

1970 – 79 Sidebar

1970

With the Constitutional Convention underway, Farm Bureau provided input and thoughts upon suggestions and proposals.

The Women's Committee conducted a Jewel in-store promotion of yogurt, a new food to many people.

Cook County Farm Bureau participated in an organizational effort to fight a nationwide grape boycott by powerful labor unions which impacted small California farmers and calling out Jewel for joining in the boycott.

The Cook County Farm Bureau celebrated its 50-year anniversary and featured a speech by Orion Samuelson, entertainment by Capt. Stubby and the Buccaneers, a 50-year history booklet and family-style dinner for a one dollar donation. 864 members attended! Former farm advisor CA Hughes flew in from Florida to make remarks and a guest appearance.



1971

The Cook County Farm Bureau Marketing Committee planned a Roadside Stand marketing conference with 110 members attending.

The Board provided \$2500 to support research at the Agricultural Experimental Research Station on the cost to produce vegetable crops in northeastern Illinois.

The Farm Bureau played host to 44 State Representatives and Senators at a legislative reception in Springfield.

The American Farm Bureau Federation opened a new headquarters facility at 225 W. Touhy Ave. in Park Ridge marking the first time in 50 years that the national organization headquarters had been outside the city limits of Chicago.



1972

1318 bushels of citrus were sold to members as a part of the fresh grapefruit and orange program from Florida.

Country Companies announced that they would cosponsor the television coverage of the class A high school boys basketball tournament in Illinois.

Cook County Farm Bureau board member, Cornelius Rietfeld, was honored as a Master Farmer by Prairie Farmer Magazine.

1973

155 members participated in the County Bowling Tournament.

55 State Senators and Representatives joined the Cook County Farm Bureau at a reception in Springfield to discuss agriculturally related issues in the General Assembly.

A great deal of effort was being made at the local, state and national level to explain to consumers about high food prices and that farmers were not responsible for inflation.

The Board of Directors voted to raise membership dues from \$24 to \$30 annually for all members. The previous increase was also \$6 nine years earlier.

William Kuhfuss, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation, was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the members attended by 615 people.

1974

Five new directors, Elwood Goebbert, Edward Tracy, Carl Bormet, Erwin Geils, and Howard Paarlberg were appointed to the Board of Directors.

The Farm Bureau asked members to vote “no” on a Regional Transportation Authority referendum, providing concerns for members to consider.

Farm Bureau president and a Glenview farmer, Leonard Schultz, was elected to the Illinois Farm Bureau Board of Directors representing District 5.

The energy crisis impacts the nation (including area farmers), taking over public concerns and focus on rising food prices.

The Farm Bureau published concerns regarding urban sprawl, soil loss and urban pollution that follows.

Cook County Farm Bureau helped led the creation of a “Consumer Information Committee” made up of local County Farm Bureaus of Cook, DuPage, McHenry, Lake, Kane, and DeKalb. The group was designed to communicate to people who buy food about agricultural production and information. The Consumer Information Committee sponsored Farm for a Day in the Chicago Loop (Civic Center Plaza).

The Farm Bureau reminded landowners in certain townships (land use for farming greater than 10 acres) of a new law passed by the Gen. Assembly that land was assessed as a farm rather than residential or commercial use.

Cook County participated in a nationwide effort by the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) to link Farm Bureaus together using a network of tele-typewriters connected to a minicomputer at the AFBF headquarters in an effort to provide two-way high-speed communications. Farm Bureau “Speedline” was born.

The Farm Bureau promoted the five-acre Farm in the Zoo at Lincoln Park in Chicago.

1975

Leonard Schultz, president of the organization, received on behalf of the Farm Bureau, a special “Citation for Outstanding Service to 4-H”.

The Consumer Information Committee took farm animals to Yorktown Shopping Center, Randhurst Shopping Center and the Chicago Flower and Garden Show with the Farm-For-A-Day exhibit.



Farm People Visit With Consumers At Recent Chicago Flower Show

Taking their dilemma to the largest potential consumer audience since forming a regional committee, farmers in six Northeastern Illinois counties participated in the Chicago Flower Show at McCormick Place April 4-9.

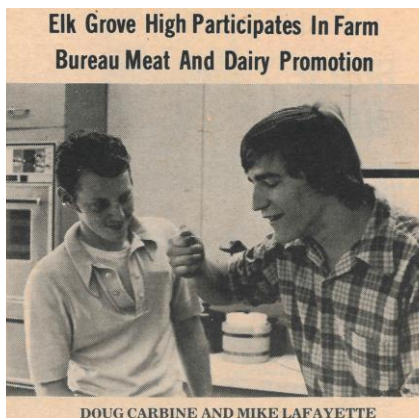
An estimated 350,000-400,000 attended this colorful, imaginatively staged show, and the Farm Bureau members in Cook, DuPage, DeKalb, Kane, Lake and McHenry counties staffed a booth throughout the show, Leonard Schultz, Sr., Glenview farmer, said.

Cook County Farm Bureau hosted 57 legislators in Springfield for a legislative reception to discuss agricultural issues and legislation.



Mr. and Mrs. James Goebbert, Barrington, are pictured with Representative James C. Taylor, Chicago Democrat. Mr. Goebbert is a member of the Cook County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

The Women's Committee sponsored high school Meat and Dairy grants to promote early cooking skills and habits in classrooms.



Future Cook County Farm Bureau president, Ray Nykaza, was appointed to the Board of Directors.

1976

Norman Strassenburg, Mokena, was elected President of the Board of Directors

The Women's Committee sponsored an Estate Planning seminar in LaGrange.

Marketline, a farm market advisory service, was offered through the Farm Bureau.

The Farm Bureau helped promote the opening of two new suburban farmers market's in Oak Park and Elmhurst.

Illinois farmland was the highest priced farmland in the country with an average value of \$1,184 per acre, up 24% from March 1975.

The United States' Bicentennial celebration was in full swing with parades and recognitions.

Don Murphy, Cook County Farm Bureau member, won the Illinois Farm Bureau Sports Festival state golf tournament.

Affiliated company Lake-Cook Farm Service Company celebrated its 50th anniversary.

1977

The Marketing Committee held a Roadside Stand Marketing Conference in LaGrange.

The Farm Bureau worked on a statewide legislative effort to develop a property tax rate that was fair for farmland.



Representative Thomas H. Miller, South Holland Republican from the 10th Legislative District visiting with two of his constituents (left to right) Mrs. Ray Nykaza and Mrs. Howard Paarlberg, Chicago Heights.

Pres. Norman Strassenburg announced that the Board of Directors approved a \$6 increase in membership dues from \$30-\$36.

1978

The Farm Bureau brought in a mobile test unit to provide members with physicals including hearing tests, vision tests, urinalysis, chest x-rays, lung tests, pap smears, electrocardiograph, and much more.

With a sharp rise in beef prices in the grocery store, Farm Bureau communicated to members about some of the reasons why.

Farm Bureau editorials called for the United States to seek additional grain trade with the Soviet Union to help market prices.

Jim Goebbert, South Barrington, was elected president of the Cook County Farm Bureau by the Board of Directors.

Farm Bureau leader, Leonard Schultz pledged a portion of his corn crop to WGN radio personality Wally Phillips as a part of the Neediest Children's Christmas fund. Other area farmers joined in support with donations.



The Farm Bureau Country culture exhibit at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show earned the most popular display award as well as the public service teacher award.