



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

JUNE

11-12	Conceal and Carry Class	12
16	Cubs vs. Padres Game	
20-22	Summer Ag Institute	12

JULY

22	An Evening for Ag Education Gala	12
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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

What is the Special Feature Pull-Out Section called in this month's publication on pages 5-8?

--BONUS QUESTION--
How will you plan on using the Special Feature?

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)

April Winner is Celena Santiago

Q. What is the name of the newest membership benefit offered to Cook County Farm Bureau members?

Answer: "A. The Cookie Garden"

Eating Local Resources Available

Illinois and Cook County is home to a variety of agriculture, including row and specialty crops. Learn more about specialty crops grown in Illinois as well as season extension and eating local during this short vignette <https://cookcfb.org/discover-local/meet-your-farmers>.



Horticulturist Greg Stack has fun sharing his vast knowledge of plants during Ag Day South including having students identify plants, learn the functions of plant parts, and use their sense of smell to enjoy the aromas of unique plants including herbs. The program was held on April 7th at the Children's Farm in Palos. For more photos from Ag Day, go to page 10.

Cook County Farm Bureau® Summer Selfie Contest

Join us as we kick off the Cook County Farm Bureau Summer Selfie Contest!

We are holding this contest to obtain usable and appropriate photos that accurately portray today's agriculture in Cook County. Win a cash prize or Farm Fresh Funds in June, July, and August by capturing the best photo from one of the selected categories. Don't forget to include yourself in the "selfie"!

Categories:

- 1) Farmers' Markets
- 2) Crops/Gardening
- 3) Farm Animals

Prizes:

Each month, a winning photo will be selected from each category. Winners will receive \$50, and all remaining entries will be entered into a random drawing to win \$20 in Farm Fresh Funds.

Photos will be featured in the Co-Operator, on our website, and social media.

Go to <https://cookcofarmbureau.wufoo.com/forms/rwk7mey1s46rup/> to submit entries. The contest is open to all members in good standing.

* Farm Bureau Farm Fresh Funds are funds that can be redeemed at local farm stands, greenhouses, and garden centers just as you would use cash.

Young Leaders Team Offers Young Agriculturalists a Multitude of Volunteer Opportunities

Through the decades of the Cook County Farm Bureau®, working with young members has been an important part of bringing fresh ideas and vitality to the organization.

The Young Leader Committee provides opportunities for younger members to learn more about the organization and participate in programs and activities to benefit themselves and other members.

In 2013, the Board of Directors approved an action plan to develop and activate a Young Leaders Committee with the goal of attracting younger (under age 35) agricultural and agriculture related professionals to the Farm Bureau to involve these members in Farm Bureau activities, programs, teams, and leadership. The idea was to blend service to agriculture, leadership development, and fellowship with teambuilding fun activities into a group of

agricultural professionals under the Farm Bureau umbrella.

The result has been a group of young professionals involved in farming and agriculturally related careers who developed service projects, supported agriculture literacy efforts, hosted fun group activities, and honed leadership skills. In recent years, this group of young professionals has hosted activities for members and families including cookouts, recruitment events, and activities at area attractions. Past leadership activities include "adopting" a third-grade classroom in Bedford Park, assisting with Ag Literacy Team activities, competing in the Illinois Farm Bureau® Young Leaders Discussion Meets, promoting consumer outreach activities at Summer Nights at Brookfield Zoo, and supporting social media outreach activities. The group has also

participated in numerous charitable activities including packing food at Feed My Starving Children and volunteering at the Greater Chicagoland Food Depository as well as hosting a holiday teen toy drive to benefit Toybox Connection and hosting a holiday coat, hat, and gloves donation drive for Together We Cope.

Young leader committees and groups have been a wonderful incubator for the development of strong, lifetime friendships, organizational leadership skills, and service to agriculture. Consistently, young leader members have focused on building something of worth, value, and meaning for farming and Cook County Farm Bureau. Individuals interested in learning more about the Young Leader Committee should contact Bona Heinsohn at bona@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 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!

ALOT Helps AG Leaders Today!



Pictured from left to right is Steve Koeller (IAA District 15 Director), Bryan Blau, Amy Hansmann, and Steve Stallman (IAA District 16 Director).

Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) created Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow (ALOT), an

agricultural leadership development program designed to give participants a head-start on tackling tomorrow's leadership responsibilities.

25 IFB members representing seventeen counties have successfully completed the 43rd ALOT program. **Bryan Blau** and **Amy Hansmann** represented Cook County. The 2022 ALOT sessions were held at Starved Rock, Springfield, DeKalb, Bloomington and via Zoom. To date, 21 Cook County Farm Bureau members have graduated from the program.

The eight-week training program allows participants to study and develop leadership skills in the areas of communication, political process, agricultural economics, and global issues.



Cook County Farm Bureau Director of Ag Literacy

Full Time Position

Major responsibilities include directing the Cook County Farm Bureau and Foundation Ag Literacy programming in area schools, developing curriculum and presentations for classroom and non-classroom use, working with volunteers and partners to deliver agriculture program experiences and partnering with other organizations/groups to enhance agricultural literacy in the county.

A competitive salary will be offered based on experience.

Benefits include group medical/dental/vision cost share, 2X term life, disability coverage, cafeteria plan, defined benefit retirement plan, 401(k) and PTO schedule.

Individuals interested in the position should submit questions and a letter of application, resume and references or inquiries by email to:

ccfb1920@gmail.com

HOW FARM BUREAU SERVED YOU IN APRIL

- ▶ **Hosted 300 students at an Ag Day event at The Children's Farm in Palos Park. Students, teachers, and chaperones learned about agriculture by visiting eight learning stations with bees, plants, livestock and even worms.**
- ▶ **Spearheaded revisions to Farm Bureau's Government Assistance Programs, Organic Agriculture, and Specialty Crop policies while also developing a Food Access policy.**
- ▶ **Discussed modern food growing techniques during the Tomorrow's Table book club and then with over 46,000 individuals via social media.**
- ▶ **Presented a Preparing Wills and Trusts workshop for members interested in preparing a will or trust.**
- ▶ **Engaged with dozens of individuals through Farm Bureau's soil testing program.**



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...

