a Financial Representative since August 2009.



Representative since February 2015.

### Joseph Munch

Chicago Northwest, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager  
Joseph Munch has been named Financial Rep of the month for July 2022. His office is located at 4200 W Euclid Ave., Ste. E., in Rolling Meadows IL. His phone number is 847-963-8835. Joe has been a Financial Representative since February 2015.



Representative since February 2005.

### Kirk Gregory

Chicago South Agency, Sharon Stemke, Agency Manager  
\*Kirk Gregory Jr. has been named Financial Rep of the month for July 2022. His office is located at 1401 S. State St., #150, in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-619-0649. Kirk has been a Financial Representative since February 2005.







Representative since February 2006.

### Erica Storrs-Gray

Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager  
Erica Storrs-Gray has been named Financial Rep of the Month for July 2022. Her office is located at 12130 S Harlem Ave., Unit A, in Palos Heights, IL. Her phone number is 708-671-1465. Erica has been a Financial Representative since February 2006.

## ABC'S OF FOOD

At Cook County Farm Bureau, we love food... All types of foods in all types of shapes and all types of flavors. In this feature, we will be highlighting different types of food, primarily fruits and vegetables, from A to Z (we are not sure what to do with X yet!).

<p>This month <b>"H"</b></p>	<p><b>HONEYDEW MELON</b></p> 
<p>The skin of honeydew melons can be green, white or yellow, while the interior flesh is usually a light green color.</p>	<p><b>Cavaillon, a town in Provence, France, considers itself the world capital of melons.</b></p>
 <p>Belongs to Cucurbitacea, the gourd family to which melons and vegetables like squashes, pumpkins, and cucumbers belong.</p>	
<p><b>90%</b> Containing about 90% water, honeydew melon can help keep you hydrated.</p>	<p>Honeydew melons are rich in Vitamin C, potassium and B Vitamins such as thiamine and niacin.</p>
<p><b>HONEYDEW MELON IS IN PEAK SEASON FROM AUGUST TO OCTOBER</b></p>	<p>The rough size of honeydew melons is 15 to 22 centimetres (6 to 9 inches) in length and 1.8 to 3.6 kilograms (4 to 8 pounds) in weight.</p> 
 <p>Honeydew melons are very sweet due to their high content of natural sugars, and the sugar content increases as the fruit ripens.</p>	

Next month...Iceberg Lettuce

Source: <http://tenrandomfacts.com/honeydew-melon/> & <https://healthfamilyproject.com/produce-tips/honeydew-melon/>

### Classifieds

All ads that we receive for The Co-Operator are also listed on our website at [cookcfb.org/membership/classifieds](http://cookcfb.org/membership/classifieds). If you have a photo of the item(s) that you are selling you can email it to us to include it on our 'Classifieds' page on our website only along with your ad.

Email your ad (and photo if you have one) to [fbcooperator@gmail.com](mailto:fbcooperator@gmail.com). Please be sure to include your full name, Farm Bureau number, and phone number. Deadline for Classified ads is the 17th of each month. Any ads submitted after the 17th will appear in the following months. Co-Operator. Members may run up to four non-commercial classified ads annually for free. Any ads submitted after the fourth, will be charged.

If mailing your ad, please mail to: Cook County Farm Bureau, Attention: Classified Ads, 6438 Joliet Rd, Countryside, IL 60525. You can also fax your ad to 708-579-6056.

### For Sale

Williams, Get-a-way Pinball Machine \$2600. Chrome wall mount pay telephone from the 1960's \$200. A pair of 1931 Illinois license plates \$100. Call 708-784-1208.

Treated wood wall panels 24ft x 8ft x 6in., delivery available. Call Bill 708-415-4716

Fantastic Opportunity- Solo brick commercial building, with full basement, zone b2, 2350sq. ft., 1 mile from expressway, very near Arlington Park Metra and future Chicago Bears Stadium. Call 847-259-9339.

Powermatic Vertical Panel Saw- excellent condition 8-inch P-Matic worm drive saw w/ 60-inch panel cross-cutting capability- \$1,375 or reasonable offer. Magic Chef 97K BTU natural gas overhead (hanging) garage furnace. Clean & maintained annually- \$250 OBO. Cherry lumber - air dried logs stacked w/ live edges. 6/4 & 5/4 slabs yielding 4" to 11 widths x 66" lengths. Approx. 24 boards - \$125. All items pick-up only. Vicinity 29th & Harlem Ave., Riverside. Contact Mike for more details and photos of all items. 630-379-6851.

