



# Co-Operator

official publication of the Cook County Farm Bureau®



Scan for more farm bureau info. & events

A "staple" in the Farm Bureau member's home since 1938

**Mission:** To serve all members of the Cook County Farm Bureau® with meaningful and beneficial programs that reflect our Agricultural Heritage.

Vol. 91 No. 11

Countryside, IL 60525

[www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org)

November 2017

## Bring a smile to teens in need this Christmas!



CCFB Young Leaders Group is teaming with Toy Box Connection!

Donations accepted until December 6th.

Make a teenager's holiday wish come true! The Cook County Farm Bureau Young Leader Group is hosting a holiday toy drive to collect unwrapped, new/gently used toys for youth between the ages of 12-19.

### Drop off locations:

#### COUNTRY Financial Southside:

- 9731 W. 165th St., Ste. 36 Orland Park, IL 60467
- 4845 W. 167th St. Oak Forest, IL 60452
- 6239 S. Archer Ave. Chicago, IL 60638

#### COUNTRY Financial Northside:

- 2435 W. Schaumburg Rd. Schaumburg, IL 60194
- 25 NW Point, Ste. 850 Elk Grove Village, IL
- 4725 N. Western Ave Chicago, IL 60625

### Special request:

Sports equipment such as basketballs, baseball mitts, soccer balls, etc.

#### Cook County Farm Bureau:

- 6438 Joliet Rd. Countryside, IL 60525

Monetary donations can be made payable to Toy Box Connection. Mail check to: CCFB, 6438 Joliet Rd. in Countryside IL 60525

## LocalFarmProducts.org



Don Carlson with his winning pumpkin at the September 30th Giant Pumpkin Contest. The pumpkin weighed in at 605 pounds. See page 8 for more photos and Pumpkin Contest results.



## Upcoming Events

- Beeswax & Beeswax Candle Making Workshop Page 1
- Farming for Our Future Gala Page 12
- Where's the Dollar in Your Yard? Page 12
- Beekeeping Courses Page 12

## With a Louder Voice, Science Changes Minds

by Mike Orso, Farmweek



David Sutherland, left, offers up his take on the "Food Evolution" documentary following the October 3rd screening at the ArcLight Cinemas in Chicago. A former GMO opponent, Sutherland co-founded the pro-science group March Against Myths. (Photo by Mike Orso)

Could a controversial, yet popular, documentary help bridge the divide on GMOs? Some Illinois farmers and others think so.

The topic drew Chicago artist David Sutherland, along with 200-plus other moviegoers, to a theater on the north side of Chicago on October 3 to watch the documentary movie "Food Evolution". The movie takes a deep dive into the debate over biotechnology. He gave it a thumbs-up, as has

some major media outlets across the country, some scientists and some Illinois farmers.

As part of his animal rights and vegetarian activism, Sutherland acknowledged it seemed natural to pivot toward demonizing biotechnology too.

"I would go out and organize local groups here, and we would table at fests," said Sutherland. "All I knew was fish genes in strawberries – it's unnatural, it's bad."

Continued on page 3

### Beeswax & Beeswax Candle-making Workshop



The possibilities are endless when it comes to beeswax candles! Find out how to refine beeswax from the hive and how to prepare it for candle making. Try your hand at designing candles from this clean, non-toxic product. Leave with your own hand-rolled candle, and supplies to make your own votive candle at home.

#### Workshop Objectives:

- Beeswax: uses, harvesting, and rendering from hive
- Candles: dyps, molds, votive, rolled candles

#### When & Where:

Thursday, November 16, 2017 | Cook County Farm Bureau

#### Time:

6:30 – 8:30 PM

#### Cost:

\$20 for Cook County FB or CDBA members | \$25 non- members

Workshop registration, payment, and information: Contact Debbie at (708)354-3276

Members may register online at the Member Center: [cookcfb.org/membership/manage-account](http://cookcfb.org/membership/manage-account)

Class size is limited as is minimum enrollment.

The instructor reserves the right to cancel and/or reschedule.

## Question of the Month

What Hall of Fame was a Cook County Farm Bureau® Director recently inducted into?

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

September's winner is **Carmen Recupito**.

Last Month's Question: Where is Fairway Farms (in Cook County) located?

Answer: On Coghill Golf in Lemont

# THE POWER OF (A)

# AWARDS

Cook County Farm Bureau Winner of the Power of 'A' 2012 Summit Award

# Let's Talk About the Ag on Your Plate "How do farmers treat their animals?"

Answered by Gerry Kopping, a horse farm owner in Lemont



The Kopping family from Lemont own and manage a horse stable in the western suburbs. The Kopping family provides quality care for their animals throughout the year, regardless of the weather, vacation plans, or holidays.

Our animals are our livelihood. We provide them with quality care and rely on the advice and guidance of veterinarians to ensure that our animals remain healthy. To ensure that our animals are healthy, we provide them with a high-quality diet and make sure that they have access to fresh, clean

water at all times. We also provide them with shelter and monitor their health. For us, our animals are our priority. Have a question? Submit it to [bona@cookcfb.org](mailto:bona@cookcfb.org). We'll share questions with our farmers and publish their answers as space allows in upcoming issues of The Co-Operator.

## Cook County Farm Bureau® Director & Ag in the Classroom Presenter Being Honored at Farm Toy Hall of Fame



Jim Bloomstrand

Congratulations to Cook County Farm Bureau Director, Jim Bloomstrand, who was honored at the National Farm Toy Hall of Fame (the first event of Toy Farmer's® National Farm Toy Show®) on November 2, 2017 in

Dyersville, Iowa. The purpose of the National Farm Toy Hall of Fame is to recognize those people who positively have given their time and talents to the forwarding of the farm toy hobby. For his dedication to the farm toy hobby, Jim Bloomstrand (along with others) will be inducted this year into the National Farm Toy Hall of Fame.

With an Agricultural Engineering degree

from the University of Illinois, Bloomstrand designed re-creation detailed 1/16" limited edition farm toys in the 1980s and 90s. Growing up as a boy, Jim Bloomstrand played with toy tractors and implements and dreamed of turning machines into tabletop miniatures. He collected scale models of tractors, automobiles, and trains. He built a model of an IH 782 cotton picker. In 1986, Jim made patterns for SpecCast. Several individuals asked him to make patterns, including the show tractor for the 2nd North Dakota Farm Toy Show. Jim next produced detailed limited editions of the 1918 Moline Model D tractor and under license of John Deere the Deere 620 tractor with 227 corn picker and 50 sheller attachment gaining praise from fellow collectors. Jim passes on his love of farm toys to the next generation with a custom 1/64th portable farm diorama that he uses to teach elementary students through the CCFB Agriculture in the Classroom program.

## Dear Members,

Agriculture and Cook County Farm Bureau has changed a lot since the organization was created by a group of leading farmers back in 1920.

As we consider the long, storied history of the Cook County Farm Bureau, we have begun seeking memorabilia and artifacts that can help tell the story.

We are asking members to check your attics, closets, bookshelves, and basement storage areas for items that can help us chronicle agricultural and Farm Bureau history in Cook County. We also welcome any affiliated company history such as Lake-Cook Farm Service Supply, Country Companies, etc.

Items may include — photographs, member signs, clothing, newspapers, lapel pins, old "give-away" promotional items, documents, and other keep-sakes.

If there is a story behind the item, please share it with us as well. We will be pleased to credit you and your family. Items can be provided on loan or donated.

We hope to be able to partially recreate the evolution of Agriculture and Farm Bureau through the power of memory items!

Please contact the Cook County Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276 or email us at [ccfb@cookcfb.org](mailto:ccfb@cookcfb.org).

Thank you for your help!

**Bob Rohrer, CAE, FBCM, Editor**

P.S. For more information, please access [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org) and checkout the "Who We Are" video and the Country Financial Connection history.



Corn and soybean harvest is in full swing in the northeastern corner of the state. Please take special care in traveling the roads when you come upon farm equipment. It is large in size, travels slowly, and makes left turns, sometimes without a signal. In a car versus farm equipment accident, the car usually loses.

