



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

OCTOBER

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Young Leaders Coat Drive Pg. 12

NOVEMBER

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Young Leaders Coat Drive Pg. 12

For participation details on these programs and activities, check out the related information in this publication, go to 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.

Historical Question of the Month

See page 2 for an historic photo from the CCFB's first 100 years and respond to the question related to the photo.

September Winner is Kat Moran



Last month's question: Former Cook County Farm Bureau President Henry Eichholz (pictured center) received what recognition from Harold Bergman, Chairman of the Cook County Agricultural Extension Council (pictured left) and William Whiteside, Cook County Senior Extension Advisor-Agriculture (pictured right)?

Answer: Farm Bureau received recognition for 50 years of support of the Cooperative Extension Service, 1970.

100 Year Drive Through Celebration

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all of us in various ways. Back in March, we were forced to cancel our "Breakfast at the Farm Bureau" event to celebrate with our member friends the 100-year anniversary of your organization. Unfortunately, current circumstances prevent us from having a large in person celebration gathering so we have decided to set up more of an "individualized" activity with our members.

We would like to invite you to participate in our 100 - year Anniversary "Drive Through"

celebration on Saturday, October 10, 2020 from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Cook County Farm Bureau® building. This simple activity, rain or shine, can be experienced from the comfort of your car.

This "Drive Through" recognition for the 100-year anniversary of your organization will help provide a positive note on what has been a challenging period...we hope you can join us!

Call your Cook County Farm Bureau Member Services staff at 708-354-FARM (3276) from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. CST Monday through Friday

to reserve your drive through time slot on October 10.





100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

"Drive Through Celebration"

OCTOBER 10 • 8 AM - 11 AM

CCFB BUILDING
6438 JOLIET ROAD | COUNTRYSIDE, IL 60525
708-354-3276

By joining us, you will

- Gain a glimpse at the new Centennial Legacy Patio that was created in recognition of 100 years of agricultural leadership.
- Take a peek at the white oak that was planted and dedicated by the Board of Directors as a character symbol of strength, longevity, service, stability, safety, achievement, peace, calmness, rebirth and serenity.
- View the contents that are going into the time capsule, not to be seen for 50 years.
- Pick up a 100-year anniversary "goodie bag"* that is packed with great items and materials connected to our Centennial anniversary (*quantities are limited*)

****This simple activity, rain or shine, can be experienced from the comfort of your car.**

****Please call the CCFB office to pre-register for a time slot if you would like to attend so that we can ensure ample parking lot space and comply with gathering limits instituted by the state.**

****Masks are required.**

Patio Brick Order Program



CENTENNIAL LEGACY PATIO CREATED TO BENEFIT FOUNDATION

A COMMEMORATIVE LEGACY PATIO IN HONOR THE FIRST 100 YEARS OF CCFB SERVICE TO MEMBERS

To mark the Centennial celebration of the Cook County Farm Bureau, the Farm Bureau and Foundation partnered to create a Commemorative Patio on the grounds of the Cook County Farm Bureau. The Commemorative Patio is close to the east entrance of the Farm Bureau building and features personalized memory pavers, three park benches, a wrought iron fence, and flower boxes. Members and Farm Bureau/Foundation supporters and partners can still support the project by purchasing a paver that will be incorporated into the patio. The paver can include the member or family name, encouragement, recognition, and other well wishes.

Three sizes of paver are available and proceeds from the sale of the pavers go directly to the Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation's efforts to improve and enhance agricultural literacy in Cook County. Donation for the pavers are fully deductible per IRS guidelines.

Go to www.cookcfb.org for order form or to donate.



Snap shot of the Centennial Legacy Patio

The Family Farm & Food Bytes for this month can be found at www.cookcfb.org

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 biofuels. 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!

The Importance of the Port Cook County Remains Critical Shipping Port for Agricultural Transport

By Carrie Steinweg, Special Feature Writer

Getting agricultural products from a farm to a consumer is a process that involves more steps than you may realize. In some cases, the transport is done by truck and by rail, but there's also a large amount that has an added step of being moved by water and Cook County happens to be a huge shipping hub.

As the largest Midwestern city and the third largest in the country in terms of population, Chicago is also the largest city on the Great Lakes and a place that continues to be one of the biggest drivers of the U.S. economy. Its large labor force, central location, and access to the Great Lakes as well as the Gulf of Mexico via the Illinois to Mississippi Rivers have made its port critical in the transportation of goods.

Although the Illinois International Port District, which encompasses the Port of Chicago along the city's south side, has seen decline in use over the past century, it remains a crucial component in delivering agricultural needs throughout the world with access to six of the seven North American Class I railroads and two of the nation's most important waterways. It still has two functional elevators that store 14 million bushels of grain.

According to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Illinois ranks third nationally in

the export of agricultural commodities with \$8.2 billion worth of goods shipped to other countries. Illinois is the nation's second leading exporter of both soybeans and feed grains and related products and approximately 44 percent of grain produced in Illinois is sold for export.

Rodney Knittel, Assistant Director of Transportation and Infrastructure with the Illinois Farm Bureau, said that Cook County's shipping port being located in a region where corn and soybeans grow well means that the port is a launching spot for sending animal feed and grain for human consumption to other regions of the county and other countries throughout the world where it can't be grown as easily.

Inland ports, like the one in Cook County, are just one piece of a successful transport journey. Nothing arrives from its point of origin to its final destination by water alone and the fact that 25 percent of all freight trains in the country go through Cook County only reinforces the important role Cook County plays in getting products of any kind into the hands of customers. Knittel noted that in a world where we push a button to order our groceries, it has to be shipped in one way or another, which only increases truck, rail, and boat traffic and puts Cook County.



5 things members should know about the Political Action Committee of the Cook County Farm Bureau®...

1. Cook County Farm Bureau Political Action Committee (Cook CFB PAC) is a political organization designed to promote the economic and social well-being of individuals, farmers, businesses, and agricultural-related interests in Cook County through non-partisan political involvement. Cook CFB PAC is organized under the strict guidelines of the Illinois State Board of Elections.

2. Cook CFB PAC encourages members to become more aware of and engaged in the electoral process. Additionally, it provides support to those candidates supportive of Farm Bureau and our policies.

3. Since its inception, the PAC has made 54 endorsements. Not all incumbents. Not all challengers. Not all major party candidates. But candidates who the Governance Committee members felt would make the largest impact on their district and the county.

4. Cook CFB PAC has the option to award Cook County Commissioners with a "Friend of the Farm Bureau" award. The award program recognizes Cook County Commissioners with outstanding voting records on issues of importance to the Farm Bureau. Additionally, this award program increases commissioners' awareness of the organization and its policies.

5. The PAC has awarded 42 "Friend of the Farm Bureau" awards since the program's inception in 2010.



Historical Question of the Month



Prior to being elected President, then Illinois State Senator Barack Obama received what award from Farm Bureau?

Answers (if not at the tip of your tongue) are available online at cookcfb.org/ccfb/ourhistory. Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276, fax your answer to 708-579-6056, or email fbcooperator@gmail.com to enter the drawing for a \$25 gas card. (Please include name, FB#, and phone number)

Check next month's publication for the answer and the next historical question of the month.