"Grasshopper Quik-D-Tatch vacuum grass catcher with Model 15 Lever Actuated Hopper, 618 Mount Kit, and Model 948/52 Vacuum and Drive Assembly. Must pick up. \$1700 OBO. Pictures can be emailed upon request. Sue can be reached at 708-349-0627.

Pool Table light \$80. Slate pool table \$200. 5' wooden ladder \$15. 4' Florescent light \$8. Steel rail sled \$40. Balsa wood type case \$5. Sony Speakers \$10. 30 cup coffee maker \$15. Schwinn scrambler bike \$495. Old toy cement mixer \$225. Old sit on toy train \$150. White rocking chair \$50. Call 708-371-0163.

Antique 1870 Buggy Tongue with double tree, and two single trees \$100. Call 847-975-6666.

Electric Stove 4 burner glass top, Free. Motorcycle CX650 turbo Honda, \$9900. 2001 Harley Davidson bagger, \$7000 obo. Call 815-464-5747.

### Wanted

Wanted LP Rock & Roll Album Records, call John 708-860-9562. Pre 1971 Baseball cards, call Gary 708-363-4559. Bbnut123@msn.com

Wanted to buy heavy metal, rock & roll, blues, jazz, albums, 45's. Rock & Roll, heavy metal, Harley Davidson t-shirts and jackets, and memorabilia etc. Call 708-361-8230.

Wanted 1972 older cars, Trucks/Parts unfinished projects, and 1967/69 Camaros. Call 708-439-9770.

Wanting to buy your HO scale or N scale electric train engines, cars, buildings, or anything train related. Do you have electric trains in your closet, basement, crawl space, attic or garage that you're not using? I buy train items from just a few pieces to hundreds of pieces at a time. Why sell them bit by bit, I'll offer you a price on all you have! I'm retired and just enjoy trains. I realized that some may need work from sitting for a long time, but I have the time to fix them! TURN THOSE UNWANTED TRAIN ITEMS INTO CASH and give me a call! I also buy slot cars. Call 630-272-4433 ask for Ron. Thanks!

### FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

For Cook County Farm Bureau members All Cook County Farm Bureau members may run four non-commercial classified ads annually for free in the Co-Operator. Only items of personal property will be accepted. Ads must be in the office by the 17th of each month.

Category:

- For Sale
- For Rent
- Wanted

To place an ad, call the CCFB office at 708-354-3276 or mail details to Cook County Farm Bureau, 6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525. You can also fax your ad to 708-579-6056 or email to [juanita@cookcfb.org](mailto:juanita@cookcfb.org). Non-member ad rate: \$.75 per word; \$15.00 minimum

## Cook County Farm Bureau Members can save 20% on hotel stays!




**WYNDHAM HOTEL GROUP**

WYNDHAM Hotels and Resorts | WYNDHAM GRAND COLLECTION | WYNDHAM GARDEN | TRYP | WINGATE | HAWTHORN | MICROTTEL

DREAM | planet hollywood | RAMADA | BAYMONT | Days Inn | Howard Johnson | Travelodge | Knights Inn

**CHOICE HOTELS®**

ASCEND | CAMBRIA | Comfort | Sleep | Quality | CLARION | clarion | Choice Privileges



Fall is here and it's the time for fall items like pumpkins, gourds, popcorn, fall flowers, hay straw, or fresh harvest vegetables, and the time is ripe to experience a classic fall outing to a local pumpkin patch, go apple picking, or trail riding!

The Cook County Farm Bureau wants to help by making it easier for you to shop local and support businesses in and around your community with ShopLocal.

This directory is a **MUST-HAVE** resource where you will find diverse local food and agriculture businesses in Cook County, Local Farmers Markets, and more to help with fall purchases, local food, and fall fun experiences!

ShopLocal: <https://cookcfb.org/discover-local/shop-local/online-directory>



For your comprehensive access to membership discounts & offers,  
**Go to [www.cookcfb.org/membership](http://www.cookcfb.org/membership)**

## Hello Ciao Guten Tag Hola Bonjour Tere Olá Shalom Translate to other Languages

We are very fortunate to have members that come from various backgrounds and countries. While we publish this publication in English, the **Google Translate App** can convert the publication text through your smart phone screen into Spanish, French, Polish, Russian, Chinese, Arabic and a host of other languages. Check it out. Enjoy and happy reading!

