



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

JANUARY

- 11, 18, & 25 Beginning Beekeeping 11
- 25 Carbon Markets: A Policy Primer Webinar 12

FEBRUARY

- 1 & 8 Beginning Beekeeping 11
- 22 Zoom Book Club 11

MARCH

- 8 & 22 Zoom Book Club 11

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.

Question of the Month

The Cook County Farm Bureau was presented what award for group 5 large counties which goes to the County Farm Bureau with the most outstanding overall programming from goals to accomplishments?

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

December Winner is Rose Avery

Q. The CCFB Board of Directors elected its leadership team for the upcoming year. Who was elected to the Executive Committee as the new Vice-President of the Board?

Answer: "A. Gerald Kopping"



Check out page 8 & 9 for highlights of the CCFB participation at Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Two New FFA Chapters Established in Cook County



Rich Township High School, Olympia Fields, and Park Forest- Chicago Heights School District 163, Chicago Heights, recently received their charter to establish an FFA chapter at a reception to celebrate the occasion. Illinois FFA State President, Adam Loker, spoke to the students and guests about opportunities the

students will have through membership in the nations largest school-based youth leadership organization. These FFA members will join 32,656 other students studying careers in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources- the largest industry in Illinois. Pictured, Left to Right; Agriculture Teacher Piaget Felix; FFA officers Shelvea Burton

and Miguel Dixon; Adam Loker, IL FFA President; Kara Freebairn, IL FFA Treasurer; Chicago Area FFA Officers- Emily Lesko, President; Jersey Merrick, VP; Grace Murphy, Treasurer. Tim Stuenkel, CCFB Board Member and Chair of the Ag Literacy Team, sits on the Agriculture Advisory Committee for Rich Township.

Cook County Farm Bureau Remains Engaged in the Community in 2021

Throughout 2021, Cook County Farm Bureau® has remained engaged and committed to partnering with and supporting local farmers, students, and non-profits.

Support for urban farmers

To support urban gardens and farms, Cook County Farm Bureau developed the Urban Garden Grant program. In 2021, leaders opted to increase the value of grants and awarded six local grants at \$350 each for a total of \$2,100 to support the purchase of plantings, seeds, and garden materials.

Farm Bureau will continue its support of urban farmers in 2022; grant applications are available at <https://bit.ly/3rzXXY2>.

Support for service members

Farm Bureau's Young Leader Committee has historically provided support for local non-profits including donations of food, clothing, and toys. In 2021 Young Leaders hosted a care packing event for the United Service Organization (USO). Along with volunteers,

they collected and then packed non-perishable foods, snacks, drink mixes, toiletries, and related items to mail to troops.

Food pantry support

Throughout the year, visits to local food pantries increased on average by more than 50% and at times up to 150% during the height of the pandemic. Cook County Farm Bureau volunteers, members, and partners rallied to provide direct assistance to over 7,400 individuals in the county: Through in-person efforts to purchase and deliver food and member donations to partner food pantries; online engagement to raise awareness of area food pantries, their needs, and service areas; and a grant program for local food pantries to expand their food offerings or facilities in light of unprecedented need.

Farm Bureau is continuing efforts to support families in need in 2022. In celebration of the healthy and nutritious food grown and raised by local farmers, Cook County Farm Bureau® members and partners are supporting local families and food pantries.

The year 2022 marks the 22nd anniversary of Food Checkout Day and Cook County Farm Bureau's largest effort to date to support local families in need. Rather than support a single charity or even a handful, Cook CFB will match member donations to any Cook County food pantry.

Farm Bureau members who wish to donate to a local food pantry in celebration of Food Checkout Day are asked to complete the form found in the newsletter and to designate the food pantry that their donation and Cook CFB's match is for. The food pantry selected must be a registered 501(c)3. A total of \$1,000 has been allocated for this program. All donations will be considered part of Food Checkout Day.

Agricultural scholarships

In 2021, the Cook County Farm Bureau® Foundation awarded \$16,000 to seven students pursuing an agriculture-related degree. The scholarship program is designed to provide college students pursuing a degree in

Continued on Page 2

Who We Are...

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

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

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

Continued from Page 1

Cook County Farm Bureau Remains Engaged in the Community in 2021

agriculture, agribusiness, or agriculture-related course of study. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of scholastic ability and financial need.

The Foundation is accepting scholarship applications until February 15. Additional information as well as a link to the application is available at <https://cookcfb.org/foundation/college-scholarships>.

Agricultural literacy

Cook County Farm Bureau remains committed to educating youth about agriculture. During the 2019-2020 school year, Agricultural Literacy presenters connected with nearly 18,500 Cook County youth in over 770 classrooms.

Teachers can request a free in-person or virtual presentation by visiting <https://bit.ly/3ppna4E>. Additional educational resources for teachers and families are available on the Farm Bureau's website, cookcfb.org.

Support of local non-profits

As a non-profit itself, Cook County Farm Bureau is acutely aware of the power of non-profit associations and the tremendous outcomes that can occur when non-profit entities work together for a common outcome. To that end, Farm Bureau financially supported Wagner Farm in Glenview, Lake County Fair Animal Auction, Greater Chicagoland Food Depository, and Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana.

Similarly, Farm Bureau has financially supported like-minded groups including the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation, Illinois Specialty Growers, Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association, Chicago Farmers organization, and the Animal Agriculture Alliance.

Cook County Farm Bureau Volunteers Recognized for Exceptional Involvement



Dan Biernacki, Janet McCabe, Karen Biernacki, and Gerry Kopping were all re-inducted into the Cook County Farm Bureau Master Member Club for 2021. Dan Biernacki, Gerry Kopping, and Karen Biernacki have been in the Club for five years. Janet McCabe has been in the Club for four years. McCabe achieved top point status by retaining four voting members.

Membership into the Club is accomplished by earning points by recruiting and reinstating voting and associate members during the year. Each received a gift card, and their names will be added to a wall display in the Cook County Farm Bureau boardroom.



Kim Morton (L) was presented the Co-Volunteer of the Year award by Pres. Janet

McCabe on behalf of the Cook County Farm Bureau Board of Directors. Morton was very involved with the Governmental Affairs Team efforts to communicate to legislators and policymakers. She also volunteered as a part of the 2021 Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation drawdown fundraiser and is involved in the 2022 planning committee for the next Foundation Gala fundraiser. She serves as secretary-treasurer of the Cook County Farm Bureau PAC.

The nominator stated, "Kim is always a strong voice for agriculture and always supports Cook County Farm Bureau. Kim gives of her time and talents freely." Cook County Farm Bureau truly appreciates Kim Morton's involvement and significant contributions to the organization!

Heidi Yunker was presented the Co-Volunteer of the Year award by Cook County Farm Bureau Board of Directors. Heidi has been a mainstay volunteer with the Member Relations Team,



providing creative programming suggestions and coordinating programs, both in person and through videoconference. She is involved in the 2022 planning committee for the next Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation Gala fundraiser.

The nominator stated, "Heidi always shows a great love to support and highlight Cook County Farm Bureau. She provides great ideas of ways to help promote member benefits as well as recommends new benefits to keep members engaged and happy with their membership." Cook County Farm Bureau truly appreciates Heidi Yunker's involvement and significant contributions to the organization!



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 Members and Young Leaders that supported the service project to provide the supplies for care packages for our area troops and for the young leader planning committee made up of Tom Poole, Jennifer Miller and Blake Lanphier for working so hard to put the project together. We really enjoyed when Donna and Sam from Ray's Quality Greenhouse as well as Michael O'Brien stopped in to drop off a number of bags/boxes of supplies! Thanks, Doug for the big donation!

Janet McCabe, Dan Biernacki, Gerry Kopping, and Karen Biernacki for their work with voting members to recruit and retain as a part of the Master Member Club in 2021.

Volunteers of the Year Kim Morton and Heidi Yunker and all of our outstanding volunteers for selflessly providing time, knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm to Cook County Farm Bureau programming in 2021. Your efforts not only served members but also resulted in a number of awards from the Illinois Farm Bureau including the Pinnacle Award.

Board, team and volunteer members who participated in action requests throughout the year and enabled Cook County Farm Bureau to win the Liberty Bell, the highest honor available in the area of legislative activity.

Three officers from the Cook County Sheriff's Department for stopping in to say "hi" and to coordinate and incorporate Ag in the Classroom agricultural lessons for their youth program in January.

Logan Square area member Paul Levin for attending and introducing himself to Cook County Farm Bureau leaders at the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting.

Tim Stuenkel for filming footage for Illinois Farmers Conserve. Tim spent the afternoon discussing conservation practices used on his farm and on many Illinois farms.

Janet McCabe, Ruth Zeldenrust, and Tim Stuenkel for taking time at the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting to record materials for Partners and Farmweek.

The ag literacy group who dedicated endless hours on new lessons in the AITC mAGic Learning Kits (featured in our new QR code on Page 6). Thank you Rhodora Collins, Suzi Myers, Connie Niemann, Debbie Ruff, Jennifer Waters, and Dawn Weinberg.

