

Kane County Farmer



MISSION STATEMENT:
Enhance the quality of life for member families,
promote all aspects of agriculture
and advocate good stewardship of our land and resources.

VOL. 73 NO. 12 DECEMBER 2008

IL 4-H'ers attend National 4-H Congress

More than 1,100 4-H delegates from across the nation will gather in Atlanta, Georgia for National 4-H Congress from November 28 through December 2, 2008. Illinois will be represented by 30 teens including, locally, Katherine Fabrizio of Maple Park, who will attend for her accomplishments in Achievement. She is the only Kane County representative.

Katherine is a 2008 graduate of Kaneland High School and is currently attending Aurora University. She was one of eleven area students who received a \$1500 college scholarship from the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation for the 2008-2009 school year. Katherine is the daughter of Peter and Jean Fabrizio of Maple Park and the granddaughter of the late Nick and Ruth Fabrizio of Maple Park and Robert and Donna Guehler of Somonauk.

The Achievement award area encompasses all of a member's project work, leadership, and community service during their 4H career. Katherine has been a member of the Lincoln Highway 4-H club of Maple Park and also a Kane County and State

Ambassador where she has held many leadership roles. Her project areas include swine, interior design, visual arts, and leadership. Katherine has also been a candy striper at Delnor Hospital and volunteered at many 4-H and community events.



Katherine Fabrizio

National 4-H Congress offers states an opportunity to send outstanding 4-H youth to this event and provide those youth with an expanded educational experience through seminars, community service projects, and tours sponsored by local and national 4-H program donors. Highlighting this year's event will be presentations by Dan Thurmon, Dr. Barbara Chamberlain, Dan Clark, and Miss America 2007, Lauren Nelson.

All Congress delegates will participate in special cultural programs such as the International Dinner and Dance and a night at the Atlanta

History Center. Other educational experiences during National 4-H Congress include delegate participation in workshops focusing on cultural differences, team leadership development, and the power of youth. Several delegates will have the opportunity to tour locations around Atlanta, such as CNN, the Georgia World Congress Center, Turner Field (home of the Atlanta Braves), Cyclorama, the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and more.

National 4-H Congress is conducted by Cooperative Extension Service staff on behalf of the Cooperative Extension System of the state land-grant universities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. If you are interested in learning more about 4-H, contact University of Illinois Extension in Kane County at (630) 584-6166. Information is also available online at www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/kane.

Stuff a stocking with a new truck!



Looking for that last minute gift idea? Tickets for the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation's Truck Raffle will make great stocking stuffers!

Many of you are familiar with the "Winner's Choice" Tractor Raffle that the KCFB has held the past few years. This year, the grand prize for the raffle to be drawn at our Touch-a-Tractor event on March 29, 2009 is a Chevrolet Silverado E85 Extended Cab 4x4 WT or \$20,000 cash. Second prize is the winner's choice of a new John Deere or Case IH pedal tractor.

Proceeds from the raffle bene-

fit Foundation College Scholarships and Farm Bureau Agricultural Literacy programs. In 2008, the Foundation awarded over \$25,000 in scholarships to help send 15 local students to college!

Tickets are \$30 each, 3 for \$50, and 5 for \$100. The tickets are available in the Kane County Farm Bureau office, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles or from Farm Bureau directors (listed on page 2).

For more information on the raffle, scholarship programs and other Foundation programs and services, contact Steve Arnold at (630) 584-8660.

Ag in the Classroom Volunteers of Year

Congratulations to Randy and Judy Klein of Burlington for winning the Illinois Ag in the Classroom Volunteers of the Year Award! This award is presented to volunteers who have done an outstanding job with Ag in the Classroom and agricultural literacy efforts.

Randy and Judy have been steadfast supporters of our Ag Days. They have been at every one since the beginning. They speak to the students about growing vegetables and always amaze the students with the corn seedlings sprouting out of a kernel of corn.

Randy built a barn front for their display when Ag Days began at the mall 25 years ago. That barn front has become a signature of Ag Days.

The Kleins have also helped us out with the Annual Harvest Picnic, helping to show the diversity of agriculture in Kane County.

Randy and Judy will be honored at the

Illinois Agricultural Association Annual Meeting in Chicago on the 6th of December. Our congratulations go out to them along with our thanks for all their help in making Ag Days an educational experience for our students.



Judy Klein teaches kids the basics about vegetables in front of the signature red Klein's barn at the Farm Bureau's 2005 Ag Days. Judy and her husband Randy will receive the Ag In the Classroom Volunteers of the Year Award at the IAA Annual Meeting in Chicago on December 6.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 1**
Citrus Orders Due, 4 p.m.
- December 4**
Board of Directors meeting, 7:30 pm
- December 6-9**
IAA Annual Meeting, Chicago
- December 10**
Women's Committee meeting, 9:15 a.m.
- December 17**
Citrus Pick Up, Heinz Brothers - St. Charles
- December 17**
Ham Orders Due, 4 p.m.
- December 23**
Ham Pick Up, noon-4 p.m.
- December 24-26**
KCFB Office closed for Holiday
- December 27**
CDL Applications Due
- December 31**
KCFB Office closed at noon for Holiday

All meetings are at the Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles, unless otherwise noted.

Several Kane County farms offer Christmas Trees. These farms include:

- Heinz Brothers Greenhouse** - St. Charles • (630) 377-6288
- Klein's Farm & Garden Market** - Udina • (847) 683-9647
- Kuipers Family Farm** - Maple Park • (815) 827-5200
- Lee's Trees** - Lily Lake • (630) 365-2116
- Pine Apple Acres** - Huntley • (847) 669-3251
- Randy's Vegetables** - Dundee • (847) 428-5244
- Regole's Harvest Shoppe** - St. Charles • (630) 584-2024
- Spring Bluff Nursery** - Sugar Grove • (630) 466-4278
- Tom's Farm Market & Greenhouses** - Huntley • (847) 669-3421



Wishing you and your family the love, peace, joy and magic of the Holiday Season

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF THE KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU



Order your delicious **HOLIDAY HAM** - see page 6 for order form.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

By Beth Dawson

If you need last minute stocking stuffers, remember that the Kane County Farm Bureau sells discounted movie tickets to the Charlestowne Movie Theater for \$6. We also have a wide variety of soy candles and

different types of pecans.

I hope you all have a wonderful and safe holiday season.

If you have not paid your membership, this will be your last issue of the *Kane County Farmer*. The majority of our

members have paid their dues for the coming year. To those of you who have not yet renewed, unpaid memberships will be cancelled after the end of November. There will be a reinstatement fee of \$10 as of December 1, which means the amount due for associate members at this time will be \$30.00. If you choose not to renew and you have insurance through COUNTRY, you may wish to contact your agent to see how this will affect your policies.

Arnold recertifies as 'FBCM'

Steve Arnold, FBCM, Kane County Farm Bureau Manager, has completed all requirements to continue his designation as a Farm Bureau Certified Manager (FBCM). He originally earned the FBCM designation in 1993.

The FBCM program, which recognizes country man-



Steve Arnold

agers for professional achievement and staff leadership, was started in 1993 by the Illinois Farm Bureau. To receive the FBCM designation, county Farm Bureau managers must complete a series of six exams, which assess expertise in various managerial areas. Recertification is

granted every five years based on 40 hours of continuing education areas and professional staff leadership.

Arnold began his Farm Bureau career in 1990 as a trainee. He was named manager of Carroll County Farm Bureau in 1991. After Carroll County Farm Bureau, he was named manager of Kankakee County Farm Bureau in 1993. He then became manager of Kane County Farm Bureau in 1999.

Illinois Farm Economic Summit set

The "incredible roller coaster ride" of Illinois agriculture in the past year and future twists and turns will be addressed in a series of meetings throughout Illinois in December, sponsored by University of Illinois Extension.