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 Cook County Farm Bureau Political Action Committee Governance Committee members who spent the week interviewing Cook County candidates.
- The candidates who willingly gave their time to meet with the Cook CFB PAC to discuss their candidacy and qualifications for election.
- CCFB volunteer Sarah Duncan for helping prepare "goodies" for the 100-year anniversary drive-through celebration and the AITC Ag Day reorganization.
- Communities in Schools of Chicago for providing support to its partners for back-to-school programming.
- Mark & Donna Walsh of M & D Farms and Garden Center for hosting a Make a Fall Planter event for our members.
- Thank you to Emily Stelter for taking time to meet with Farm Bureau staff! Emily was an active member of Cook County Farm Bureau's Women's Committee and consented to be interviewed as part of the 100 year celebration.
- Ruth Zeldenrust for providing our first consumer/educator/legislator tour of her family farm. We learned about her beekeeping, sunflower/pollinator fields and wide variety of specialty crops.

Co-Operator

published monthly

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Downwind

by Bob Rohrer, CCFB Manager

“Impact Books”

September 6 was “National Read a Book Day”. Leading up to that day, the American Society of Association Executives posed the following question to its members:

What book(s) has had a surprising impact on your life?

What an interesting question to cause me to think and reflect on books that impacted me and to analyze why!

My mother, the beekeeper, has always been an avid reader (she learned to be a beekeeper by reading). She is much more likely to sit on the deck reading a book than to ever turn on a TV. I can always remember Mom reading stories to me and my siblings when we were very young. I credit Mom for instilling in me a love for reading which has impacted me greatly.

Favorite books from my youth:

Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White, 1952 – Who has not read this fun story of a farm setting featuring talking animals and spiders? It lit up my farm kid imagination early on in my life.

The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien, 1937 – This creation of a strange world inhabited by combination of dwarves, elves, wizards, orcs, men, hobbits, giant spiders, etc. fascinated me in 5th grade and beyond. My teacher, Mr. Nelson, would read short segments of the book after lunch each day. I couldn’t take the slow pace of reading, so I borrowed the book from Mr. Nelson and read it all that same night by flashlight.

The Hardy Boys... Secret of the Caves by Franklin W Dixon (Leslie McFarlane), 1929 – I received a copy of this book for my 9th or 10th birthday from an aunt/uncle and was hooked on the Hardy boys from that point forward, reading it and the others over and over. I still collect the books today.

Farmer Boy by Laura Ingalls Wilder, 1933 – These farm life stories were captured through the eyes of a boy and I could envision myself in the role. I read this book to my boys when they were young.

“We Were There” with the Pony Express by William O Steele, 1956 – This and other “We Were There” books provided historic perspective of adventures by young boys and girls with a purpose during life-changing times which was a great way to learn about history.

Sackett’s Land by Louis L’Amour, 1961 – This tale of chivalry, determination, the importance of family, and risk-taking to start a new life was great entertainment and food for thought when I was in high school.

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee, 1960 – For this teenager living in a rural, primarily white farming area, this book provided me a glimpse of racial inequality, injustice, and challenge of right versus wrong in the world.

Favorite books from my adulthood:

Lincoln by David Herbert Donald, 1995 – I listened to this massive book on tape during training runs as I prepared for a half-marathon in 2001. I found I didn’t want to stop running.

The Bible by many authors, centuries – While I have read from the Bible all my life, it is in recent years that I’ve really been able to appreciate the wisdom packed within its many pages. I’m a big fan of the fruits of the spirit.

The Race for Relevance by Harrison Coerver and Mary Byers, 2011 – This book, focused on exploring five radical changes for Associations and non-for-profits, has provided me the basis for boldly considering new strategies to fulfill our purpose as a Cook County Farm Bureau as society and membership changes occur.

Red Storm Rising by Tom Clancy, 1983 – This startling realistic novel had global forces coming together, putting World War III on the brink. I have since read nearly every Tom Clancy book.

The Cook County Farm Bureau 100-Year coffee table book, by a bunch of farmers and staff, 2020 – This production captured images, stories, and testimonials of farm families and leaders that came together to show the sacrifices made to build and maintain a successful organization dedicated to the success of area farming and agriculture.

So why did these books impact me then and now? I gained insights on what I felt was an important in life:

- The future is ours to design...through the good and the bad. And one’s imagination can broaden or limit the possibilities.
- Good should triumph over evil.
- Family pride and protection ranks high.
- Light is so much brighter than darkness.
- The characteristics of courage, wisdom, bravery, creativity, self-confidence, hard work, and faith resonate.
- History matters.
- Farm life can be full of fun and adventures and ultimately stories!

I would love to hear what book or books have influenced you in your personal or professional life. Email me at brohrer@cookcfb.org!

Bob can be reached at brohrer@cookcfb.org

Recipe of the Month: *Acorn Squash and Apples* 1990

Ingredients:
2 med apples, cored & cubed
2 acorn squash
1 T fresh lemon juice
4 T butter
¼ t salt
6 T maple syrup
2 T chopped walnuts

Directions: Pierce whole squash right thru in several places with long metal skewer. Place in opposite corners of micro oven on paper towel. Cook 5 min, turn over and cook 5 min more or until soft to touch. Let stand 5 min, cut in half, remove seeds and fibers. Place cut side down in shallow baking dish. Sprinkle with salt. Toss apples with lemon juice and fill squash halves with apples. Pour ½ T maple syrup over each half and dot each with 1 T butter. Sprinkle with walnuts. Cook covered with paper towel 5-6 minutes or until apples are tender.



Recipe of the Month: *Traditional Pumpkin Pie* 1996

Ingredients:
10- 9 in unbaked pastry shell
2 ½ c pumpkin - precooked (crushed or mashed)
14 oz can condense milk (not evaporated)
2 whole eggs or 4 egg whites
1 t cinnamon
½ t nutmeg
½ t ginger
½ t salt

Directions: Preheat oven to 425°. In large bowl combine all ingredients and mix well. Pour into pastry shell. Bake 15 minutes. Reduce oven temp to 350°. Bake 35-40 min longer or until knife inserted from edge comes out clean. Cool. Refrigerate any leftover pumpkin pie.

The 2020 Cookfresh Recipe Collection is a special “throwback” edition for our 100th year with recipes selected from decades of submissions to commemorate our Centennial! Recipe Booklets are available now! To receive a copy of the 2020 Cookfresh Recipe Brochure, Email membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org or call 708-354-3276 or find it online: <https://cookcfb.org/discover-local/recipes>.

PROTECT YOURSELF & FUTURE FARMERS FROM MORE TAX HIKES

NOV 3RD VOTE NO ON THE PROGRESSIVE TAX

ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU NO PROGRESSIVE TAX

Paid for by NO Progressive Tax - Illinois Farm Bureau

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Growing Our Community Together

Visit our NEW Shop Local online directory!
It is a great way to #shoplocal and support businesses in your community.

[HTTPS://COOKCFB.ORG/DISCOVER-LOCAL/SHOP-LOCAL](https://cookcfb.org/discover-local/shop-local)

You will find:

Diverse local food and agriculture businesses
in Cook and surrounding counties.
Local farmers' markets, local businesses,
and local food!!

Launching this month!!



Welcome to Shop Local

Whether you are a farmer looking to reach new customers or a consumer looking for fresh produce, local dairy, or a brewery in your area - our Shop Local directory is a MUST-HAVE resource!



Register Your Local Food or Farm Business Today!

Our Shop Local directory provides simple yet powerful search tools to connect growers, buyers, sellers, and consumers. Join and register your business today. Once you join, you can login and access your account profile as often as you need. The more information you place on your profile, the more searchable you become to the consumer and across a joint network of affiliations. You can also add an e-commerce store or link to an existing store. And more!