The University of Illinois Master Gardener South Suburban Unit, Extension Horticulture Coordinator, Margaret Westmeyer Burns, Extension Horticulture Educator, Nancy Kreith, and all the Master Gardener volunteers who fielded emails, call, inquiries, questions, and soil test interpretations received through the Farm Bureau MG Help Desk in 2021! Thank you for your expertise, time, and efforts in serving our members and surrounding Cook County community inquiries.

Past issues of the Co-Operator are available online at cookcfb.org/stay updated

Co-Operator

published monthly

Cook County Farm Bureau

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Downwind

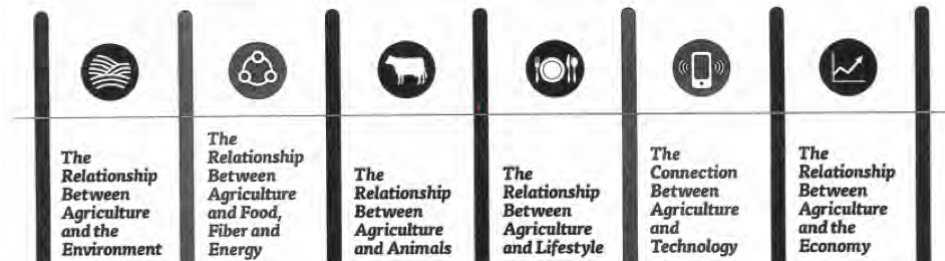
by Bob Rohrer, CCFB Manager

“Ag Literacy Pillar 5”

I have been writing about the Pillars of Agricultural Literacy – Understanding the intersection between agriculture and society. The last four months, I have reviewed pillars 1, 2, 3 and 4 as shown below (the previous columns are available on the Cook County Farm Bureau website, www.cookcfb.org).



Understanding the intersection between agriculture and society.



Now on to Pillar 5: The Connection between Agriculture and Technology

The limited space I have to write about this topic will make it very difficult to cover the many advanced connections between Agriculture and Technology. There is simply not enough space to cover biotechnology, farm equipment technology, advancements in knowledge and research, and environmental improvements. I will go with an abbreviated version.

Biotechnology is really a collection of technologies that are applied to agriculture to solve problems and enhance the final product. Many times, biotechnology and genetically modified organisms (GMO) are terms that are used synonymously. There are people concerned about GMOs and biotechnology and this column will not change those minds. For those that may be unsure, do not care, or support biotech, here are a few of the attributes of GMOs from the farm and hunger perspective:

- Better yields providing more food for the hungry on the planet
- The ability to deliver positive health traits through food to improve global human health
- Improved shelf life reducing food waste in the United States and around the world
- Production advantages including less water use, reduced soil erosion, reduced chemical use, and reduced fuel consumption which please and excite all of us

For those that “follow the science”, various GMOs have food safety and quality track record of over 30 years of use by millions of consumers.

And, I’ve said it several times in the series, “Isn’t it great that there are farmers that produce using a variety of methods for food production to meet the various demands and expectations by different consumers”. The non-GMO label on foods can be found readily.

Of course, technology and agriculture stretch well beyond biotechnology and GMO. Robotics and automation, global positioning, computer integration, self-driving tractors, target specific crop protections, food as medicine and vaccines, traceability and food safety, renewable energy, earth friendly practices, water protection, and carbon dioxide sequestration all deserve space in this column!

If a disgruntled employee is not pleased nor content, I must be a grunted employee. Somehow, the word just doesn’t sound pleased and contented.

I am disgruntled about lawlessness. The Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was held at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago the first weekend in December. While walking on the sidewalk downtown, a lady “talking to her demons” took a swing at my wife, missing fortunately. A couple of our board members witnessed a “flash mob” of young people who decided that walking on cars stopped at a red light was a good idea. There were reports of shootings next to the hotel.

While news reports wrapping up each weekend focus on murders and carjackings in Chicago, crime has not been isolated to the city. A carjacking recently occurred near our home in the southwest suburbs. My wife tells me that car dealerships along the Ogden Road area where she works have been victims of smash and grab break-ins. I received a phone call from the owner of the bike shop where I had my bike in for a winter tune-up. The owner was sorry to inform me that the bike shop was broken into, and my bike was one of the bikes that was stolen.

The “new normal” is used to describe recent changes in society. If this lawlessness is the new normal, society should find it unacceptable. I know I do.

IFB Board Approves Truck Driving Scholarship Program

The IFB Board approved a Truck Driving Scholarship Program to help offset the cost of needed commercial truck driver training. Truck drivers are critical for transporting farm commodities, inputs, and food. As we all know, there is a shortage of truck drivers.

The program will provide up to twenty \$1,000 scholarships to those interested in driving

a commercial truck with needed driver training. Five scholarships will be awarded every three months. The first applications will be available beginning March 1, 2022 for applicants enrolling in driver training April 1 through June 30, 2022. The scholarship program will be administrated through the IAA Foundation. Contact Cook County Farm Bureau for details at 708-354-3276.



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Helping you protect what matters most

0819-503HO

Recipe of the Month:

Parmesan Crusted Baked Cod w/Pink Oyster Mushroom

Gibby's Gourmet Mushroom, LLC

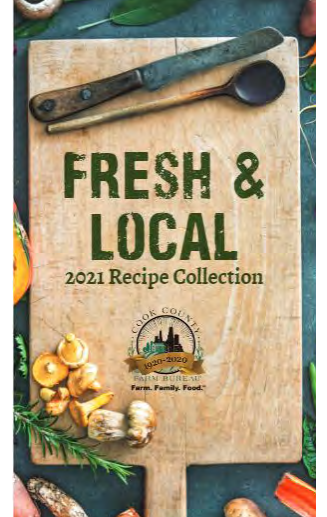
4 6-8 oz cod fillets or fresh fish of choice; Pink Oysters are delicious with seafood in general!
Yield: 4 servings

- 1 c Panko crumbs
- 3 T butter
- 2-3 green onions, chopped
- lemon, fresh squeezed to taste
- salt & pepper
- ½ lb sliced Pink Oyster mushrooms
- 1 c grated Parmesan Cheese
- 3 T mayonnaise
- 2 t soy sauce
- Freshly chopped parsley



Pre-heat oven to 425F, lightly butter baking dish. In non-stick skillet, sauté mushrooms, butter, soy sauce. In bowl, mix cheese, Panko, mayo, butter, green onions, lemon juice; set aside. Pat fish fillets with paper towel to avoid wet, mushy when baking, salt, and pepper to taste and place fillets in baking dish. Spread cheese mixture evenly over each fillet. Bake 8-10 min in oven. Remove pan, spoon mushrooms over fillets and then broil for 2-3 minutes, until flakes with fork. Sprinkle with parsley and serve!

2021 Recipe Collection Booklets are available!



To receive a free copy: Email: membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org

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

Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276

Recipes wanted for our 2022 Cookfresh® Recipe Collection!

The 2022 Cookfresh Recipe Collection is in need of your favorite recipes, prepared using the freshest locally grown ingredients. Recipes submitted by March 1st will be included in a special drawing to win \$50 Farm Fund\$ for use at a participating Cook County Farm Bureau® Member Farm and Farm Stand.

Send your recipe, along with your contact information to: membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org or Cook County Farm Bureau, Attn: Recipes, 6438 Joliet Rd, Countryside IL 60525



2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

The year 2021 was certainly not a “breeze” with plenty of ups and downs for members and the organization. Coming off the 2020 pandemic shutdowns, many thought that 2021 could be a cakewalk. As an organization, the Cook County Farm Bureau is proud to have provided a year full of service to members that ended up being quite rewarding. Here’s a brief recap...

January:

- We delivered an agricultural themed basket reward to Farm Bureau member Ann Biagi of Brookfield for winning the drawing for being one of the members completing all 12 months of the Ag Adventures page word find puzzle in 2020.
- The board recognized the achievements of Jack Smith, COUNTRY Financial Chicago Northwest Agency Manager, who retired after 36 years of success.
- The Commodity/Marketing team hosted a planning for organic certification webinar.
- Voting members were asked their opinion regarding a property tax increase by the Cook County Forest Preserve District and the majority responded that they were opposed.

February:

- “Bee all about it” classes on the craft of keeping bees was provided both in person and virtually for members.
- Virtual lunch and learn webinars on “Going Solar in 2021” and “Timber Harvesting in 2021” was offered to members.

March:

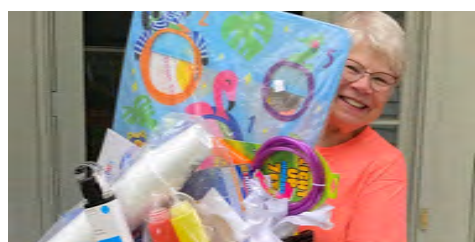
- The Foundation hosted the “Drawdown for Ag Education” on March 23 raising over \$17,000 for scholarships, internship, classroom materials and supplies, and other agriculture education experiences.



- The Wills and Trusts program was converted to a webinar and received very positive reviews.
- The Ag Literacy Team sponsored Ag Days 2021 to celebrate agriculture in Illinois with a one-hour virtual farm field trip event.
- Food Checkout Day helped replenish six Cook County food pantries with needed food and cash thanks to partnerships with the Farm Bureau PR team, board members, COUNTRY Financial agencies, and a host of supporting members.