"The Profitability of Illinois Agriculture: Looking Ahead in Extraordinary Times" is the theme of the 2008 Illinois Farm

Economics Summit to be held in Mount Vernon, Bloomington, Galesburg, and Sycamore.

"Crop prices zoomed to unheard of heights and then dropped with stunning quickness," explained Scott Irwin, U of I professor of agricultural marketing, in reviewing the roller coaster ride. "The recent

turmoil in financial markets is very large by any reasonable standard of comparison. It is already clear that this is having a large impact on the profitability outlook for Illinois producers.

"Yet there is real uncertainty

Dates and locations are:
Dec. 16 – Mount Vernon, Holiday Inn
Dec. 17 – Bloomington, Interstate Center
Dec. 18 – Galesburg, Best Western Prairie Inn
Dec. 19 – Sycamore, Center for Agriculture

about the severity and length of that impact. It is hard to imagine a time when uncertainty has ever been higher and the need for sound analysis greater."

That is what Good and his colleagues on Extension's farm-doc team will address in the meetings as they explore the farm profitability outlook from

several perspectives, including the direction of prices, long-term fundamental value of commodities, credit availability, production costs, new farm program provisions, crop insurance alternatives, and farm lease trends.

Each program begins at 8 a.m. and concludes by 3 p.m. The registration fee is \$50 per person and includes lunch, refreshments, and all meeting materials. At-door registration, space permitting, will be \$65 per person.

Registration may be completed online (<http://www.farm-doc.uiuc.edu>). Registration brochures are also available at local U of I Extension offices.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting Sue Esposito at (217) 333-5506.

Get to know your policy On the Delegate Floor

This is an important time of year for farmers. After all, in December, your needs and concerns are addressed on the delegate floor of the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. Then in January, your grassroots wants are thrust on to the national level at the American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting. That's why this is an excellent time for you to get to know how policies are formed – by examining policy #2, Activation and Status Resolutions:

"Policies of the Illinois Agricultural Association are subject to review at any official meeting of the voting delegates.

Resolutions adopted at this annual meeting state the current position of the Illinois Agricultural Association. The voting delegates authorize the renumbering, placing, and arranging of the resolutions adopted at this annual meeting with the appropriate subject matter for publication in the current resolutions booklet."

Get ready to start the new year off on a good foot and learn more about the policy development that directly impacts you. Call Kane County Farm Bureau at (630) 584-8660 and ask how you can get involved in policy development.



You receive the *Kane County Farmer* because you are a Farm Bureau member. If you are a farm operator or owner, you benefit from a local, state and national organization committed to agriculture and your way of life.

If you do not have direct ties to farming, your membership helps promote local farms and farming, encourage wise use of our limited natural resources and preserve farmland and our agricultural heritage while allowing you to enjoy COUNTRY insurance and the many other benefits of one of Illinois' premier membership organizations.

We appreciate your membership and continued support and we welcome your comments on the content of the *Farmer*. We encourage you to make recommendations about farm, home, food, natural resource, renewable energy or agricultural heritage and history related topics for inclusion in future issues of the *Farmer*.

Christmas Tree Discount for Members

Mark's Tree Farm, which has been doing business in various St. Charles locations for a quarter century, will again establish a Christmas Tree lot at the Kane County Farm Bureau between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve. Mark's provides quality, fresh cut Fraser Fir, Balsam Fir, Spruce and White Pines grown on their farm in Northern Wisconsin.

All trees on the lot will be tagged with a price and Kane County Farm Bureau members will receive a \$10.00 discount. We hope you take advantage of this convenient and money saving member service. And while you are at the Farm Bureau, stop inside for holiday gift ideas!



HCE December meeting

The December 12 meeting of the Home and Community Education (HCE) Plato Center Unit will meet at Sorrento's in Maple Park at 11:30 a.m. The hostesses are Elsje Starrenburg, Linda Butts, Joan Rossi and Harriet Bradley. Reservations are required. The luncheon cost

is \$10.95 for beef, chicken or fish. Call Elsje for further information. Also, bring 2 dozen cookies for our donation for various organizations.

For more information about any of the 10 units of HCE, call the Extension Office at (630) 584-6166. All are welcome.

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD ATTENDANCE OCTOBER 2008 THRU SEPTEMBER 2009

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT
F. CARLSON	X	X										
B. COLLINS	X	X										
C. COLLINS	X	X										
G. FELDOTT	X											
B. ENGEL	X	X										
G. GAITSCH	X	X										
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Kane County Farmer

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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OFFICE HOURS: 8:30-5:00 Monday through Friday

(USPS No. 289700)

POSTMASTER: Mail form 3579 to
2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL 60174

Second Class Postage • Paid to St. Charles, IL 60174
Year Subscription: \$2.00

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OLD WELLS AND A NEW MAGAZINE

By Ryan Klassy, Information Director



KANE COUNTY FARMER

suspended from their truck-mounted crane. They said if they poured too fast, a layer could form on top of the water that would suspend the bentonite above the well itself – leaving a big hole that isn't really sealed. So, slow and steady was the key. It was a fairly simple process – but interesting nonetheless to see how old abandoned wells need to be addressed.

Funds are available to individuals to defray the costs of sealing abandoned wells in Kane and Dupage counties. You can apply for cost-sharing funds, not to exceed \$400 or 60% of the actual cost, whichever is less. Forms are available from the SWCD at 2315 Dean Street in St. Charles.

Associate members have hopefully received their first issue of the new Partners magazine. The magazine looks great and provides some interesting feature stories about Illinois producers, along with recipes, gardening and things to do and see in Illinois. Illinois Farm Bureau President Phil Nelson says he hopes the new publication will encourage the partnership that connects the Illinois

farming community with those who are not directly involved in farming, but share a stake in our nation's food and energy supplies. In the first issue Nelson says, "We hope our new Partners magazine will, in part, help us all learn more about agricultural issues that face us as consumers and understand more about our state's food and fiber industries."

We hope you've had a chance to read the magazine, and would love to hear what you think of it. Feel free to email me at info@kanecfb.com with your comments. You can also view the online version, complete with videos, stories and photos, at ilfbpartners.com.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. See you in 2009!

I was recently invited to a well-sealing demonstration hosted by the Kane-Dupage Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), the Northeastern Illinois Regional Groundwater Protection Planning Committee, and the Kane County Health Department. Thirty people attended the demonstration at a home in Elburn.

According to Water Well Construction Code, wells are to be sealed not more than 30 days after they are abandoned. According to the SWCD, there are over 100,000 improperly abandoned wells in Illinois that pose a significant threat to local health and safety. Improperly abandoned wells may be a direct conduit for pollutants to

enter aquifers, the primary source of drinking water in Illinois. Contaminants could include anything from septic system wastes to storm water run-off, or people could pour pollutants such as used motor oil into abandoned wells, or use them as a garbage dump, without realizing the danger it poses to our groundwater.

After cutting off the well pipe about 2 feet below ground level, Prairie State Water Systems sealed the well with about 300 pounds of bentonite – a natural substance that absorbs water and turns into a gel-like substance that seeks out the crevices and cracks in the well, and then hardens to seal the well. The entire 5" diameter shaft was filled all the way to ground level.

The guys from Prairie State poured the bentonite in slowly from the bottom of a huge bag

Aren't all fuels biofuels?

If Henry Ford was talking about ethanol, then biofuels aren't new. In fact you could say the energy from plants has been fueling man's lifestyle since the first caveman gathered up the sticks for a campfire. At the end of the day, all fuel is biofuel. After all, we call petroleum and coal fossil fuels not so much because they are in some way fossils, but because it took millions of years to make them from the enormous ferns and horsetails of the Carboniferous Epoch.