Because of our partnerships, updating your MarketMaker profile enables automatic updates across multiple platforms, including Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Specialty Growers Association, Illinois Farmers Market Association, Farmer Veteran Coalition of Illinois, and the newly added Buy Fresh Buy Local Illinois. All of these affiliations are important ways to increase sales and access.



Questions - contact the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276
or email membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org.

Shop Local is brought to you through a partnership with Illinois Farm Bureau, in cooperation with the Illinois Specialty Growers Association, and Illinois MarketMaker.



Dear Valued Member,

I would like to personally thank you for renewing your Cook County Farm Bureau® membership. We know that the year 2020 has been difficult for so many of our members during and following the health and safety concerns of the pandemic and challenging times facing members, businesses, and society.

Throughout these difficult times, your Cook County Farm Bureau has sought to provide necessary and essential support to our members, farmers, frontline workers, small businesses, parents and youth, and affiliated companies.

We continue to encourage member businesses to participate in our Member to Member Buy Local program and members to support these local small businesses (check out our website: cookcfb.org). We thank you for being a part of the engine of the local economy.

We have seen firsthand the important role farming and agriculture plays every day in everyone's life during the year 2020. We continue to work with area food, fiber, and fuel farm producers to help them be able to provide high-quality, farm fresh products to local consumers.

Best wishes,
Bob Rohrer, CAE, FBCM, Manager

P.S. Can you believe we have not increased membership dues rates since 1978? Cook County Farm Bureau membership remains the best value in town! We thank you for your membership and we do look forward to serving you!

P.P.S. The following information provides a brief glimpse at the broad range of programming and support that your membership provides through your Cook County Farm Bureau. Enjoy!

Agricultural Literacy/Ag in the Classroom - Multiple programs, in-person and videoconference presentations, and a host of farm-related experiences are provided to students, teachers, administrators, and parents on an annual basis about the importance of agriculture and farming every day.

Commodity/Marketing - A variety of programs and activities connect consumers with area farmers in vegetable production, greenhouses, livestock, corn/soybeans, honeybees, industrial hemp, community gardens, and much more.

Member Relations - Members are the lifeblood of the organization and we seek to deliver a full and comprehensive membership services, benefits, discounts, programs, and activities package.

Public Relations - Through in-person programs and social media, Chicagoland residents and area consumers who have a natural curiosity about farming, farming practices, and agricultural topics gain answers and insight.

Governmental Affairs - CCFB seeks to inform, engage, and influence elected officials and leaders locally, regionally, in the state, and federally when it comes to programs and legislation that can improve area agriculture.

Young Leaders Group - Younger members age 18-35 participate to enhance leadership skills and serve agriculture's needs in an enjoyable format.

Cook County Farm Bureau® Foundation - This 501(c)(3) non-for-profit was created to give members the opportunity to support, through their tax-deductible gifts, scholarships, Agriculture in the Classroom programming, Adult leadership training, internships, and more.

Cook County Farm Bureau® Political Action Committee - This Political Action Committee was created to provide members with the opportunity to help positively influence the political landscape of Cook County and support the election of individuals supportive of agriculture and fiscally and ethically responsible.

Master Gardner Resource Center - CCFB has partnered with the University of Illinois Extension to provide members access to local Master Gardeners during the growing season to interpret soil test results, answer questions, and provide expertise and assistance in the area of horticulture.

Transportation Compliance Issues

Farm Bureau members are reminded that...

- Every holder of a USDOT number must update their information every two years by filing form MCS-150. Information can be found at <https://bit.ly/2GpkUHG>. If the next-to-last digit of its USDOT Number is odd, the motor carrier should update its registration in odd-numbered calendar years. If the next-to-last digit of the USDOT Number is even, the motor carrier should update its registration in even-numbered calendar years. The last number of the USDOT number determines the month it is due in, 1=January, 2=February, 3=March, etc.
- Unified Carrier Registration for the 2021 year begins on October 1st and must be paid before January 1, 2021. This can be done at <https://www.ucr.gov/>.

For those traveling outside of Illinois, another area of compliance is International Fuel Tax Agreement. If you operate one or more qualified motor vehicles in at least one other IFTA-member jurisdiction, you can apply for an IFTA license and decals. If you qualify as an IFTA licensee but do not wish to participate in the IFTA program, you must obtain single trip permits to travel through member jurisdictions. More information can be found at <https://bit.ly/3IQAHZB>.

Lastly, anyone who registers a heavy highway motor vehicle in their name with a gross weight of 55,000 pounds or more must file Form 2290 and pay the tax. Trucks that are used for 5,000 miles or less (7,500 for farm trucks) are required to file a return but are excluded from paying the tax. For more information on how to file go to <https://bit.ly/2R2fG6F>. This form is due August 31. To expedite the process, you can e-file through a participating commercial software provider and a link to a list of those companies is provided on the above website.

As a reminder, the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration never send out reminders. Any reminder emails members receive are a solicitation from compliance companies for their services.

Meet a "face" of the Cook County Farm Bureau

Rich Schroeder, co-owner of Schroeder's Materials, Inc.



Schroeder's Materials, Inc
10800 Southwest Hwy Worth, IL
Phone: 708-448-1144
Hours: M-F 7a-4p | Sat 7a-2p, Closed Sunday
Website: <https://schroedermaterialinc.com/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Schroeder-Material-Inc-141775399221483>

- Family owned Schroeder's, reached 100 years in business in 2020.

- In 1920, 3 brothers started a home ice business in Chicago and kept a 160-acre farm in Worth, IL. Part of that very land is home to Schroeder Material Inc, now one of the largest landscape suppliers on Chicago's southwest side and continues to be run by the Schroeder family. Several of the original farm structures have been repurposed and are still used today.

- Rich grew up in the business and working since he was 8 years old. Their location was a 160-acre farm at one time- in the 1930's they had chickens, pigs, and dairy cows. They transitioned in the 1950's to the landscape business.

- In 2010 a garden center was added, spanning more than two acres.



WHAT DO YOU "SPECIALIZE" IN?

We cover a lot of different areas: landscape supplies, stone, pavers/hardscape, drainage, and home garden needs - we design and deliver. We added the Garden Center in early 2010...My father (Skip) sold a lot of garden items offering a wide and unique variety of trees and shrubs, bedding plants, flowers. We also carry a large selection of statuary, and fairy garden supplies. We have the expertise to help you with your fruits, vegetables, ornamentals, and non-food crops to maximize their health and growth.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD?

Oh boy! Wild pheasant - it is hard to find today.

HOW DO YOU WANT YOUR CUSTOMERS TO VIEW YOU?

We are a business that provides supplies, but we want customers to view us as a resource for landscape, drainage, garden needs. We design and fix areas with a specialty in drainage.

WHO DO YOU LOOK UP TO OR CONSIDER A MENTOR?

As a family business, my father Skip-he started the business with the help of his grandfather. He remained active in the business until he passed.

WHAT IS THE MOST UNUSUAL QUESTION OR REQUEST YOU HAVE RECEIVED?

I remember a guy wanted us to load up his 14-foot aluminum boat with bulk black soil, and so we did...crazy!

WHAT BRINGS JOY TO YOU?