- Our 132 active volunteers (and counting) for providing your time, talent, knowledge, and skills to make CCFB what it is today!
- Mr. Greg Stack for his time and talents leading two Farm Shadow Programs at Ted's Greenhouse for 30 high school students. See article on Page 10 for more details.
- Beau Brown, Senior at Lyons Township High School, for his (and his family's) volunteerism in putting together 250 activity bags for youth visitors to our Lincoln Park Zoo event in April.
- Chicago High School for Ag Sciences students for serving as Group Leaders and educational assistants at our April 7th Ag Day where we hosted over 300 elementary students.
- Pete Soltesz for his donation of honey sticks & Kim Kulton for her work in packaging and hand stamping hundreds of pollinator seed packets for Ag Days.
- Sherry Grande and Julie Reynolds for running the Ag Literacy tables at the Lincoln Zoo event in April.
- Kim Morton for giving her Saturday to educate adults and youth about the amazing world of pollinators.
- Book Club participants for spending their evenings diving into the pages of Tomorrow's Table.
- Foundation scholarship recipients Jessica Biernacki, Katherine Manika, Elijah Floerke, Andrew Smits, Jennifer Miller, and Matthew Smits for introducing themselves to the Board of Directors and discussing their agricultural career aspirations.

Statement from the Farm Bureau Regarding the Expansion of E15 Gasoline Sales to Include Summertime Transactions

The following is a statement from Illinois Farm Bureau President Richard Guebert, Jr. regarding President Biden's announcement in April that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will allow E15 gasoline (gasoline that uses a 15% ethanol blend) to be sold this summer.

"Illinois Farm Bureau welcomes the Biden Administration's decision to permit summertime sales of E15 for the purpose of addressing high gasoline prices caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. More demand for ethanol-blended fuels should help reduce prices at the pump.

"Illinois Farm Bureau supports the administration's efforts to incentivize

infrastructure that expands capacity for higher levels of renewable fuel blends, while also incentivizing oil companies to resume oil production from inactive wells located on federal lands."

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

Co-Operator

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Cook County Farm Bureau

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Downwind

by Bob Rohrer, CCFB Manager

“Appreciate a Teacher Today!” (Part 1)



The Illinois Farm Bureau ad on Teacher Appreciation Week shown below caused me to harken back to consider and remember teachers that influenced me. I am sure that all of us have teachers who impacted us greatly in life. I certainly do! I was surprised by the number of teachers that came to mind immediately. I do have a lot of “appreciating” to do! Let me begin!

I appreciate my 2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Anderson, and here is why:

Mrs. Anderson taught me in 2nd grade at a tiny, 3-class school (part of the Aledo school district) in Mercer County, Illinois. In the middle of my second grade year of school, my Dad, the Farmer, and Mom were provided with a new farming opportunity. We moved over Christmas break and I started the difficult task of attending a new school as a part of ROVA school district in Knox County, Illinois. A few weeks later, I received a huge envelope from Mrs. Anderson filled with letters from my classmates letting me know that they missed me and wished me well. What an awesome gesture! I still have that packet of “Dear Bobby” letters today!

Ironically, when I began working with the Farm Bureau, the IAA Credit Union had a long time employee by the name of Brent Anderson who happens to be my second grade teacher, Mrs. Anderson’s husband. It was great to become reacquainted. Furthermore, the Anderson’s son, Kent, worked for Farm Bureau Affiliate, Country Trust Bank. I had the privilege of working with Kent as the Cook County Farm Bureau’s investment advisor for several years. It is a small world.

Mrs. Anderson was a teacher with impact!

I appreciate my 5th grade teacher, Mr. Nelson, and here is why:

Mr. Nelson taught 5th grade at Victoria Elementary School. Each day, following lunch and a recess of tag, baseball, and falling off the monkey bars, Mr.

Nelson would spend a few minutes reading a book to the class (to attempt to settle down some wound up kids?). I vividly remember him reading this amazing fantasy book entitled “The Hobbit”. I did not want him to stop reading. In fact, I begged him to borrow the book for a night and I promptly went home and devoured the words from J.R.R. Tolkien. I have read and re-read the book (and now watched and re-watched the movie) for many years now.



Victoria Grade School

Mr. Nelson also led an elementary school “experiences” program in which students at Victoria Grade School were introduced to activities outside of reading, writing, and arithmetic. Two of those activities I was introduced to in 5th grade are at the center of hobbies that I treasure today: flyfishing and road biking.

I was so lousy as I tried to cast a fly rod at age 11, not understanding the “load/unload” casting concept at the time (while only marginally better, I do understand the concept now!).

I also remember road biking on those country blacktops with my long-handled coasterbrake bicycle with a banana seat and being so envious of my classmates with those fancy bikes featuring multiple “gears” and “skinny tires” whenever a hill approached! No, it did not have a bell and a basket.

Mr. Nelson was a teacher with impact!

I appreciate a “guest” teacher, Mr. Sommer, and here is why:



We had a guest speaker at the Victoria Grade School (2nd or 3rd grade) come in from Country Companies Insurance to talk to the class. The speaker was Doug Sommer from the Country Companies Insurance Community Relations department. His topic was bike safety, using the “Ready Rider” educational program.

Later, while in high school, Mr. Sommer came for my driver’s education class about the impact of safe driving and a skid demonstration.

Finally, I worked with Mr. Sommer and his counterparts with Safety training at the County Farm Bureau level for years (as recently as 2019, as an independent contractor, Mr. Sommer taught defensive driving at Cook County Farm Bureau!).

Talk about a guest speaker with impact!

I appreciate our CCFB Ag in the Classroom teachers and here is why:

Consider this...the Cook County Farm Bureau began its Ag in the Classroom Program in 1986. Since that time, our Ag Literacy Teachers have brought the story of farmers and agricultural products to the classroom of hundreds of thousands of students. I have to wonder how many “life impacts” to grade school students we been fortunate enough to be a part of? As guest “teachers”, our Ag Literacy Presenters skillfully blend farming facts, modern production, the farm-to-fork story, terminology, and impactful hands-on activities to create life impact moments!

Every day, during the school year, your Cook County Farm Bureau Ag Literacy Program and the teachers that support us are having an impact on somebody within and outside of the organization.

These presenters have great impact!

Do any of the above individuals know the impact they had on my life? (Probably not unless they accidentally read this column). However, these and other teachers have had a huge impact on me and many others!

Cook County Farm Bureau is proud to have many teachers that are members. In recognition of Teacher Appreciation Week, I just want to express true thanks to our teaching members on behalf of the Cook County Farm Bureau for all you do to impact people (like me) every day!

Next Month...Part 2 of my Teacher Appreciation column: high school, college, and beyond!