The point then is that just about all fuels are biofuels in the sense that they are derived from plants, and the secret to corn and soybeans in today's ethanol and biodiesel is mostly a matter of speeding up that transformation from plant to fuel. So it may be more accurate to think of ethanol and biodiesel as renewable fuels, rather than simply as biofuels.

Think that's splitting hairs? Maybe so. But it underscores one key issue in the global warming discussion that we may be overlooking: time. Agriculturally-based renewable fuels are probably the fastest way we can make a difference right now – in our national security profile; in our balance of trade, and in reducing the Greenhouse Effect.

Reprinted from The Biofuels Report, courtesy of the Illinois Corn Marketing Board and Illinois Soybean Program Operating Board.

Christmas Tree Facts

- * The best selling trees are Scotch pine, Douglas fir, Noble fir, Fraser fir, Virginia pine, Balsam fir and white pine.
- * 2-3 seedlings are planted for every harvested Christmas tree. In 2004, sixty million Christmas tree seedlings were planted by Christmas tree farmers.
- * More than 2,000 trees are usually planted per acre. On an average 1,000-1,500 of these trees will survive.

Search & shop for IAA Foundation

Established in 1987 by Illinois Farm Bureau leaders, the Illinois Agricultural Association (IAA) Foundation's mission is to fund education, research, and charitable activities that benefit Illinois farm families and agriculture.

What if IAA Foundation earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising

revenue, about a penny per search, to the IAA Foundation. Use it just as you would any search engine and watch the donations add up! Simply bookmark GoodSearch.com (<http://www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=863370>) and use it like Google.

Do a lot of online shopping? Then click the shopping tab. GoodShop.com will donate up to 37% of your purchases to the Foundation, too. Shop at more than 700 stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble.

Touch-A-Tractor

Mark your calendars for Touch-A-Tractor! This event has been recognized as one of the top ten most outstanding agricultural education programs in the nation by the American Farm Bureau Federation, and the dates have been set for March 27-29, 2009. The event is held at our office, 2N710 Randall Road in St. Charles. There will be demonstrations, food vendors, and entertainment.

We are looking for tractors, both modern and antique, combines, planters, and tillage equipment. We are also looking for volunteers to explain the how the equipment works. Do you have antique farm tractors or equipment? We are looking for retired and former farmers to volunteer their tractors, equipment, and knowledge to share with the community. If you are interested in volunteering or you have tractors or equipment to share, please fill out the form below and return it to us.

The event is a great success with people young and old. In addition to having the opportunity to touch a tractor, the public can participate in hands-on Ag-in-the-Classroom activities. This is a great event for the entire family. Last year's activities for children included riding a pedal tractor, climbing on tractors and combines, planting seeds, scavenging for prizes in a pool of corn, and visiting animals at the farm zoo including baby chickens, a calf, a sheep and a pony.

In conjunction with this event, the Kane County Farm Bureau will be drawing the winning ticket in the Foundation's 2008 Truck Raffle on March 29. The winner will have the choice between a Chevrolet Silverado E85 Extended Cab 4x4 WT or \$20,000 cash. Second prize is the winner's choice of a New John Deere or Case IH Pedal Tractor. Tickets are available in the Kane County Farm Bureau office. All proceeds from the event will go toward the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation's scholarship fund.

This is an event you will not want to miss!



Help make Touch-a-Tractor a success.

- Contact me about volunteer opportunities (March 27, 28 or 29)
- I would like to bring the following farm equipment to display.

Please provide a brief description of the equipment. For tractors/combines, include year, make, model and horsepower.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____


Phone (____) _____

Clip and return to Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL 60174

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LOOKING BACK

By Audre Pack

Last month's issue of the *Farmer* included Holiday Products you could order along with an order form for Thanksgiving turkeys. I hope you took advantage of these "Edible Sales" programs we offer to our members as you can't beat the freshness of the products.

Many years ago when I began working at the Farm Bureau, a meat sale had just been completed which quickly introduced me to the "Edible Sale" program. Well, as I found out, this was just the beginning of what would be a very interesting experience one wouldn't expect to encounter in an office work setting! (If there had been a job description at the time, it would have fallen under "and other duties as assigned.")

Over the years, we've had special edible sales obtained from suppliers that have some of the finest products and reasonable prices of beef, pork chops, frozen pies, cherries, Easter hams and pineapples, citrus, pecans, peanuts, cheeses of various shapes and sizes, spices, yellow-white-black-microwave popcorn, frozen lemonade-orange-grapefruit juices, and some I probably forgot.

I recall the "prepay with order" frozen food program years ago which was such a mess when the orders were not picked up on the day of delivery and with no freezer to keep it frozen. The fresh pineapples from Hawaii year was also quite memorable with the not-yet-picked-up fermenting pineapples permeating the office air. Then there were the cheeses encased in wax we sold when we had a cooler. Cheese encased in wax does not do well when the cooler breaks down. Upon arriving to work one morning, we found exploded one-pound cheddar cheeses oozing through the cooler racks.

I think the citrus program earns the highest marks for most memorable edible sales program as it evolved into what it is today. It use to be that the citrus program was just citrus – freshly picked navel oranges from Florida and freshly picked ruby red grapefruit from Texas. The members' prepaid orders were tallied and the order was placed accordingly along with a "few" extra boxes "just in case." The truck was to arrive on pick-up day – yeah right. Several years members arrived to find the

truck had not yet arrived – the truck broke down, a snow storm, the driver got lost, the fruit wasn't ready to pick, etc. Plan "B" had to be quickly thought up and implemented. Eventually we were able to get the fruit distributed and hopefully everyone was satisfied. One year the fruit was picked just after a rain – that makes for mold to quickly form if the fruit is not turned periodically. As we stand behind our sales, several refunds were given that year. Eventually, we added more products until we arrived at what we offer today – citrus, cheeses, nuts, popcorn, and meat. The past several years, thanks to Joel Schrock, the products are delivered ahead of time to Heinz Bros. Greenhouse in St. Charles for distribution to members on the pick-up day.

The Citrus program is really a fun program here at the Farm Bureau as it starts off the holiday season. And, it is one small way the office staff and Board of Directors get to meet and serve our members. If you're one who placed an order, don't forget the pick-up date is Wednesday, December 17th.

May the spirit of Christmas fill your home this holiday season!

P.S. – I remember when a carton of cigarettes was a great Christmas present for the hard-to-buy-for person. How fortunate I now am all the people on my list either don't smoke or quit, as they are very expensive.

WOMEN'S CORNER

By Barbara Pachla
Women's Committee Chair



Who are you? Why are you the way you are? December 23rd is Roots Day. Celebrate your history. It is becoming a popular hobby to investigate your heritage. You get a sense of belonging and awe regarding your past relatives. There are many genealogy sites on the internet and clubs are popping up – some at your local library. Talk to your older relatives to get some information. Where did they grow up? What was it like? What do they remember? Get names of great-grandparents, and possibly great-great-grandparents.

Since December is letter writing month, take this opportunity to write to an old friend or relative. It is an art form that is going to the wayside since the new age of email. Writing to the masses seems to be a huge undertaking, so make a list of five. That should be a feasible task.

Thinking back to my own

childhood and memories of my grandmother – it seems they could make a meal out of virtually nothing. Here's a recipe to prove it ...

French Onion Soup

2 tbsp. butter or margarine
4 cups sliced onions
5 beef bouillon cubes
5 cups boiling water
1/2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1/2 tsp. seasoning brown sauce
1/4 tsp salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
6 or more slices toasted bread
1 tbsp. grated parmesan cheese

Melt butter or margarine in a large skillet; sauté onions until tender. Dissolve bouillon cubes in boiling water. Add to sautéed onions with Worcestershire sauce, brown sauce, salt, and pepper. Turn to high heat until steaming, then turn to a lower heat and simmer for 30 minutes. Top each serving with a toasted bread slice and 1/2 teaspoon parmesan cheese. Makes 6 servings.