I have an antique truck and tractor hobby. My favorite is a 1951 1-ton Willys Truck



Your South Holland Agency

 Jeff Orman Agency Manager 708-560-7777	 Andrew Carrell South Holland 708-596-5999	 Randall Cox Flossmoor 708-679-1870	 Elliot Day Flossmoor 708-679-1870	 Gary Molenhouse Manhattan 815-478-0190
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Helping you protect what matters most

0819-503HO

Important Dates for the Upcoming General Election

V
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- | | |
|--------------|--|
| September 24 | Early Voting begins, absentee ballots mailed |
| October 6 | Regular voter registration ends |
| October 7 | Grace period voter registration and voting begins |
| October 18 | Online voter registration ends |
| October 29 | Last day for absentee ballot application by mail |
| November 2 | Last day for absentee ballot applications, Early Voting ends |
| November 3 | Election Day ★ ★ ★ |

Ag Lit Bit

“What can you get for \$20?”



Diane Merrion, CCFB Director of Ag Literacy

There's not much you can get for \$20 a year nowadays. As our Ag in the Classroom has been creating new programs for virtual learning, we are finding that it is a challenge to create content without a subscription or membership to enhance things beyond the basics.

We suffered many defeats and celebrated some victories as we entered a new world of Google Meet (we learned we can't be a Google Classroom), ZOOM (free doesn't get you many bells and whistles to keep students engaged), Pear Deck (you are only free for so long), and the list goes on. Video editing tools come free or paid as we learned uploading and downloading from MOV, Mp3, and others to usable formats.

As a rather thrifty individual (miser may be the more accurate word) working with a very fiscally responsible not-for-profit, I don't want to spend unnecessarily but we do want the best resources possible for our teachers and

our members.

As the school bells chimed and all returned to some form of learning this fall, we were proud to have many offerings for teachers and families and hope you, our members, will take advantage of them and share them with others. The one word that is important to know is that our educational resources are free. It is you, our members, we want to thank for supporting our Ag in the Classroom and our Foundation resources with your membership.

You could use that \$20 to perhaps pay half of one month's cell phone bill, almost one tank of gas, 1-2 months of Netflix, about two months of Amazon Prime, or one year of associate membership in the Farm Bureau. We will use that \$20 to offer you, our members, a wide array of benefits including the resources to educate youth and adults on agriculture. Look at some of what we have to offer at our website under "Ag Literacy and Resources". Thank you and consider referring a friend to join our Farm Bureau. \$20 means a lot to us!

Diane can be reached at aitc@cookcfb.org.

WE WELCOME INQUIRIES TO HOST OUR 30-MINUTE VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

"Apple and Pumpkin Exploration"

Great for libraries, youth groups, clubs or classrooms.

Content will explore fun facts about apples and pumpkins and end with a short demo on how to make a no-bake pumpkin recipe at home.

INTERACTIVE, EDUCATIONAL, FREE AND FUN! EMAIL US AT AITC@COOKCFB.ORG TO LEARN MORE.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



KARINA BARRIOS

Ag Literacy Intern 2016

Education/Degree: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign/Bachelor's degree in Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

Current Role: Corporate Food Safety Specialist at Ferrara Company in Chicago. Job activity ranges from assessing new agricultural processing or food components (e.g. water quality, pH), ensuring compliance with FDA, and assisting in innovation of ingredients or products (e.g. sugar-free, gluten, all natural, etc.) and the overall harmonization of processing these raw materials into a finished food you buy at the grocery store

Why Agriculture: I love food! Whether it is cooking / trying new cuisines, or filling my grocery cart with the next big food trend/products, "someone, somewhere, or somehow" the process had to start for me to be able to enjoy all these different foods! This sparked my interest in farming and food manufacturing. This industry allows me to constantly learn and think about the world differently!

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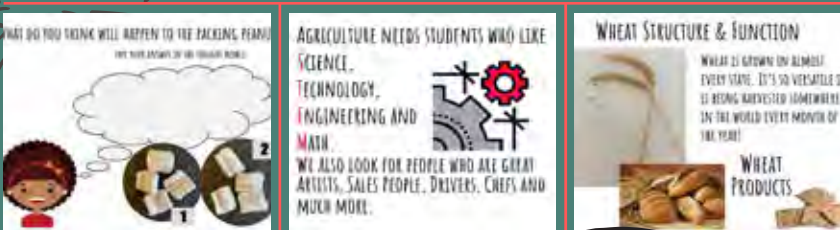
October Lessons and Activities Schedule



Release Date	Theme: Pumpkins
October 1st	Lesson for the Week of October 5th: What's inside my Pumpkin?
October 1st	Field Trip: Heap Pumpkin Patch
October 1st	Family Engagement Challenge: Pumpkin Scale
October 8th	Lesson for the Week of October 12th: Pumpkin Chain
October 8th	Author: Patty Toht, Pick a Pumpkin
October 13th	Family Cooking Challenge: Pumpkin Bread
October 15th	Lesson for the Week of October 19th: Pumpkin Globe and Pumpkin Ag Mag
October 22nd	Lesson for the Week of October 26th: Pumpkin Pie in a Bag

All activities and lessons will be released on the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Facebook page.

COOK COUNTY FARM BUREAU AG IN THE CLASSROOM VIRTUAL VISIT STUDENT RESPONSE HAS BEEN GREAT!



"I liked the videos- especially the drone!"
Francesca

"That was cool!"
Vincenzo

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT
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OR 708.354.3276

Agriculture Adventures for Families

Whether you like baking, decorating or eating a nutritious fruit, October is all about pumpkins! It's hard to pass a farm stand, produce aisle or front yard without seeing signs of pumpkins from now until Thanksgiving. Why does this agriculture commodity take center stage? Enjoy a glance through this month's adventure to learn some facts and see how important Illinois is to the whole pumpkin theme.



Illinois farmers grow more pumpkins than anywhere else in the world! In fact, they grow 90-95% of the pumpkins used for processing. Most of that processing takes place in Morton, Illinois – The Pumpkin Capital of the World.

Morton is home to Libby's Pumpkin and over 85% of the world's canned pumpkin is processed there.

How Do Pumpkins Grow?

Pumpkin Seed:
All pumpkins start out as seeds. With plenty of sunlight and water, the pumpkin seed grows into a pumpkin vine.



Pumpkin Blossom

Pumpkins grow on a vine. Through pollination, they start by growing inside a flower. Insects help pollinate pumpkin blossoms.



Mid Season Pumpkin:

After pollination, a tiny green pumpkin starts to grow at the base of the flower. Over time, this bud grows in size and changes in color from green to yellow, and finally to orange.



Mature Pumpkin:

Pumpkins are harvested when they are a deep, solid orange color and the rind is hard.



What are Pumpkins?

Pumpkins are members of the gourd family, which includes cucumbers, honeydew melons, cantaloupe, watermelons and zucchini. These plants are native to Central America and Mexico, but now grow on all continents except Antarctica. Pumpkins have been grown in North America for five thousand years. They are native to the western hemisphere. Pumpkins are grown primarily for processing with a small percentage grown for ornamental sales through u-pick farms, farmers' markets, and retail sales. Most pumpkins are processed into canned pumpkin and canned pie mix. Processing pumpkins have a comparable size and shape of a watermelon and a lighter colored shell. Pumpkins can range in size from less than one pound to more than 1,000 pounds. Miniature-sized pumpkins weigh less than one pound and typically are used for decorative purposes. Pie pumpkins come in many sizes. The five to ten pound pie pumpkin varieties are most often grown. Pumpkins in the 10 to 25 pound range are primarily used for jack-o-lanterns and can also be used for processing. Pumpkins above 25 pounds are called giant. Giant pumpkins typically range between 25 to 75 pounds.