April:

- The Cook County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom program presented an Earth Day teacher workshop in a virtual format.
- The Member Relations Team sponsored Member Appreciation Week with many great basket drawings, complementary memberships, prizes, and gifts.



- A two-day Conceal and Carry class was sold out.
- The Young Leaders hosted a virtual exchange through Zoom with the Wake County Farm Bureau Young farmers and Ranchers from North Carolina.

May:

- A special Discover Local four-page insert was provided to all members through the Co-Operator publication to help discover greenhouses, garden centers, farm stands, and area landscapers.
- A pollinator pot workshop at Ray’s Quality Greenhouse in Steger featuring in person and virtual presentation was filled and received great reviews.
- The Cook County Farm Bureau began fighting a change to the capital gains tax handling of stepped-up basis that would impact and devastate the majority of farmland owners during the intergenerational transfer of properties and assets.
- The Cook County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom program wrapped up a year of challenging remote and virtual presentations in Chicago and suburban classrooms reaching 12,000 students.

June:

- Summer intern Emily Lopata began working with the Cook County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom program by presenting agriculture programs to local libraries and creating content for the school year educational outreach efforts.
- 12-year-old Ana from St. Alphonsus St. Patrick school was named the winner of the annual bookmark contest.



- Farm Bureau celebrated “Pollinator Week” June 21-26 by providing information on creating individual pollinator gardens and information on monarch butterflies creating a local video on the importance of pollinators and agriculture.

July:

- Area fourth-grader Pablo Ramirez Cisneros was recognized for responding to our Chef Challenge to use specified ingredients to create a meal as a part of our 2020-21 virtual school presentation entitled “There’s Ag on MyPlate”.
- The Member Relations Team kicked off its Summer Selfie Contest with categories that include Farmers’ Markets, Crops/Gardening, and Farm Animals.
- Members of the Commodities/Marketing Team visited various Community Gardens that received support grants from the Team including Roots Community Garden, Neola Street Community Garden, Palos Park Library Pollinator Garden, Rainbow Beach Victory Garden, and Estella’s Garden.



August:

- The Building Committee and PR Team combined forces to install a pollinator garden on the grounds of the Cook County Farm Bureau.
- A lunch and learn webinar on the topic “Composting Basics for Homeowners” was presented by Ellen Phillips, local agriculture consultant and member of the Commodity/Marketing Team.
- The Young Leaders Team toured the Plant and Packingtown Museum, former home of the Union Stock Yards.
- Cook and Will County Farm Bureau Leaders met with Congresswoman Marie Newman to discuss key agricultural issues.
- Cook County Farm Bureau Leaders met with Jerry Costello II, Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture, to discuss agriculture as it emerges from the pandemic and local agricultural needs and issues.
- Cook and Fulton County Farm Bureaus toured the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District facilities in the Stickney area and met with district officials.

September:

- The fifth annual Farm Crawl was sponsored by the Commodities/Marketing Team. This self-guided event provided members and the general public the opportunity to visit 22 local farm stands, greenhouses, and other farm related businesses.
- Another Conceal and Carry class training was provided for members with great feedback.
- Many members took advantage of a Shred Day in Rolling Meadows sponsored by the Member Relations Team.
- Macramé much? A DIY program was held at the Farm Bureau for those interested!
- Leaders of the Cook County Farm Bureau attended a national event hosted by the American Society of Association’s Executives in Washington, D.C. to receive the 2021 Summit award for the organization’s work to support local food pantries.



October:

- The 21st Annual Giant Pumpkin, dessert, carving, local honey, and youth contest was held at Puckerville Farms in Lemont with Karen Sanroman winning the giant pumpkin contest with a massive 854-pound pumpkin.
- The Ag in the Classroom program partnered the Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation and Compeer Farm Credit on a new outreach program called Lunch and Library where banners were provided for use in school lunchrooms to show common items on the school menu and how they went from farm to school.

November:

- The Governmental Affairs Team began

providing information regarding the Forest Preserve budget and the assumption of the passage of a tax increase by the district.

- The Cook County Farm Bureau supported Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner Debra Shore to be appointed to head the EPA region 5 office.
- 16 members participated in the Polity Planter Workshop at Horchers in Wheeling.

December:

- The Cook County Farm Bureau was recognized at the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting with many awards including the Liberty Bell and the Pinnacle Award for top County Farm Bureaus.



- The Young Leaders Team organized a service project with the mission to send needed care items to local military service men and women.
- The Cook County Farm Bureau kicked off the 2022 Action Teams with a set of planning meetings. Kim Morton and Heidi Yunker were recognized as Volunteers of the year for 2021. Janet McCabe, Dan Biernacki, Gerry Kopping and Karen Biernacki were all re-inducted into the Master Member Club. A number of members were recognized for their committed responses to FBACT, the Farm Bureau’s legislative contact action request group.

Other:

- The Shop Local Directory available through the Cook County Farm Bureau website expanded for better information and to allow local agricultural businesses to conduct e-commerce through it.
- Members continued to receive the Centennial Goodie Bag featuring the 100-year coffee table book, anniversary calendar, Farm Bureau/Country coffee cup tumbler, logo cap, throwback recipe brochure with cooking board, ink pen, and reusable shopping bag.



- The Master Gardner Resource Center and help desk served members from April through November by providing advice regarding soil test results, soil amendments, growing plants guidance, and researching related issues.

COUNTRY Financial®, Illinois Farm Bureau Keep Farmers Updated on Improved Opportunities to Protect Farm & Crops in 2022

There is always uncertainty around what spring, summer and fall may bring. COUNTRY Financial® and Illinois Farm Bureau remain ready to assist farmers through every season. The organizations are again teaming up for ten regional meetings across Illinois to share updates on improved opportunities for farmers to protect their farms and crops in 2022.

The ten meetings co-hosted by COUNTRY Financial and Illinois Farm Bureau will take place throughout January and February. Eight meetings will be held in-person across the state, and there will be two virtual presentations. All meetings will include:

- Crop Insurance Update, including changes to federal crop insurance and new private products offered by COUNTRY, the #1 crop hail insurer in Illinois. (Doug Yoder, Crop Agency Manager for COUNTRY Financial)
- Crop Claims Update (COUNTRY Financial

Crop Claims Representative)

- Market Outlook (Tim Tresslar, Grain Origination Manager for Growmark)
- Legislative Update (Illinois Farm Bureau)
- Opportunity for Audience Q&A with presenters

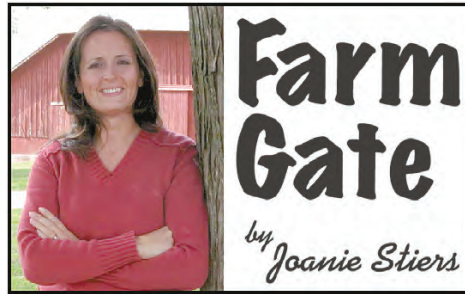
Each event is open to any Illinois farmer.

Registration opens December 13, 2021 for each event. To register and reserve a seat for any of the ten events, farmers should call their county farm bureau office. A full directory of Illinois county Farm Bureau offices can be found at <https://www.ilfb.org/about-us/directory/>. Farm Bureau members can also login at www.myifb.org to register online.

For updates and more information, visit <https://on.ilfb.org/winter-agribusiness-seminars>

Farm Bureau	Meeting Location	Date	Start Time
Dekalb	Dekalb County Farm Bureau 1350 W Prairie Dr Sycamore, IL 60178-3166	Tuesday, January 18, 2022	8:00 AM
Champaign	Champaign County Farm Bureau 801 N Country Fair Dr Ste A Champaign, IL 61821	Wednesday, January 19, 2022	11:00 AM
Virtual #1	www.myifb.org (open to everyone)	Tuesday, January 25, 2022	9:00 AM
Knox	Knox County Farm Bureau 180 S Soangetaha Rd Suite 101 Galesburg, IL 61401-5585	Thursday, January 27, 2022	5:00 PM
Adams	Adams County Farm Bureau PO Box 3037 Quincy, IL 62305-3037	Thursday, February 03, 2022	10:00 AM
Virtual #2	www.myifb.org (open to everyone)	Wednesday, February 09, 2022	12:00 PM
Union	Union County Farm Bureau 104 W. Broad St., P.O. Box F Jonesboro, IL 62952	Thursday, February 10, 2022	5:00 PM
Wayne <i>offsite</i>	Friday, February 11, 8:00 a.m. First Christian Church 100 W Center St Fairfield, Illinois 62837	Friday, February 11, 2022	8:00 AM
Montgomery	Montgomery County Farm Bureau 102 N Main St Hillsboro, IL 62049- 1148	Wednesday, February 23, 2022	10:00 AM
Clinton <i>offsite</i>	American Legion in Breese 575 N Main St, Breese, IL 62230	Wednesday, February 23, 2022	5:00 PM

Winter Brings Extra Chores for Animal Care



We had only one item on our Black Friday shopping list: a metal poultry fountain. It didn't satisfy any Christmas wishes, but it was freezing outside, and the chickens needed water, not ice, from their drinking water dispenser. The new container's galvanized metal construction allowed it to rest atop a heated base. We purchased the drinker with a 20% off coupon, and the kids' laying hens now have thawed water until the last freeze of spring.