Your South Holland Agency



Jeff Orman
Agency Manager
708-560-7777



Andrew Carrell
South Holland
708-596-3999



Randall Cox
Flossmoor
708-679-1870



Elliot Day
Flossmoor
708-679-1870



Gary Molenhouse
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815-478-0190



Josh Van Namen
Worth
708-361-3925



Jim Pathemore
Orland Park
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Tim Perchinski
Steger
708-754-7300



Bob Smith
Homewood
708-798-4844



Paul Turay
Mokena
708-478-0423



John VanGennep
Mokena
708-478-5500



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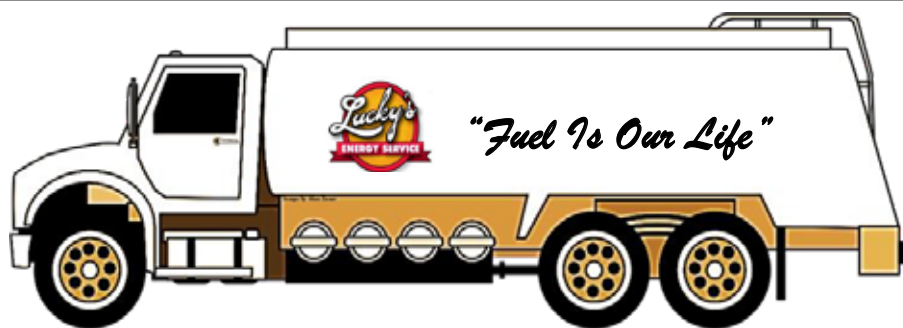
John Tymms
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708-480-5091



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

Planting the Unofficial Start to the New Year



Spring upstages January in delivering a fresh start, a contagious feeling when flowers bloom, more mushrooms pop and calves frolic through greening pastures. Warming temperatures recharge motivations to grill out, eat healthier and take walks. We again experience the satisfying exhaustion of days spent in fresh air and sunshine.

I welcome this season when my family acts on our resolution to grow better crops in better ways, making this month a more ideal start to the New Year than January 1. In fact, I'll stay up past midnight more in this single spring planting season than the last several New Year's Eves combined.

Since harvest, our farm has serviced the planters and tractors, stocked seed, prepared the planter maps and loaded seeding prescriptions in the monitors. We studied last year's harvest data, planned new test plots, researched soil-improving microbials and prepped the planters to give millions of seeds equal opportunity to

produce a better crop than the last.

Thousands of farm families like ours across Illinois will work in windows of favorable weather and ground conditions to plant corn, soybeans and other crops that cover about 75% of the state's land mass. Planting season re-energizes the state's quiet landscape, painting this blank canvas with seeds to grow golden tassels and bushy soybean plants. In our gardens, seeds promise feathery carrot tops and scratchy squash vines. Our daughter aims for sky-reaching sunflower blossoms for an FFA and 4-H project.

Technology has introduced the art of satellite-guided rows and picket-fence stands. The tractor drives itself hands-free, allowing corn to sprout in straight rows at precise spacing like posts on a yard fence. Ideally, the plants emerge at the same time, courtesy of ground pressure sensors that help sow seed at consistent depths. The planter operates via satellite guidance in the absence of a row marker, the steel "arm" that once reached out to etch a line in the soil for the tractor to follow the next pass.

In many ways, the process of planting represents an act of faith and a belief in tomorrow. When the weather threatens or field conditions seem too ideal to stop, we may experience today and tomorrow in the same work session.

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

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

Sears X-cargo car roof top storage carrier, 50" long x 22" high x 37" wide, used once, like new. \$125. Call 773-229-9123.

Ivers & Pond upright piano, good condition, needs tune-up, free, you must arrange pick-up and move. Call Mike at 708-296-0247.

2002 Jaguar XKR 100 limited edition, supercharged convertibles, every available option, with 16k on it. For details call Jim 773-581-4400.

Courvoisier Erte collection Limited Edition, un-opened and other collectible items. Call for pricing 773-581-4400.

Futon queen size in excellent condition. \$165. Call Mike 847-910-5745.

For Rent

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.

Wanted

Wanted to buy broken or good gold jewelry, honest prices paid, turn broken chains, bracelets, earrings, dental gold into cash. Call Bob 708-602-3350.

Wanted to buy vintage and old toys, planes, trains, automobiles, and boats etc. Old balloon tire bicycles, 20' high rise handlebar bikes, motor bikes, and motorcycles. Also looking to purchase a home safe. Call 708-361-8230.

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

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

Wanted: Part Time worker to provide periodic 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 8-12 hours per week. 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

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 March 2022. His office is located at 5750 Old Orchard Rd., Ste 550, in Skokie, IL. His phone number is 773-728-3041. Mirsad has been a Financial Representative since February 2010.



Lucas Dyhrkopp

Chicago North Agency, Victoria Nygren, Agency Manager

Lucas Dyhrkopp has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for March 2022. His office is located at 1011 Lake St., Ste 410, in Oak Park, IL. His phone number is 773-765-0010. Lucas has been a Financial Representative since September 2021.



Matt Powell

Chicago Northeast, Sharon Stemke, Agency Manager

Matt Powell has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for March 2022. His office is located at 4200 W. Euclid Ave., Ste E., in Rolling Meadows, IL. His phone number is 847-934-5117. Matt has been a Financial Representative since February 2005.



Kathy Spiewak

Chicago Northwest, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager

*Kathy Spiewak has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for March 2022. His office is located at 11 W Wise Rd., in Schaumburg IL. Her phone number is 847-716-1010. Kathy has been a Financial Representative since February 2007.



Matthew Below

Chicago Northwest, Kevin Gomes, Agency Manager

Matthew Below has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for March 2022. His office is located at 1515 E. Woodfield Rd., Ste.930, in Schaumburg, IL. His phone number is 847-891-3151. Matt has been a Financial Representative since September 2019.



Gwen Shaw

Chicago South Agency, Jeff Maxson, Agency Manager

*Gwen Shaw has been named Career Financial Representative of the month for March 2022. Her office is located at 820 E.87th St., Ste. 212 in Chicago, IL. Her phone number is 773-487-0919. Gwen has been a Financial Representative since March 2009.



Kirk Gregory Jr.

Chicago South Agency, Jeff Maxson, Agency Manager

Kirk Gregory Jr. has been named Employee Financial Representative of the month for February 2022. His office is located at 1401 State St., Ste# 150, in Chicago, IL. His phone number is 773-619-0649. Kirk has been a Financial Representative since February 2018.



Bill Thompson

Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager

Bill Thompson has been named Career Financial Representative of the Month for March 2022. His office is located at 106 Stephen St., Ste 102A, in Lemont, IL. His phone number is 708-361-1304. Bill has been a Financial Representative since August 2000.



Nadia Abueid

Orland Park Agency, Cary Tate, Agency Manager

Nadia Abueid has been named Employee Financial Representative of the Month for February 2022. 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.



Lionel Chavez

South Holland Agency, Jeff Orman, Agency Manager

Lionel Chavez has been named Career Financial Representative of the Month for March 2022. His office is located at 30 S. Ash St., in Frankfort, IL. His phone number is 815-464-0219. Lionel has been a Financial Representative since August 2001.