Gracias

# THANK YOU

# The Gratitude Box

*Each month we would like to give thanks to those who have helped us in some way.*

*This month, we would like to thank:*

- Tim Stuenkel for donating the Whizz Wheel for Ag Literacy games and programs.
- Mark and Donna of M&D Farms for opening their doors and hosting a Fall Planter Workshop where our members and guests created beautiful Fall Planter on a warm Fall Saturday.
- Rick and Joy Homerding of Puckerville Farms for hosting the CCFB 17th Annual Giant Pumpkin Contests & Harvest Activities on September 30th.
- John Hansen, CDBA Vice-President and Beekeeper, for volunteering his time to be a panel judge for the Local Honey Contest during the Giant Pumpkin Contest.
- The amazing CCFB Team members and volunteers who made the Giant Pumpkin Contest a success: Dan, Karen, and Jessica Biernacki, Kathy and Jim Bloomstrand, Roger Freeman, Rick and Cathy Johnson, Gerry Kopping and family, Alex Wojciechowski and family, Cole Sanders and Niki Voltz.

Gratified

Thanks

# THANK YOU

# Gracias

Gratitude

Co-Operator

published monthly  
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USPS No 132180 Periodical Postage Paid at LaGrange, IL 60525 & additional mailing office

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Postmaster - Mail Form 3579 to 6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525  
"Co-Operator" (USPS No 132180) is published monthly as a membership publication for \$2.50 per year to members as a part of their annual membership dues by Cook County Farm Bureau, 6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525. Periodical postage paid at LaGrange, IL and additional mailing office. Postmaster: send address changes to the Co-Operator, 6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525.

The "Co-Operator", the monthly publication of the Cook County Farm Bureau®, is available to members through mail delivery, email, or by viewing online at [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org). Members that wish to receive the publication solely by email can let us know by sending an email to [membership@cookcfb.org](mailto:membership@cookcfb.org) with the subject: E-Cooperator.



# Downwind

by Bob Rohrer, CCFB Manager

## Everyone is From Somewhere

“Where are you from?” is perhaps the most commonly asked question posed when we meet a stranger after “What’s your name?” It’s usually a way of generating safe conversation in which we seek to find common ground. Everyone is from “somewhere” right?

When someone asks me where I am from, I have a tough time responding. Sure, I’m from somewhere. However, the person that asked this question doesn’t really want to hear my life story as I struggle to come up with a good answer. My parents, during my youth, farmed for various other larger farmers as they attempted to become established farmers for their “living”. They continually sought better opportunities so that they could eventually farm for themselves (finally happening in 1983 when I was 18 years old). This meant that we moved from farm to farm, town to town fairly frequently.

*Where am I from?*

I could say I’m from the city of Fayetteville (pop. 204,759), NC where I was born and lived for a whopping three weeks before my father exited the Army...

I could say I’m from the tiny village of Fairview (pop. 522), IL where I lived for 3 years as a toddler...

I could say I’m from the city of Aledo (pop. 3,640), IL, where I live for two different 4-year stints... One during my early school years and one that concluded when I graduated from Aledo High School as a proud Green Dragon.

I could say I’m from the village of Victoria (pop. 316), IL where we lived in grade school and junior high, both north side of town and southwest of the town.

I could say I’m from the village of Avon (pop. 799), IL where my parents currently reside on the farm... except that I only lived there during the summers when I was not in college.

I could say I’m from the town of ab-Normal (pop. 52,497) where I went to Illinois State University.

I could say I’m from the city of Mt. Carroll (pop. 1,717), city of Quincy (pop. 40,633), city of St. Charles (pop. 32,974), or village of Kaneville (pop. 484)... places that I’ve lived during my Farm Bureau work career.

Or I could say I’m from the village of Lemont (pop. 16,000) which is where I currently reside.

It’s always so confusing...*where am I from?*

Even figuring out if a municipality is a village, town, or city is confusing in

## With a Louder Voice, Science Changes Minds

Continued from page 1

Sutherland has since looked deeper into the science behind biotechnology and changed his mind.

Most of the “Food Evolution” audience stuck around following the hour-and-a-half-long film for an additional 45-minute discussion about it, food and farming.

“It is so awesome to have the scientific voices now joining the chorus,” said Katie Pratt, a Dixon farmer whose husband, Andy, parked the combine and drove into the city from Lee County to watch the documentary. “I think that was what was missing initially.”

Pratt, also an Ag in the Classroom coordinator and part of a group of farmers that has served as a ‘face of farming’ for the U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance (USFRA), participated in a post-movie panel discussion, along with a college professor and a scientist.

“You weren’t so sure who was a good guy, bad guy,” said Sutherland about the documentary. “I feel like they did a fair job of weaving in the science of it, too.”

Bona Heinsohn, Director of Governmental Affairs/Public Relations for the Cook County Farm Bureau, explained, “The movie was an outstanding opportunity to explore the contributions that modern science has made to the agricultural community. It’s exciting to have been part of the team that brought Food Evolution to Chicago.”

Illinois Farm Families (IFF), CIFT and the Illinois Science Council co-sponsored the Chicago event. The Cook County Farm Bureau promoted it to members to attend. Illinois Farm Bureau, which is part of IFF, plans to work with USFRA, county Farm Bureaus and collegiate Farm Bureau chapters on additional screenings throughout the state.



Most of the “Food Evolution” audience remained after the hour-and-a-half-long screening for an additional 45-minute discussion about the film, food and farming. (Photo by Mike Orso)

this state. Illinois has 980 villages, 300 cities, and 19 towns. Why so few towns? The Illinois constitution of 1870 (and continued with the constitution of 1970) eliminated the legislative ability to create new towns. Now, only cities and villages are incorporated through the Illinois Municipal Code process (which, by the way, it seems sad that no new towns can be created). The minimum population to create a city is 2,500. I must say that my time spent in the areas of Mt. Carroll and Aledo did not much resemble my view of a “city”.

Moving around so much of my life, it amazes me that some people have lived all of their life in the same place...born, raised, worked, retired. All of their life, they have had many of the same friends and neighbors to hang with, the same fish out of a pond to catch, the same trees to climb, the same woods to explore, the same roads to travel, the same nooks and crannies in their basement or attic to experience...the same, same, same.

During my youth life, I did not eagerly look forward to moving every few years...changing schools, new churches, making new friends, joining new teams and clubs. However, looking back, the moving gave me the opportunity to meet new people and experience new social environments. Bouncing around as a kid from home to home always provided new and exciting places to explore, experience, and created so many memories. I will always remember the attic of the house north of Victoria; the barns from Aledo; the tree house we built in Avon; the strip mine fishing pond south of Victoria; various creeks, woods, and pastures nearly everywhere; a scattering of farm fields, fence lines built and removed, and a host of friends and neighbors throughout Western Illinois.

They say that “home is where the heart is”. I guess, then, I should say...I’m from the FARM.

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## “Where Am I?”

If you can guess where in Cook County Calvin was when this photo was taken, you will be entered to win a \$25 gas gift card! To enter, call us at 708-354-3276 with your answer OR email your answer (please include name & member number) to [membershplinda@cookcfb.org](mailto:membershplinda@cookcfb.org) using the subject “Where Am I?” A name will be drawn at random.



In last month’s “Where Am I?”, Calvin was at the Cook County Farm Bureau Building in Countryside, IL.

Congratulations to Leann Pettis for being last month’s winner!

## Smile—your hands are in soil!



*Thank you, M & D Farms, along with owners Mark and Donna Walsh for opening their doors to our members and guests. Mark and Donna and our 24 attendees had a great time creating beautiful Fall Planters on a 90+degree fall morning and fun was had by all; the entire M&D Farms staff was terrific!*

### Can You Name This Antique Farm Tool?



Do you know what the name of this tool is or what it’s used for? Each month we will post a photo of an antique farm tool until the end of the year. There will be a total of seven antique tools (one being featured each month in the Co-Operator until December). Try to name each tool each month, and once we post the final tool, you can submit to us your list with the name of all of

the tools. If you name all seven tools correctly, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gas card.

(If you miss a month, you can always go to [cookcfb.org](http://cookcfb.org) to view past issues of the Co-Operator).

## Meet a “Face” of the Cook County Farm Bureau®

Each month we highlight a volunteer, staff member, or ag partner of the Cook County Farm Bureau. **This month’s “Face of CCFB” is ...**

### Ellen Phillips



#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR?