70% Of pumpkin-related sales occur in September, October, and November.

Pumpkin pie filling is the best-selling pumpkin product on the market. Pumpkin spice lattes come in second, but can you guess what comes in at a close third? Pumpkin-flavored dog food!!



Source: Illinois Ag in the Classroom

Did You Know?

The largest pumpkin pie ever was baked on September 25, 2010, and weighed in at 3,699 pounds! It was 20 feet in diameter. The pie was made with 1,212 pounds of canned pumpkin, 233 dozen eggs, 109 gallons of evaporated milk, 525 pounds of sugar, 7 pounds of salt, 14.5 pounds of cinnamon and 3 pounds of pumpkin pie spice.



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: FBcooperator@gmail.com

Complete and submit an entry every month all in 2020 and your name is automatically entered into an "End of Year" drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies.

Good luck!

October Word Search

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

Blossom

Canned

Flower

Giant

Gourd

Grow

Harvest

Morton

Orange

Pie

Pollinate

Pounds

Pumpkin

Seeds

Varieties

Vine

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 Tickets

(If a choice is not made, movie tickets will be sent)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

Last Month's Word Search Winner Is...

Paula Duff



Porktober: Time To Salute Pork



My husband had never acted so delighted about supper.

He sat on the porch in anticipation of my first attempt at barbecued baby back ribs on our new smoker. He inhaled the smoky aroma from his porch seat, sipped a choice beverage, and voiced approval during the final un-foiling of the fare. The pile of rib bones after the meal told the finger-licking tale: I had found his new favorite meal.

Our family has always enjoyed pork but established a deeper-seated love for "The Other White Meat" since the gift of a pellet smoker. Now, a variety of smoked cuisine ranks among our traditional pork entrees. Oven-baked pork tenderloin repurposes well as pork stir fry. The kids clean their plates of pork chops, grilled to a safe and moist internal temperature of 145 degrees Fahrenheit.

Pork represents the world's most widely eaten meat, and Illinois ranks No. 4 in the United States for its production. While the industry collectively gives a nod to hog farmers for National Pork Month in October, our household salutes them year-round with fresh bacon in the fridge and extra packages in the freezer. Most

Sundays, I brown our favorite pork sausage for homemade pizzas or the occasional sausage gravy over biscuits for a special breakfast.

While we dine on pork products on Sunday morning, hog farmers tend to chores, a daily cycle uninterrupted by weekends and holidays. More than 2,000 Illinois farms raise pigs, a number that included our family farm years ago. Today, our state's hog farmers raise more with less, often in climate-controlled, bio-secure barns, a preferred environment for an animal that does not sweat, contrary to the popular expression.

Our state's hog farmers deserve extra praise and support this year, having faced unimaginable stresses and decisions due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Nationwide actions to control the pandemic disrupted the food supply chain and forced emergency pig depopulation, devastating to the mental and financial health of family hog farms nationwide.

Easter dinner wouldn't be the same without making Grandma's ham recipe. Ham sandwiches help us through the harvest season. Our daughter misses those fairground pork burgers as much as exhibiting at the county and state fairs, both canceled due to COVID.

With a cleared social calendar, we smoked ribs again on a pre-harvest Sunday afternoon. The activity fills six hours, offering a pandemic-friendly way to praise pork from the front porch.

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



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*Second best of 16 ratings. Best's Rating Report, February, 2017. For the latest rating, access www.ambest.com. 0518-586HO

Illinois Pork Facts:

- Illinois is the 4th biggest state for pork production, behind Iowa, North Carolina, and Minnesota. In 2017, Illinois produced 2.1 billion pounds of pork.
- Pike County is the largest pork-producing county in Illinois, with nearly 300,000 pigs.
- There are more than 2,100 pig farms in Illinois.
- The pork industry contributes \$13.8 million to the Illinois economy.
- The pork industry supports more than 57,000 jobs in Illinois. This includes farmers who take care of the pigs, feed and equipment suppliers, transportation, and processing.

Courtesy of the Illinois Pork Producers Association

CFAP 2 Details Announced

In September, the Trump administration announced details of the new \$14-billion-dollar Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, or CFAP2, that will provide direct payments to farmers and ranchers to partially offset COVID-19-related losses for producers. This follows an estimated \$10 billion in support provided to cattle, hog, dairy, non-specialty crop, specialty crop and other producers to offset COVID-19 related losses experienced through mid-April 2020. Sign-up for CFAP2 runs Sept. 21 through Dec. 11 through USDA's Farm Service Agency county offices.

Members are encouraged to visit farmers.gov/cfap for additional information and application forms.

Of the \$14 billion dollars in CFAP2 support, USDA's cost-benefit analysis estimates corn producers will receive \$3.5 billion, or 25% of

the total CFAP2 resources. Following corn, beef cattle producers are expected to receive \$2.8 billion, or 20% of CFAP2 funding. Dairy farmers are expected to receive \$2 billion, or 14% of the available support. Hog producers are estimated to receive \$1.7 billion or 12% of CFAP2. Soybean producers are estimated to receive \$1.4 billion, or 10% of the funds. Wheat, flat-rate crops, eggs and other commodities are expected to receive \$2.5 billion, or 18% of the CFAP2 support.

Sales Commodities

Sales commodities include specialty crops, aquaculture, nursery crops and floriculture, and other commodities not included in the price trigger and flat-rate categories, such as goat milk, mohair, wool, and specialty livestock not included under the price trigger category that were grown for food, fiber, fur or feathers.

Specialty livestock eligible for CFAP2 consists of animals commercially raised for food, fur, fiber or feathers and includes: alpacas, bison, buffalo, beefalo, deer, ducks, elk, emus, geese, goats, guinea pigs, llamas, mink (including pelts), mohair, ostrich, pheasants, quail, rabbits, reindeer and turkey. Specialty livestock excludes all equine, breeding stock, companion or comfort animals, pets and animals raised for hunting or game purposes.

Payment calculations will use a sales-based approach, where producers are paid based on five different payment percentages associated with their 2019 sales. Payments for aquaculture eligible for CFAP2 will be based on the producer's 2019 sales of eligible commodities and will be equal to the amount of the producer's eligible sales in calendar year 2019, multiplied by the payment rate for that range.

Summary

The second round of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program helps producers offset COVID-19-related price declines for livestock, dairy, and specialty and non-specialty crops. Sign-up for the \$14 billion in direct support to farmers runs from Sept. 21 through Dec. 11. Producers interested in signing up can do so at USDA's FSA county offices. Additional details about requirements for program participation can be found on USDA's CFAP website, www.farmers.gov/cfap. This program is an important down payment in helping farmers and ranchers deal with the unprecedented and unexpected economic fallout related to COVID-19 and is a step in the right direction to helping to make farmers and ranchers whole again.

Manifolds, Manolos, and Manure



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

Since 2010, Cook County Farm Bureau® has operated a Political Action Committee (PAC) designed to support candidates who are supportive of the policies, priorities, and mission of the Farm Bureau while promoting

the economic and social well-being of farmers and farm-related interests in Cook County.

Since its inception, Cook CFB PAC has made 54 endorsements. Not all incumbents. Not all challengers. Not all major party candidates. But candidates who Governance Committee members felt would make the largest impact in their district and the county.