*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.



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Cookcfb.org/discover-local/shop-local



Discover Local

Co-Operator May 2022
Pull-Out Section

Featured Local Businesses

- Flowers/Plants
- Produce
- Landscape
- Farm Stands
- Honey & Bees
- Livestock & Feed
- Hay & Straw
- And Much More!!

Join Cook County Farm Bureau® in supporting agricultural and small businesses.

Greenhouse, Garden Centers, Farm Stands, Landscape & Ag Businesses

61st St. Farmers Market/Experimental Station

6100 S. Blackstone Ave., Chicago

(773) 241-6044



Big John's Farm Market

1754 E. Joe Orr Rd., Chicago Heights

(708) 758-2711



The Children's Farm at the Center

12700 Southwest Hwy Palos Park

(708) 361-3650



Delair's Corn Stalk Farm

13901 Wolf Road, Orland Park

(708) 785-9532



Goebbert's Farm & Garden Center

40 W. Higgins Rd., South Barrington

(847) 428-672



Growing Solutions Farm

2200 W. Campbell Park Drive, Chicago



50 Acre Barn Farm at Evergreen Park District

91st Rockwell Ave., Evergreen Park

(708) 422-1551



Brandau's Farmstand

10544 W. 191 St., Mokena

(708) 479-7575



Clarke's Garden Center & Stone Depot

2061 E 14th St., Lynwood

(708) 758-8500



Deer Creek Farms

360 E Glenwood-Dyer Rd., Glenwood

(708) 441-7751



Goebbert's Pumpkin Patch

42W813 Reinking Rd., Hampshire

(847) 464-5952



Herban Produce

2900 W. Van Buren St., Chicago

(708) 254-4016



AM Lewis Farms

4019 206th St., Matteson

(708) 714-7668



Bultema's Farmstand & Greenhouse

2785 E. Lincoln Hwy., Lynwood

(708) 758-1565



Crete Garden Center & Nursery

1625 East Richton Rd., Crete

(708) 672-0900



Garfield Produce Company

401 N. Trumbull Ave. Unit B, Chicago

(773) 703-1142



Gorman Farm Fresh Produce

6607 West Bruns Rd., Monee

(708) 534-2375



Historic Wagner Farms

1510 Wagner Rd., Glenview

(847) 657-1506



- Agritourism	- Equine	- Flowers/Plants	- Feed	- Farm Stand	- Hay/Straw
- Herbs	- Honey	- Landscape	- Livestock	- Produce	- Pumpkins



Greenhouse, Garden Centers, Farm Stands, & Landscape Cont.



Horchers Farm & Country Flower Shop

910 McHenry Rd., Wheeling
(847) 541-3276



M & D Farms

14946 Bell Rd., Homer Glen
(708) 935-1715



Ray's Quality Greenhouse

117 E. 231st St., Steger
(312) 608-7042



Ted's Greenhouse, Inc.

16930 S. 84th Ave., Tinley Park
(708) 532-3575



West End Florist & Garden Center

3800 Old Glenview Rd., Evanston
(847) 251-1943



Kolze's Corner Gardens

12717 Rt. 176, Woodstock
(815) 338-1475



McCarthy Farms

9700 W 167th St., Orland Park
(708) 349-2158



Santa Fe Landscaping & Nursery Inc

3450 W Crete Monee Rd., Monee
(708) 534-3600



Van Kalker Farms & Greenhouses

1808 E. Joe Orr Rd., Chicago Hts
(708) 758-1732



Windy City Harvest/The Farm on Ogden

35555 W. Ogden Ave., Chicago
(847) 835-6807



Melka Landscaping and Garden Center

11606 179th St., Mokena
(708) 349-6989



Schroeder's Home Landscape

& Drainage Supply
10800 Southwest Hwy., Worth
(708) 448-1144



VanderGriends Farm Stand

2812 Glenwood Lansing Rd., Lansing
(708) 474-1255



Zeldenrust Farm Market

1001 Glenwood Dyer Rd., Chicago Hts
(708) 758-5058



The Hive
1701 S. Clinton Ave., Chicago
(312) 989-0551



Puckerville Farms

13332 Bell Rd., Lemont
(708) 508-0906



Zee's Bees at Zeldenrust Farms
1001 Glenwood Dyer Rd., Chicago Hts
(708) 758-5058



Bee All About It
(630) 207-4255



Honey Bee Gardens Farm
8405 Kearney Rd. Downers Grove
(630) 269-4345



S & S Apiaries
24222 S Center Rd., Frankfort
(815) 464-1566



Deane Day
(630) 516-3676



Moraine Valley Honey Farm
(630) 816-0738



Simrayh Apiaries
(630) 546-0497



Bees and Honey



- Agritourism	- Equine	- Flowers/Plants	- Feed	- Farm Stand	- Hay/Straw
- Herbs	- Honey	- Landscape	- Livestock	- Produce	- Pumpkins

Livestock, Equine, Hay/Straw, and Feed

9 Acres Equestrian Center
12211 South La Grange Road #1149 Palos Park
(708) 361-7977



Forest View Farms
16717 S Lockwood, Tinley Park
(708) 560-0306



The Feed Store
5400 S Harlem Ave., Summit, IL
(708) 458-1327



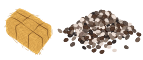
Janet McCabe
8420 W. 135 St., Orland Park
(708) 259-7319



Kopping Farms
12300 115th St., Lemont
(630) 257-7271



Ludwig's Feed Store
13205 131st St., Lemont
(630) 257-3097



Mark Yunker
24400 S Scheer Rd., Frankfort
(708) 309-2622



Mike Rauch
18330 67th Ct., Tinley Park
(708) 269-6961



Sarah's Pony Rides
Willow Springs
(630) 802-1316



Stanley Luke Farms
10101 5th Ave Cutoff, LaGrange
(708) 352-1073



Value Added

Crop Protectants

Conserv FS
1110 McConnell Rd., Woodstock
(815) 334-5950

Conserv FS
7851 183rd St., Tinley Park
(708) 532-4723

Florists

Kiko's Flower Shop
127 N. NW Hwy., Park Ridge
(847) 696-4226

Fencing

Freeman Fencing
3515 Cleveland Ave., Brookfield
(800) 495-0485

Distillery/Winery

Whiskey Acres Distilling Co.
11504 Keslinger Rd., DeKalb
(844) 494-4753

Garlic & Mushrooms

Galena Garlic Company
311 S Main St., Galena
(815) 777-9625

Galena Garlic Company
318 W State St., Geneva
(855) 464-2754

Gibby's Gourmet Mushrooms, LLC
10347 Oxford Ave. Chicago Ridge
(708) 912-0991 or (708) 307-3732

For more gardening resources and connections, go to <https://cookcfb.org/discover-local/farm-products-locator>.