Spring, with all the trees in bloom!

- Serves on the Cook County Farm Bureau’s Commodities and Marketing Committee
- Has worked in sustainable agriculture for more than 25 years
- Enjoys her husband’s cooking as he loves to cook and is from Trinidad and Tobago
- Has three children
- Has traveled to every state in the United States

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE COOK COUNTY FARM BUREAU MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT?

The workshops offered

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE COMFORT FOOD AFTER A TOUGH DAY?

A cup of tea with a cookie.

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FARM SMELL?

Fresh hay

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TRACTOR?

Allis-Chalmers “WD”

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FARM MEMORY?

Harvesting apples high in the tree while standing in my grandfathers’ tractor’s front end

#### WHAT IS YOUR BEST FOOD MEMORY?

Thanksgiving dinner with extended family.

#### WHEN YOU WERE GROWING UP, WHO IN YOUR HOME WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR COOKING?

Mom, but she made sure everyone, even the boys, knew how to cook at a young age.

## Food and Farm Bytes

**GLOBAL PLAN AIMS TO CUT FOOD WASTE** (The Salt)– Worldwide, an estimated 1.3 billion tons of food are wasted each year. A major culprit? Confusion over “date” labels on foods. A new initiative aims to harmonize “use by” labels around the globe.

**WE’RE DEVOURING ORGANIC CHICKENS** (Bloomberg) – USDA reports U.S. producers of organic chickens sold \$750 million worth last year, surging 78 percent from 2015. Total organic farm sales were up 23 percent to \$7.6 billion.

**CUTTING GLOBAL WARMING** (NPR’s The Salt)– According to a new study, the key to reducing methane gases produced by cattle is simply breeding less-gassy cattle. Researchers found that, while different diets do affect how gassy cattle are, certain cow families in the study produced more methane than others, no matter what they ate. “This gives an opportunity to select animals based on those genetics and thus reduce methane emissions,” said Rainer Roehe, lead author on the study.

**BEEF IS BACK** (Wall Street Journal) – The beef industry is bringing back its 25-year-old tagline, “Beef. It’s What’s for Dinner,” in a marketing campaign aimed at millennials who have childhood memories of the slogan and want to know more about their food. NCBA’s social media campaign combines the old tagline, narration that alludes to the Old MacDonald nursery rhyme, and beef’s modern production story.

**BEN & JERRY’S INKS MIGRANT WORKER DEAL** (New York Times) – Vermont-based ice cream maker Ben & Jerry’s signed an agreement with a farmworkers group that establishes labor standards for the company’s suppliers in the state. The agreement, which outlines acceptable housing conditions, compensation and time off, also creates an enforcement strategy that encourages workers to speak up about violations.

**NO SURPRISE HERE: COST DRIVES PURCHASING** (Bloomberg) – An abundance of eggs is tightening the screws on the cage-free market. With so many eggs in the marketplace, conventional eggs have become too cheap for many consumers to resist. It’s easy to see why: A dozen cage-free eggs cost as much as \$2.99 in the Midwest in October, while a carton of conventional Grade AA eggs sold for as little as 39 cents.

**FOOD AND FARM FACTS BOOK AVAILABLE** - This publication from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture is a 32-page, full-color book featuring hundreds of agricultural facts in easy to read infographics organized into sections: Consumers, Modern Farmers, Trade and Economics, Environment and Production. To order the book, visit [www.agfoundation.org/news/food-and-farm-facts-now-available](http://www.agfoundation.org/news/food-and-farm-facts-now-available).

## “From the Country” The Truth about Retirement



*Jack Smith, Country Agency Manager Chicago Northwest Agency*

Think about the Future You for a moment – a

person just retired. Do you imagine yourself on a beach somewhere? Are you finishing that novel you wanted to write? Maybe you're spending more time with your grandkids. Whatever the Future You is doing, developing a tangible plan to get there is crucial.

The first step in proper planning is separating fact from fiction:

Fiction: You need to be wealthy to get help with retirement

Almost half of surveyed Americans

believe it's not possible for middle-income families to save for a secure retirement, according to a recent COUNTRY Financial survey. More than half say they don't have enough money to save or they need the money they have to pay off debts.

It's no surprise they feel this way. With all the news about the future of Social Security and negative savings rates, many people aren't confident about their future retirement lifestyle.

The fact is you don't need a lot of money to talk with a financial advisor about achieving financial security no matter where you're starting from. Retirement doesn't have to cost a fortune, but the security people feel from having a tangible plan is priceless.

Fiction: I'm too young to think about retirement

You're never too young. Start saving today. The earlier you start, the more you can earn off your investment. If a person starts putting away \$3,000 per year at age 35, it's likely that person will have almost \$367,038 by the time he or she retires. If that person begins saving the same amount just a decade earlier, the total would be \$839,343.

With retirement planning, you need to think long-term. You shouldn't think about the timing of the market. Instead, think about time in the market.

Fiction: I have more important financial obligations

Retirement might not seem urgent to you because there's no monthly bill.

It's easy to pay back a car loan or send a check to the power company when you see a statement every few weeks. Sadly, many Americans don't feel the same urgency about retirement, even though the planning (or lack thereof) they do now can affect their future quality of life. Think of retirement saving as making a payment to yourself every month.

*Jack Smith can be reached via email at jack.smith@countryfinancial.com*

Assumes hypothetical average annual rate of return of 8% and does not reflect any taxes that may be assessed on distributions. These hypothetical examples are for illustrative purposes only and do not represent the performance of any security.

### Illinois Truck Owners: Be Aware Of UCR Changes

*Sign Up Period for Farm Vehicle Registration is Shorter, But Fee Could Be Lower*



Farm-vehicle owners need to be aware of changes for Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) for 2018, according to Kevin Rund, Illinois Farm Bureau® transportation specialist.

Any farm-vehicle owner required to have and display a U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) number also must register and pay a UCR fee. There is no farmer exemption from the UCR or USDOT number.

This year, those farm-vehicle owners will have 60 days, starting Nov. 1, to sign up for 2018 UCR, Rund noted. Previously, registration began Oct. 1 and extended for 90 days.

Rund explained the registration delay will allow the federal government to finish a rulemaking process, including taking public comments. The federal UCR board, comprised of state transportation representatives, is considering lowering UCR fees by roughly 9 percent, Rund added.

Starting Nov. 1, registration may be done online through the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). ICC asks vehicle owners not to submit any UCR fees or registration forms until Nov. 1. Online registration is not available before the starting date. Information and details are available at <https://icc.illinois.gov/motorcarrier/ucr.aspx> or by calling ICC's UCR hotline at (217)782-4654.

### Recipe of the Month: My Swiss Chard Soup!

- 1 bunch of Swiss chard
- 4 pieces of bacon cut into 2 "pieces"
- 1 can of cannellini beans - drained
- 4 cups of chicken stock
- 1 large onion
- garlic cloves
- red pepper flakes
- 2 dashes of hot sauce
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil

Wash and clean Swiss chard, remove the ribs and cut into bite sizes pieces. In a heavy stock pot, heat oil on medium high heat, add bacon, stir, and cook for 5 minutes, add onions and continue cooking until clear (bacon will not be crisp). Add chicken stock, garlic, beans, red pepper flakes, and hot sauce and bring to a boil. Add Swiss

chard and cook for 3 minutes, reduce heat to medium, cover pot and cook for 15 minutes. Turn stove off and allow to cool. You can serve or cool completely and freeze in containers.

*Recipe reprinted with permission from Jill Davis in Bolingbrook, from our Cook Fresh Recipe Brochure.*

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## Agricultural Literacy & Public Relations

### Ag Lit Bit By Diane Merrion



If I mention the name Sarah Hale, what comes to mind? I'm guessing not much

as it was a name I was not familiar with until several years ago. When doing teacher workshops at this time of the year I always like to bring in some information beyond turkeys and feasting which is how I ran across Sarah Hale and the book by Laurie Halse Anderson, *Thank You Sarah: the Woman who Saved Thanksgiving*. The book relates how Sarah, a magazine editor and author, persuaded President Lincoln to transform Thanksgiving Day into a national holiday. As the story goes, she wrote thousands of letters asking politicians to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. Hale often wrote editorials and articles about the holiday and she lobbied state and federal officials to pass legislation creating a fixed, national day of thanks on the last Thursday of November—a unifying measure, she believed that could help ease growing tensions and divisions between the northern and southern parts of the country.