Members of the Cook CFB PAC Governance Committee are charged with making endorsements. When considering a candidate, members consider the results of the candidates' interviews, questionnaires, support of Farm Bureau policies, and when applicable, voting record.

Of the candidates running for Cook County office, Governance Committee members interviewed candidates for Cook County Clerk, State's Attorney, Board of Review, and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District.

Four years ago, the PAC passed on endorsing Foxx due to her lack of prosecutorial

experience and the fact that she served as Preckwinkle's Chief of Staff during the county's largest sales tax increase. Cook County Farm Bureau strongly opposed and actively worked against the sales tax increase. This fall, Foxx is again surrounded by controversy to the tune of dismissing over 25,000 felony cases brought forward by her office. Felony crimes in Illinois include retail theft, possession of a controlled substance, domestic battery, burglary, robbery, and unlawful use of a weapon among others. Among her assorted blemishes is the Jussie Smollett case and the litany of mistakes and abuses of discretion made by Foxx. The backlash from this case will be felt for some time especially now that the Cook County Democratic Party has opted not to recommend Judge Michael Toomin for retention. Toomin was assigned to hear the Smollett case and had the audacity to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate the handling of the Smollett case as the Party was circling the proverbial wagons around Foxx. On the Republican ticket is Patrick 'Pat' O'Brien a skilled litigator, mentor, and leader. What the Cook County State's Attorney's office needs most right now is a leader. For Cook CFB PAC it's **Pat O'Brien**.

Since 2012, Cook CFB PAC has stood with incumbent Board of Review Commissioner Dan Patlak. Along with fellow commissioners, Patlak expedited the electronic appeals process. He and his staff maintain a portal for taxpayers to

learn more about the Board, the appeal process, and the Board of Review. He's committed to an open, accessible, and user-friendly property tax appeals process. Also running is Tammy Wendt a political neophyte slated by the Cook County Democratic Party. Her snugness with the machine was on display during her interview as she praised former Party Chair Joe Berrios stating that he was "more qualified" to assess properties than now Assessor Joe 'Fritz' Kaegi. Berrios is under investigation by a federal grand jury. Berrios lost in 2018 despite having the Party's backing. For Cook CFB PAC it's **Dan Patlak**.

Iris Martinez has served in the Illinois State Senate since 2003. She's championed legislation for working families and has made a habit of breaking barriers. In March, she finished first in a crowded primary beating out Democratic Party-endorsed candidate Michael Cabonargi and lawyers Richard Boykin and Jacob Meister. Historically, Party-endorsed candidates would either scare off other viable candidates and/or easily carry them to victory. In 2003, Martinez ushered in a new era in the Statehouse as the first Latina elected to the Senate. This fall she'll usher in much needed change, cleaning, and modernization for the Cook County Circuit Court. For Cook CFB PAC it's **Iris Martinez**.

The race for Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) is often forgotten by voters; however, this lesser known governmental body

is the second largest property owner in Cook County. The primary race was peppered with newcomers who we hope will run for office in the future. For Cook CFB PAC it's Cameron 'Cam' Davis, Kimberly Dubuclet, and Eira Corral Sepulveda. Davis was a standout candidate two years ago and remains committed to working with partners, including Farm Bureau to improve the environment. He was the lead sponsor of Cook County Farm Bureau's centennial resolution earlier this year and is working to expand MWRD's 'Space to Grow' program, which helps fund green solutions for schools. Projects can be as simple as installing permeable surfaces underneath playground equipment or food oriented. He's also working diligently to start a 'Community Conservation Corp' to expand local food production on District property. Two years ago, Cook CFB PAC endorsed Dubuclet citing her legislative experience as a former State Representative. This fall we stand with her again. Dubuclet is committed to promoting MWRD operations and to expanding agricultural opportunities on conducive District property.

Members are reminded to vote on November 3.

Bona can be reached at Bona@cookcfb.org



COOK COUNTY FARM BUREAU POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE ENDORSES

Patrick 'Pat' O'Brien State's Attorney

Iris Martinez Clerk of the Circuit Court

Dan Patlak, Cook County Board of Review District 1

Cameron 'Cam' Davis, MWRD

Kimberly Neely Dubuclet, MWRD

Eira Corral Sepulveda, MWRD

Paid for by the Cook County Farm Bureau® Political Action Committee. A copy of our report is (or will be) available at the Illinois State Board of Elections.



Members Encouraged to Vote NO on the Progressive Income Tax Amendment

The upcoming ballot will ask whether you support changing Illinois' income tax structure. Vote NO on this question. The amendment would end the state's flat rate income tax, but it will not solve our state's fiscal problems.

If enacted, the constitutional amendment would no longer require Illinois to have a flat tax – currently set at 4.95% for all Illinoisans – and instead it would allow the state to enact a progressive tax. These rates would initially vary between 4.75% and 7.99% based on a household's income level.

Revenue from this proposed progressive tax structure is unlikely to meet the state's projected deficits and debt obligations that are coming in the next few years. And until our state's politicians get their fiscal house in order, costs will continue to grow, and all our taxes will continue to increase.

The progressive tax would shift the taxing burden on the highest earners in the state, but raising taxes on the highest earners will not fix our state's financial problems and, in the long run, may only lead to higher taxes for all of us. It is a farce to think the top 3% of Illinoisans will cover this additional, multi-billion dollar increase in costs. If asked to do so, these top earners will simply shift assets out of state or will leave Illinois altogether. And, when our state reaches that point, who else is there to be taxed? The other 97% of us. We will be left to cover the holding the bill and lawmakers forced to pick up

the tab like we always do.

Additionally, we know most of the revenue from the progressive tax will be spent in two places: our state's exorbitantly high pension costs and debt obligations. And not spent, as proponents claim, on our public schools, social services, and public safety. Lawmakers have been digging themselves into pension and debt holes for decades and now they expect us, the taxpayers, to pull them out. But we taxpayers did not create these problems, lawmakers' poor policy decisions did. Taxes should not be raised on the folks that had nothing to do with the policy decisions that got us here.

Adding to the already dismal financial situation, is our state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The sudden, months-long halt of our state's economy means less tax revenue for the state as businesses are not open, workers are laid off, and consumers stay home. Ironically, proponents will claim these lower tax revenues will be used as further justification to support the progressive tax. Don't be fooled! This unexpected pandemic should NOT be used to advocate for a change in our constitution.

Now is not the time to enact a progressive tax in Illinois. The progressive tax will not solve our state's financial troubles and will, in the long run, lead to higher taxes for all of us. Let's tell our state lawmakers to get the state's finances in order before they come after ours by voting NO on the Constitutional Amendment in November.

ANN GILLESPIE



Cook and Effingham County Farm Bureaus traveled to Senator Ann Gillespie's northwestern Cook County district for a district visit and tour of Rolling Meadows High School's vocational and agricultural programs. Senator Gillespie is "adopted" by Effingham County Farm Bureau through the Illinois Farm Bureau® adopt-a-legislator program.

TOM MORRISON



State Representative Tom Morrison (pictured left) received the 2020 Friend of Agriculture award from Cook County Farm Bureau® in recognition of his outstanding voting record on issues of importance to Farm Bureau members and small business leaders. Representative Morrison is pictured with board members Jim Bloomstrand and Jim Gutzmer.

JOHN CURRAN



In recognition of his outstanding voting record on issues of importance to Farm Bureau members and small business leaders, Senator John Curran (pictured left) received the 2020 Friend of Agriculture award from Cook County Farm Bureau®. Senator Curran is pictured with Cook County Farm Bureau Manager Bob Rohrer.