Visit Cook County Farm Bureau® member Greenhouses, Garden Centers, and Farms for all your outdoor needs this spring!

We always run the risk of leaving a Cook County Farm Bureau member business off a list like this and that is certainly not our intention. We continue to update the "Buy Local" area of our website and encourage any member who wants to be added to the database to contact the office at (708) 354-3276 or email us at ccfb@cookcfb.org.

 - Agritourism	 - Equine	 - Flowers/Plants	 - Feed	 - Farm Stand	 - Hay/Straw
 - Herbs	 - Honey	 - Landscape	 - Livestock	 - Produce	 - Pumpkins

EQ COMPOST

Additional information or to order:
<https://mwrdr.org/eq-compost>
<https://mwrdr.org/biosolids>



EQ Compost meets the highest standard set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and can be used in vegetable gardens to reduce fertilizer needs and as a soil amendment for growing crops, ornamentals, trees and turfgrass. EQ Compost is available through the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.



Cook County Farm Bureau offers both members and non-members an opportunity to test their garden or lawn soil by purchasing a soil testing kit.

Soil, in its natural state, is rarely fertile enough for the best growth of plants. Usually, it is necessary to supplement the earth's store of plant nutrients before we can obtain the most vigorous lawn, the most abundant and brilliant flowers, the most aesthetically satisfying trees/shrubs, and the greatest yield of tasty and nutritious vegetables or crops.

Test your soil pH, potassium, phosphorous, and other key elements to begin the soil improvement process. Complete kit guidelines and instructions, as well as mailing information, included in the test kit. Members will receive test results and basic recommendations within two weeks.

SOIL TESTING KITS

Farm Bureau Soil Test Kit
discounted member pricing:

- 1 sample Soil Test Kit: \$27
- 2 sample kit: \$35
- 3 sample kit: \$53
- 1 sample Soil & Lead Test Kit: \$53
- 1 sample Lead Only Test Kit: \$45

Non-member pricing also available.

Costs are subject to change.

To order, call 708-354-3276, using a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover at no additional charge.



Cook County Farm Bureau

6438 Joliet Road
 Countryside, IL 60525
 (708) 354-3276
ccfb@cookcfb.org

Visit our website

www.cookcfb.org

Like us on Facebook

facebook.com/Cook.County.Farm.Bureau.IL

Manifolds, Manolos, and Manure



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

I may have been born in the south, but my heart lies with the Chicago Cubs.

As a kid I would listen to Harry Caray, Pat Hughes, Ron Santo, and Chip Caray on WGN Radio. I sang along with the seventh inning

stretch. With my glove in tow, I went to my first game on a bus with our local Moose Lodge.

Most afternoons I'd call my grandma to complain that Sammy Sosa "couldn't hit the broadside of a barn" before heading off to play summer league softball under the field lights. I spent most of my time behind home plate except for when I moonlighted at first base for a season or two. My depth perception is pretty sketchy, so outfield was never the right fit. And much to my mom's disappointment third base just didn't work out.

As a parent I celebrated when my blue-eyed girl wanted to play summer league softball. Froze during fall ball. And hid in the car for spring ball. It wasn't until she started playing Northern Illinois Softball Association (NISA) ball that I started to surface from the car. Her coach was my big-little boy's babysitter, and she needed an assistant. Cue the beginning of my coaching career.

Together we coached three seasons a year. During practices I'd run the bases so the girls could bat. Field. And throw out runners leading off and stealing first and second base. At games I was stationed at first as I tend to be a more aggressive base runner.

My blue-eyed girl played softball until

we moved until our new-to-us-farmhouse. I assumed my days on the ball field were over when she decided that she just didn't have time between barrel racing, drill, and the fair.

Earlier this year, our big-little boy declared that he wanted to join little league. We had assumed that he wasn't interested. He had been dragged to every one of his sister's games and most of her practices since he arrived on the scene that hot June night. And he rarely showed interest in the sport...or really in any sport.

His baseball practices kicked off in April. We cringed as he declared that he knew how to pitch. Hid our faces when he shouted that he didn't know where second base was. And celebrated as he started to hit and field.

Our big-little boy is very comfortable with all things physical. He could run before he could talk. He learned to ride a bike before his older blue-eyed sister. He longs to ice skate. Roller skate. And visit a waterpark. His blue-eyed sister, not so much.

He simply glowed the first time he wore his cleats to practice and when said cleats came home dirty he couldn't contain his excitement. He giggled when he found a baseball in the barn. And raced into the backyard to practice hitting with his sister.

We're barely into his first season and really don't know if baseball will be his sport. But his excitement. Enthusiasm. And giggles make it worth it. It's my hope that as we continue looking at the season, be it baseball. The growing season. Or political season that we can find joy, humor, and excitement.

Bona can be reached at Bona@cookcfb.org

Farm Bureau Considering Changes to Specialty Crop Policy

Cook County Farm Bureau® leaders are looking into updates to Farm Bureau's specialty crop policy to reflect the exponential growth of the industry and its importance to Cook County's agricultural economy.

Farm Bureau's policy currently provides:

Specialty crops are defined as fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops including floriculture.

We support:

1. Enhancing the industry's image and recognize the importance of its contribution to the agricultural economy.
2. Providing programming, legislative, and marketing efforts for the continued growth and development of various specialty crops that are not already defined as such within the Farm Bill.
3. An indemnification program that provides for losses of plants and nursery stocks that need to be eradicated to control the spread of serious communicable diseases. The program should be funded by state/federal sources and the indemnity payments should be based upon current market values.

Members interested in providing comments and feedback are encouraged to contact Bona Heinsohn at bona@cookcfb.org.

Special Service Areas Can Make for Efficient Government

Special Service Areas (SSAs) have been around since the 1970s, but awareness of them is not well established. In fact, the use of SSAs might be a new concept to most people. The 1870 Illinois Constitution mandated uniform taxation, thus prohibiting counties and municipalities from levying a tax to a limited geographic area for public improvements or services. However, in 1970, the Illinois Constitutional Convention altered the constitution to grant municipalities and counties this authority.

SSAs are characterized as a contiguous area within a municipality or county in which special governmental services and/or physical improvements are funded. Those services are in addition to services that would otherwise be provided by the general-purpose unit of government and are confined to and financed by only the area receiving the benefit.