Responsibility ranks the primary reason that the kids raise chickens. Since elementary school, they have understood the obligation of having another life depend on them. And no matter the species – cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or chickens – they know that livestock have no regard for homework loads, basketball schedules or holiday weekends. Vacations require hiring a caretaker. Snowy and sub-zero days demand shovels and layers to handle the task. Raining? That's why we have rubber boots.

Livestock farmers generally dread the weather events that cancel school, such as snow, ice, sub-zero temperatures and especially

wind associated with any of those. When winter weather lengthens chore time, I suggest that the kids put life in perspective. Their grandpa manually thawed cattle water tanks with wood-fired cowboy heaters when he was a kid. He helped his dad prepare cab-less tractors for winter with tire chains and heat housers, or a plastic and vinyl liner that captured heat from the engine to warm the driver. And you had to take breaks inside to regain feeling in your extremities.

Now, energy-free cattle drinkers operate nearly maintenance free and have built-in electric heaters. Heated cabs and four-wheel drive options on tractors make winter chores more efficient and comfortable. Even winter work boots are engineered so well that light-weight summer socks will suffice.

Heavy snowfall today could mean digging paths to cattle, scooping outdoor feed bunks or keeping the electricity on for hog barns to maintain heat and ventilation. Just as the pandemic caused people to stock masks and toilet paper, the record-breaking snows of the 1970s prompted our farm to own a snowmobile and tractor-mounted snowblower, the type that moves 4-foot drifts. I rather hope for calm, quiet nights that keep this piece of equipment in the shed.

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

5 questions for Cook County Farm Bureau Manager Bob Rohrer:



What impresses you about Cook County Farm Bureau?

- o During the buildup and celebration of the 100 years of the Cook County Farm Bureau, I was able to read and study a great portion of the history of the organization. While the agricultural footprint terms of farmer numbers and acres farmed within Cook County declined during the last 100 years, the dedication and commitment from active farmers serving as leaders has seemingly increased. We frequently hear (incorrectly) that there are no farmers in Cook County and yet the number of members that seek to volunteer and contribute to a strong agricultural future in the area has not diminished to this day. I remember the great volunteers when I first came to the County Farm Bureau in 1999 and while we have many new faces of leaders, we still have wonderful volunteers in 2021!

What job do you prefer to avoid?

- o As a trusting individual, the challenge organizations, businesses, and individuals are facing in the electronic world of cyber security is intimidating and a bit overwhelming to me. I'm repulsed by the nefarious efforts of criminal individuals and groups to breach, exploit, damage, and steal...I don't understand it. If it were up to me solely to try to figure

out how to properly protect the data and information that members and others entrust with us, I fear that an epic "fail" would be the result. Fortunately, Cook County Farm Bureau staff, our IT company (Isidore Group), and the expertise and resources provided by the Illinois Farm Bureau provide great skills, support, knowledge, and peace of mind.

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

- o I (with my wife) enjoy and love many outdoor, physical activities and have been blessed with sound health to take advantage of many opportunities offered including running, biking, fishing, hiking, golfing, swimming, and more. We love to head to the mountains!

What is your favorite tractor?

- o I have written a column recently on this topic in which I reviewed the multitude of tractors that impacted my youth and young adulthood on the farm. If I had to choose, I would pick the John Deere 4020, although the Massey Ferguson Super 90 is a close second.

What did you want to be growing up?

- o I dreamed of being the next Pete Gray professional baseball player. He played major league baseball for the St. Louis Browns in 1945 after losing his right arm in a childhood accident.



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Diane Merrion, CCFB Director of Ag Literacy

Ag Lit Bit COVID Career Confusion

Just when we assumed COVID would be long gone by January of 2022, we start a new year with more challenges ahead. Every aspect of our lives is now different and the new normal is a phrase that had its time. Each day is our normal and career changes and options continue to unfold throughout all industries as the headlines demonstrate:

'The great reimagining of work': Why 50% of workers want to make a career change' {CNBC-Make it, online 10/2021}

'Nearly a third of U.S. workers under 40 considered changing careers during the pandemic' {Washington Post online 8/2021}

'Why Millions of Employees Plan To Switch Jobs Post-Pandemic' {Forbes online 5/2021}

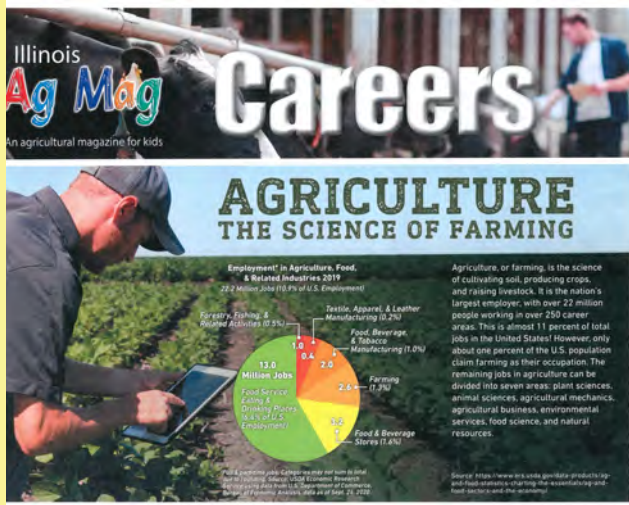
'Covid-19 Was a Wake-Up Call, Leading Many to Make Lifestyle and Career Changes' {Wall Street Journal online 4/2021}

Adults are changing careers and seeking new fields of endeavor at the same time high school and college graduates are examining the same possibilities. While this is unfolding, interest in agriculture education and careers has never been higher as the pandemic brought to light the importance of agriculture

locally and globally. The challenging part for youth and adults is the lack of understanding on just what careers are available within agriculture.

A new Illinois Ag in the Classroom Careers Ag Mag has just been released and is now available to schools and educators in Illinois. While it is technically "an agricultural magazine for kids", it is perfect for all ages as it provides a snapshot into what opportunities are available in seven ag sectors: Plant Science, Animal Science, Natural Resources, Agriculture

Business, Environmental Sciences, Ag Mechanics, and Food Science. "Our careers Ag Mag is designed to spur interest and showcase the wide variety of Ag careers available," stated Kevin Daugherty, Director Illinois Center for Agricultural



Engagement. "COVID taught us that food, supply chain, transportation, and environmental issues all play a role in career choices, and we show that these and many other careers have deep roots and opportunities in agriculture."

The Careers Ag Mag is available in packs of 35 and is free to local educators; it will be online soon at <https://bit.ly/Agreaders>. Whether you're a child or an adult who is confused about career options, agriculture has a lot to offer.

Diane can be reached at aitc@cookcfb.org.

A Chicago Farm Celebrated

Imagine purchasing a 129-acre piece of land for under \$80. While that would not happen in 2022, it did occur 175 years ago at what now is home of the Chicago High School for Ag Sciences (CHSAS).

December 11, 2021 was the official 175th anniversary of the date the Board of Education purchased the land at a sheriff's auction. According to historical records, the Board of Education purchased the then-129-acre piece of land in 1846. At 62 cents per acre, it cost \$79.95.



The Aggen Family began leasing the property in the 1890s, with other families following suit for a century. The Board of Education nearly sold the land about 40 years ago, but instead, CHSAS was established in July 1984 and opened in September 1985. Like the farmstand run by the school now, the Aggens

farmed the property along with other families growing beans, peas, tomatoes, asparagus, carrots, radishes, lettuce, onions, cabbage, corn, zucchini, broccoli, cucumbers, and cauliflower.

In looking at a photo project students did for the anniversary, CHSAS Administrator Lucille Shaw commented to the Beverly Review how much has changed, yet stayed the same over the years. "If you would look at the pictures and compare them, we're doing the same thing," Shaw said. "It's just an advancement of the same. To kind of let the students see how much everything stayed the same but moved in a different direction for advancement. A lot of it is because of technology; a lot of it is because of knowledge; a lot of it is because growth of mind."

The Farm Bureau is proud to partner with the Chicago High School for Ag Sciences through our educational programming, scholarship opportunities and Young Leader Group. To learn more about the school and the 175th anniversary of the land, visit <https://www.chicagoagr.org/>.



Scan the code as a quick reference to Ag Literacy lessons. Learning and fun. Great for teachers, families & learners of all ages.

AFTER SCHOOL S.N.A.C.K.

WITH IAITC

4-5:00pm on
WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 5TH



Time Jan 5, 2022 4:00 PM
Register <https://bit.ly/3H1SqbAfterSchool>

Description

Join IL Ag in the Classroom for the next professional development training of the 2021-22 school year. In the After School S.N.A.C.K. (Sharing New Ag Content & Knowledge), participants will learn more about horses and beef cattle. After School S.N.A.C.K. topics and themes will coincide with IAITC's lesson plan and resource-related posts on social media for the upcoming months.

Participants will have the chance to fill out a reflection following the presentation. They will then be emailed a Certificate of Completion to use with their local unit/provider to earn PDCH. Note: IAITC is not an approved provider, so PDCH must be coordinated through the teacher's unit/provider.