Ag scholarship honors John Deere dealer

Agriculture and golf were John Buck's passions. Therefore, it was only fitting that after his death from cancer in 2001, his family and friends would keep his legacy alive by offering educational scholarships in those fields. Buck was the founder of Buck Brothers, Inc. and J.W. Turf, both of Hampshire, dealers and distributors of John Deere farm equipment and golf course maintenance equipment, respectively.

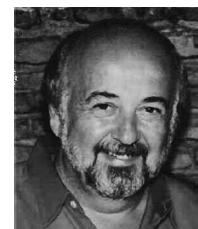
Late in 2001, the family of John Buck established the John Buck Memorial Scholarship for agriculture students through the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation. An endowment to the Foundation, supplemented by an annual John Buck Memorial Open golf outing, provides funds for \$1000 scholarships for higher education for agriculture students. Any student in Kane, DeKalb, McHenry, Boone, Lake, DuPage or Will County is eligible to apply. A

similar scholarship program has been established by the family through the Midwest Golf Course Superintendent's Association.

Thomas Warhurst of Somonauk was the John Buck Memorial Scholarship recipient in the spring of 2008. Thomas is the son of David and Brenda Warhurst. Thomas was selected from a pool of 15 applicants in a seven county area for the \$1,000 award.

Applications are now being accepted for the John Buck Memorial Scholarship for the 2008-09 school year.

Applications are available through local county Farm Bureau offices, at Buck Brothers, Inc. or J.W. Turf in Hampshire, by contacting Steve Arnold, Executive Director of the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, at (630) 584-8660 or via the Farm Bureau website at www.kanecfb.com. Application deadline is February 15, 2009.



John Buck

Specialty Crops Agritourism Workshop

The Illinois Specialty Crops and Agritourism Conference will be held January 7-10, 2009, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, IL. Three pre-conference workshops (concurrent) will be offered during the daytime on Wednesday, January 7, which will include "Pumpkins," "Biocontrol in High Tunnels & Greenhouses," and "Federal Grantwriting Basics."

Two pre-conference seminars will be available on Wednesday evening, January 7, on "AGR-Lite Crop Insurance" and "Labor and Legal Issues." On Thursday and Friday, January 8-9, the conference will kick off with Chefs and Culinary Educators Michael and Brigitta McGreal as the keynote speakers followed by the traditional concurrent breakout sessions on fruits, vegetables, herbs, and agritourism/marketing. Thursday evening will feature a banquet followed by the announcement of the annual cider contest winners and comments from Matt Lohr, Farmer, Speaker, and Virginia State Legislator.

Peach and apple production will take center stage of the fruit breakout sessions with talks on disease management, pruning, insecticides, and weed management to name a few. Wesley Autio, University of Massachusetts, will discuss "Simple Rules for Pruning Apple and Peach Trees" and "Controlling Growth in the Tops of Apple Trees." "Disease Management in Peaches and Apples" will be the focus of two presentations by Patty McManus, University of Wisconsin.

Topics in the vegetable sessions will run the gamut of disease management to production problems to marketing. Galen Dively, University of Maryland,

will discuss "Organic Insecticides for Vegetable Insect Control" and "Options, Effectiveness, and Management of Bt sweet corn." "Irrigation Do's and Don'ts for the Too-Busy Grower" by Jeff Kindhart and Bill Shoemaker, U of I, will also be covered.

The agritourism/marketing track will feature sessions on how to capitalize on consumer trends, how to increase on-farm sales, and how to work with the media. Other topics will include "Creating a Successful Tourism Partnership," "Safety Considerations for Agritourism Operations," and "Virginia Agritourism."

Herb concurrent sessions will include subjects such as designing with herbs, keys to succeeding in the herb business, and making herbs work for you, to name a few. Susanna Reppert from The Rosemary House in Pennsylvania will focus on "Help Wanted – Using Interns and Apprentices" and "What Does the Future Hold for the Herb Industry?"

A local foods program entitled "Buy Local – Eat Healthy" on Saturday, January 10, 2009, will feature Chef Michael McGreal, Joliet Junior College, who will demonstrate the prepa-

ration of delicious and exciting dishes with fresh produce. Other sessions will include cooking with edible flowers and pairing wines with food.

The 20th Annual Cider Contest and the 7th Annual Hard Cider Contest will again be held in conjunction with the conference. For more information, contact Dr. Elizabeth Wahle, U of I Extension, at (618) 692-9434 or wahle@uiuc.edu. Or, please refer to the ISGA web site: <http://www.specialtygrowers.org/confagenda.htm>.

Trade show plans have spaces for over 50 exhibitors. Plenty of time is allowed between sessions to visit with exhibitors. Space is still available for those wishing to exhibit their specialty crop products or services.

To receive registration materials or to obtain exhibitor information, please contact Diane Handley at (309) 557-2107 or handley@ifb.org. A detailed conference agenda can be viewed at www.specialtygrowers.org. The Crowne Plaza Hotel is reserving a block of rooms for \$81 per night plus tax. Please call the hotel directly at (217) 529-7777 to make your reservations and ask for the Illinois Specialty Crops Conference rate.

Old aerial photos of farms and businesses. Photos date from 1964 to 1983. Kane, Dupage, Kendall. More counties available.

Interested parties may contact
Tom @ 888-237-5784
or email pictureman1@live.com
or visit vintageaerial.com.

Cleaner Engines,
Better Performance

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• AkroGold® Gasoline
• Suprex® Gold Lubricants

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5W-40 for better
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Farm Facts @ Fun

Compiled by Beth Dawson and Suzi Myers



T'was the Night Before Christmas

by Clement C. Moore

The origin of the poem is said to be in 1822. The story goes that on that Christmas Eve, while riding home from getting a Christmas turkey, Clement C. Moore wrote the poem. He then read the poem to his wife and six children. A visitor in the

home liked the poem so much, that she submitted it to be published in the New York Sentinel. It was published the following December, with the author being anonymous. It became an instant success.

The original title of the poem was "A Visit from St. Nicholas", but soon became known by the first line of the poem.

Since the poem gives such a vivid description of St. Nicholas, it is said that Clement Moore actually defined our image of St.

Nick. Reindeer and a sleigh had never been associated with St. Nick either, so these have been attributed to him also.

Clement C. Moore did not acknowledge the fact that he wrote the poem till 1844, when he included it in a book of his other works.

He called the poem a "mere trifle" compared to his other works. However, this is the poem that keeps him famous over 100 years later.

There is a theory that the poem was actually written by Major Henry Livingston, Jr., but this is yet to be proven.

The tradition of Christmas cards

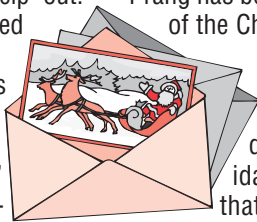
The first Christmas card was designed in England by John Calcott Horsley for his friend Sir Henry Cole in 1843. Supposedly, Sir Cole didn't have enough time to make his personal cards, so he asked Mr. Horsley to help out. These were the first printed cards.

The first Christmas card's inscription read: "merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you." "Merry" was then a spiritual word meaning "blessed."

In the United States, the Christmas card was popularized by the firm of Marcus Ward & Company and then by Louis Prang in 1875. His cards were made using lithographs and usually had a beautiful scene depicted on them. He used up to eight colors for the pictures on the

cards. He had a very clever way of marketing his cards. He would hold contests all around the country, offering prizes for the best card designs, which kept the public interested in his cards. Prang has been called the "father of the Christmas card."

Today more cards are sold at Christmas than during any other holiday. It is estimated that over 75% of American people send greeting cards at Christmas time.