An SSA is created under the existing county or municipal government. The benefit of creating and administering the SSA under an existing unit of government is it reduces the need to create a new special-purpose unit of government, with its own taxing authority, to provide that service. It also allows counties and municipalities to perform services or improvements without incurring debt or levying a tax within an entire jurisdiction.

Each year, Illinois is populated with new units of government, and most of them are special-purpose districts. The primary reason for that is because the need to provide new services often puts financial pressure on existing units of government. Typically, the existing units of government are already taxing at their maximum rate, leaving little opportunity to generate revenue to fund a new service. By establishing a new special-purpose unit of government to perform the service(s), a new government body with its own taxing authority, personnel, facilities, etc. is created.

What if that same service could be provided without creating a new unit of government? Let's use the installation of a sanitary sewer as an example. This type of costly project can benefit a targeted group of property owners who have a common interest in the improvement.

Other examples of activities and services provided by an SSA include

- Sidewalk improvements
- Storm sewers
- Improving trash removal
- Special event services and decorations
- Street improvements

In addition to helping control the number of newly created units of government, the formation of an SSA has benefits for property owners, including

- The ability to complete large, potentially very costly improvements
- The opportunity to fund those larger, expensive improvements over a period of time
- The option to finance improvements at a low interest rate
- The completion of improvements likely to increase property value and quality of life

Once an SSA is created, the financing for the improvements is tied to properties and not individual property owners. If one of the property owners moves, the tax payments stay with the property and become the obligation of the new owner.

To your area's SSAs, visit: www2.illinois.gov and search for "Property Tax Statistics" and then "Special Service Areas".

Farm Bureau Welcomes Supreme Court Decision to Hear Prop 12 Case

(Originally published by the American Farm Bureau Federation® in March, 2022)

American Farm Bureau Federation® (AFBF) President Zippy Duvall today commented on the U.S. Supreme Court decision to hear the case against California's Proposition 12 filed by AFBF and the National Pork Producers Council. The state law seeks to ban the sale of pork from hogs that don't meet the state's arbitrary production standards, even if the pork was raised on farms outside of California.

"AFBF is pleased with the Supreme Court's decision to consider the constitutionality of California's law imposing arbitrary requirements on farmers well outside its borders. We share California's goal of ensuring animals are well cared for, but Prop 12 fails to advance that goal. We look forward to presenting the facts to the Court, including how Prop 12 hamstring farmers' efforts to provide a safe environment for their animals, while harming small family farms and raising pork prices across the country. One state's misguided law should not dictate farming practices for an entire nation."

Laws like Prop 12 can have significant unintended consequences. The costs to comply with new rules could be too great for small farms, making it difficult to stay in business and driving more consolidation in agriculture. They could put animal welfare at risk. Or they could limit how farmers combat disease in crops and livestock. While voters in California wanted to ensure that animals were well cared for, Prop 12 doesn't achieve that goal. And one state's misguided law certainly shouldn't dictate farming practices across the country.

Prop 12 is the perfect example of how people's good intentions can result in bad policy because of over-simplification of complicated issues. California voters were told that Prop 12 would lead to healthier and safer animals because pregnant sows would be able to move around with other pregnant sows and not be kept in gestation stalls. However, farmers know that sows become incredibly aggressive and dangerous at certain points during their pregnancy. Larger sows steal food from smaller sows, and often violently lash out at them. Gestation stalls keep pregnant sows apart from one another for their safety and to ensure they are getting the proper nutrition and care they need to keep themselves and their piglets safe.

The animal welfare discussion about the design and use of gestation stalls is a separate issue from the question here: whether individual states should be able to dictate standards on farms far beyond their borders. The implications are substantial for interstate commerce—for farmers, consumers and the entire food supply chain.

Farm Bureau is pleased that the Court has decided to hear our case. Now you can bet we'll roll-up our sleeves and do our best to present an honest picture of the high stakes that hang in the balance for agriculture.

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

An additional property tax can be created on parcels within a defined Special Service Area.

Example of an SSA Applied Property Tax:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Home / Property Market Value} &= \$150,000 \times 1/3 \text{ of EAV (Equalized Assessed Value)} = \$50,000 \\ \text{Estimated Annual SSA Payment} &= \$50,000 \times .03 (\$.30 \text{ SSA rate per } \$100 \text{ of EAV}) = \mathbf{\$150} \end{aligned}$$



Diane Merrion, CCFB Director of Ag Literacy

Ag Lit Bit

Expression Through Art

Student evaluation forms from our 3rd Grade Ag Day Program started arriving in the mail. As I opened the first packet of student evaluations, I realized I did not need to read the words they wrote but flip to the back side of each evaluation to see how the students completed the last request, "Please draw a colorful picture on the back showing us what you learned today." Their artwork told the real story of what they learned at this Ag Day experience including drawings of

- A hand holding several worms and people looking at a worm through a microscope (composting)
- A pig with a thought bubble saying, "I am so smart and so clean." (pig station)
- A drawing of a man holding up giant leaves and plants for them to touch and smell (horticulture)
- A queen bee laying eggs in a hive and "the workers" working hard (pollination)
- A student self-portrait with thought bubbles thinking about all the facts she learned

Our evaluations serve as a type of formative assessment to get a snapshot of what the students understood, retained, and observed during the learning stations. Their pictures

showed us takeaways we may not have realized unless they were drawn for us. Did they hear the speaker explain the main function of a leaf is to produce food for the plant by photosynthesis? They sure did as we looked at a drawing of a plant growing, with the sun shining overhead and the words, "The leaves are gathering food." Did they learn the queen bee's main function is to lay eggs? They sure did as we saw a drawing of a bee with a crown and the words, "gave birth."

While our program opened the world of agriculture to these 300 children, we are confident the learning that took place traveled beyond the farm that day. Beyond their amazing drawings, they wrote great answers to our question, "What are you going to tell your family about agriculture?"

- That agriculture is way more interesting than you think.
- I am going to tell my parents that agriculture is all around us.
- That there is lots of work to do.
- That we use stuff from the farm every day.
- I am going to tell my family that I learned a lot of stuff about the animals and farm and plants and it was fun.
- That sheep have to shave every few months!

Diane can be reached at aitc@cookcfb.org.



Farm Shadow Programs Focuses on Horticulture

Our Ag Literacy Team was pleased to host 30 students over two days for a farm shadow program at Ted's Greenhouse in Tinley Park. Horticulturist Greg Stack shared his vast knowledge of the industry as he provided a behind the scenes look at the jobs that are involved in a production greenhouse. Students were given pre-work questions on horticulture scenarios to answer prior to the visit that were developed by Mr. Stack such as, "Today, greenhouse soils or medium are 'constructed' using a variety of materials, soil not one of them. What are some of the materials used to 'build' growing medium for greenhouse use?"