Schedule Your Free 4th Grade In-School or Virtual Agricultural Presentation



www.cookcfb.org

We are excited to have visited over 250 Cook County classrooms these last few months! As we open our calendars for 2022, we invite you to schedule a program with us.

Teachers have written back to us to share their thoughts on having an Ag in the Classroom presentation. Some of their comments include, "My students really liked the mix of videos, group activity, live conversation from our presenter and an actual experiment. There was something to appeal to students' styles of learning."

"Our presenter taught the students that there is a lot more to agriculture than just farming."

"It helped to expand students' scientific vocabulary. It helped students be aware of career options in agriculture. It reinforced to students the importance of being good

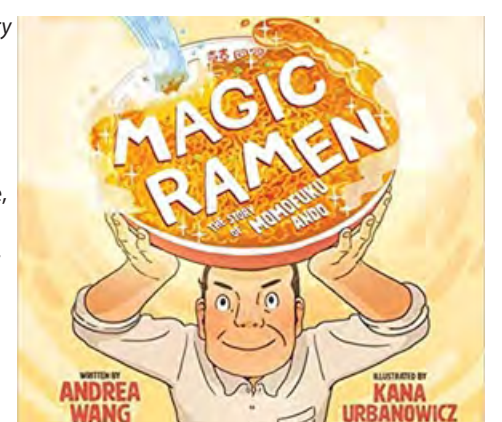
caretakers of the Earth."

"The presenter was very enthusiastic and engaging. My students loved this presentation. They were super proud of themselves for being able to make connections to our science unit. They learned that many of them had more experiences with agriculture than they realized. I love that even though they are only in fourth grade, it opened them up to new job possibilities and opportunities they may not have thought of before."

Our two programs, Intro to Agriculture in Illinois (perfect addition the study of Illinois) and There's Ag on My Plate (wonderful complement to health curriculum) are offered virtually or in-person. Availability ongoing until schedule fills. Feel free to call us at (708) 354-3276 or email aitc2@cookcfb.org to talk about your classroom needs.

Warm Up with A Book

Written by Andrea Wang, *Magic Ramen The Story of Momofuku Ando*, tells the story of Ando who invented the world's first instant noodles. "Chicken Ramen" was created in 1958 after an entire year of research using common tools in a shed he had built in his backyard in Ikeda-city, Osaka Prefecture, Japan. Enjoy this wonderful story of determination and persistence to help address hunger in postwar Japan. Ando dedicated his entire life to thinking about food in new and creative ways. Throughout his 96 years, he practiced creative thinking and never quit until he achieved his goal.



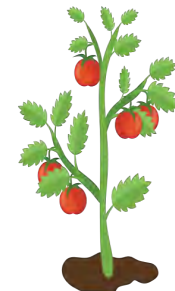
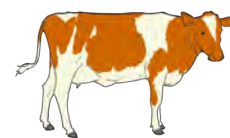
Agriculture Adventures for Families



Imagine all the farmers who combine efforts to provide the ingredients for our favorite chili recipes. Dry beans come from many regions, including some top producing states including North Dakota, Michigan and Minnesota. Tomatoes during the winter come from many locations such as local producer MightVine Greenhouse in Rochelle, IL.. Of course we can't forget our #2 crop in Illinois, soybeans! If you use vegetable oil to brown your meats, you are including our great state in your pot. Include your family chili recipe when sending in your Word Search and we'll share it on our Facebook page.



Common Chili Ingredients



Corn Bread, Corn Pone, Johnny Cakes and Hushpuppies all go great with chili and all start with corn.

So what is cornmeal again.....



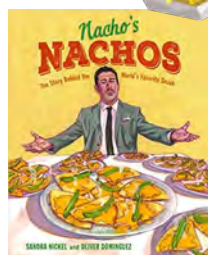
Most commercial cornmeal is made from either yellow or white dent corn and milled via steel rollers, which gives it a uniform texture. It's also de-germinated, meaning the germ and bran are removed in processing.

Stone-ground cornmeal, which will be labeled as such, is coarser because of how it's milled, and the germ and bran are left in. How can you know for sure? Look for "whole grain" on the label.

Source: epicurious.com

Do you like to add chili to your nachos?

To some people, that's their favorite topping. Check out the book, *Nacho's Nacho* to learn more about the world's most beloved snack!



Match the bean expression with its meaning.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Full of beans | A. Using your intelligence |
| 2. Spill the beans | B. Energetic; frisky; or badly mistaken |
| 3. Bean counter | C. To disclose a secret |
| 4. Cool beans | D. Knows very little |
| 5. Doesn't know beans | E. Accountant |
| 6. Using the old bean | F. Great! |
| 7. Not worth a hill of beans | G. Worthless; little value |

Answers: 1-B, 2-C, 3-E, 4-F, 5-D, 6-A, 7-G

Source: <https://oklahoma.agclassroom.org/>

January Word Search

Beans
Beef
Bran
Bread
Chili
Corn
Cumin
Garlic

Germ
Ingredients
Mix
Onion
Peppers
Recipe
Soybeans
Tomato

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

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

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(Membership # is located on front of paper)

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 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: FBcooperator@gmail.com

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

Good luck!

Last Month's Word Search Winner Is..

Ross Vondrak

Illinois Farm Bureau® Members Re-Elect President, Vice President

Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) delegates re-elected President Richard Guebert, Jr., and Vice President Brian Duncan at the organization's annual meeting in Chicago, Dec. 4-7. Richard Guebert Jr. has secured another term — his fifth and final — as president of Illinois Farm Bureau.

Guebert was first elected president in December 2013, making him IFB's 15th president.

"It's my honor and my privilege to serve for the last two years this term as president of this organization," Guebert said. "And I commit that I will continue to do my utmost to work hard, support and defend the policy not only here in the state of Illinois, but in Washington, D.C. and across this country."

Guebert also thanked the 321 delegates present at the annual meeting, IFB staff, and his family. "Without their support, I couldn't do this job," Guebert said.



Illinois Farm Bureau President Richard Guebert Jr. addresses the delegate session during the organization's annual meeting in Chicago, Dec. 4-7. (Photo by Catrina Rawson)

Illinois Farm Bureau President Richard Guebert Jr. addresses the delegate session during the organization's annual meeting in Chicago, Dec. 4-7. (Photo by Catrina Rawson)

His nomination to serve as president in 2022 came from Janet McCabe, Cook County Farm Bureau president, during the 2021 IFB Annual Meeting General Session in Chicago. Guebert ran unopposed.



CCFB President, Janet McCabe nominates Richard Guebert Jr. for President of the Illinois Farm Bureau

McCabe said she was nominating Guebert because he has "proven to be an effective and responsive leader."

Under Guebert, McCabe said, communications and sharing of information between IFB and county Farm Bureaus have increased, membership has gone up, specialty growers have expanded, and relationships with legislators have evolved.

She added that during the coronavirus pandemic, Guebert has ensured the agriculture

industry keeps functioning and farmers weren't neglected.

"Rich's support of all these efforts is paramount to the organization staying current and a source of reliable information," McCabe said.

Guebert, who farms and resides in Randolph County, previously served 10 years as IFB vice president from 2003 to 2013.

Guebert has a bachelor's degree in agriculture education, with a minor in animal science from Southern Illinois University. Guebert, his wife, Nancy, and their son, Kyle, operate a corn, soybean, and wheat farm in Randolph County.

Brian Duncan, of Polo in Ogle County, was re-elected to a two-year term as IFB vice president. Duncan has served as IFB vice president for the past four years and previously served as the Ogle County Farm Bureau president. He also previously served on the American Farm Bureau Federation's Swine Advisory Committee, National Pork Producers Council Price Discovery Task Force, and Ogle County Pork Producers board of directors.

"From the bottom of my heart, it is my privilege to serve as vice president of Illinois Farm Bureau," Duncan said. "I do not take lightly your trust in me to help shepherd this organization forward and to uphold our policy. I never forget that it is my job to serve you, the member, and I look forward to going above and beyond as much as possible in the next two years. Illinois farmers have a great story to tell, and together we are backed by a strong organization that is dedicated to doing just that."

Illinois Farm Bureau Vice President Brian Duncan reviews policy resolutions during the Monday delegate session (Photo by Catrina Rawson)



Illinois Farm Bureau Vice President Brian Duncan reviews policy resolutions during the Monday delegate session (Photo by Catrina Rawson)

Duncan is a graduate of Sauk Valley Community College and is an active member of Forreton Grove Presbyterian Church. He and his wife, Kelly, raise corn, soybeans, wheat, pigs, and cattle on their farm near Polo; they have four children.

The Illinois Farm Bureau is a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation, a national organization of farmers and ranchers. Founded in 1916, IFB is a non-profit, membership organization directed by farmers who join through their county Farm Bureau. IFB has a total membership of more than 372,326 and a voting membership of 77,462. IFB represents three out of four Illinois farmers.

Annual Meeting Interviews

There were some amazing podcast interviews done at the IFB Annual Meeting with local Cook County leaders. Janet McCabe and Ruth Zeldenrust talk about farming in urban Cook County and Tom Poole talks about the

Young Leader virtual exchange with Wake County Farm Bureau in North Carolina: These interviews can be found at <https://cookcfb.org/stay-updated/news/ccfb-news>.