Note: Information was taken from the following books: The Everything Christmas Book, Encyclopedia of Christmas by Tanya Gulevich, and The Christmas Encyclopedia by William D. Crump. (All available from the St. Charles Public Library).

Why do children hang stockings in anticipation of Santa?

Some people credit it to the German custom of hanging stockings by the end of their beds on Christmas Eve so they could be filled with treats by St. Nicholas.

Another story is that once a kind nobleman's wife died, leaving the man and his three daughters in despair. After losing all his money in useless and bad inventions, the nobleman and his daughters had to move into a peasant's cottage. When it came time for the daughters to marry,

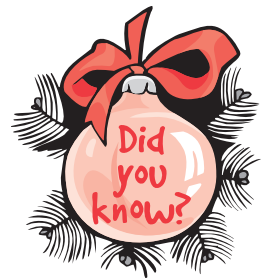
the father became even more depressed as his daughters could not marry without dowries.

One night after the daughters had washed out their clothing, they hung their stockings over the fireplace to dry. That night St. Nicholas, knowing the despair of the father, stopped by the nobleman's house after the family had gone to bed. He peeked in the window and saw the daughters' stockings hanging by the fire.

St. Nicholas took three small bags of gold from his pouch and

threw them down the chimney into the stockings. The next morning when the daughters awoke, they found their stockings full of enough gold for them to get married. The father was able to see his three daughters marry, and he lived a long and happy life.

Lastly, it is thought that Moore's, "The stockings were hung by the chimney with care", in his *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, started the tradition of hanging stockings to be filled by Santa.



- * Ink made from soybeans could have been used in your Christmas cards or your copy of "Twas the Night Before Christmas".
- * Cornstarch is an ingredient in making all paper.
- * Stockings have been made of animal skins, wool and cotton.
- * In the 1590's the knitting machine was invented, it made socks 6 times faster than they could be knit by hand.
- * In 1939 nylon was invented and became widely used in socks.

Christmas Word Search

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

- CANDY
- CANDYCANE
- CARDS
- CHIMNEY
- FAMILY
- GIFTS
- GINGERBREAD
- HOLLY
- JESUS
- LIGHTS
- MANGER
- MISTLETOE
- ORNAMENT
- PEACE
- POEM
- POINSETTIA
- REINDEER
- SANTA
- STAR
- STOCKING
- SUGARPLUMS
- TREE
- TWAS
- WREATH

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____

Return to Kane County Farm Bureau,
 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174
 by December 15, 2008 to be entered in our drawing for a
 special Christmas stocking to be awarded before
 Christmas filled with seasonal treats including
 pecans, popcorn and your own copy of
 T'was the Night Before Christmas!



Christmas Card Crafts

* Remove the front of the card and cut it into pieces to use as a puzzle for your child. Place it in an envelope to store. Let the children enjoy.

* Cut the picture front from the card. Use this as a gift tag by punching a hole at the top, attaching it with a ribbon to the gift and writing the person's name on it.

* Cut pictures from the cards; carefully put the picture onto a block of wood, box or such. Use decoupage glue and attach the card to the wood. Put

a thin coat of the glue on the picture. Dry and repeat the glue process.

* Glue or decoupage the picture from a card onto a metal juice top or plastic top from margarine or Pringles. Place a hole at the top and use as a tree decoration.

* Sew cards together to make a house, bowl, or box.

* Cut a picture out and attach a magnet to the back. You might want to laminate the card before attaching the magnet, so it will last longer. Makes good "fridge" decorations.

December is ...

National Fruit Cake Month
 National Eggnog Month

First Week
 Cookie Cutter Week

December 1
 National Pie Day

December 3
 National Apple Pie Day

December 4
 National Cookie Day

December 8
 National Chocolate Brownie Day

December 12
 National Cocoa Day

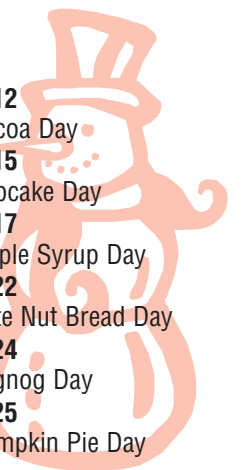
December 15
 National Cupcake Day

December 17
 National Maple Syrup Day

December 22
 National Date Nut Bread Day

December 24
 National Eggnog Day

December 25
 National Pumpkin Pie Day



Congratulations,

June Jones of Carpentersville! June's name was chosen from the entries received for correctly completing last month's Word Search Puzzle. For June's participation, she will receive a 5 lb. box of delicious Farm Bureau chicken breasts from Inboden's Meat Market in DeKalb.

Thank you, June, for reading the *Kane County Farmer*, and continue to watch each month for more great opportunities from the Kane County Farm Bureau.

AG LITERACY CORNER

By Suzi Myers



December: cold, first snow, rosy cheeked children, and Christmas ... that special time of the year is upon us again.

I count the months till Christmas starting with January 25th, much to my friend's chagrin. To me, Christmas is a time of remembering, joy, peace, family and children.

As I unwrap each of the ornaments or decorations I have, they bring back memories of the people who gave them to me. Sadly, some of these people are no longer in my life, but the smile brought to my face when I see the object, makes them seem so much nearer. I collect Christmas ornaments from each place I visit, so these also bring back good memories; the market I bought the ornament in, the people I was

with, the beauty of the place, all these are wrapped up in the object. Each Christmas season brings these memories to life.

Christmas is also a great time of the year to have children in your life. They are so excited by the "specialness" of the holiday. The candy, Santa, the elves, Christmas walk, chestnuts roasting, carols, family traditions ... each is wonderful through a child's eye. When things seem to be getting too stressful, take time to read a Christmas book to a child, help them write to Santa, make cookies or ornaments together, or simply take a walk amongst all the festive decorations, a sure way to calm down.

Joy and peace come to me throughout the season, but never

as much as Christmas Eve. That is the time, after Christmas Eve church, that peace surrounds me and my home. It has always been a time to turn off all the lights and enjoy the quiet in a home full of candles, Christmas lights, and the sound of the Messiah in the background.

I remember the silent vigils concerning the soldiers in Viet Nam, the luminaries glowing all along the street we lived on in Michigan, my kids tucked safely into their beds awaiting Santa in new pajamas I had made them, hearing from friends in Christmas letters, decorating the tree for my brother, ending with the whole family tossing popcorn to resemble snow, and eating the marvelous cookies or candies that were my family and friend's specialties.

These are the reasons that I count down to Christmas. It is a season that I take time to relish the wonders in my life.

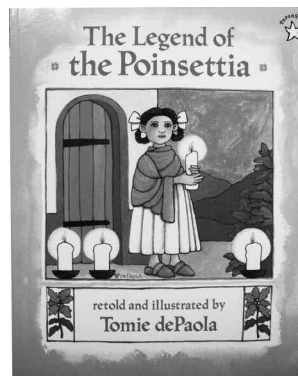
May your Christmas season be full of love and the magic that can only be found at this special time of the year.

Book of the Month

A sure sign that Christmas is approaching is the appearance of poinsettias in stores, homes and churches. Did you ever wonder why the poinsettia is a symbol of Christmas? Tomie dePaola gives us one explanation in his book *The Legend of the Poinsettia*.

The book is available for check-out at our library.

Padre Alvarez came to the home of Lucida to ask her mother to weave a blanket to cover the Baby Jesus on Christmas Eve in the square of San Gabriel. Lucida and her mother were so excited to have this honor, they went to the market on Saturday to purchase the wool



The Legend of the Poinsettia
retold and illustrated by Tomie dePaola

could not face going to the celebration without the gift of the blanket, so she stayed hidden in the shadows. An old lady brought her good news of her mother's recovery and told Lucida she should go to the celebration. When Lucida told her

that she had no gift for the Baby, the old lady said, "Ah, Lucida, any gift is beautiful because it is given. Whatever you give, the Baby Jesus will love, because it comes from you." Hearing that, Lucida looked around a grabbed an armful of weeds. She walked to the church and placed the weeds around the stable. A hush fell over the church - the weeds suddenly were tipped with flaming red stars. When everyone went outside after the service - to their amazement, all the clumps of tall green weeds were topped with the red star-like flowers.