After a walkthrough of the operation, students were divided into groups to get a closer look at one of three aspects of the work areas that included: seeding (how it is done in a commercial greenhouse), herb production (including how to produce a saleable crop), and vegetative crop production.

"It was an amazing experience, and I am very grateful for it. Going to Ted's Greenhouse actually solidified my future plans," shared one high school senior who will attend UW-Madison and major in Biological Systems Engineering with a minor in Plant Studies.

Our thanks to the Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation and Compeer Financial for providing funding for our Farm Shadow Program that allows high school students the opportunity to experience agriculture careers and to Ted's Greenhouse in Tinley Park and their amazing team including Greg, Tilly, and Steve.



Greg Stack shows students the components that make up the different soil "recipes" used at Ted's Greenhouse.



The herb area of the greenhouse provided a sensory experience to rub and smell a wide variety of interesting herbs such as Pineapple Mint and Banana Mint.

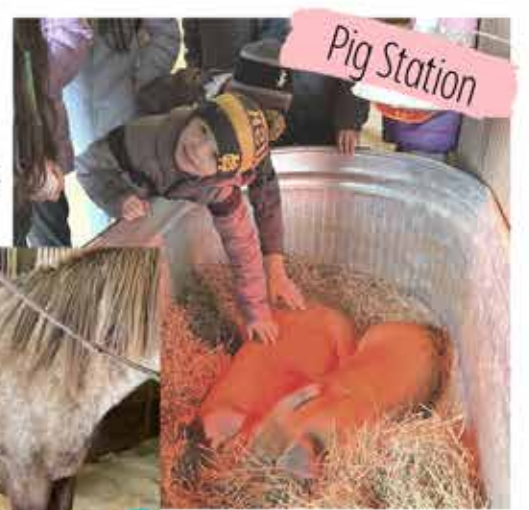
Ag Day South Engages ALL



Bee Station

Over 300 students and teachers attended our Ag Day at The Children's Farm in Palos Park. Rotating through eight learning stations the students' faces told the story of how important it is to be back in person. Thanks to all volunteers including the team at The Children's Farm (animals), Nancy Kreith and U of I Ext. Master

Gardeners (Compost/Worms), Horticulturist Greg Stack (Plant Station), Pete Soltesz and Kim Kulton (Bees) and the students from the Chicago High School of Ag Sciences who served as Group Leaders



Pig Station



Chicken Station



Plant Station



Horse Station



Cow Station



Worm Station

AG DAY 2022

Agriculture Adventures for Families

This month you will start to see many machines in the fields as farmers start to plant their crops. While we may use smaller tools and machines for our home gardens such as hoes, spades, spreaders and mowers, farmers who have larger stretches of land rely on specialized machines to help them get their seeds planted over many acres of land. Just how big is an acre? About the size of a football field or 43,560 sq. feet. You will even be able to bid on a tractor/combine ride at our Fundraiser this July 22nd and see how the farmers harvest the crops they planted this month.

Farmers use lots of different equipment to get the job done.



Tractor

This is one of the most important pieces of equipment that a farmer has. They use it to pull equipment and crop wagons. The equipment company makes the cabs of these very comfortable, too. The farmer picks the tractor size based on what they want to pull with it.

Drone

Drones continue to change agriculture. They can quickly survey large stretches of farmland, provide maps of the land, report on crop health, improve spraying accuracy, monitor livestock, provide irrigation and much more as a part of more precise agriculture management. Some drones are even being developed for aerial planting which involves the use of drones to plant seeds pods in the soil so that planting can be done remotely or automatically.



Baler

This is pulled by the tractor and used to make bales out of crops like hay. It makes a round/square bale that is 4'x4' tall. Each bale will feed about 25 cows a day.



Combine

This is used to harvest all kinds of crops. It does more than one thing--like pick and clean the crop. Modern combines can cost several hundred thousand dollars, which is why many farmers share them.



Row Planter

The containers at the top hold the seeds to be planted. This is pulled across the field that the farmer wants to plant. Today's planters can plan up to 48 rows at once.



Seed Drill

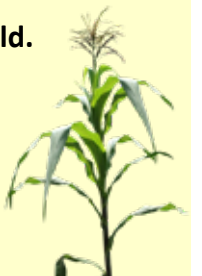
This is pulled by a tractor. It is used to plant grains and vegetable seeds. This can make different kinds of ditches that the seeds go in depending on what kind of soil there is.



AG-venture with Corn!!

Match the supply chain step with its explanation.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Pollination B. Transportation C. Harvesting D. Planting E. Storing F. Processing G. Maturing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Farmers use machines called combines to separate the kernels from the ears. 2. Pollen from the tassel lands on the silks of the ear to eventually form the kernels. 3. A tractor pulls a piece of machinery that drops kernels into the ground. 4. Corn is loaded on semi-trucks, trains, and barges and taken all over the U.S. and the world. 5. After 120 days, the corn is ready for harvest. 6. After the corn is harvested, it is taken to a grain elevator where it is prepared for sale. 7. The corn is used for many products, including food, fuel, and animal feed. |
|---|---|



Source: Ag in the Classroom and <https://beyondthebarndoor.files.wordpress.com/2021/08/agventure-with-corn.pdf>

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

May Word Search

- | | |
|---------|-------------|
| Acre | Grains |
| Baler | Harvest |
| Combine | Hay |
| Corn | Row Planter |
| Crops | Seed Drill |
| Drone | Soil |
| Farm | Tractor |
| Field | Vegetables |

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

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Membership #: _____

(Membership # is located on front of paper)

If you were to win, check your preference:

___ Beggar's Pizza GC ___ HRI GC ___ 3 Movie Tix
 (If a choice is not made, movie tickets will be sent)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

Choose your prize:

Choices include a \$25 Beggar's Pizza Gift Card, a \$25 Home Run Inn Gift Card, OR *3 AMC Movie Tickets *AMC Yellow tickets not valid in California, New York & New Jersey.

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

Mail to: Cook Co. Farm Bureau

Ag Adventures Word Search

6438 Joliet Rd

Countryside, IL 60525

Fax to: 708-579-6056

Email to: 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..



Robert Fox

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.



Conceal and Carry Class 16-hour Training

The ABCs of self-defense, tools, and tactics to keep you safe. No FOID is required to complete this class and obtain your training certificate. Must be at least 21 to participate. Please bring a pen and lunch both days.

Date: Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12

Time: 9am -5pm (both days)

Location: CCFB building and Villa Park VFW (The gun range will be held at the VFW on Sunday afternoon.)

Price: \$160 Members/\$175 Non-Members (The price includes range fee, targets, classroom materials, gun rental, ammunition, eye, and ear protection.) \$80 for Veterans (only need to attend class on the 12th).

