



Bartman part of D.C. group

John Bartman, Marengo farmer member, joined a group of 13 farmers in Washington, D.C., in September. The group spent part of their time on Capitol Hill discussing tax reform, the new farm bill and the need for a strong crop insurance program. Farmers met with their member of Congress or their staff, U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Springfield, and the staff of Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Hoffman Estates. They also discussed the farm bill with staff from the House Agriculture Committee.

Leaders to Washington participants also met with Ray Starling, special assistant to the president for agriculture and agricultural trade, and Richard Chalkey, associate director of the National Economic Council. The meeting came about a week after President Donald Trump tweeted: "The United States is considering, in addition

to other options, stopping all trade with any country doing business with North Korea."

Illinois ranks third nationally in the export of agricultural commodities, with \$8.2 billion worth of goods shipped to other countries. Exports from Illinois account for 6 percent of all U.S. agricultural exports. Illinois is the nation's second leading exporter of both soybeans and feed grains and related products. About 44 percent of grain produced in Illinois is sold for export.

The farmer group also stressed the need for regulatory reform Wednesday with officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and USDA in Washington, D.C. They discussed wetland determinations, renewable fuels, census of agriculture, farm bill sign-up and annual county rental rates, along with the regulatory reform effort at USDA.



John Bartman is seen in the East Room of the White House during his Washington, D.C., trip.



SALUTE TO SERVICE

We would like to thank Michele Aavang for her years of service to our County Farm Bureau Board. Michele served as a director, an officer, and presided over the board until her election to the state organization. Dan Ziller, MCFB president, presented Michele with a small gift to help show our appreciation for her service and her achievements. Although retired from our board, Michele keeps very active in our organization, serving as the District Director on the Illinois Farm Bureau Board. She also serves as County Board member for District 6, and volunteers for a host of organizations.



T-shirt, Hoodie fundraiser




3 colors from which to choose

McHenry County Farm Bureau's Young Leaders Committee is holding a just-in-time-for-Christmas T-Shirt and Hoodie fundraiser. The "Start Seeing Farmers" items feature the Young Leader's brand new logo and a tractor with an SMV sign. The writing on the back of the shirt reads "Caution, Slow Down, Share The Road." You can also customize your shirt with your own farm name.

Your order with accompanying payment needs to be placed by Nov. 30 for a mid-December arrival. The pick-up location will be the McHenry County Farm Bureau Building located at 1102 McConnell Road, Woodstock, IL 60098.

The Young Leader program tackles the unique needs of men and women 18-35 years old, who have a passion for agriculture. They get involved in a wide range of activities and programs, ranging from ag industry tours, leadership development, legislative trips and more. They also participate in Agri-quiz bowls, discussion meets and compete for awards on the state and national levels.

T-SHIRT		Green	Pink	Gray
		YS		
YM				
YL				
S				
M				
L				
XL				
2XL				
3XL				

Name: _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____

Customized name (optional, additional fee per shirt)

No. of Youth T-Shirts x \$12 _____


No. of Adult T-Shirts x \$15 _____

No. of Youth Hoodies x \$25 _____

No. of Adult Hoodies x \$28 _____

No. of Customized items x \$5 _____

Total cost _____

HOODIE		Green	Pink	Gray
		YS		
YM				
YL				
S				
M				
L				
XL				
2XL				
3XL				

Please send order and accompanying payment to:

McHenry County Farm Bureau Foundation
P.O. Box 1530
Woodstock, IL 60098



JUDY THORNTON PHOTO

Marwood-Ridge Dairy, Bauman Family, was part of this year's Farm Stroll.

Farm Stroll well-attended

McHenry County Farm Bureau and McHenry County Master Gardeners teamed up to offer their third annual Farm Stroll. The stroll featured a diverse group of farms that were spread out across rural McHenry County. On average, the one-day event gathered 413 visitors per farm.

We would like to thank the following farms for their participation in the event: Patyk's Farm; Von Bergen's Market; Harvard Eggs & Feed; Cashmore's Produce and Ponics; Hephzibah Farms, Inc.; AL'sPACAs of Dutch Mill Farms; Marwood-Ridge Dairy, Bauman Family; Cross Winds Farm; Cody's Farm and Orchard; Thornpaw Lea Farm; Prairie Sky Orchard; and Hoffie Nursery. We would also like to thank the volunteers from the Master Gardeners and 4-H who helped with parking and served as greeters. We would also like to recognize our generous sponsors, Country Financial and First National Bank.

A fourth annual Farm Stroll is being planned for September 2018.

