

McHENRY COUNTY FARM BUREAU FARMER'S NEWS



Stroll Sept. 29



**Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019;
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Farm Stroll is a self-guided tour of McHenry County's diversified family farms. There is no beginning or end of the tour: just choose the farms you wish to visit and go during the stroll's timeframe. Don't bring pets, please.

There is no charge for Farm Stroll. However, bring some cash; individual farmers will be selling products.

Some farms will conduct tours and demonstrations. Follow the farmers' instructions, respect the animals, watch your children, and wash your hands after exposure to livestock.

Visit McHenry County Farm Bureau at mchenrycfb.org or facebook.com/McHenryCountyFarmBureau or call 815-338-1520.

Visit University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners at web.extension.illinois.edu/lm, call 815-338-3737, or visit facebook.com/McHenryCoMasterGardener for more information.

NEW! Highfield Farm Creamery

W4848 State Line Rd., Walworth, WI — Terry and Denise Woods use the milk from their small herd of grass-fed Jersey cows to handcraft farmstead artisan cheeses. A stone's throw from McHenry Co.! They offer cheese curds and various traditional aged cheeses. They open their creamery for private events, tastings, pasture walks and classes. Highfieldfarm.com; 262-275-3027. Toilets available.

Hephzibah Farms Inc.

13202 Hebron Rd., Hebron — Hephzibah Farms, run by the Millers, sells grass-fed lamb, naturally raised



Highfield Farm Creamery



Hephzibah Farms Inc.



Hidden Marsh Farm

chicken, and naturally raised turkeys for Thanksgiving. They also will sell alpaca items (drier balls and socks) and take meat orders for cows, pigs and lambs, which will be butchered later. Hephzibahfarms.com; 847-530-7373.

NEW! Hidden Marsh Farm

10200 Button Rd., Hebron — Hidden



Von Bergen's Country Market



Patyk's Farm Market, Greenhouse



Main Stay Therapeutic Farm

Marsh is a sustainable farm raising pastured, organic, heritage Hereford hogs. The farm also has horses, chickens, ducks, turkeys, and peacocks. Joanne sells finished hogs and chicken eggs. Visit their Facebook page; 847-209-3046.

FARM STROLL, CONTINUED

Von Bergen's Country Market

9805 Route 173, Hebron — The farm encompasses 1,200 acres; 150 acres are devoted to the fresh vegetables sold at the market. Mel and Bobette grow sweet corn, tomatoes, muskmelon, peppers and more; in autumn they feature squash and you-pick/we-pick pumpkins. They also sell locally grown fruit, pies, breads, jams, jellies and pickles. Vonbergens.com; 815-648-2332. Toilets available.

Patyk's Farm Market, Greenhouse

8519 Route 173, Richmond — Patyk's Farm grows vegetables and fruits they sell at their farm stand, two farmers' markets and to CSA customers. John and Myra raise goats, cows, turkeys, pigs and hundreds of chickens. They sell homegrown produce, locally grown fruits, handmade soap, meat, eggs, farm animals, and annual and perennial flowers. Patykfarms.com; 815-648-4065.

Main Stay Therapeutic Farm

6919 Keystone Rd., Richmond — Main Stay provides therapeutic riding, equine and animal-assisted therapeutic activities for individuals with physical, developmental, emotional and social disabilities. Activities at the farm enrich lives in a caring, safe, and challenging environment that enables individuals to reach their full potential. Mainstayfarm.org; 815-653-9374. Toilets available.

Knotty Pine Farm

6011 Miller Rd., Wonder Lake — Stacey Splendoria and family own and operate Knotty Pine, an equine center offering a variety of animal-related activities. They offer English and Western riding lessons, horse camps, pony rides, Scout outings and a party facility. Cash only, please. Knottypinefarm.webs.com; 815-648-1459.

Dykstra's Farm

2917 Greenwood Rd., Woodstock — Since 2010, Laura and Jeff Dykstra have raised heritage breeds of pigs, sheep, chickens, and English shepherds. They also have a vegetable garden and 100-plus-year-old buildings. They will be taking orders for breeding stock and



Knotty Pine Farm



Dykstra's Farm



Terra Vitae Farm

freezer meat. Visit their Facebook page Dykstra's Farm; call or text 224-848-0270.

NEW! Terra Vitae Farms

2719 Greenwood Rd., Woodstock — Kevin and Katie Kelley have partnered with Mike and Colleen Biver to develop a regenerative farm focused on producing the healthiest meat conceivably possible. Their approach focuses on biodiversity at every level: microbiome, flora and fauna.

Terravitae farms.com; 815-345-4047.

NEW! Midwest Organics Recycling

29353 N. Darrell Rd., McHenry Midwest Organics Recycling is a composting operation established to explore the environmental benefits of manure composting while looking for a solution to sustain the viability of one of the last dairy operations in an urban area. Bags of compost will be sold.



Midwest Organics Recycling



HillBunker Farms



Cody's Farm and Orchard

Compostmatters.com; 312-550-2464.

NEW! HillBunker Farms

4915 Dean Street, Woodstock — Damon and Michele Hill run an organic farm that provides organic produce for CSA subscribers, raw honey, Kune-Kune pigs and Baby Doll sheep, and a wide variety of handmade all-natural soaps, body butter, lip balm and much more. HillBunkerfarms.com; 815-337-1622.