**Cześć Aloha Zdravo Salam Dobry den Hei God Dag Alo**



# Programs, Workshops, and Webinars

For Members, Farmers, Teachers, Landowners, Foodies, Business owners, and those that want new experiences and to have a great time!

Register today for the following great programs by calling the office at 708-354-3276 or at [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org). Scan our QR for our Events Calendar.



### Make a Fall Planter at Schroeder's Garden Center, a member Farm Crawl location!

Start your day during the crawl with a Make a Fall Planter event at member business, Schroeder's Garden Center in Worth. Choose between two pot designs while enjoying refreshments with other members/crawlers and get your passport stamped and then entered into our raffle.

**Date:** Saturday, September 17

**Time:** 10:00am

**Location:** Schroeder's Garden Center & Materials,

10800 SW Hwy, Worth

**Fee:** \$50.00 for members and guests, includes 11-inch pot, soil, plants, fall decorations

**Registration Required:** Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276; email:

membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org; online at the Member Center at [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org).



### Farm Crawl – Cook County Ag Member Locations

The Cook County Farm Bureau is sponsoring its sixth member FARM CRAWL on Saturday, September 17. The Farm Crawl is self-guided with no set schedules allowing members and the public flexibility to choose the farms and agri-businesses to visit during the CRAWL times. Full program details, and participating farms and business information will be available soon as well as on the Cook County Farm Bureau Events Calendar at <https://cookcfb.org/stay-updated/upcoming-events>

**Date:** Saturday, September 17

**Time:** 10:00am-4:00pm; hours may vary by location

**Registration:** None needed! To obtain a crawl passport, call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276; email: membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org; or online at the Member Center at [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org), and we will email/mail before the crawl!



### AARP Smart Driver 2-Day Course

The AARP Smart Driver course, offered by AARP Driver Safety, is the nation's largest classroom driver safety course and is designed especially for drivers aged 55 and older. You'll learn the current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques, and how to operate your vehicle more safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment. By successfully completing this course, you may be eligible for a discount on your COUNTRY Financial auto insurance. People over 55 who have not had a

motor vehicle accident or violation within the past twelve months are eligible.

Those attending should bring their AARP membership card, if members (phone app acceptable) and driving license as these numbers are entered onto the course completion record/certificate.

**Date:** Tuesday, September 20 and Wednesday, September 21

**Time:** 9:00am-1:00pm

**Location:** CCFB, 6438 Joliet Road Countryside, IL 60525

**Price:** The classroom course costs \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members. Non-Farm Bureau members will also be charged an additional \$5 registration fee.

**Registration:** Space is limited, so register now by calling 708-354-3276 or at our Member Center.

## Master Gardener Resource Center Continues To Assist Members During The Fall Season

The Cook County Farm Bureau® and the University of Illinois Extension continue to partner on a project that benefits local Farm Bureau members and the general public. Since April 15, the master gardeners have been back (working virtually) to answer questions from members and the general public related to gardening and horticulture. This dedicated group will continue to respond to questions through mid-November of 2022.

The master gardeners will be accessible by

emailing [mastergardener@cookcfb.org](mailto:mastergardener@cookcfb.org) or by contacting the Cook County Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276.

General topic areas that can be addressed include soil test recommendations, plant disease issues and treatments, horticulture related questions, pest identification and treatment, and more. Commercial related questions will be forwarded to the University of Illinois Extension professional staff.

## Dial 988 to Connect with a Counselor



In 2020, Congress designated the new 988 dialing code to be operated through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The 988 number became active on July 16, 2022.

Within the membership of the Cook County Farm Bureau, we have seen some members struggle with mental health related issues. We want to make sure that our members know that the 988 number is a quick access lifeline. Members can talk to a professionally trained counselor and find other potential resources in the local community to provide potential relief and support.



### 22nd Giant Pumpkin, Dessert, Carving, Local Honey, and Youth Contest

Giant pumpkin growers, bakers, carvers, and beekeepers, this is the contest for you! Adult and Youth (under 16 yrs.) divisions. Contest is free to members and registration is required. Cash prizes awarded in all categories.