Conserv FS grows, adapts

Incorporated in 1928 as an agricultural cooperative, Conserv FS (a Farm Bureau affiliate) is owned by its customers. The affiliate's mission is simple: To build successful and profitable partnerships with their patrons. Vision: To be the best, most innovative, diversified agricultural cooperative.

Over the years, Conserv FS has grown and adapted to customer's changing needs. While a strong portion of members remain farmers, their member base has grown and expanded to rural homeowners and industries not traditionally served by cooperatives.

They provide products and services to a wide variety of industries, including landscapers, nurseries, municipalities, transportation, golf courses, schools and colleges, and sports organizations.

You can check out their agronomy, turf, petroleum, grain, and agri-finance offerings on their website, www.conservfs.com, or call 815-334-5950.



Members save with Abenity

With this membership benefit platform, you have access to more than 302,000 discounts in 14 categories:

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

Sign up today at ilfb.abenity.com and search our platform to find savings that fit your needs!

Give so others learn

McHenry County Farm Bureau and its Foundation provide the Ag in the Classroom program with financial and in-kind support.

Your donation benefits Summer Ag Institute, AITC Newsletters, Ag Expo, FFA Acquaintance programs, agriculture scholarships, teacher grants, teacher workshops and in-class presentations.

We would be glad to work with you on estates, memorials and planned giving. Donations can be sent to McHenry County Farm Bureau Foundation, P.O. Box 1530, Woodstock, IL 60098.

Please feel free to call us for more information at 815-338-1520 or email Dan Volkens at mcfbmgr@att.net. McHenry County Farm Bureau Foundation is a 501 C 3 charitable organization.



AITC visits 1,000 kids in October

In October, 40 teachers from nine school districts received a total of 118 ag-related books. We also visited 57 different classrooms with Ag in the Classroom's Pumpkin Patch Pie program. The presentation includes the pumpkin life cycle as well as a pumpkin treat at the end of the program. In December, AITC will shift its focus to Christmas tree presentations. Crops and dairy presentations will kick off the New Year.

On April 10-11-12, 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 45,000 students. Ag Expo helps the students connect the agricultural industry to the food and products they consume in their daily lives.

Thanks!

We greatly appreciate all the members who came out for our annual blood drive that was held this past September. Donors received free movie passes and Colonial Café gift certificates. If you would like to get on our donor list, call us at 815-338-1520.

Membership offering expanded

McHenry County Farm Bureau is expanding its membership classifications to include a Professional Voting Membership (PM).

A person qualifying for a PM membership: works in an agriculture-related occupation and does not meet the requirements for a Regular (Farm) Voting Membership (\$2,500 or more gross farm income). PM members will receive FarmWeek and will be eligible to serve as directors of McHenry

County Farm Bureau as part of their benefit packages.

The new PM annual dues are \$50 a year, but for a limited time you can reclassify your existing associate membership for free. Dues for PM and Farm members renewals for 2018 will be \$50 and associate members will be \$20.

Call 815-338-1520 or email mcfbmgr@att.net if you are interested in reclassifying your membership.

Christmas Fruit & Citrus Order Form

SMALLER SIZES OFFERED!

NAME _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

TAX IS INCLUDED IN ALL PRICES. YOUR CHECK MUST ACCOMPANY THIS ORDER FOR US TO PROCESS IT. NON-MEMBERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM, BUT NEED TO ADD A \$2 PER-BOX UP-CHARGE. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MCHENRY COUNTY FARM BUREAU.

- Please order _____ 4/5 bu. carton(s) California Navel Oranges @ \$34 each
- Please order _____ 2/5 bu. carton(s) California Navel Oranges @ \$20 each
- Please order _____ 4/5 bu. carton(s) Texas Grapefruit @ \$28 each
- Please order _____ 2/5 bu. carton(s) Texas Grapefruit @ \$17 each
- Please order _____ 1/2 bu. Golden Delicious Apples @ \$26 each
- Please order _____ 1/2 bu. Red Delicious Apples @ \$24 each
- Please order _____ Trio pack, 18 Navel Oranges, 4 Grapefruit and 10 Red Delicious Apples @ \$27 each
- Please order _____ Grand Slam Gift Box, 16-20 Navel Oranges, 6 Di Anjou Pears, 3 Golden Delicious Apples, and 6 Red Delicious Apples @ \$27 each

Your order has to be received by the McHenry County Farm Bureau by Nov. 16. If you are near or past the order deadline call our office prior to submitting your order.

Mail to:

**McHenry County Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 1530, Woodstock, IL 60098**

McHenry County Farm Bureau will contact you about the pick up dates and location. Anticipated pick-up date is Dec. 12 at McHenry County Fair Grounds Building D. Please contact the McHenry County Farm Bureau with any further questions at 815-338-1520.