The poinsettia is now called the Flor de Nochebuena - the flower of the Holy Night.

What's new in the COUNTRY agencies?

St. Charles Agency, Richard Bristow, Agency Manager

Sherri Schramer has been named Agent of the Month for October 2008 in the St. Charles Agency, as announced by Agency Manager, Richard Bristow. Sherri has been an agent with COUNTRY Insurance & Financial Services since February 2007. She serves her clients from her office at 151 E. Route 38, Unit C, Elburn, 60119. You may reach Sherri at (630) 365-9500.

Aurora Agency, Jackie Meier, Agency Manager

Andy Johnson, Financial Representative with the Aurora Agency, is our Agent of the Month for October 2008. He began his career with COUNTRY Financial November 2005 and services his clients out of his office located at 1161 Oak Street, Unit 4, North Aurora, 60542. You may reach Jeff at (630) 907-0796.

Elgin/Schaumburg Agency, Jack Smith, Agency Manager

Gary Bolger has been named "Career Agent of the Month"

for October 2008. Gary has been an agent with COUNTRY Insurance & Financial Services since July 2003. His office is located at 1814 Grandstand Place, Elgin, 60123. His phone number is (847) 742-0001.

David Kujawa has been named "Employee Agent of the Month" for October 2008. David has been an agent with COUNTRY Insurance & Financial Services since December 2005. His office is located at 1814 Grandstand Place, Elgin, 60123. His phone number is (847) 742-0001.

Top Recruiter of the month

Each month, the Kane County Farm Bureau honors the person or persons who sign the most members into our organization. For October, we would like to congratulate Ted




Ted Schuster

Schuster. Ted has signed 13 new members to be named top recruiter for October 2008.

Ted Schuster has been an agent with COUNTRY's St. Charles Agency since March 2005. Ted services clients out of the Sugar Grove office at 32 Cross St. He may be reached at

(630) 466-9600.

As a token of our appreciation, Ted will receive two movie tickets for the Charlestowne Movie Theater. Thank you, Ted for your continued support of Kane County Farm Bureau and congratulations on your success!



HOLIDAY HAMS!

Back by popular demand - delicious ham for your holiday dinner. These hams taste the way hams used to taste. Each ham is individually foil wrapped and boxed which makes them perfect for holiday entertaining or as gifts. They vary in weight from about 10-12 pounds for traditional and 7-9 pounds for spiral. Pre-order yours today by sending in the order form or calling the Kane County Farm Bureau at (630) 584-8660. Pick-up is at the Farm Bureau on Tuesday, December 23 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m., just in time for your Holiday Dinner!

Quantity:

_____ Spiral sliced ham(s) @ \$4.39 per pound

_____ Traditional ham(s) @ \$2.69 per pound


DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 17th.

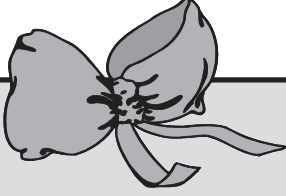
Payment is due at pickup at the Farm Bureau on Tuesday, December 23 from 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m.

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Member Number: _____





HOLIDAY PRODUCT PICKUP

CITRUS, NUTS, MEAT, POPCORN, SPICE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

HEINZ BROS. GREENHOUSE,
2010 E. MAIN ST., ST. CHARLES
(JUST WEST OF DUNHAM ROAD)



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

By Merry Pitstick

Happy Holidays! Can you believe it's that time of year already?

I was sitting in my chiropractor's office the other day and noticed green pieces of paper all over the office. Apparently he had written an entire sheet about high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), and he was not in favor of it. HFCS has been talked about a lot lately and I feel there are many misconceptions out there. I decided to ask him about this paper, and his responses indicated to me that he wasn't fully informed, but rather was going by what he had heard and read, as may be the case with many other people.

There is a theory out there that our population would not be fat if not for corn. In order to try to give people the other side of the story, here are some facts about HFCS:

- Sugar and HFCS have the same number of calories as most carbs; both contain 4 calories per gram, and are also equal in sweetness.
- Sugar and HFCS contain nearly the same one-to-one ratio of two sugars - fructose and glucose.
- Once the glucose and fruc-

tose found in HFCS and sugar are absorbed into the blood stream, the two sweeteners appear to be metabolized similarly in the body.

- HFCS is made from corn, a natural grain product. HFCS contains no artificial or synthetic ingredients or color additives and meets the Food and Drug Administration's requirements for use of the term "natural."

- No credible research has shown any difference in a feeling of fullness between sugar and HFCS.

The bottom line is - corn is not making us fat, we are making ourselves fat. It is our responsibility as consumers to read the labels on the products we buy. If the first ingredient you read on a label is either sugar or high fructose corn syrup, that product should be used in moderate quantities. As they say, everything in moderation.

Too much of any type of sugar can be bad for your health. You wouldn't sit down and eat 10 teaspoons of sugar, but most people would drink the equivalent of that in a can of soda. Go figure!



LAND FOR SALE

Call Doug Deinger:
815-439-9245

298± ac. Kankakee Co., IL
462± ac. **Sale Pending**, IL
152± ac. Grundy Co., IL
150± ac. Kankakee Co., IL
78± ac. Grundy Co., IL

Call Scott Johnson:
217-359-3336

73± ac. **Sold!** Jo., IL
412± ac. Ogle Co., IL
3± ac. Kendall Co., IL New Listing

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www.capitalag.com

Call Chip Johnston:
815-875-2950

43± ac. Bureau Co., IL
199± ac. Henry Co., IL price Reduced
74± ac. Bureau Co., IL
48± ac. Bureau Co., IL
135± ac. Bureau Co., IL
313± ac. **Sale Pending** Co., IL
150± ac. **Sale Pending** Co., IL
91± ac. Marshall Co., IL New Listing

Call Bill Green:
630-761-8143

239± ac. Grundy Co., IL
285± ac. Vermilion Co., IL

Members get improved Dell discount

Illinois Farm Bureau announced improvements to its member-only discount on Dell computers, accessories, and electronics – a flat 7% savings. The discount is on everything from computers to printers, from big screen TVs to tiny mp3 players, and from digital cameras to memory sticks.



"In the past, members saved between 2-12%," said IFB's Melissa Rhode, "but you needed to spend more than \$1500 get the big savings. Now, everyone saves an astounding 7% across the board, no matter what the price or warranty is. Members

will see significant savings immediately."

Rhode stated that members qualify for special offers, too. "Dell continually offers new deals to members. It may be free shipping or a too-good-to-pass-up price on a laptop computer." The best way to stay in touch with special offers is to sign up for the free e-mail updates.

To take advantage of this member benefit, visit www.dell.com/ilfb/members or call 1-800-695-8133. Be sure to use your exclusive Member ID: PS65777730.

AITC grant awarded

Our congratulations go out to Anna Richards, fourth grade teacher at Davis School in St. Charles, who received a grant of \$250.00 from Illinois Ag in the Classroom. Anna submitted the grant application after taking the Summer Ag Teacher Tour this past June. She asked for book sets to be used in her guided reading groups as well as a few others to add to her classroom library, enhancing her



St. Charles teacher Anna Richards (center) at the Summer Ag Teacher Tour, June 2008.

teaching of agriculture. Anna's present and future students will benefit from this grant funding. Good job, Anna!

The grant is offered each year to pre-K-12th grade teachers. It funds projects promoting ag literacy in the classroom, especially those that focus on integrating agriculture into a variety of curriculum areas. The grant forms can be found at www.agintheclassroom.org.

