



Day at Petersen Farm

Residents are invited to McHenry's Petersen Farm celebration on Sunday, June 24, at 4112 McCullom Lake Road, one mile west of Route 31. Visitors will enjoy American Roots music by Cheryl Niemo and the Down Home Boys. Along with Pete Jonsson on guitar and Marty Brunkalla on mandolin and fiddle, Cheryl brings a blend of bluegrass, folk, country blues and old-time country, demonstrating American down-home music across the decades.

There will be farm animals, hayrides and children's games for all ages. There will be antique farm tractors and equipment on display. There will be crafts, textile demonstrations, blacksmithing, a farm garden and farm equipment displays. Children will learn to wash clothes using an old wringer washer. The 1862 farmhouse main floor will be open for tours, with period furniture, photographs and kitchen equipment on display. McHenry's 2017 "Miss McHenry" and her court will be introduced.

The farm opens at 10 a.m., with entertainment and activities concluding at 4 p.m. Our local Culver's restaurant will sell food and refreshments. Parking, admission, hay rides and activities are free of charge. The event is co-sponsored by the McHenry County Farm Bureau and Colby-Petersen Farm Foundation.

Formed in 1842, the farm was acquired from the Colby and Petersen families by the City of McHenry for preservation of our agricultural heritage. With its outbuildings and oak savannah, it will become an agricultural museum and resource center. It will promote tourism and preserve the flavor of life in McHenry County in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Woodstock Square site of dairy event

On June 27, bring your blankets and lawn chairs to the Historic Park on the Square and enjoy a traditional band concert and ice cream social as the Woodstock City Band presents its 134th season of concerts.

In honor of Dairy Month (June), McHenry County Farm Bureau Women's Committee will serve free dairy products and allow the public to interact with some dairy calves. Dean's will provide the milk and ice cream. McHenry County Farm Bureau will provide volunteers, cheese, coloring books and other educational materials. The dairy products, educational materials and animals will be available at 7 p.m.; the concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

Donations to McHenry County Farm Bureau's Agriculture Education Foundation will be accepted to help offset the cost of the free program.

FB manager trainee program

The Illinois Farm Bureau is offering the opportunity to be a county Farm Bureau manager. You first start off in the Manager Trainee Program based out of the home office in Bloomington. Once hired into the program, trainees split time between home office learning about Illinois Farm Bureau and the affiliated companies, as well as going out into counties across the state working with experienced county FB managers.

Here in McHenry County we were able to have one of the trainees with us for two weeks of training with Dan and helping with Ag Expo and other events. Wyatt Williamson of Newark, Ill., was hired into the trainee program in January and has already experienced a handful of counties and events. He has been in Kendall, Will, Kane and now McHenry counties, training with the county managers. In his short

time, he has helped with events from legislative meetings in Will County, FFA acquaintance programs in Kendall, as well as Touch-A-Tractor in Kane County. He has really enjoyed getting to know the people of each county and working with the many different staffs. He realized early on that this is not a 9-to-5 job and requires the extra mile with late nights, but it pays off in the long run. "I have been lucky enough to be a part of a great organization that supports the agriculture industry, which has meant so much to me growing up, as it has to many others. The people I have been able to meet and the events I have worked really helped expand my knowledge and see how much support Farm Bureau has!" he said after finishing at Ag Expo.

If this is an opportunity that interests you as a career, please go to Illinois Farm Bureau's website and apply today!

MCFB celebrates Ag Week

McHenry County Farm Bureau's Women's Committee added a new activity to their usual Ag Week Celebration. The committee has traditionally made donations to 11 area food pantries, which they did once again this year. They also brought back their Facebook Ag Week-Ag Fact drawing for the second year in a row. The drawing allows participants the opportunity to "like/love" their favorite ag facts for a chance at winning one of the two \$50 grocery gift cards that are offered. The Facebook post was seen by 5,200 people and gathered hundreds of clicks, 34 shares, and over 100 likes and loves.

This year, we partnered with Woodstock Culver's to bring even more attention to Ag Week. Our Women's Committee, Illinois Farm Bureau and Culver's worked together to design a special Ag Week placemat and drive-thru insert. More than 3,200 placemats and inserts were distributed during the week. We also had a special event at Culver's on Saturday that featured two antique tractors and an educational booth.



Summer Ag Institute for teachers

Join us for a three-credit summer class and meet local farmers and explore the local farmland. Our air-conditioned motor coach will visit several farms and ag-related sites. Staff specialists will provide in-class activities set to Common Core and Next Gen Standards. Teachers can receive credit through St. Francis University. CPDUs are also available. Course dates: June 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27. Visit www.mchenrycfb.org for more information.