Lieutenant Governor (L), Juliana Stratton, met with Cook County Farm Bureau board member Ruth Zeldenrust during the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual meeting held in Chicago in December.



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Lieutenant Governor (L), Juliana Stratton, met with Cook County Farm Bureau board member Ruth Zeldenrust during the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual meeting held in Chicago in December.

Awards

Cook County Farm Bureau was presented two prestigious Illinois Farm Bureau awards at the Annual Meeting last week.



The Pinnacle Award for group 5 large counties which goes to the County Farm Bureau with the most outstanding overall programming from goals to accomplishments.



The Liberty Bell Award for group 5 large counties which goes to a County Farm Bureau with the most single impactful public policy campaign completed during the program year.



Illinois Farm Bureau President Richard Guebert, Jr. presents Ms. Eva Manzke, Walker Elementary School, with her IL AITC Teacher of the Year Runner-Up Award at the annual meeting. Eva was nominated by the Cook County Farm Bureau Ag Literacy Department



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

The tradition of making New Year's resolutions dates back some 4,000 years ago to the ancient Babylonians. Those same Babylonians were also the first to ring in the New Year (in mid-March as they planted their crops, not freezing their tail feathers off in January).

As part of their New Year's celebrations, the ancient Babylonians made promises to the gods in hopes that if they followed through with their promises, then the gods would bestow favor on them in the coming year. These promises could be considered the forerunners to today's New Year's resolutions.

Anyone who knows me will tell you that I don't make New Year's resolutions. I scoff at the idea of making champagne laden promises of exercise. Budgeting. Dieting. Or personal improvement. Instead, I opt for sarcasm.

In 2022, I promise to be better at tolerating the creepy crawlers who sneak onto our farm. Outside we have an abundance of animal feed, hay, straw, and cattle. We also have a ridiculous number of creepy crawlers. Friends of ours contend that the best defense is a good offense. So, we added two barn cats. And homed a wildly talented calico cat. It's turned into a nightly game to see how many creepy crawlers she's caught. Last night her total was six plus something unidentifiable.

My blue-eyed girl loves music. She sings. Hums. Whistles. All in tune. She even plays in the band. I can't carry a tune. I also don't usually

listen to music. My radio taste runs toward traffic and weather on the eights. No radio no problem. Podcasts. Audiobooks. Buffering too long? No worries. I have a couple of songs on my iPhone. Maybe a little "Hot Child in the City" by Nick Glider. "I Want You to Want Me" by Cheap Trick. "Redneck Crazy" by Tyler Farr. Or "Bottoms Up" by Brantley Gilbert. In 2022 I'm not going to promise to give up news radio and podcasts. But I can promise to listen to the radio a little more.

I love Dr. Pepper. Preferably a fountain Dr. Pepper. I even have a Dr. Pepper flavored lip balm. I would give up coffee if you asked me to choose between it and a Dr. Pepper. That's how much Dr. Pepper I consume. To limit mine and my big little boy's consumption, we no longer allow pop or tea with dinner. Milk or water only. For 2022, I will replace part of my Dr. Pepper consumption with water.

As legislative session resumes, building relationships with elected officials and their staffs is incredibly important. Relationships are what opens doors. Returns calls. Sends an email response. Engages in conversations. For 2022, continuing to build legislative relationships will remain a priority for Cook County Farm Bureau and for myself. Relationships and good, verifiable information are currency in Springfield and Chicago.

Although my promises of grandeur for 2022 are not champagne laden nor do they pertain to exercise, budgeting, or anything fun, they are goals. And goals drive progress.

Bona can be reached at Bona@cookcfb.org

State Legislative Priorities Approved

The Illinois Farm Bureau® Board of Directors established the 2022 State Legislative Priorities at it's the December Board Meeting.

The approved State Legislative Priorities for 2022 are as follows:

- Seek to maintain Illinois' current tax policies that provide economic stability for the agricultural industry including the agricultural sales tax exemptions for seed, feed, fertilizer/chemicals, and equipment.
- Work to maintain adequate State funding for key Illinois Department of Agriculture programs like meat/poultry/egg inspectors, environmental programs, warehouse oversight, and veterinarian programs. This includes advocating for a viable and independent Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- Seek \$750,000 in additional appropriations to the Illinois Department of Agriculture to better prepare for Foreign Animal Disease Prevention.
- Maintain a balanced process for siting livestock farms through the Livestock Management Facilities Act (LMFA) that

protects both the environment and farmers' ability to raise livestock.

- Support legislation limiting liability on agritourism for inherent risks.
- Support protecting the private property rights of farmers during the installation, maintenance, and upgrading of current utilities.
- Seek to create the use of E-15 and B-20 in the general marketplace. • Support the creation of Illinois Industrial Biotech Partnership Act.
- Support a requirement for the development of a comprehensive agricultural drainage plan for farmland where surface or subsurface agricultural drainage will be impacted from the construction, maintenance, or deconstruction of a renewable energy project or other utilities.

A link to the 2022 legislative priorities briefing is available at <https://cookcfb.org/ccfb/policy-and-action/legislative-priorities>. The legislative priorities will guide Farm Bureau's engagement in the upcoming year.

2021 Annual Meeting



Cook County Farm Bureau delegates (left to right) Jim Gutzmer, Janet McCabe, and Ruth Zeldenrust prepare to debate policy submittals including Cook CFB's policy to support the development and expansion of urban agriculture in Illinois.



Representative Marcus Evans (center) visited with farmer members from Cook, Massac, Pulaski, and Alexander County Farm Bureaus during the 2021 Annual Meeting. Representative Evans was joined by Lansing Village Trustee Micaela Smith (pictured second from right) who previously served as Representative Evans' Chief of Staff. Representative Evans has been engaged in the Adopt-a-Legislator® program since 2013 and Smith has joined Cook County Farm Bureau® on numerous Staff Exchanges. Cook CFB President Janet McCabe and Secretary-Treasurer Ruth Zeldenrust are pictured on the left.

2022 Legislative Priorities Briefing Now Available

In December, the Illinois Farm Bureau® Board of Directors approved the 2022 Legislative Priorities. These priorities guide Farm Bureau's engagement in state and local affairs. The video briefing featuring Kevin Semlow, Illinois Farm

Bureau Director of State legislation and Bona Heinsohn, Cook County Farm Bureau Director of Governmental Affairs and PR is available at <https://cookcfb.org/ccfb/policy-and-action/legislative-priorities>.

Farm Bureau Raises Concerns About the Build Back Better Legislation

With funds available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), funds are available to expand broadband. While the expansion of broadband is beneficial on many fronts, Farm Bureau members remain concerned about the cost of the ARPA. To that end, members are preparing the following letter to the members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation.

The undersigned Illinois Farm Bureau members attending our association's 107th annual meeting in Chicago strongly oppose President Biden's Build Back Better legislation. Our opposition is largely around the proposal's massive amount of spending -- \$1.75 trillion over

the next decade – and its tax increases which will surely have ripple effects throughout the U.S. economy. As citizens and taxpayers, we would prefer to see enormous, consequential public policy decisions and changes to tax policy addressed in a bipartisan manner, which has surely not been the case with the Build Back Better plan.

Sincerely, ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU®

Members are encouraged to contact Bona Heinsohn at (708) 354-3276 or via email at bona@cookcfb.org with any questions or concerns.

How Much is Too Much Local Government?

Adapted from LINK, a publication of the Illinois Farm Bureau®

Illinois tops the charts when it comes to number of local units of government. According to the U.S. Census of Governments, that number is 6,918. Coming in second place with 5,148 units is Texas. Rounding out the top five are Pennsylvania, California and Ohio.

Counties, townships, school districts and community college districts are among the local government units easily found across the state. It's also common to live in an area served by a municipality, fire protection district and library and park and recreation districts, just to name a few.

As a result of this high density, many Illinois' residents have six or more layers of government serving their local area. That can translate to less transparency and engagement. That number also impacts property taxes.

Cook County is home to between 99 and 543 governmental units. Cook County along with the counties of Bureau, Champaign, Christian, DuPage, Fulton, Henry, Iroquois, Kane, Kankakee, Lake, LaSalle, McHenry, McLean, Madison, Sangamon, St. Clair, Vermillion, and Will are home to the most units of local government in all of Illinois.

Local government is largely funded by property taxes. It's reasonable to assume funding so many units of government can drive up property taxes. In some cases, that's true. However, there are situations where the unit of government closest to the service can meet citizen needs more efficiently and with less cost than a more remote unit.

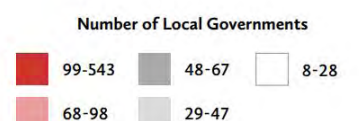
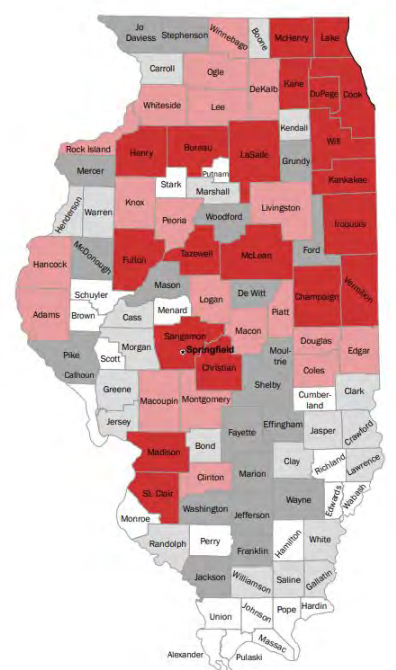
Township government can be a good example of this. At the township level, many services are performed by part-time or volunteer officials. Performing those same services using county officials would likely come with a higher price tag.