Registration/Description: Call the CCFB at 708-354-3276.

Tomorrow's Table Book Club Concludes



"It seems almost inevitable that genetic engineering will play an increasingly important role in agriculture. The question is not whether we should use genetic engineering, but more pressingly, how should we use it – to what responsible purpose?" (Chapter 15 Deconstructing Dinner)

At the end of March, Cook County Farm Bureau® members concluded their dive into Tomorrow's Table by Pamela Ronald and Raoul Adamchak. Together Ronald and Adamchak argue that a blend of organic farming and genetic engineering is key to helping feeding the world's growing population.

In addition to discussing the reading during three meetings, book club participants were

joined by organic farmer and author Adamchak who discussed not only the writing process but also pertinent topics in modern agriculture including carbon sequestration, integrated pest management, and green waste.

Participants concluded their meetings in late March with a final conversation. A takeaway of that conversation was that American farmers have a duty to provide food globally and that developing nations need cheap, healthy food regardless of the politics.

Details regarding the 2023 book club will be released in the fall. Those wishing to receive advanced notice of the book club are encouraged to contact Bona Heinsohn at bona@cookcfb.org.

SAI

Connecting Ag to your Curriculum

June 20 - 22, 2022

Earn 24 PDCH

Our three-day summer program will allow you behind the scenes access to local and rural producers as we visit farms & agribusinesses. Tours and speakers will demonstrate how to incorporate agriculture into your curriculum by explaining the relationship between agriculture, science, technology, natural resources, the environment, and food production. This professional development opportunity will provide the opportunity to collaborate with industry professionals, explore lessons plans and leave with resources for use in your K-12 classroom.



"Everything was absolutely phenomenal. This was one of the best professional development events I have ever attended. I've never left with so many resources."

"Content is relevant regardless of what grade you teach."

"This course provides us with different, real situations in which pupils can apply all subject areas they study."

"I HAVE LEARNED SO MUCH THESE COUPLE DAYS IT IS A BIT OVERWHELMING. SO MANY TEACHER RESOURCES!"

"It is encouraging to see so many hard-working people plugging away in various fields of work and having passion for what they do. This is America at its best."



For more information or to apply, visit <http://bit.ly/ccfbSAI2022>

Recipe of the Month:

Blueberry Buckle Coffee Cake

Kathy Lesser, Member

Ingredients

- 2 c flour
- ¾ c sugar
- 2 ½ t baking powder
- ¼ t salt
- ¼ c butter (softened)
- ¾ c milk
- 1 egg
- 2 c well drained fresh blueberries

Topping:

- ½ c sugar
- 1/3 c flour
- 1 t cinnamon
- ¼ c butter



Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Mix the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt together. Blend in the butter, milk and egg. Beat until well blended. Fold in blueberries. Pour into a 9x9x2 greased pan. In a new bowl combine the sugar, flour and cinnamon. With a fork cut in the butter until crumbly and spoon on top of the batter. Bake for 45 to 50 minutes. Serve warm or cool.



2022 "An Evening for Ag Education" Gala Sponsorship Opportunities

The Farm "Presenting" Sponsors

"Celebrating the lifestyle and values of farm families"

This sponsorship will include:

- 10 complimentary Gala tickets (\$1,250 value)
- Promotion throughout the event and on website
- Company logo on Facebook/Foundation website connected to Gala
- Company logo on all Gala promotional material
- Company logo on Gala event program and displays
- Stage recognition during the Gala event
- Sponsorship appreciation placard for company display/use
- Special feature article/appreciation in Farm Bureau publications (cir. 43,000)
- Recognition posts through Facebook/Twitter/Instagram (6,800+ followers)
- Complimentary Cook County Farm Bureau® membership

\$2,500

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

The Harvest "Rewards" Sponsors

"Reaping the bounty of agricultural dreams"

This sponsorship will include:

- 4 complimentary Gala tickets (\$500 value)
- Promotion throughout the event and on website connected to Gala
- Company logo on Facebook/Foundation website
- Company logo on all Gala promotional material
- Company logo on Gala event program and displays
- Appreciation through organization publications (cir. 43,000)
- Recognition posts through Facebook/Twitter/Instagram (6,800+ followers)

\$1,000

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

The Planting "Dreams" Sponsors

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

This sponsorship will include:

- 2 complimentary Gala tickets (\$250 value)
- Promotion throughout the event and on website
- Appreciation through organization publications (cir. 43,000)
- Recognition posts through Facebook/Twitter/Instagram (6,800+ followers)

\$500

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

The Equipment "Support Team" Sponsors

"Soil, water, sun...ingredients for life"

This sponsorship will include:

- Promotion throughout the event and on website
- Appreciation through organization's publication/social media

\$250

This sponsorship will provide valuable support of the Foundation's efforts to broaden Ag Literacy in Cook County

☐ \$2,500 Farm "Presenting" Sponsors

☐ \$1,000 Harvest "Rewards" Sponsors

☐ \$500 Planting "Dreams" Sponsors

☐ \$250 Equipment "Support Team" Sponsors

Business/Organization Name _____ Contact Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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

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

Cook County Farm Bureau® Foundation "Evening For Ag Education" Gala Fun'raiser

Friday, July 22, 2022 | 6:00-11:00 PM

Crystal Grand Banquets

12416 S. Archer Ave Lemont, IL

An evening of dining, drinks, live music, games, and fun'raising opportunities! Features include plated dinner, 4-hour beverage package, live band (Libido Funk Circus), live auction, truth or hogwash game, photo booth, and split-the-pot raffle!

Gala Dinner Tickets:

\$100 Individual ticket early bird special through 7/15/2022

\$125 Individual ticket 7/16/2022 and after

\$1,000 Table of 10 through event date

Only 250 tickets available

Foundation Gala Dinner and Split the Pot Raffle tickets for the July 22, 2022, Gala can be purchased by:

1. Check, money order, or cash

• Make checks/MO out to: Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation

• Mail to: CCFB 6438 Joliet Rd, Countryside, IL 60525 or stop by office

2. Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover or debit card)

• Call CCFB at 708-354-3276,

• Pay via Chase Paytech system available M-F 8a-4:30pm

• If after hours, leave voicemail with name/phone and we will contact for payment

Advanced raffle sales

Split the Pot Raffle tickets: \$10 each | 6 for \$50 | 15 for \$100 – winner need not be present (must have raffle ticket stub for inclusion in the drawing)

The Cook County Farm Bureau Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit. Your gala ticket donation is partially deductible for federal income tax purposes equal to the total ticket price minus \$50 value for meal, beverage, and entertainment.