When Zachary Taylor

said no, she wrote to the next president, Millard Fillmore. When he said no, she wrote to Franklin Pierce, then James Buchanan and finally Abe Lincoln. In 1863, President Lincoln made it a national holiday, a day for all Americans to give thanks, together. Interestingly, it was celebrated on the 4th Thursday in November except during the presidency of FDR who moved it in 1939 to the third Thursday. This was in an effort to lengthen the holiday and boost shopping to help improve the economy due to the Great Depression. His experiment failed and it was moved back to the 4th Thursday in 1941.

As we continue the celebration that began long ago, my first thank you goes out to Sarah for trying to make the country more united. While we may not be together with all those we wish, we can be thankful to everyone and everything that has made an impact on our life. My thanks also go out to teachers, authors, farmers, and the many other professions that inspire us to be better people. It also goes to all who were heroes in helping the people in harm's way in Las Vegas and those who continue to provide healing in the face of yet another sad moment. Happy Thanksgiving.

## Breakout Boxes Available for Educators



Escape rooms have been quite the rage for several years for company outings, leadership programs and family fun nights. The concept has now transferred to the classroom and uses breakout boxes as a tool for teaching. Breakout EDU games transfer the ownership of learning from the teacher to the student, making it easy to observe how learners approach problem solving and apply their knowledge. The games require critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and communication.

Teachers may checkout a box from the Ag in the Classroom Coordinator for two weeks in order to conduct a lesson using the locks and examples of agriculture related games for transfer to your subjects. For more information, contact Diane Merrion at [aite@cookcfb.org](mailto:aite@cookcfb.org). Deposit required upon checkout.

## Urban Ag Leadership Program Highlights Career Options



OSI employees gathered with students for a final photo to wrap up the leadership program.

Touring three diverse agri-businesses provided high school FFA students with an opportunity to learn about careers that exist right here in Chicago. The Cook County Farm Bureau® Foundation funded our Agriculture Leadership Academy on October 19 where 30 students were selected for the program based on their leadership potential within their schools. "Having this experience has opened my eyes to so many possibilities that I didn't even know I had," stated student Kelsey Burnett.

The day began with a tour at Gourmet Gorilla, a provider of healthy, nutritious school lunches using locally sourced ingredients from farmers. After learning the backgrounds of the presenters, students participated in an Iron Chef activity where they prepared wraps using the freshest ingredients. The end results were then presented as lunch for the group with the top wrap receiving a prize. Windy City Greens, an 18,000-square foot hydroponics grower, provided our second tour of the day. Students learned the benefits of vertical gardening and the process of starting a business from scratch in an old industrial warehouse. The last tour brought students to OSI Group, one of the largest privately-held food processing companies in the world. The tour provided a glimpse into the manufacturing process of foods such as black beans for Chipotle and meatballs for IKEA, to name a few. Throughout the day students could ask questions of management and staff and learn the skills and education required for jobs within each organization.

"Even though I come from an agricultural high school I didn't necessarily understand the power of urban agriculture and industry. With today's experience I can see new paths opening up for me within agriculture that align with my passions and can still retain that urban connection," shared Kristine Schoenecker.



Gourmet Gorilla provided the fresh ingredients for the Iron Chef competition.

## Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Announces Grants to Counties

The Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) program is proud to announce the Cook County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Program received \$8,800 in funding for the 2017-2018 School Year.

Kevin Daugherty, Education Director for the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom program said, "County level programs are the biggest strength of our IAITC efforts. The county programs work to integrate agriculture into existing classroom curriculum." In 2016-2017, the Illinois AITC program reached 661,797 students with a message about agriculture. Additionally, 40,634 teachers and 1,144 pre-service teachers learned how to incorporate agriculture into their existing curriculum while meeting state learning standards.

"Cook County is privileged to have such a wonderful teaching community who is committed to including agriculture into their lessons from Grades Pre-K through 12. Educators reach out to our Ag Literacy team regularly to schedule school programs and to use our many free resources such as non-fiction Ag Mag readers, learning kits and books," states Diane Merrion, Cook County Farm Bureau® Ag Literacy Coordinator. County Coalition Grants are made possible through funding from the IAA Foundation, the charitable arm of the Illinois Farm Bureau. The IAA Foundation raises funds for the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom program each year, and in addition to county grants, provides funding for Ag Mags, teacher grants, Summer Ag Institutes and more.



Brodnicki School in Tinley Park received a grant for an educational experience at Fair Oaks Farm in Indiana which was funded by the Illinois Pork Producers and administered by the Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation®. The grant provided educational materials to prepare for the field trip which were distributed by the CCFB Ag Literacy Coordinator to teachers several weeks ahead of the tour. Ninety students expanded upon their knowledge with their field trip to the Pork Adventures at Fair Oaks, hosted by Jenny Jackson, Director of Communications of the IL Pork Producers Association. "This was one of the best field trips by far. It was great for students that don't get the chance to see what a farm is like," stated a Brodnicki teacher. Student takeaways included learning the by-products pigs provide, the foods that come from pigs and the care pig farmers take in making sure they keep everything clean when they come in contact with their pigs. Most students commented on how amazed they were to learn about the use of pig (and cow) waste in running the barns and plants using cutting edge "poo power."

# AGRICULTURE ADVENTURES FOR FAMILIES

We are slowly approaching the end of the year, fall is in full effect, and the holidays are almost upon us! This month we celebrate Veterans Day (11th), World Peace Day (17th), and most importantly Thanksgiving (23rd)! The is the one day a year that most of us indulge in plenty of good food and, of course, pumpkin pie!



## How did that get on my Thanksgiving plate?



### Turkey

We all know the star of the Thanksgiving Day show is the turkey! Your turkey might have come from one of these top turkey producing states: Minnesota, North Carolina, Missouri, Arkansas, and Virginia.

### Cranberries

Cranberries are native to America. Do cranberries grow in water? You might have seen pictures that make you think so, but cranberries don't actually grow in water! They grow on dry land and are harvested using water because cranberries float! Are you a whole or jellied cranberry sauce kind of person?



### Mashed Potatoes

How do potatoes grow? Underground! Potatoes are good for you too! They are high in potassium and are also an excellent source of vitamin C, B6, and iron! There are more than 100 varieties of potatoes, but some of our favorites are Russet, red, yellow, and fingerling.



### Pumpkin Pie

Starting in October, pumpkins start to make their way onto stoops, into coffee cups, and onto plates. This autumn favorite was popular with Native Americans too! Squash was part of the Three Sisters, a combination of corn, beans, and squash that were planted together by Native Americans. The stalks of the corn supported the beans, the beans added nitrogen back to the soil and the squash spread across the ground blocking sunlight from weeds.



Source: Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom

Source: AgFoundation.org



## A Pilgrims' Thanksgiving

The pilgrims' Thanksgiving dinner was nothing like the dinner we eat today on this holiday. Food items that were available for them to eat included:

**Fish:** cod, bass, herring, shad, bluefish & eel

**Seafood:** clams, lobsters, mussels, oysters

**Birds:** wild turkey, goose, duck, crane, swan, partridge, and other waterfowl

**Other meat:** venison (deer meat)

**Grain:** wheat flour, Indian corn and corn meal; barley

**Fruits:** dried raspberries, strawberries, grapes, plums, cherries, blueberries, gooseberries

**Vegetables:** peas, squash, pumpkin, beans, parsnips, collards, carrots, turnips, spinach, cabbages, onions

**Nuts:** walnuts, chestnuts, acorns, hickory nuts, ground nuts

**Other items available:** maple syrup, honey, butter, Holland cheese, eggs



## Thanksgiving: Fact or Fiction



**FACT OR FICTION: THANKSGIVING IS HELD ON THE FINAL THURSDAY OF NOVEMBER EACH YEAR.** **Fiction.** In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln designated the last Thursday in November as a national day of thanksgiving. However, in 1939, after a request from the National Retail Dry Goods Association, President Franklin Roosevelt decreed that the holiday should always be celebrated on the fourth Thursday of the month (and never the occasional fifth, as occurred in 1939) in order to extend the holiday shopping season by a week.