The lack of visibility into government at the local level is also concerning. Even though it's considered the closest to the people, local government's multiple layers and sprawling structure make it difficult for residents and the media to track. In fact, the average citizen is likely more familiar with state and federal

government activities. On the flip side, talking to a local official might be as easy as knocking on your neighbor's door.

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Census of Governments
The Many Layers of Illinois Local Government



Zoom Book Club

Want to learn more about how your food is grown?

In *Tomorrow's Table* authors Pamela Ronald, a University of California geneticist and her husband Raoul Adamchak, an organic farmer argue that blend of organic farming and genetic engineering is key to helping feed the world's growing population.



Dates: February 22, March 8 and 22

Time: 6:30 pm

Cost: Free to Cook CFB members, \$10 for non-members

Sign up link: <https://bit.ly/3t6x01z>



Beginning Beekeeping

Are You Interested In:

- Keeping bees to connect with nature?
- Improving your health with raw honey, bees wax, pollen, antibacterial propolis, and bee venom?
- Pollinating your flower and vegetable gardens?
- Growing the right type of plants to maintain native pollinators and honey bees in balance?

Or, You May Be:

Already a beekeeper and have experienced some losses thus far? We'll share our understanding of how bees overcome challenges. And you'll learn techniques that leverage their natural abilities to adapt and thrive. This program will guide you season by season into keeping bees sustainably.

Location: Live in-person at the Cook County Farm Bureau 6438 Joliet Rd, Countryside, IL 60525 or Via Zoom

Date: Tuesdays Jan 11th, 18th, 25th, February 1st, and 8th

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Cost: \$50 for Cook County Farm Bureau or CookDupage Beekeepers Association members. \$75 for non-members; ask how to join!

Registration Details: Register by calling the CCFB office at (708) 354-3276; members can register at the Member Center Online. For additional information, email Debbie Voltz at membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org.

We'll Cover:

- ✓ Honey Bee Behavior, Biology, and Fascinating Features;
- ✓ Evolution of Hive Designs and their Management Techniques;
- ✓ Tools and Equipment You Must Have and How Much You Should Expect to Budget;
- ✓ Practical Ways to Obtain High Quality Bees to Get Started;
- ✓ What Happens Inside the Colony from Day 1 thru Winter and into Second Season Spring;
- ✓ Case Studies on What You May Find While Inspecting Your Colony;
- ✓ Best practices on How and When to Harvest Honey and Other Hive Products.

Sessions are led by Kim Kulton, President, Bee All About It. Kim operates a commercial beekeeping business producing local honey, breeding Queens, and rescuing bees. And, Pete Soltesz, President of CookDupage Beekeepers Association, one of the largest bee clubs in the Midwest. With the goal that their bees thrive in a chem-free environment; produce an abundant, great-tasting, honey crop; and survive over winter, Pete and Kim challenge modern conventional beekeeping wisdom, and share their extensive experience in what works locally in our Chicago area counties.



K1 Speed is the premier indoor go kart racing company in the nation.

Members receive a savings priced at \$18 per race (regularly \$30)

Call the office to purchase tickets today!

Guests must be over the height of 48" to race. No one under the height of 48" will be permitted to race. Offer not valid with any other discounts, offer, or group events.

Valid at all K1 Speed Locations Nationwide

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.



Sylwia Grochowska

Chicago North Agency, Victoria Nygren, Agency Manager

*Sylwia Grochowska has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for November 2021. His office is located at 7538 W. Addison St., in Chicago, IL. Her phone number is 773-628-2502. Sylwia has been a Financial Representative since February 2016.



Angel Beltran

Chicago North Agency, Victoria Nygren, Agency Manager

Angel Beltran has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for November 2021. His office is located at 1426 W. Fullerton Ave., in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-687-0251. Angel has been a Financial Representative since October 2020.



Joe Munch

Chicago Northeast, Sharon Stemke, Agency Manager

Joe Munch has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for November 2021. His office is located at 4200 W. Euclid Ave., Ste E., in Rolling Meadows, IL. His phone number is 847-963-8835. Joe has been a Financial Representative since February 2015.



Ray Massie Jr.

Chicago Northeast, Sharon Stemke, Agency Manager

Ray Massie Jr. has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for November 2021. His office is located at 25 NW Point Blvd., Ste. 850 in Elk Grove Village, IL. His phone number is 847-794-1217. Ray has been a Financial Representative since May 2019.



Zachary Youngblood

Chicago Northwest, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager

Zachary Youngblood has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for November 2021. His office is located at 10A W Schaumburg Rd., Schaumburg IL. His phone number is 847-519-3595. Zach has been a Financial Representative since February 2002.



Matthew Below

Chicago Northwest, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager

Matthew Below has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for November 2021. His office is located at 1515 E. Woodfield Rd., Ste.930, Schaumburg, IL. His phone number is 847-891-3151. Matthew has been a Financial Representative since September 2019.



Nick Zegar

Chicago South Agency, Jeff Maxson, Agency Manager

*Nick Zegar has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for November 2021. His office is located at 16614 W. 159th St., #303 in Lockport, IL. His phone number is 708-352-5560. Nick has been a Financial Representative since July 1998.



Kirk Gregory Jr.

Chicago South Agency, Jeff Maxson, Agency Manager

Kirk Gregory Jr. has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for November 2021. His office is located at 1401 S. State St., #150 in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-619-0649. Kirk has been a Financial Representative since February 2018.



Ryan Mann

Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager

Ryan Mann has been named Career Financial Representative of the Month for November 2021. His office is located at 814 Laraway Rd., in New Lenox, IL. His phone number is 815-462-5000. Ryan has been a Financial Representative since November 2005.



Nadia Abueid

Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager

Nadia Abueid has been named Employee Financial Representative of the Month for November 2021. Her office is located at 12130 S. Harlem Ave., Unit A in Palos Heights, IL. Her phone is 708-995-0233. Nadia has been a Financial Representative since December 2019.



Paul Malito

South Holland Agency, Jeff Orman, Agency Manager

Paul Malito has been named Career Financial Representative of the Month for November 2021. His office is located at 30 S. Ash St., in Frankfort, IL. His phone number is 815-464-0123. Paul has been a Financial Representative since December 1995.



John Tymn

South Holland Agency, Jeff Orman, Agency Manager

John Tymn has been named Employee Financial Representative of the Month for November 2021. His office is located at 10607 S. Harlem Ave, Unit 101 in Worth, IL. His phone 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.

ABC'S OF FOOD

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

ARUGULA



A

LEAFY VEGETABLE

with distinctive flavor that enhances salads, pastas, sandwiches and other culinary delights.

While arugula can be found in grocery stores year-round, peak season is early spring and fall.

Arugula is also known as rucola, roquette, and garden rocket.



A plant was brought to America by early British colonists but did not become popular in the United States until the 1990s.

Nutritious

A highly nutritious vegetable, containing *calcium, potassium, vitamins A, C and K and folate*. It is also low in sugar, carbohydrates, fat and calories.

A LEAFY VEGETABLE WITH A SPICY AROMA AND FLAVOR, MAKING IT NATURALLY PEST RESISTANCE.

A cruciferous vegetable, placing it in the same family as kale, broccoli and Brussels sprouts.



Next month... Brussels sprouts

Source: Healthline, B&W Quality Growers, Indiana Farm Bureau

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 months. Co-Operator. Members may run up to four non-commercial classified ads annually for free. Any ads submitted after the fourth, will be charged.

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

For Sale

New Window Pella- One piece (2 double hangs) 74"x 35" \$175. One piece Fanlight (Half Circle) 33"x69" \$150. One Triangle 71" x 28" ht. \$100. One solid Oak French door 32" \$150. One solid pine door 32" w/window \$75. Call Louie 847-361-9292.

New Shower Buddy Tubby buddy transfer system for standard bathtub SB2T. Bath transfer chair that goes over the bathtub. Chair tilts with head and footrest. Weight capacity is 300lbs. \$3,000. Contact Pat 404-414-6933.

2016 Used Black Pride Mobility Quantum Q6 edge power chair that tilts and reclines with leg and seat lift. Battery charger included. Weight capacity is 300lbs. \$4,500. Contact Pat 404-414-6933.

FAO Schwarz Mercedes Benz SLR McLaren R 199 child's battery-operated electric car with remote control. Color red. Excellent condition very good looking with owner's manual. Cost \$1000. Asking for \$200. Call 708-361-8230.

8-Foot western unimount plow, off 99 Ford Super duty. \$350 Call 630-257-6262.

Wanted

Wanted to buy snapper rear engine riding lawn mower any condition. Call or text Norm 708-497-0072.

2 or 3 bottom late model 3-point hitch plow. Must be in nice usable condition. Call Paul 708-349-0617.