Enjoy Fall Savings

THERE'S REALLY SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

With membership so affordable, it's hard to believe there's something for everyone. Take a closer look at the 14 categories. **Over 302,000 discounts** available to you. Search our platform to find savings that fit your needs

- Attractions & Tours
- Automotive
- Cellular Phones
- Concerts & Events
- Electronics
- Everyday Living
- Fashion & Beauty
- Gifts & Flowers
- Health & Wellness
- IL Farm Bureau Exclusives
- Movie Tickets
- Restaurants
- Travel
- Unique Experiences

Internet Browser

- #1: Go to your internet browser and type in: <https://ifb.abenity.com>
- #2: The home page looks like this:
- #3: You will be asked to:
 - A) **Sign In** (Type in your username and your membership number which can be found on your card.)
 - B) **Register** (new users-you will need to fill out the fields to register your new username and password. You will need your membership number which can be found on your card.)
- #4: Once you are in, you will see the "Getting Started" page. Select the "Start Saving" option.
- #5: The home page shows you savings offers. To view all 14 categories, select the three black bars in the upper left corner.

Android

- #1: Go to the Google Play Store. Search for: "Abenity". The App looks like this: Select: Install
- #2: Once the app is installed, select "Open"
- #3: You will be asked to:
 - A) **Sign In** (you will be asked to sign in if you have an abenity login) Type in your user name and your membership number which can be found on your card.
 - B) **Register** (new users - you will need to go to the web site to register. See **Internet Browser** to the right. You will need your membership number which can be found on your card.)
- #4: Once you are in, you will see the "Getting Started" page. Select the "Start Saving" option.
- #5: The home page shows you savings offers. To view all 14 categories, select the three black bars in the upper left corner.

iPhone

- #1: Go to the App Store. Search for: "Illinois Farm Bureau Member Benefits". The App looks like this: Select: Install
- #2: Once the app is installed, select "Open"
- #3: You will be asked to:
 - A) **Sign In** (you will be asked to sign in if you have an abenity login) Type in your username and your membership number which can be found on your card.
 - B) **Register** (new users-you will need to fill out the fields to register your new username and password. You will need your membership number which can be found on your card.)
- #4: Once you are in, you will see the "Getting Started" page. Select the "Start Saving" option.
- #5: The home page shows you savings offers. To view all 14 categories, select the three black bars in the upper left corner.



Fall flowers and vegetables abound in Cook County, share what you have growing in your garden at <https://www.facebook.com/Cook.County.Farm.Bureau.IL>

Cook County 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. 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.



***Mirsad Kljucanin**

Chicago North Agency, Victoria Nygren, Agency Manager

Mirsad Kljucanin has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for August 2020. His office is located at 4725 N. Western Ave., Ste. 280 in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-728-3041. Mirsad has been a Financial Representative since February 2010.



***Sylwia Grochowska**

Chicago North Agency, Victoria Nygren, Agency Manager

Sylwia Grochowska has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for August 2020. Her office is located at 3339 N. Harlem Ave., in Chicago, IL. Her phone number is 773-628-2502. Sylwia has been a Financial Representative since February 2016.



***Ray Massie**

Chicago Northeast Agency, Sharon Stemke, Agency Manager

Ray Massie has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for August 2020. His office is located at 4200 W. Euclid Ave., Ste. C in Rolling Meadows, IL. His phone number is 847-991-0765. Ray has been a Career Financial Representative since February 1999.



***Ibrahim Essa**

Chicago Northeast Agency, Sharon Stemke, Agency Manager

Ibrahim Essa has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for August 2020. His office is located at 25 NW. Point Blvd., Ste.850 in Elk Grove Village, IL. His phone number is 847-963-8851. Ibrahim has been a Financial Representative since January 2017.



Brett Riekema

Chicago Northwest Agency, Jack Smith, Agency Manager

Brett Riekema has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for August 2020. His office is located at 23042 N. Main St., Prairie View IL. His phone number is 847-415-2666. Brett has been a Financial Representative since May 2011.



***Faustino Ramirez**

Chicago Northwest Agency, Jack Smith, Agency Manager

Faustino Ramirez has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for August 2020. His office is located at 1515 E. Woodfield Rd. Ste. 930 in Schaumburg, IL. His phone number is 847-891-3937. Faustino has been a Financial Representative since October 2017.



***Alonzo Nevarez**

Chicago South Agency, Jeff Maxson, Agency Manager

Alonzo Nevarez has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for August 2020. His office is located at 6239 S. Archer Ave., in Chicago IL. His phone number is 773-284-5539. Alonzo has been a Financial Representative since September 2018.



Ed Beavers

Chicago South Agency, Jeff Maxson, Agency Manager

Ed Beavers has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for August 2020. His office is located at 1401 S. State St., Suite 150, Chicago, IL. His phone number is 312-588-1404. Ed has been a Financial Representative since April 2015.



***Nora Beverly**

Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager

Nora Beverly has been named Career Financial Representative of the Month for August 2020. Her office is located at 1938 E. Lincoln Hwy. Unit 217 in New Lenox, IL. Her phone number is 708-429-7789. Nora has been a Financial Representative since August 2011.



Kurt Hussein

Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager

Kurt Hussein has been named Employee Financial Representative of the Month for August 2020. His office is located at 12130 S. Harlem Ave. Unit A in Palos Heights, IL. His phone is 708-480-5099. Kurt has been a Financial Representative since December 2017.



***Tim Perchinski**

South Holland Agency, Jeff Orman, Agency Manager

Tim Perchinski has been named Career Financial Representative of the Month for August 2020. His office is located at 29 E. 34th St., in Stegar, IL. His phone number is 708-754-7300. Tim has been a Financial Representative since December 2002.



John Tymmm

South Holland Agency, Jeff Orman, Agency Manager

John Tymmm has been named Employee Financial Representative of the Month for August 2020. His office is located at 10607 S. Harlem Ave., Unit 1A in Worth, IL. His phone number is 708-480-5091. John has been a Financial Representative since June 2019.

*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.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

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 Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
ROBERT A. ROHRER, 6438 JOLIET RD, COUNTRYSIDE, IL 60525-4624
 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
ROBERT A. ROHRER, 6438 JOLIET RD, COUNTRYSIDE, IL 60525-4624

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box None

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4) (see instructions page 4) PSN: 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

13. Publication Title: **CO-OPERATOR**

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: **SEPTEMBER 2020**

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		37381	35950
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	8938	8678
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	28249	27200
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®		
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)		
c. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		37187	35878
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)		
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	195	72
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		195	72
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		37381	35950
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		0	0
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		37381	35950
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		99.5	99.8

* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 2 of 4)

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

16. Electronic Copy Circulation

		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Paid Electronic Copies			
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a))			
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15e) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)			
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 15c x 100)			

I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the **OCTOBER 2020** issue of this publication. Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
 Signature: *Robert A. Rohrer* Date: **9-9-2020**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 3 of 4) PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

Fall Planter Event at M&D Farms

Our Farm Bureau Make a Fall Planter event at M&D Farms & Garden Center on September 17 offered members and guests a safe, outdoor, and socially distanced space to learn and make a beautiful fall planter. Some members opted

for the take and make via Zoom link at their own homes, led by CCFB members, Mark and Donna, owners of M&D Farms & Garden Center. Bring on fall, y'all!