**FACT OR FICTION: MACY'S WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN DEPARTMENT STORE TO SPONSOR A PARADE IN CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING.** **Fiction.** The Philadelphia department store Gimbel's had sponsored a parade in 1920, but the Macy's parade, launched four years later, soon became a Thanksgiving tradition and the standard kickoff to the holiday shopping season. The parade became even more well-known after it was featured prominently in the hit film *Miracle on 34th Street* (1947), which shows actual footage of the 1946 parade.



**FACT OR FICTION: NATIVE AMERICANS USED CRANBERRIES, NOW A STAPLE OF MANY THANKSGIVING DINNERS, FOR COOKING AS WELL AS MEDICINAL PURPOSES.** **Fact.** Native Americans used cranberries in a variety of foods, including "pemican" (a nourishing, high-protein combination of crushed berries, dried deer meat and melted fat). They also used it as a medicine to treat arrow punctures and other wounds as well as a dye for fabric. The Pilgrims adopted these uses for the fruit and gave it the name "cranberry" because its drooping pink blossoms in the spring reminded them of a crane.

Source: History.com

### November Word Search

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

Corn  
 Cranberries  
 Fish  
 Grains  
 Holiday  
 Mashed  
 November  
 Parade

Pie  
 Pilgrims  
 Potatoes  
 Pumpkin  
 Thanksgiving  
 Thursday  
 Turkey  
 Vegetables

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

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

If you were to win, check your preference:

\_\_\_ Beggar's Pizza GC \_\_\_ HRI GC \_\_\_ 3 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 \*3 AMC Movie Tickets  
 \*AMC Yellow tickets not valid in California, New York & New Jersey.

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: [membershiplinda@cookcfb.org](mailto:membershiplinda@cookcfb.org)

Complete and submit an entry every month all in 2017 and your name is automatically entered into an "End of Year" drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies. Good luck!



Alice Carney

Congratulations for being last month's word search winner!



## Heartfelt Harvest: Farmers Halt Own Harvest to Help Family In Need

An observer thought awhile and said the “Farmer’s Creed” summarized the reason for the scene. A total of 12 combines, 12 auger carts, 20 trucks and their operators worked by their heart’s desire on donated fuel, donated food and even donated technician labor, if needed. Farm families voluntarily pulled away from their own harvests to pick corn for the family of Peoria County farmer Randy Kingdon.

Randy died of cancer at age 60 on Sept. 15th, 18 days ahead of the community harvest that he knew would gather his final corn crop. His wife and father observed the scene that day with the feeling that Randy was watching. Usually, Randy cuts the beans. His father Frank picks the corn. The opposite would run the auger cart. That day, Frank watched other combine-and-cart duos rapidly harvest one of their Brimfield farm’s best corn crops. “There is no way I can repay them except to thank them,” Frank said as he squelched emotion.

Gratifying. Powerful. Sad. The day gave perspective to any farmer’s troublesome harvest day. The effort passed the weight of empathy to farm families near or far who heard the story. And the community harvest shaped a remarkable and moving scene. Multiple combines per field rapidly gathered rows of corn, driven by the satisfaction of knowing they could help.

Across the state, you occasionally hear stories about a community coming together to harvest for a farmer in need. Local farmer Ralph Peters, the day’s volunteer coordinator, has helped injured farmers with

harvest before. But, this is his first volunteer harvest dedicated to a farmer who planted a crop and passed before he could gather it. Ralph emphasized “volunteer,” and so did his wife who coordinated the harvest meal. They didn’t ask for help.

When word spread about the community harvest, the Peters family received more calls to help than there were jobs to do. From table service and pie to fuel and semi-trucks, local farms and businesses covered everything. The volunteers even moved up the harvest date to Oct. 3rd to beat a forecasted three-day rain event.

Frank saw the effort as a testament to his son, who more than once was noted as a pillar of the community among the crowd that gathered to help or watch. Randy was committed to Whitney’s Walk and St. Jude. He had served as president of the active area Men’s Club that installs wheelchair ramps around town, organizes the community’s festival, donated a park to the community and much more.

Fellow farmers halted their own harvests that day out of a sense of duty. This is what small communities do in times of need, they say. And Randy was their friend. The day ended with a meal of fried chicken, pulled pork, sides, and homemade pies for the harvest crew. The volunteers gathered around tables at Ralph’s farmhouse to celebrate the heartfelt harvest – and subconsciously, the creed they personify.

*About the author: Joanie Stiers’ family grows corn, soybeans and hay and raises beef cattle in West-Central Illinois.*



## Winners Circle

### 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Giant Pumpkins, Dessert, Carving, and Local Honey Contest

Giant Pumpkin Contest   Adult 1st	Don Carlson	605 lbs
Giant Pumpkin Contest   Adult 2nd	Keith Van Drunen	385 lbs
Giant Pumpkin Contest   Adult 3rd	Jurgita Miller	37 lbs

Giant Pumpkin Contest   Youth 1st	Jessica Miller	58 lbs
Giant Pumpkin Contest   Youth 2nd	Jennifer Miller	47 lbs

Local Honey Contest 1st	Mike Davies
Local Honey Contest 2nd	Deane Day
Local Honey Contest 3rd	Curt Haas, The Wandering Bee

Pumpkin Carving Contest 1st	Daisy Rivera
Pumpkin Carving Contest 2nd	Sailly Rivera
Pumpkin Carving Contest 3rd	Kirk Neetz

Pumpkin Dessert Contest 1st	Theresa Doorneweerd	Pumpkin Swirl Cheesecake
Pumpkin Dessert Contest 2nd	Mary Gavenda	Pumpkin Pecan Cake
Pumpkin Dessert Contest 3rd	Liz Van Drunen	Apple Pumpkin Warm-Up

Pumpkin Decorating Contest  0-6 yrs. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Jamina H
Pumpkin Decorating Contest  0-6 yrs. runner up	Cailyn C
Pumpkin Decorating Contest  7-11 1 <sup>st</sup>	Carolina R
Pumpkin Decorating Contest  7-11 runner up	Cassandra R
Pumpkin Decorating Contest  12-16 1 <sup>st</sup>	Jennifer M
Pumpkin Decorating Contest  12-16 runner up	Jessica M



*Beekeepers rule! (left to right) Local beekeepers Mike Davis of Orland Park with Andrea Graegen and Curt Haas of Wandering Bee Honey.*

*Honey contest judging is serious business with Cathy and Rick Johnson.*



*Cook County Farm Bureau® Young Leader, Jessica Biernacki, manages lots of pumpkin decorators.*

*Three generations! CCFB Commodities/Marketing Team Member Alex Wojciechowski is pictured with his son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter Lauren.*



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# GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS UPDATE

## Beverage Tax Repealed, Farm Bureau Successful



Cook County Farm Bureau® staff Bona Heinsohn addresses Cook County Commissioners during a public hearing on the Sweetened Beverage Tax. (Photo was taken from the Cook County Board of Commissioners video feed.)

Cook County Farm Bureau sent the following letter to Cook County Commissioners in advance of the County Finance meeting:

On October 12, 2016 Cook County Farm Bureau® requested that you oppose the then proposed Cook

County Sweetened Beverage Tax. On October 12, 2017 we'll again stand with fellow business owners, retailers, and manufacturers and ask that you repeal the Sweetened Beverage Tax.

As the county's largest general farm organization, we represent the farmers who are growing the corn. We're not big soda. We're local, small business owners. When demand is reduced (as we're already experiencing), the amount farmers can return to their community is also reduced.

American Farm Bureau Federation® policy #159 states that Farm Bureau opposes anyone dictating which foods should and should not be eaten including imposing "health taxes" on food and beverages. The policy also opposes using taxpayers' money for the purpose of legislating or controlling the diets of American people.

Further, Cook County Farm Bureau policy #202 supports finance policies that encourage economic stability, increases productivity, and improves the county's competitive advantage. The Sweetened

Beverage Tax is the exact opposite of this policy.