Members get something extra during GM Red Tag Event

Illinois Farm Bureau members can "double dip" during General Motor's Red Tag Event. As a member, you can add IFB's \$500 or \$750 Private Offer on top of GM's special pricing Customer Cash up to \$7,250.

"It's a win-win," said Melissa Rhode, IFB Membership Director. "You won't need a calculator to figure out the great prices. All you have to do is look for the red tag posted on the exciting new lineup of 2008 and 2009 vehicles. That price includes all cash back incentives, so you won't pay a penny more than the price you see on the red tag."

Rhode added, "Best of all, you can stack these savings with your member-only Private Offer. Purchase almost any new GM car and receive the \$500 Private Offer, or choose a flex-fuel vehicle that runs on E-85 ethanol and receive \$750. It's a great offer and clearly the smart way to buy a vehicle this holiday season."

The Red Tag Event runs from November 4, 2008 through January 5, 2009. Prices are prominently displayed on eligible vehicles at participating GM dealerships and take into account available rebates, but exclude taxes, title and dealer fees.

To see prices and availability, visit www.gm.com/redtag. To learn more about the \$500 or \$750 Private Offer just for members, visit www.ilfb.org or call your county Farm Bureau.



Farm family gift giving 'practically' fun

I have gifted my mother-in-law a laundry hamper, toaster and this must-have silicone kitchen spatula, which comes in only lime green. In a same gift-giving session, her daughter presented her a weekend of dining and entertainment in Chicago. My mother-in-law laughs and then basks in her enjoyment of the two extremes.

In general, you often give what you would like to receive. And we farm folk love practical gifts, items that make life's chores easier or more tolerable. That's why I thought the pooper

scooper was a marvelous Christmas idea last year for my husband, who otherwise cleans the dog pen with a garden trowel.

About 75 percent of my relatives farm for a living. Most of the remaining grew up on one. So, the trees of Christmases past have born metric gear wrenches, industrial string trimmers, work gloves, battery chargers and plenty of gift certificates to Farm King. Sure, we exchange some typical gifts, like iPod accessories, DVDs and steakhouse gift cards. In fact, Grandma's gift lineup includes one "just-for-fun" gift for each kid and grandkid in addition to the "make-your-life-easier" items.

During her first Christmas in the family, my sister-in-law asked, "Is there anything you 'want?'" Her interpretation was that I "needed" the kitchen sink, non-stick skillet and printer cartridges on my list. She will discover the same again this year:



FOR SALE

Hay and straw for sale. 1st, 2nd, 3rd crop. Large 3 x 3 x 8 bales. Call: 847-697-2538

Hay and straw, Lily Lake area. Call: 630-365-2019 or 630-244-5241

Firewood – seasoned oak \$90 a face cord, mixed hardwoods \$80 a face cord – 2 pick-up caps measuring 76 x 62; one fiberglass (\$100) one work cap with three doors (\$225) OBO. Call: 630-652-6339 cell, 847-695-6273 home.

Gravelly Commercial 10, 10 HP Kohler engine, 30" mower, 26" snow blower. Call: 815-938-2329.

CLASSIFIED ADS • KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU MEMBERS

Classified advertising rates: 20 cents per word/\$10 minimum. DISCOUNTS for members: Associate members, 20%; Voting members, 30%; PLUS members, 40%. Payment in advance is requested. Voting members receive limited free classified advertising of farm commodities and farm equipment. Ads are due by the 15th of every month for the next issue. No advertising (classified or display) for financial or insurance services will be accepted.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Category: Circle One: For Sale, Wanted, For Rent, Services,
 Other: _____
 Ad copy: _____

 Member No. _____ Phone No. (____) _____

Complete the above form and mail to: Kane County Farm Bureau, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174 or fax to (630) 584-0023. Non-member ad rate: payable with ad, \$10.00 – 20 word maximum per ad.

\$500*

private offer just for Farm Bureau members.



Your private offer can be combined with the Red Tag Event! Visit www.gm.com/redtag for pricing and availability. Delivery must be taken by January 5, 2009.



Illinois Farm Bureau members can get a \$500* private offer toward the purchase or lease of most new GM vehicles. Or a \$750* private offer toward the purchase or lease of any new GM E85 FlexFuel vehicle. E85 ethanol is a blend of 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline. Ethanol is a mostly renewable fuel source that can be made from U.S.-grown resources. To see if there is an E85 ethanol station near you, visit gm.com/E85. This private offer can be redeemed by providing your authorization number to your GM dealer. For authorization number and offer details, visit gmfleet.com/www.ilfb.org.



*You must be a member of IFB for at least six months prior to date of delivery to be eligible for this private offer. \$500 or \$750 private offer valid toward the purchase or lease of eligible new 2007, 2008 and 2009 model year GM passenger car and light-duty truck models. Customers must take delivery by January 2, 2009. Not compatible with other private offers. Not valid with prior purchases. Compatible with many current incentives. Incentives are subject to change. Excludes Cadillac CTS-V, XLR-V and STS-V; Chevrolet Corvette Z06; HUMMER H1; hybrid vehicles and medium-duty trucks. See dealer for complete details. ©2008 GM Corp.

CHEVROLET BUICK PONTIAC GMC SATURN HUMMER SAAB CADILLAC

2009 CDL random drug/alcohol testing pool set to begin

Services included in the Comprehensive Kane County Farm Bureau CDL Random Drug/Alcohol Testing Program

The Kane County Farm Bureau offers a number of services as a part of the Comprehensive CDL Random Drug/Alcohol Testing

Program. Foley Laboratory Services, Inc. the Farm Bureau service provider for the program, provides "DOT Qualified" Drug

and Alcohol Testing Program to help our members meet all requirement under FHWA regulations.

Services included in the Comprehensive Program

1. **DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAM MANAGER'S MANUAL** – detailed information, description, and instructions of all components of your program with specialized forms.

2. **DRIVER'S CARD** for each covered employee/contractor specifying program coverage. This card provides proof of coverage and all required information including a 24-hour emergency "hotline" telephone number and instructions for post-accident situations.

3. **DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTS** (that meet DOT requirements) for covered employees/contractors. We only use DHHS certified laboratories and all drug tests will be conducted under DOT standards for "chain-of-custody" documentation, and threshold levels as may change from time to time. Alcohol collection and testing will meet all federal regulations. All of the following drug and alcohol tests are included in the comprehensive program without additional charge, REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF TESTS REQUIRED.

- **RANDOM**
- **POST-ACCIDENT, including after hours testing and collection**, which is targeted to provide testing and collection within two hours, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week
- **REASONABLE-SUSPICION** (for cause)
- **BLIND TESTS** for drugs an calibrations tests for alcohol

4. **CERTIFIED MEDICAL REVIEW OFFICER (MRO)** – review of all drug tests. The MRO, a licensed medical doctor, not the laboratory, is the final authority for the determination of the presence of prohibited drugs in a test specimen. The MRO must be knowledgeable about drugs, legal and illegal, in order to conduct necessary interview with tested individuals prior to making final determinations.

5. **COLLECTION** of urine specimens for drug tests and breath (or other approved) specimens for alcohol tests. Arrangements for on-site testing are currently being finalized by FLS and details will be available within the next couple weeks. Farm Bureau members will also be assigned an alternate facility and a 24 hour facility for emergency and short notice testing situations. All collection sites will meet DOT requirements for testing and collection providing additional safety for both employer and

employee.

6. **DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY AND DRIVER EDUCATION MATERIALS** that meet 49CFR part 382 requirements. Our policy meets the many detailed requirements in the regulations. Modifications to the policy to meet your unique requirements can be made at no additional charge via telephone support if you respond in our requested format. Other policy and educational material review and development are available for an extra charge.