**Date:** Saturday, October 1

**Time:** 9:00am check-in time

**Location:** Puckerville Farms, 13332 Bell Rd, Lemont

**Registration:** Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276

or online at the Member Center at [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org).

**Registration form and full program details at:** <https://cookcfb.org/stay-updated/upcoming-events>



### Workshop on Preparing Wills and Trusts and Transferring Non-Titled Property (Estate Planning and Trust Administration), Presented by Thomas J. Olofsson, J.D., Estate Planning Attorney

Do you need to update your will? Do you know what to do in preparing a will and a trust? Do you understand what probate court is? This program will provide the advantages and disadvantages of preparing a will and trust. The program will inform you what types of information you will need to gather and decisions you will need make before

meeting with a lawyer to prepare a will or trust. Also, tips will be shared on what to look for in choosing a lawyer and where to locate a lawyer for this task.

**Date:** Thursday, October 6

**Time:** 6:30-8:00pm

**Location:** Zoom (the Zoom link will be emailed to all participants the evening before the class)

**Price:** No charge for Cook County Farm Bureau Members. \$10 for non-members

**Registration:** Call the CCFB at 708-354-3276



### Shred Day

Bring any old documents (up to three bankers' boxes) that you would like to have shredded.

**Date:** Saturday, October 15

**Time:** 10am-12pm

**Location:** 4200 Euclid Ave., Rolling Meadows

**Price:** No Charge

**Registration/Description:** Call the CCFB at 708-354-3276 to make a reservation

## 22nd Annual Giant Pumpkin, Local Honey, Pumpkin Dessert, Carving & Youth Contest

**Saturday, October 1, 2022, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. (9:00 a.m. Registration/Check-In)**  
Puckerville Farms - 13332 Bell Rd, Lemont IL

**Giant Pumpkin Weigh in Contest:**  
**Divisions:** Adult and Youth (16 and younger)  
**Rules:** Contest open to CCFB members and their dependents. One pumpkin grown per person may be entered into the contest.  
**Prizes:**

<b>Adult</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$250</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$150</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$75</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$75</b>		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$50</b>

**Homemade Pumpkin Dessert Contest:**  
**Rules:** Contest open to any CCFB member/dependents; open to all ages and must be present to win. Dessert will be judged by appearance, taste, and texture.  
**Prizes:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$50</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$25</b>

**Home Grown Local Honey Contest:**  
**Rules:** Contest open to CCFB or CDDBA members/dependents and open to all ages. Honey judging criteria will be provided once registered, prior to contest.  
**Prizes:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100 &amp; ribbon</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$50 &amp; ribbon</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$25 &amp; ribbon</b>

**Pumpkin Carving Contest 3<sup>rd</sup> year!**  
**Division:** Ages 16 & up members and their dependents  
**Rules:** Pumpkin will be provided by CCFB; free hand carving only, no patterns allowed. Carvers will have 1 hour to carve using their own carving tools.  
**Prizes:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$50</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$25</b>

**Youth Fun Contest:**  
 Contest open to anyone 16 yrs and younger in 3 age categories.  
**Prizes:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place & Runner up prize in each age group  
**Participation Prize:** All entries receive a pie pumpkin, activity bag

**Entry Fee:** Free for Members, Non-members may enter by joining CCFB.  
**Rules:** Contest open to any CCFB member & dependents. Check in by 9:15 a.m. to be considered; must be present to win.  
**Judging:** Members of the Commodities/Marketing Team will serve as judges. The decision of the judges is final.

**CONTESTS Registration Form**

Giant Pumpkin     Adult     Youth-17 & under  
 Pumpkin Dessert (open to all ages)  
 Youth Pumpkin Guess How Much Contest:  
      6 & under     7-11     12-16 years  
 Home Grown Honey (open to all ages)  
 Pumpkin Carving Contest (16 yrs & up)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Farm Bureau Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration form online:**  
<http://cookcfb.org/stay-updated/upcoming-events>  
 Mail, fax, or email entry form to:  
**Cook County Farm Bureau**  
 Attn: Debbie Voltz  
 6438 Joliet Road Countryside, IL 60525  
 Fax: 708-579-6056  
 Email: [membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org](mailto:membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org)  
 Register by phone at: 708-354-3276