Biennial Ag Expo reaches thousands

In the middle of April, McHenry County Farm Bureau held its biennial Ag Expo at the McHenry County Fairgrounds in Woodstock. The event has been held every other year since 1988, reaching more than 42,000 third- and fourth-grade students in McHenry County!

The students are rotated through 20 different stations throughout the morning or afternoon session, listening to different aspects of agriculture in six-minute sessions. The purpose of the expo is to expose students to the many facets of agriculture and give them some basic knowledge. Represented at this year's booths were beef, bees, goats, food safety, Christmas trees, dairy, fiber arts, master gardeners, historical society, poultry, soybeans, corn, specialty crops, swine, sheep, ag careers, soil and water conservation, 4-H



Extension, equine, and machinery/equipment safety.

With roughly 200 volunteers helping with Ag Expo as group leaders, presenters, donating animals or

material, and setting up or tearing down, we would like to thank all of you for yet another successful Ag Expo!

Our next Ag Expo will take place in the spring of 2020.



PACKS DONATED

McHenry County Farm Bureau Women's Committee donated 20 welcome packs to homeless veterans who are in the process of rebuilding their lives at New Horizons in Hebron. McHenry County Career Representatives at Country Financial added a \$125 gift card to help cover the transportation needs of the veterans.

Safe Driver Course offered

McHenry County Farm Bureau Women's Committee will offer the AARP Safe Driver Course on Monday, Sept. 10, and Tuesday, Sept. 11. The course will be held at the Farm Bureau building, 1102 McConnell Rd., Woodstock, Ill. Course hours will be from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., with a half-hour lunch break. Class size is limited to 25 participants and early registration is encouraged.

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 qualify for an auto insurance premium reduction or discount.

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



Foundation extends its thanks

McHenry County Farm Bureau's Foundation would like to thank James and Cheryl Wormley of Woodstock for their generous donation and thank the family and friends of Helen Stroner for their memorial gifts in support of Ag in the Classroom. We also like to recognize all the people who stepped up and supported our direct mail campaign and the voluntary contributions associated with their dues renewal.

The contributions will help support our Summer Agricultural Institute program for teachers, Ag Expo and classroom visits. To learn more about supporting Ag in the Classroom, please visit our website at www.mchenrycfb.org.

Northern Illinois Sheep and Fiber Festival

McHenry County Fair Grounds

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 2 and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 3

\$3 per person, 7 years old and under is free

Northern Illinois Sheep and Fiber Festival, formerly known as Spring Fiber Fling, is an educational event focused on fiber and the process from "Sheep to Shawl." It will be a weekend event with various activities for you to take part in, learn and purchase anything from art supplies to finished handmade products. Different livestock expos and demonstrations will be going on around the grounds for you to enjoy. They will have regional sheep and goat shows, including clinics and showmanship opportunities. They will also host a Dog Herding Competition.

There will be three buildings set up for crafters, artisans and fiber-related vendors, with booths set up to sell everything from fiber art supplies to finished products (handmade items). In another building you can sign up for classes, including spinning, weaving, quilting, sewing and knitting.

For more information, contact McHenry County Fair at 815-338-5315 or email info@mchenrycountyfair.com or their website, www.mchenrycountyfair.com.



**July 31 - August 5
2018**

Tuesday, July 31 opening at 12 pm

Foods and Vegetable Judging
Queen Pageant

Wednesday, August 1

Livestock Shows
Art, Photography, & Antique Judging
Combine Derby

Thursday, August 2

Livestock Shows
Flower Judging
Rodeo

Friday, August 3

Livestock Shows
Talent Contest
Kentucky Headhunters

Saturday, August 4

Veterans' Salute
4-H Livestock Auction
Antique Tractor Pull
ISP Tractor/Truck Pulls

Sunday August 5

Demolition Derby – 2 Shows!
Wood Carving Auction

Skidders Amusements will have their Carnival and games open 1 pm Daily

Barn Yard Discoveries will be open Thursday to Sunday

Joe Stebbins, Chainsaw Sculpture Shows three times daily Wednesday to Sunday

Kevin Adair, Hypnotist Shows three times daily Wednesday to Sunday

Kidsbucks Game Shows three times daily Thursday to Sunday

Commercial and Exhibit Buildings will be open Tuesday to Sunday

Entertainment Tent will be open Wednesday to Sunday

**Visit our website
for a schedule of
events. Be sure to
like us on
Facebook!**



www.mchenrycountyfair.com

Phone: (815) 338-5315
11900 Country Club Rd
Woodstock, IL 60098

Email: info@mchenrycountyfair.com