Cody's Farm and Orchard

19502 River Road, Marengo — This family-owned business sells homegrown fruit, vegetables and apple cider donuts. Beyond the market at the farm, they have three mobile farm stands. Cody's has seasonal vegetables, sweet corn and pumpkin and apple picking. They also have goats, rabbits, a corn maze, and lunch options. Codysfarm.com; 815-568-7976. Toilets available.



A Day at Petersen Farm

This event drew 1,600 people to the historic farm property on Sunday, June 23. The 12th annual event featured farm equipment, animals and a taste of history. It was sponsored by the McHenry County Farm Bureau and the City of McHenry Landmark Commission.

Scholarship winners announced

Samantha Vazzano of Marengo was awarded a scholarship from our foundation (\$1,000). She will be attending Iowa State University, where she will further her studies in agriculture communications. Samantha is the daughter of Liz Halat and Sam Vazzano.

Kayla Austin of Harvard was awarded our Women's Committee Scholarship (\$1,000). She will be attending Rockford Career College. She will further her studies as a veterinary technician. Kayla is the daughter of Christopher and Tamara Austin.

These scholarships were made possible through fundraisers and the generous support of our members.

Safe driver course offered

McHenry County Farm Bureau Women's Committee will offer the AARP Safe Driver Course on Sept. 9-10. The course will be at the Farm Bureau building at 1102 McConnell Rd., Woodstock, IL, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., with a half-hour lunch break. Class size is limited to 25 participants.

This eight-hour course will cover many aspects of driving safely. Upon completing the eight-hour AARP Driver Safety Program, you will receive a course completion certificate, which may then be presented to your insurance agent. Depending on the state where you live and your insurance company's policies, you may be eligible for an automobile insurance premium reduction or discount.

AARP members need to bring their AARP membership card with them the first day of class. There's a \$10 fee for members and \$15 fee for non-members. The fee includes course materials, two lunches and refreshments. To register, call McHenry County Farm Bureau at 815-338-1520.



Dairy Promotion

The McHenry County Farm Bureau's Women's Committee held its annual Dairy Promotion at the Woodstock Square on June 26. During the city band concert, the Women's Committee distributed various dairy products, including ice cream and milk that was donated by Dean's Foods, and an assortment of cheese. To allow attendees to get a more hands-on experience with the dairy industry, Donna Douglas from Woodstock provided two dairy calves for individuals to see and interact with. With the dairy calves and dairy products, they were able to successfully advocate for the dairy industry and give a unique experience to those who visited their booth.



Summer Ag Institute

Nineteen teachers spent six days visiting more than a dozen farm and farm-related venues as part of our Summer Ag Institute program. In addition to learning about life on the farm, teachers were given lesson plans and projects to use in their classroom to educate their students about agriculture. They are shown here at the Vanderstappen Dairy Farm.

AITC sees good year

Our Women's Committee and staff kicked off the school year by delivering 2,600 teacher newsletters and Ag in the Classroom calendars.

This fall, we will again visit classrooms with our Pumpkin Patch Pie program. The presentation includes the pumpkin life cycle as well as a pumpkin treat at the end of the program. K-12 teachers will also have an opportunity to receive free agriculture-related books for their classrooms.

In the spring, Ag Expo will be held at McHenry County Fair Grounds. McHenry County Farm Bureau holds Ag Expo every other year for third- and fourth-grade students. The expo has been held on an every-other-year basis since 1988 and has reached 47,000 students. Ag Expo helps the students connect the agricultural industry to the food and products they consume in their daily lives.

AITC programs and activities are made possible by fundraisers, donations and a host of volunteers.

Someone needs blood

McHenry County Farm Bureau Women's Committee and Heartland Blood Bank are co-sponsoring a blood drive at the Farm Bureau building from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 17. Please keep in mind that you can only donate blood once every eight weeks. As a special incentive, MCFB will offer each donor a free package of locally raised pork. Registration is not required but is appreciated; please register by calling the Farm Bureau office at 815-338-1520.

Heartland Blood Centers, a not-for-profit, independent blood center, has been providing blood products to patients since 1943. Heartland Blood Centers' mission is to provide and maintain an adequate supply of blood and blood products for area hospitals to draw upon to meet the needs of patients.

2019 Ford Sweepstakes

Don't forget about the Built Ford Proud Sweepstakes* for your chance to win a two-year lease on a new Ford vehicle! Text the word SWEEPS to 46786** to enter. Or enter using this link: www.fordspecialoffer.com/FarmBureau/Sweeps

DISCLAIMERS

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. MUST BE LEGAL RESIDENT OF U.S. OR D.C., 21 YEARS OR OLDER WITH VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE TO ENTER AND A CURRENT FARM BUREAU MEMBER. ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY. Void where prohibited. Sweepstakes ends 9/30/2019. For entry and official rules with complete eligibility, prize description and other details, visit FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com. Sponsored by Ford Motor Co., One American Road, Dearborn, MI 48126. Autodialed marketing messages will be sent to the number provided. Consent is not a condition of purchase or entry. Message and data rates may apply.