7. **RANDOM SELECTION** and enrollment of drivers in a consortium driver's pool to meet the mandated 50% annual drug testing rate and 10% annual alcohol testing rate for the total pool and the quarterly requirements. Our random selection process will meet regulatory requirements as may change from time-to-time in the future. Our independent selection process helps to avoid employee concerns of favoritism or personal bias. All drivers subject to testing face an equal opportunity each time random selections are made, as required. Simply stated, random testing means that it will be totally unknown who will be tested, when they will be tested and how often they will be tested.

8. **MANAGEMENT CONSULTING** in "reasonable-suspicion", "post-accident", and other program related situations. Foley Laboratory Services has in-depth understanding of the regulations. Our expertise can save you both time and money. We are always available by phone.

9. **U.S.-WIDE 800 TELEPHONE NUMBER** answered 24 hours per day, seven days per week for post-accident testing assistance and other emergency needs.

10. **FEDERAL REPORTING ASSISTANCE AND RECORD RETENTION** including compliance information with present regulations. You have significant record keeping requirements under the relevant regulations. Our computer and manual filing systems assist you in meeting your requirements.

OPTIONAL SERVICES AVAILABLE AT AN ADDITIONAL COST

1. **PRE-EMPLOYMENT, FOLLOW-UP, AND RETURN-TO-DUTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTS** (\$65 per drug test, \$30 per alcohol test) – A manda-

tory component in the DOT components. These tests are billed directly to the Farm Bureau member on a "per-test" basis.

2. **NON-FHWA QUALIFIED POST-ACCIDENT** (\$130 per drug test, \$60 per alcohol test) – Post-accident testing conducted under the members own independent authority, but does not meet the DOT requirements are billed directly to the Farm Bureau member on a "per-test" basis.

3. **SUPERVISOR REASONABLE-SUSPICION TRAINING (\$79)** – Our OPTIONAL two hour self-guided Reasonable-Suspicion (video and manual) meets the DOT regulation requirements of one hour training for drugs and one hour training for alcohol. This program provides guidance on how to deal with reasonable-suspicion testing situations.

4. **DOT DRIVER TRAINING VIDEO (\$29)** – This OPTIONAL training video is invaluable in explaining program requirements.

5. **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (\$7 per driver)** for covered drivers. This program, staffed by Certified Substance Abuse Professionals (as mandated), includes the following services for your employees. It provides limited confidential telephone counseling for your employees who feel a need to discuss their drug or alcohol related problems before they have a testing problem. Not included in this program are the required activities after any positive test result.

6. **SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (\$150)** and other services after prohibited conduct events (including testing positive for drugs or alcohol), including all activities by FLS to schedule SAP services by our SAP coordinator after a "prohibited conduct" event, and to arrange for regulatory requirements relating to return-to-duty testing an follow-up testing and schedule.

7. **SUBSCRIPTION TO DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING FASTFAX (\$15 per year)** – faxed weekly or mailed quarterly and is designed to keep you apprised of selected developments in drug testing laws, regulations, and court cases in addition to other relevant information. In addition, it will be useful to keep your employees informed on substance abuse and drug related health and safety issues.

The Kane County Farm Bureau is renewing the Random Drug/Alcohol Testing Pool for individuals or businesses with Commercial Driver's Licenses to comply with Federal Highway Department of Transportation regulations.

If you have a commercial driver's license, you are under the Federal Highway Department of Transportation regulations for drug and alcohol testing. Owner/operators and small companies with drivers must join an existing consortium for the random testing. Remember, farmer and certain family members have been exempted in certain instances.

Each person who has a CDL will be required to pay a \$110.00 or \$130.00 for on-farm testing consortium fee for fixed or location testing to be included in the pool. We also require each person in the pool be a member of the Farm Bureau. (Farmer memberships are \$37.00/year and Associate Memberships are \$20.00/year). The program will run from January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009.

The consortium fee covers the setup fee and random drug and/or alcohol tests during the year no matter how often your name is

randomly drawn. We will also provide one free supervisor training manual. If your name is not pulled, you will not receive a refund on pool money. A special feature of the Kane County Farm Bureau pool is a mobile unit that provides on-site testing. This mobile unit, with certified testing equipment and specialists, will add convenience and time saving elements to the overall program.

Foley Laboratory Services, the management company that we have contracted to provide consortium services, provides a great many other services in relation to the regulations. However, the consortium fee does not cover any of the non-random expenses.

To participate in the 2009 consortium, simply complete the enrollment application and mail a check for \$110.00 or \$130.00 payable to the Kane County Farm Bureau by December 27, 2008. Please renew your Farm Bureau membership if you have not done so. We must have your renewal payment as soon as possible to continue the random selection process.

For more information about the CDL pool, please call the Kane County Farm Bureau at 630-584-8660.

CONSORTIUM ENROLLMENT APPLICATION 2009 Kane County Farm Bureau Random Drug and Alcohol Testing Program

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State Zip _____
 Farm Bureau Number _____
 Phone (____) _____
 Mobile (____) _____
 Business Name For Setup Location _____
 Location _____
 Prescription Medicine Name or Names _____
 Social Security Number _____
 CDL License Number _____

Pool participation price: \$110 per driver for fixed location testing, \$130 per driver for on-site testing. All pool participants must be an "MM" or "A" member of the Kane County Farm Bureau. The program will run from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

Make checks payable to: Kane County Farm Bureau and return by December 27, 2008.

Drop off check or mail to: Kane County Farm Bureau
2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174

I understand that the fee includes my name in the Kane County Farm Bureau pool to cover the random drug and alcohol testing requirement including the setup fee and the random alcohol confirmation test as mandated by the U.S. Department of Transportation. I further understand that non-random tests such as reasonable suspicion return to work follow-ups, missed appointments, after hours charges, and post-accidents tests are not covered by the pool money and those charges will be my responsibility.

Date _____ Signature _____

2009 Internship Program For assisting in the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation's Ag Communication/ Ag-in-the-Classroom Program

The Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation is a general not-for-profit corporation organized under IRS Code 501(c)(3) with one of its goals being to serve the needs of our county's youth through education and other opportunities, so that they may increase their skills in agriculture.

The Foundation has agreed to fund an internship(s) to assist the Farm Bureau in its Public Relations efforts and to assist in the coordination of the Kane County Farm Bureau's "Ag-in-the-Classroom" (AITC) program. AITC is an educational program designed to instruct students of all ages of agriculture's role in society using innovative techniques such as science experiments, videotapes, classroom visits and other materials.

The intern chosen will work directly with the KCFB manager, Ag-in-the-Classroom coordinator and the Ag-in-the-Classroom Committee under the academic supervision of a college or university instructor.

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU INTERNSHIPS AGRICULTURAL FIELDS OF STUDY

Location:	St. Charles, Illinois	Dates:	Flexible
Prerequisites:	30 undergraduate hours (communications or education emphasis preferred)		
Requirements:	Minimum of 300 hours, minimum of 20 hours/week (summer) Minimum of 100 hours (winter) or 30 hours (spring)		
Value:	Up to \$2500 to be paid at conclusion of internship (summer) Up to \$750 (winter) and \$300 (spring)		
Responsibilities:	Promote and coordinate Ag-in-the-Classroom projects Assist with the planning of a week-long, graduate credit Summer Agricultural Institute for teachers Assist with public relations efforts through newsletters, press releases and other correspondence Develop grant requests to provide funding for the comprehensive Ag Ed program in Kane County Coordinate County Fair activities with volunteer committees Inventory, checkout and track educational materials Work with volunteers to update and enhance Ag-in-the-Classroom programs		
Contact:	Steve Arnold, Executive Director (630) 584-8660 or e-mail info@kanecfb.com. Applications are available online at www.kanecfb.com.		