Wanting to buy your HO scale on 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 sort cars. Call 630-272-4433 ask for Ron. Thanks!

Wanted: Part Time Employee to serve in role of maintenance for 20,000 sq. feet, office building and grounds. Diverse skills in areas in HVAC systems, carpentry, plants and grounds, basic electrical and comfortable with hands-on labor. Hourly 20-25 hours per week. Limited benefits. Send cover letter and resume to Cook County Farm Bureau, 6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525.

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

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

Category:

For Sale

For Rent

Wanted

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

This Month in Cook County Agriculture

Application for Cover Crops Premium Discount Program Due by January 15, 2022; online application at: https://apps.agr.illinois.gov/BLWR_CoverCrop/

2021-22 Winter Workshops, Monthly Business Development Series Continues

Shop Local, Live Local is an Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) program that connects local food and farm businesses with Illinois communities. We're offering technical assistance and market opportunities for farms and businesses through our new series of monthly webinars, which runs through February 2022. Take advantage of these unique sessions and register today at www.ilfb.org/LiveLocal.

Emerging Issues; Online Farmers' Market Stores Intensive

Offered in February 2022
Cost: ILFMA Member FREE / Non-Member \$40

Visit ilfb.org/LiveLocal for full details and registration.

Please contact Sharon Dodd, sdodd@ilfb.org, or Raghela Scavuzzo, rscavuzzo@ilfb.org, with questions.

This article is for local farmstands, farmers' markets, chefs and restaurants, and organizations that are hosting farm-related activities, events, workshops, and gatherings that will occur soon.

To promote your activity, email membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org or call 708-354-3276 by the 15th of the month. Please include your name, the event date/time, a one-sentence description of the event, and how a reader can obtain further information in the email. We will edit submissions based on space allowances in the publication. In addition, we will post farm, garden, or livestock related photos on our social media platform if you forward those to: membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org.



Urban Garden Grant 2022

The Cook County Farm Bureau's 2022 Community Urban Garden Grant Program is looking to award six gardens a \$350 grant! All community-based urban gardens in Cook County are encouraged to apply. Grant details and applications are available from January 5 through February 28, 2022. Apply now...why wait!

- Online at <https://cookcfb.org/discover-local/community-programs>
- Email Debbie at membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org
- Call Debbie at the CCFB: 708-354-3276



COOK COUNTY FARM BUREAU® IS A MEMBER DRIVEN ORGANIZATION.

Members are at the heart of every decision made by the Board of Directors. Through member involvement we're able to accomplish our mission: to serve all of the members of the Cook County Farm Bureau with meaningful and beneficial programs that reflect our agricultural heritage.

Join us as a volunteer and together we'll accomplish even more for agriculture. We're looking for volunteers for upcoming programs like Food Checkout Day and Ag Days or material prep for classroom presentations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER
[HTTPS://COOKCFB.ORG/CONTACT-US/VOLUNTEER-OPPORTUNITIES](https://cookcfb.org/contact-us/volunteer-opportunities)



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. Scan our QR for our Events Calendar.

Beginning Beekeeping



Beekeeping for those interested and never kept bees and beekeepers looking to learn and overcome challenges of bee loss and keeping bees sustainably.
Date: 5 consecutive Tuesday evenings: January 11, 18, 25 and February 1, 8th, 2022
Time: 6:00-8:00 pm
Location: Cook County Farm Bureau 6438 Joliet Rd Countryside 60525 or via Zoom
Fee: \$50.00 for Cook County Farm Bureau or CookDupage Beekeepers Association members. \$75.00 for non-members; ask how to join!
Registration & Payment: Call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276; For additional information, email Debbie at membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org.

Carbon Markets: A Policy Primer Webinar



Lauren Lurkins, Director of Environmental Policy, Illinois Farm Bureau, will join us in person to discuss federal conservation and climate change policy, the latest developments regarding agricultural carbon markets, and potential opportunities and challenges for your farming operation.
Date: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 **New Date**
Time: 12 pm
Location: Webinar: zoom link will be emailed the day before
Fee: Free
Registration: Email Debbie at: membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org or call the Farm Bureau at 708-354-3276.



"Tomorrow's Table" Zoom Book Club

"Tomorrow's Table" is for anyone who wishes to know more about how the food they eat is grown. It is for every shopper, policy decision maker, farmer, or anyone who has at one time or another wondered what labels such as "organic" or "GMO" truly mean for the health of the population and the future of our planet.
Dates: Tuesdays – February 22, March 8 and 22
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Live via Zoom
Price: Free to CCFB Members, \$10 for non-members
Registration: Register at <https://bit.ly/3t6xO1z>.

Cook County Farm Bureau® to Support Cook County Families and Food Pantries as Part of Food Checkout Day 2022

In celebration of the healthy and nutritious food grown and raised by local farmers, Cook County Farm Bureau® members and partners are supporting local families and food pantries.

The year 2022 marks the 22nd anniversary of Food Checkout Day and Cook County Farm Bureau's largest effort to date to support local families in need. Rather than support a single charity or even a handful, Cook CFB will match member donations to any Cook County food pantry.

Farm Bureau members who wish to donate to a local food pantry in celebration of Food Checkout Day are asked to complete the form below and to designate the food pantry that their donation and Cook CFB's match is for. The food pantry selected must be a registered 501(c)3. Farm Bureau will match the first \$1,000 donated. All donations will be considered part of Food Checkout Day.

In addition, Cook County Farm Bureau is partnering with six food pantries for Food Checkout Day. The food pantries were selected by our partners at COUNTRY Financial.

Elsie's Food Pantry in Palos Hills is open to families in Palos Township, Bridgeview, and a portion of Lemont. Elsie's Food Pantry is a joint ministry of Savior Divine Lutheran Church and Living Faith Community Church. Eligible families receive a prepackaged box of food. Additional services are also available for families in need.

Niles Township Food Pantry in Skokie serves over 1,000 families in the area. With the assistance of the Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation the pantry is able to provide assistance five days a week. Niles Township Food Pantry was selected by Chicago North COUNTRY Financial representatives.

Share Food Share Love in Brookfield provides food assistance to residents of 15 villages in western Cook County. Like many other pantries Share Food Share Love experienced exponential growth in need during the COVID-19 pandemic and that need continues to linger, especially as the pantry's service area continues to expand. Share Food Share Love was selected by Chicago South COUNTRY Financial representatives.

VKMI Hattie B. Williams Food Pantry in Oak Forest serves south suburban Cook County. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and its lasting effects on food insecurity the pantry served between 50 and 60 families per week, in 2020 that number grew to over 90 families. Hattie B. Williams Food Pantry was selected by South Holland COUNTRY Financial representatives.

Additional pantries are in the process of being secured.
 Donations can be made by credit card by calling the Farm Bureau office at 708-354-3276 or by mailing in the form below with a check. Donations will be accepted until March 7, 2022.

Partners food pantries include:

Elk Grove Township Food Pantry in Elk Grove Village is a "client choice" food pantry that allows individuals to select items for themselves and their families. During 2020, the pantry served over 325 families per month compared to 230 families respectively in 2019, a 40% increase. Elk Grove Township Food Pantry was selected by Chicago Northeast COUNTRY Financial representatives.



2022 Foundation Scholarship Applications Being Accepted



The Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation has opened the 24th Annual "Farm and Food" Agricultural Scholarship Program. The Foundation is offering college students the opportunity to start or continue their higher education with a scholarship. Last year, the Foundation provided seven scholarships ranging from \$2,000 \$4,000 each.

The Board will name the top applicant as the Howard Paarlberg Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship recipient. The Foundation will award a scholarship(s) to college students pursuing agricultural related fields of study. The Conserv FS Agriculture Career Scholarship for \$1,000 will also be offered to individuals in Cook County involved past or present in an FFA Program or attended/took agriculture related classes in a Cook County high school. A Cook County Farm Bureau membership is not required for this scholarship.

The Foundation Board has set the following criteria for the scholarship program:

- Applications must be completed and submitted to the CCFB Foundation by

February 15, 2022. Late applications will not be considered. Much of the application can be submitted electronically.

- All applicants must be members or dependents of members in good standing with the Cook County Farm Bureau for at least one year (with the exception of the Conserv FS Agriculture Career Scholarship).
- All applicants must be high school graduates accepted for enrollment by, or currently enrolled at, an accredited college, university, or community college.
- All applicants must be pursuing a field of study in agriculture, agri-business, or an agricultural related major with a focus on an ag-related career (food, fuel, or fiber).
- Scholarships will be awarded following application evaluation for exceptional academic ability, financial need, demonstrated interest in agriculture, evidence of self-help, and character.

For more information or an application, please contact the Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation at 708-354-3276 or access an application from our website www.cookcfb.org/foundation.

What is an Agricultural Career? Farming, of course, but so much more!



Food Checkout Day 2022 Food Pantry Match Donations

Food Pantry for Match: _____
 Your Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____
 Email Address: _____

Please make checks payable to: Cook County Farm Bureau. Checks should be mailed to: Cook County Farm Bureau, 6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525

All proceeds will be donated to Cook County food pantries.. **Deadline: March 7, 2022**

Access your great membership benefit package of discounts, deals, and services at www.cookcfb.org/membership/member-benefits