For the above reasons, Cook County Farm Bureau® opposes the Sweetened Beverage Tax and supports Ordinance 17-4704. We ask that you repeal the Sweetened Beverage Tax.

Cook County Farm Bureau® is dedicated to bridging the gap between farmers and urban consumers. Through education programs targeting youth and their parents and programs designed to connect farmers with potential consumers, Farm Bureau members are actively engaging in conversations about food and the shared values between farmers and consumers.

The tax was repealed in October. Prior to the Finance meeting, Commissioners received over 3,900 comments of which over 79 percent were opposed to the Sweetened Beverage Tax. Commissioners will look into additional avenues to fill an anticipated \$200 million budget deficit. Cook County Farm Bureau will monitor the discussions, revenue generation ideas, and will provide comments as appropriate.

### Farm Bureau Issues Statement in Support of the Chicago Horse Drawn Carriage Industry

Cook County Farm Bureau® sent the following letter to City of Chicago Aldermen in support of the horse drawn carriage industry:

Carriage horses are an iconic part of Chicago. For many families, carriage horses and their drivers may be only contact they have with agriculture and livestock. Through scrupulous training and handling, carriage horses are comfortable in loud, urban areas.

Chicago's carriage horses are among the most regulated horses in the country in an effort to ensure that they are well cared for in terms of stabling, access to appropriate food and water, grooming, horseshoeing, veterinary care and working conditions. Per existing regulations, horse drawn carriages cannot operate at ambient temperatures below 15 or above 90 degrees. Additionally, Chicago carriage horses enjoy a workday of six hours or less, with a 15-minute rest every hour. Regulations require tight monitoring of horse health and welfare and Chicago's current carriage

operators have a spotless record of animal husbandry.

According to the Antique Horse Carriage organizations, Chicago pedestrians have never been injured or hurt by a horse or carriage.

Cook County Farm Bureau policy supports the growth and enhancement of animal agriculture in Cook County (Policy #1300 Animal Agriculture). The much beloved, carriage horse industry is a vital connection for many urban families to Cook County and Illinois agriculture.

As the county's largest general farm organization, Cook County Farm Bureau® is dedicated to bridging the gap between farmers and urban consumers. Through education programs targeting youth and their parents and programs designed to connect farmers with potential consumers, Farm Bureau members are actively engaging in conversations about food and the shared values between farmers and consumers.

### Farm Bureau Submits Comments on "Waters of the United States" Citing that it is Critically Important to Agriculture

Farmers support clean water and work hard to protect our natural resources. But the 2015 Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule has more to do with land than water. It is a land grab, pure and simple, that:

- Creates a huge regulatory burden for farmers and others who depend on their ability to work the land;
- Increases costs for farmers, ranchers and others; and

In particular the so-called Clean Water Rule provided none of the clarity and certainty it promised. Instead, it created confusion and risk by providing the Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers with almost unlimited authority to regulate, at their discretion, any low spot where rainwater collects, including common farm ditches, ephemeral drainages, agricultural ponds, and isolated wetlands found in and near farms and ranches across the nation.

The Rule defines terms like "tributary" and "adjacent" in ways that make it impossible for a typical farmer or rancher to know whether the specific ditches or low areas at his or her farm will be deemed "waters of the U.S." These definitions are certainly broad enough, however, to give regulators (and citizen plaintiffs) plenty of room to assert that such areas are subject to the Clean Water Act jurisdiction.

The position was signed by all Illinois county Farm Bureaus, including Cook County Farm Bureau.



By Bona Heinsohn

I grew up in a healthcare family. I could explain COBRA and DNRs before I could complete a multiplication table. I also grew up in a farming family. Ultimately, I grew up trusting nurses, doctors, farmers, research and science.

I grew up running between my mom's and aunt's offices after school while skirting between nurses, doctors, and patients. Or running through my grandparents' fields in search of my next great treasure or stray animal. My farmer and I actually married next to one of those fields.

Between my upbringing and being married to a farmer, I've always had the luxury of knowing where my food came from and knowing the farmers who grow and raise my food because I was one of those farmers.

I also remember raising crops

before genetically engineered seeds were commercially available. Years ago, before GPS, my farmer's "foamer" stopped working so he asked his then-girlfriend to hop in and out of the tractor, count rows, and then point a flashlight at the row he needed to turn down. It's a wonder that we ever made it down the aisle.

A sprayer's "foamer" is used to temporarily mark the final row that the sprayer applied crop protectants to. I'm not even sure if our current sprayer has foamers since we use GPS to guide us.

Despite the numerous times I went up and down the tractor's stairs the most memorable aspect of the night was actually mixing the chemicals for the sprayer. We donned our face masks and gloves and poured Accent, Banvel, Choice, LA 700, and Exceed into 600-gallons of water. Accent is an herbicide that targets grasses, Banvel and Exceed target broadleaf weeds, Choice is a water conditioner,

and LA 700 is a drift retardant. When combined, this delicious cocktail of crop protectants knocks down Burr Cucumber, Velvetleaf, Woolly Cup Grass, and Foxtail. After 50-football fields, you mix it all over again. That night we made the cocktail three or four times before calling it a night (actually by that time, it was morning).

My point isn't just to make you giggle. Granted it is funny and is just the beginning of what a farm wife or future-farm wife will do to help their farmer.

Instead my point is to illustrate the difference between farming practices in the 90s compared to today. With the availability of genetically modified seeds, instead of mixing a cocktail of chemicals while donning our personal protective gear, we can instead use glyphosate, or what is more commonly known as Roundup. Like it or hate it, according to the scientific data available, Roundup has a lower

toxicity than Tylenol. Peer-reviewed research tells us that Roundup is safe and Roundup is better for the environment than the delicious crop protectant cocktail described above. Roundup is also safer for my farmers to handle and as a mom and wife, I appreciate that.

Technology like genetically modified seeds, isn't for everyone-consumers want and are demanding more choices- but it is a valuable tool for farmers wishing to feed a growing population. The United Nations estimates that the world's population will reach 9.7 billion by 2050 and over 60 percent of the growth will occur in developing nations. It will largely be up to U.S. farmers to meet and exceed that demand. Genetically modified seeds are simply a tool in our crop raising toolbox. All I ask is that farmers are able to choose which tool is best for their farms, markets, and needs.

## Manifolds, Manolos, and Manure

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*\*Must be an eligible member for at least 30 consecutive days to take advantage of the Ford/Lincoln program.*

## NEW FORD BONUS CASH OFFER

In addition to the Bonus Cash that Farm Bureau members can receive for purchasing a new 2017/2018 Ford or Lincoln, there is another opportunity to save even more! Until Nov. 30, members can receive an additional \$500 if they're also an active/retired military member or first responder.

The \$500 Military and First Responder Bonus Cash Offer can also be used by spouses/surviving spouses and other household members of active/retired military members.

The offer can be used to buy or lease eligible new Ford or Lincoln vehicles. Some exclusions apply. Call 1-877-362-3756 or visit [fordsalutesthosewhoserve.com](http://fordsalutesthosewhoserve.com) for more details.

## Cook Country Financial Representatives 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.



**Mike Basile**

*Chicago North Agency, Victoria Nygren, Agency Manager*  
 Mike Basile has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for September 2017. His office is located at 4725 N. Western Ave, Ste 280 in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-728-2993. Mike has been a Career Financial Representative since June 2007.



**Todd Nauman**

*Chicago North Agency, Victoria Nygren, Agency Manager*  
 Todd Nauman has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for September 2017. His office is located at 1426 W. Fullerton Ave in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-687-0443. Todd has been an Employee Financial Representative since December 2016.



**Tim Hranka**

*Chicago Northeast Agency, Joe Youngman, Agency Manager*  
 Tim Hranka has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for September 2017. His office is located at 4200 W. Euclid Ave, Ste A in Rolling Meadows, IL. His phone number is 847-963-1540. Tim has been a Financial Representative since January 2011.



**Raffi Bereliani**

*Chicago Northeast Agency, Joe Youngman, Agency Manager*  
 Raffi Bereliani has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for September 2017. His office is located at 5750 Old Orchard Rd., Ste 550 in Skokie, IL. His phone number is 847-794-1041. Raffi has been a Financial Representative since December 2016.