Lori G



Mark Walsh helping Alexis C



Pearl Z with daughter Heidi Y



Darla H

Mental Health For Those In Need

Find a Mental Health Provider

Websites

- www.mhanational.org/finding-help
- <https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/>
- www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/
- www.thetrevorproject.org/

Phone/Text Lines

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- Crisis Text Line: Text TALK to 741-741
- Farm Aid Farmer Hotline: 1-800-FARM-AID (1-800-327-6243)
- Avera Farm and Rural Stress Hotline: 1-800-691-4336
- Illinois Warm Line: 1-866-359-7953 (call) or 1-866-880-4459 (text)



It's okay to ask for help

Congratulations to the following Virtual Farm Crawl Passport entry winners:

- **KAT MORAN, BROOKFIELD**
- **ZOE MCMANMON, BERWYN**
- **GALINA & ALLEN KRUEGER, TINLEY PARK**
- **BARBARA CLARK, CHICAGO**



Classifieds

All ads that we receive for the *Co-Operator* are also listed on our website at 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. 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 *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

Highland cargo carrier for hitch 60x20 wide for 500# capacity new. \$80 obo. Call Susan 708-278-4168.

2 crypts, Mount Auburn Cemetery Garden Mausoleum phase 2 avenue side, level 4, side by side w/ companion granite cover \$12,000 for both. Call John at 630-738-2266 if no answer leave a message.

High quality leather sleep sofa, queen size, Hancock & Moore brand, color-emerald green, excellent condition, new over \$4000, now \$450 - cash only. Call Dee 630-664-2230.

10 glass flower vases \$1 each, 10 clock timers \$2 each, brass 3pc set for fireplace \$2, 5 beer steins \$2 each, 12 antique old whiskey bottles \$1 each. A set 6 Bradford bone china flower design plates \$5 each. Call Allen 708-614-8148.

2 wooden dressers. Good condition FREE. You must arrange pick up. Call Eleanor 708-990-6622.

Acorn stair lift used \$1000. Stealth products simplicity Edge 2.0 electric wheelchair new \$2000. Hearing aid from hearing lab can be programmed used \$200. Call John 708-579-9340.

Cemetery plot at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Stickney, IL \$3200 (New it would cost \$3900). Call Karen 847-463-6184.

Commercial building 2300 sq. ft. with full basement. Fantastic opportunity, excellent location a mile from the expressway. 1 1/2 block away from Arlington Park train station. For more information call Rita at 847-259-9339.

Vacant Waterfront lot 8712 sq. ft. in Marco Island Florida, facing Gulf of Mexico. Call Rita at 847-259-9339.

Vacation Villas at Fantasy World II Resort in Kissimmee, Florida. Seven (7) nights in one-bedroom suite, full kitchen, outdoor swimming pool, sleeps four (4), \$650 for seven (7) nights. No presentation is required. Call Ms. Day at 708-347-9369 for availability.

Six-foot steel work bench with shelf and drawer. 30" wide \$25. Call Randy 708-535-1279.

Wanted

One thing to buy your electric trains and slot cars turn those unwanted trains and slot cars into cash. Call Ron at 630-272-4433.

2"-20" Farm field rocks call Duane at 847-678-8585 ext.1.

Vintage toy slot cars, dealer toy promo cars, early Hot Wheels cars, and Atari, Sega etc. game systems. Call 708-361-8230.

1972 older cars, truck parts/ unfinished projects. Call Attilio 708-439-9770.

Editing Service- Manuscript preparations, editing prepress, publishing & distribution, marketing & promotional materials. To discuss call James at 847-776-8528 or email at publish@realityisbooks.com.

For commercial promo & discounts go to our member to member link: <https://cookcfb.org/membership/member-to-member>

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 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
 Non-member ad rate: \$.75 per word; \$15.00 minimum.

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



Video Conference - Workshop on Preparing Wills and Trust and Transferring Non-Titled Property

The program will inform you what types of information you will need to gather and decisions you will need to make before meeting with a lawyer to prepare a will or trust.
Date: Tuesday, October 13
Time: 6:30-9:00pm
Location: Zoom (the zoom link will be emailed to all participants the evening before the class)
Price: Free for members | \$10 non-members
Registration: Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276.



Shred Day

Bring any old documents (up to 3 bankers boxes) that you would like have shredded.
Date: Saturday, October 17
Time: 10am-12pm
Location: 4845 167th St. #101, Oak Forest, IL
Price: No charge
Registration: Please call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276 to make a reservation.



Succulent 100-Year Celebration Workshops at Ted's Greenhouse or via Zoom

Join us for our rescheduled 100-year celebration workshops and make a commemorative 100-year succulent planter while learning about succulent plant selection and care. Create your planter in-person or at home using curbside pickup and participate via Zoom from your home...you choose how to participate! Class size is limited.
Date: Saturday, November 7
Time: 9 AM OR 10:30am sessions available
Location: Ted's Greenhouse, 16930 S. 84th Ave. Tinley Park, or via Zoom with prior curbside pickup
Price: \$10 members & guests | \$20 non-member; Fee covers 6-inch planter and succulents
Registration: Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276 or online at the Member Center at www.cookcfb.org



Video Conference - Farm and Small Business Legacy Seminar

Seminar will provide basic information and questions that are essential to legacy planning, in order to allow you to keep your farm or small business in the family and considerations for passing your legacy on to the next generation.
Date: Thursday, November 12
Time: 6:30pm
Location: Zoom (the link will be emailed to all participants the day before the seminar)
Price: No Charge
Registration: Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276.



Land Lease & Trends Webinar

Gary Schnitkey will present information on farmland rental, price markets, and forecasts of farmland returns to Illinois farmland will be presented. Opportunity for Q & A for landowners and growers.
Date: Saturday, November 17
Time: 6 PM
Location: Webinar via Zoom
Price: Free member | \$10 non-member
Registration: Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276 or online at the Member Center at www.cookcfb.org



Planning for Organic Certification Webinar

Farmers and growers, are you thinking of going organic? Learn what is involved to go organic and the resources available.
Date: Saturday, November 14
Time: 9 AM
Location: Webinar via Zoom
Price: \$10 member | \$20 non-member
Registration: Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276 or online at the Member Center at www.cookcfb.org

FALL/WINTER COAT DRIVE



During the unprecedented time, families are suffering financially. The Cook County Farm Bureau Young Leaders group is in the process of developing a charitable effort to collect coats for the needy just in time for winter.

Drop off locations:

Cook County Farm Bureau - M-F 8am-4:30pm
6438 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL
Ted's Greenhouse - Regular business hours
16930 S. 84th Avenue, Tinley Park, IL
Historic Wagner Farm - Daily 9 am-5pm, Heritage Center front desk
1510 Wagner Rd., Glenview, IL

ODYSSEY FUN FARM PUMPKIN PATCH & CORN MAZE IN TINLEY PARK IS OPEN SEPTEMBER 26TH - OCTOBER 31ST!

\$5 OFF FOR CCFB MEMBERS AT THE FUN FARM

To purchase tickets, go to <http://2fun.ticketleap.com/farm20/>

USE CODE CCFB

INDOOR EAT/PLAY/FUN!

WRISTBAND AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS BOGO! (BUY ONE GET ONE FREE)

Indoor 3 hour eat/play tickets available at http://odysseyfw.pfestore.com/areas/Indoor_EatPlayFUN/Default.aspx

USE CODE CCFB