**Bill Schutz**

*Chicago Northwest Agency, Jack Smith, Agency Manager*  
 Bill Schutz has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for September 2017. His office is located at 51 W. Seegers Rd., Ste 1 in Arlington Heights, IL. His phone number is 847-690-1980. Bill has been a Career Financial Representative since November 1985.



**Renata Bondarowicz**

*Chicago Northwest Agency, Jack Smith, Agency Manager*  
 Renata Bondarowicz has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for September 2017. Her office is located at 2435 W. Schaumburg Rd. in Schaumburg, IL. Her phone number is 847-891-6388. Renata has been a Financial Representative since July 2016.



**Rob Sweiss**

*Chicago South Agency, Marc Rogala, Agency Manager*  
 Rob Sweiss has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for September 2017. His office is located at 6415 W. 63rd St. in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-498-4897. Rob has been a Financial Representative since May 2007.



**Steve Phillips**

*Chicago South Agency, Marc Rogala, Agency Manager*  
 Steve Phillips has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for September 2017. His office is located at 1401 S. State St. in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 312-846-4722. Steve has been a Financial Representative since November 2014.



**Tim Hartnell**

*Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager*  
 Tim Hartnell has been named Career Financial Rep of the Month for September 2017. His office is located at 1938 E. Lincoln Hwy, Unit 217 in New Lenox, IL. His phone number is 815-462-0023. Tim has been a Career Financial Representative since January 1993.



**David Hutter**

*Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager*  
 David Hutter has been named Employee Financial Rep of the Month for September 2017. His office is located at 9731 W. 165th St., Ste 36 in Orland Park, IL. His phone number is 708-645-5007. David has been an Employee Financial Representative since May 2017.



**Tim VanZuidam**

*South Holland Agency, Jeff Orman, Agency Manager*  
 Tim VanZuidam has been named Career Financial Representative of the Month for September 2017. His office is located at 8626 Wicker Ave, Ste A in St. John, IN. His phone number is 219-365-1781. Tim has been a Career Financial Representative since October 1991.



## Reminder

For your convenience, we provide Notary Public services to our members FREE of charge. Come into the Cook County Farm Bureau office in Countryside to have your documents notarized.

**"546,000"**  
**Co-Operators went to households in the last year!**

**Classifieds**

All items listed are for the accommodation of the membership and without guarantee of the publisher.

**Miscellaneous**

Misc items for sale: High end gun collection for sale. Long guns & handguns, home defense shotguns & AR rifles. Various taxidermy animals for sale. Hunting items such as deer and turkey decoys and other forms of hunting gear for sale. Also selling a Swedish made partner masonry saw, electric, Model K2300e1. Exc. condition, used twice. Paid \$1,200, will take \$550 OBO. Call Jim for details: 773-581-4400.

Lawn Christmas "Toy Soldier" decorations, light up, 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 ft. tall: 5 with black hats, 2 with white hats and one major with white hat and mustache (taller too). Excellent condition, \$250 OBO. Please call 708-826-0000.

Kenmore gas dryer, \$50 firm. Canon Pixma MX922 printer, new in box, \$115 firm. Call 708-955-5416.

Country style dining room set. Table extends to 84", 2 captain chairs and 4 side chairs, \$300. Call 630-960-9030.

Misc items for sale: 1) Helenbrand Watermate 3 water conditioning system water softener. Model WM 3-32 gr. Used three years. Never run out of soft water with this twin tank softener. \$600 OBO. 2) 5' almond color polyvinyl fence. 179.5' plus two 5' wide gates with standard hardware and posts. Scallop top with gothic style post caps, dismantled. Needs to be cleaned. This is not a big box store fence. \$2,000. Call 708-349-0627.

New unopened Xbox one, 500 GB/GO with vertical support stand \$225. Call 630-291-3814.

Assorted VHS tapes for sale. Call 708-691-8478.

3 cemetery lots at Rosehill Cemetery in

Chicago. Shaded, peaceful, close to water & road. For details call Elena at 312-316-6232.

Boys custom built "stingray" bike, metallic blue, \$250 firm. GI Joe dolls and clothes all from 1998-2004, lots of accessories. Call 708-259-6124.

Misc items for sale: K12 cut off saw, motor only, complete, \$30. Antique sand stone sharpener grinding wheel, 2" x 21" dia, \$100. Vintage Stimpson grocery butcher scale \$100. Antique hand operated corn sheller, \$40. All items OBO or negotiable. Call Gary at 815-485-5901.

1920's Graybar portable sewing machine. \$50 or best offer. Call 847-754-7606.

**Motorized Vehicles Boats & Accessories**

2002 Jaguar XKR convertible super charged, limited edition, 17,000 original miles. Every available option, pristine condition, new tires. \$32,500 OBO. Call 773-581-4400.

2003 Chevy Silverado 5300 ext. cab, 8' bed rhino liner, custom capper, A/C, Cruise, Tow pkg, Pioneer radio/cd player, newer tires and battery, K & N air filter, 1 owner, mostly highway driven, \$4,200 OBO. Call 231-920-4902.

1979 Red T-bird for sale. Call 708-691-8478.

400 trans short shaft good core for rebuild \$50. 8 1/4 Posi rear end 342 gears w/axles for 68 to 70 GS Buick, \$250. Needs front bearing. Call 708-323-6488.

2011 Arctic CAT F8 snowmobile Sno Pro limited, adult driven, \$4,700. 2 new 1992 Corvette brake rotors, zinc plated, power slotted, \$60. Items OBO or negotiable. Call Gary at 815-485-5901.

2006 Yamaha Roadliner 1900cc, mint condition, 7,900 miles, \$5,900 OBO. Call Bob at 708-602-3350.

**Vacation Sales/Rentals**

2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 1st floor in Cabo San Lucas (Casa Delmar) hotel corridor. Daily, weekly, monthly rental rates. Call 708-774-2087 for details.

**Wanted**

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 realize 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!

Honest prices paid for your OLD, NEW or BROKEN gold, jewelry, dental, watches, etc. Also silver. Call Bob at 708-602-3350.

Young Couple looking to expand urban farm operation to full scale farm. Interested in land within 2 hours from Chicago. Both gainfully employed interested in transitioning over 3 year period. Looking to purchase outright. Please contact Jason at 773-930-8732.

**If you have a photo of the item(s) that you are selling (Auto, Home, Furniture, etc.) you can email it to us to include it on our 'Classifieds' page on our website along with your ad. 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). Email your photo along with your ad to [membership@cookcfb.org](mailto:membership@cookcfb.org).**

**FREE Classified Ads**  
 for Cook County Farm Bureau members

All Cook County Farm Bureau members may run four non-commercial classified ads annually free in the Cooperator. Only items of personal property will be accepted. **Ads must be in the office by the 15th of each month.**

Category:  For Sale Misc.  For Rent  Wanted

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Bureau # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Ad \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Please be sure to include a contact phone number where interested buyers can contact you. Ad can be typed or written. PRINT CLEARLY. (If not enough room, put on separate sheet)

Complete the above form and mail to:  
 Cook County Farm Bureau, 6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525.  
 You can also fax your ad to (708) 579-6056 or email to [membership@cookcfb.org](mailto:membership@cookcfb.org)  
 Non-member ad rate: \$.75 per word; \$15.00 minimum.

**The Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation 2016-2017 Annual Report is now available on our website under Cook CFB Foundation at [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org).**



Growing for the Future by Planting Seeds of Agricultural Literacy in Cook County.

Thanks to the strong support from people such as you, we are able to reach students and help teachers spread the word about agriculture!

Members and agricultural businesses generously contribute monetarily in large and small amounts. We welcome any size of donation. We also receive memorial, estate bequests, gifts of stock, life insurance, beneficiaries, and property donations.

**Your Gift Changes Lives!**

Go to [www.cookcfb.org/Foundation](http://www.cookcfb.org/Foundation) to donate online. If you are making a donation by check, mail this form with your check to:  
 CCFB Foundation  
 6438 Joliet Road  
 Countryside, IL 60525  
 Questions: Call (708)354-3276

**Make a donation to the Foundation**

Name/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my gift of:  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000

Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (we welcome all gifts large and small)

Credit Card:  Visa  Master Card  Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Contributors to the Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation® are forward-looking people who know that human life depends on the food and fiber provided by farmers and who knows that this important message must reach urban consumers in Cook County.

The Cook County Farm Bureau® Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-for-profit. Donations are tax-deductible under IRS Guidelines.

Please consult your tax advisor if you have any questions.

- Reaching students
- Teaching teachers
- Helping those seeking future Agricultural careers

The Cooperator, official publication of the Cook County Farm Bureau, does accept paid advertising. A copy of the rate card may be accessed at [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org) in News and Views or call the CCFB office at 708.354.3276 for a copy. The publication goes to more than 40,000 households each month.



CO-OPERATOR		SEPTEMBER 2017	
1. Total number of copies	4086	41278	
2. Total number of copies distributed outside the county	970	9978	
3. Total number of copies distributed within the county	3047	31228	
4. Total number of copies not distributed	4086	41278	
5. Total number of copies of this publication	101	75	
6. Total number of copies of this publication	103	75	
7. Total number of copies of this publication	4036	41278	
8. Total number of copies of this publication	4036	41278	
9. Total number of copies of this publication	307	998	



# The Professional Membership Option is Open

The Cook County Farm Bureau® (CCFB) Board of Directors would like to remind our Associate members with Agriculture ties and interest, that a membership upgrade option may be of interest. The Professional Member (PM) classification is for individuals who are employed in farm and agricultural related occupations but do not directly earn their income from farming.

The PM will have voting rights as a member, is eligible to serve on the local Board of Directors and as an officer of the CCFB, and can represent CCFB as a

delegate at the state annual meeting. The PM should have a passion for agriculture and farming and be seeking a strong industry in the Cook County area.

The Cook County Farm Bureau would like to encourage any Associate Member who is employed in an agricultural related field and has a strong interest in the future of agriculture to consider applying for the Professional Membership classification. Please contact the Member Service Center at the Cook County Farm Bureau at (708)354-3276 or email us at [ccfb@cookcfb.org](mailto:ccfb@cookcfb.org) for more information.

## NEW Member Benefit



Cook County Farm Bureau members can receive special access to the John Deere's GreenFleet™ Loyalty Rewards program, providing members with a free two-year Platinum 2 membership. It's easy to become a GreenFleet member too! Just sign up for John Deere GreenFleet Loyalty Rewards program using a valid member ID and zip code for membership verification, and become a Platinum 2 level by visiting [www.JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau](http://www.JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau)! A valid email address is required to be eligible for this benefit.

Farm Bureau members are eligible for the following benefits as Platinum 2 status members:

- o Discounts on the following categories of equipment:
- o \$350-\$3,200 off Commercial Mowing
- o \$100-\$250 off Residential Mowing
- o \$200-\$350 off Utility Vehicles
- o \$200-\$350 off Tractors
- o \$500-\$3,700 off Golf & Sports Turf
- o 17% off MSRP – Commercial Worksite



Go to the [GreenFleet website](http://GreenFleet website) to learn about the discounts and other benefits of being a Platinum 2 member!

## Farming for our Future Gala... Sowing the Seeds of Greatness

*A fundraiser to benefit Agricultural Literacy through the CCFB Foundation*

The Cook County Farm Bureau® Board of Directors and Foundation Board planning team are in the process of creating the second annual Gala to benefit agricultural literacy in Cook County. The Gala is scheduled for March 10, 2018 and will be held at the spectacular facilities at Ruffled Feathers Country Club in the easily accessible Lemont area. The funds raised will go to support the farm and food literacy efforts of the organization through Ag in the Classroom, college scholarships for member dependents, and our conversations with our urban friends about farm and food production.

Last year's event was such a fun fundraising success and we look

forward to building on it with even more entertainment. The exclusive event will feature an open bar with appetizers, filet mignon dinner, great music and dancing, the potential of walking away with big-bucks through door prizes, a silent and live auction, and games throughout the evening.

The sale of early bird tickets (\$100 per ticket) for this event will kickoff on Tuesday, November 28 as a part of Giving Tuesday...watch the Cook County Farm Bureau facebook page for details.

For businesses or individuals who wish to sponsor the Foundation event, here are levels and rewards of sponsorship:



### A Medical Alarm Protects Your Loved Ones At Home With Just The Push Of A Button!

- Manufactured, assembled, and made in America
- Price will never increase and no contract required
- Longest range from base unit on the market, 600 ft minimum
- 100% waterproof



Members receive one month free of monitoring and no initial fees!



New Member Benefit!

Phone: 217-994-9015  
Toll Free: 855-872-8404  
[www.peaceofmindalert.com](http://www.peaceofmindalert.com)

### The Farm "Presenting" Sponsor

*"Celebrating the lifestyle and values of farm families"*

This sponsorship will include:

- 10 complimentary Gala tickets (\$1,250 value)
- Pre-event reception entry evening of the Gala
- Promotion throughout the event and on website
- Company logo on Facebook/Foundation website connected to Gala
- Company logo on all Gala promotional material
- Company logo on Gala event program and displays
- Stage recognition during the Gala event
- Sponsorship appreciation placard for company display/use
- Special feature article/appreciation in Farm Bureau publications (cir. 46,000)
- Recognition posts through Facebook/Twitter (5,500 followers)
- Complimentary Cook County Farm Bureau® membership

**\$2,500**

This sponsorship will be used by the Foundation to provide youth, young adults, and parents agricultural experiences and food/nutrition knowledge.

### The Harvest "Rewards" Sponsor

*"Reaping the bounty of agricultural dreams"*

This sponsorship will include:

- 4 complimentary Gala tickets (\$500 value)
- Promotion throughout the event and on website connected to Gala
- Company logo on Facebook/Foundation website
- Company logo on all Gala promotional material
- Company logo on Gala event program and displays
- Appreciation through organization publications (cir. 46,000)
- Recognition posts through Facebook/Twitter (5,500 followers)

**\$1,000**

This sponsorship will be used for the Foundation's higher education efforts through the Agricultural Career Scholarship Program, the Ag Literacy Internship, and teacher education about agriculture.

### The Planting "Dreams" Sponsor

*"With spring planting, the hopes and dreams of farm bounty take root"*

This sponsorship will include:

- 2 complimentary Gala tickets (\$250 value)
- Promotion throughout the event and on website
- Appreciation through organization publications (cir. 46,000)
- Recognition posts through Facebook/Twitter (5,500 followers)

**\$500**

This sponsorship will be used for the Foundation's efforts to enhance kid's education programming and events.

- **\$2,500 Farm "Presenting" Sponsor**
- **\$1,000 Harvest "Rewards" Sponsor**
- **\$500 Planting "Dreams" Sponsor**

Business/Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you are making a donation by check, please mail to:  
CCFB Foundation, 6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525

\*The Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Donations/contributions are tax-deductible under IRS guidelines. Please consult your tax advisor if you have any questions.



### Where's the Dollar in Your Yard? New Farmer Training

**When:** Saturday, February 10, 2018  
**Time:** 9:00 AM to Noon  
**Where:** Cook County Farm Bureau Meeting Room  
**Fee:** \$20.00 member fee; \$30 non-member

This workshop will provide practical, common-sense information to explore starting an ag enterprise including: Evaluating Your Resource, Accessing the Help You Need, Marketing Your Products, Rules and Regulations You Need to Know, Business Planning Tools, Risk: Legal and Liability Considerations, Moving Your Ag Enterprise from "Paper" to "Business," Realities from the Farm

### Beekeeping Courses offered in 2018

Sat, February 24th 8:30-3:30 & Sun, Feb 25th 12:30-3:30pm  
**Beginning Beekeeping:** 10-hour course, \$85.00 registration fee  
Sat, March 10th 8:30am – 3:30 pm  
**Advanced Beekeeping** – \$40.00 registration fee

Find course details & registration information on our website or call 708-354-3276.

### But Wait, There's More!

Visit the Cook County Farm Bureau blog ([www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org)) for bonus Co-Operator articles and information!  
• From the Farm Editor's Desk – short highlights of farm and food news, updates and facts.  
• Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation selects new CEO.

- NRCS Help for Cook County Urban Farms
- Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District offer Education Scholarships.
- University of Illinois Extension is planning for the 21st century.