

KERNELS OF LEARNING

Quarterly Personalized Education— Generation 5 Edition

Q2 2018

Babson Farms in the Community

The past newsletters have focused on the Babson family history (Henry Babson, Babson Farms entities, the Surge Dairy milker, phonographs, and Babson horses). For this issue we are fast-forwarding to present day to see how the Babson family legacy is living on through the value that previous generations placed on land and relationships.

The first half of 2018 brings a lot to be proud of for Babson Farms and the family. BFI and it's employees continue to expand on the outstanding reputation they have built in North Central Illinois as experts in their field (no pun intended), conscientious stewards of the land, at the forefront of new farming technology, collaborative, and downright good people.

Ag Education in DeKalb

In January, Babson Farms' very own Eric Lawler was featured in the DeKalb Farm Bureau's *Connections* magazine after visiting with 5th graders at Southeast Elementary in Sycamore, IL to present "Exploring STEM Careers in Agriculture." To read the full article pictured to the right click [here](#) and go to page 30.



Babson Farms Operator Appreciation

By Steve Glascock - Babson Farms, DeKalb, IL

On March 1, 2018, Babson Farms was pleased to recognize five farm families that have been affiliated with and worked in partnership with Babson Farms from fifty to over seventy years.



There were over 35 attendees which included two to four generations from the Barshinger, Foster, Frost, Metzger, and Reid families. All but one of the principle operators were present. The most senior member of the group was Lorenz Metzger, who just turned 95. The newest member of the attendees was Brett Metzger, Lorenz's grandson, who joined their operation within the last couple years.

It is ironic the recognition occurred on March 1st as March 1st is the traditional start of the farming lease year. To many tenant farmers this was (is) a day of change; moving from one farm to another, retirement, or starting a new endeavor. We at BFI feel fortunate to have worked with these families over the years as this has provided stability to the operations. This feeling is also shared by the operating families. Even though our lease agreements are year to year, the Farm Company has provided a sense of security with the operators so that longer term improvements can be made on both sides to the benefit of landowner and operator.

There was certainly much gratitude to the Babson Family from the operators and their families.

I would personally like to thank our staff, Mary, Eric L, Eric S, Monica, and Mark, for their work in making this event happen and making the families feel welcome and appreciated. Thanks to Taylor for prompting this and Meredith for her help in reporting.

Celebration Corner!

- Tim & Cho's Anniversary April 3rd
- Dave & Mary Jane's Anniversary April 25th
- Mary Jane's Birthday May 5th
- Mother's Day May 13th
- Sarah's 10th Birthday May 14th
- Mary Elizabeth's 13th Birthday May 19th
- Cho's Birthday June 4th
- Father's Day June 17th

Financial \$ense

5 Tips to Become a Successful Kid Entrepreneur

An entrepreneur is someone who bravely launches his or her own business. Let's take a look at some amazing kid entrepreneurs and see how they found success even before they were old enough to drive a car!

1. Find a need

At 9 years old, Neha Gupta traveled with her family from the U.S. to India to help local orphans. Neha learned that the children didn't even have money for school books, so she started [Empower Orphans](#). By selling wine charms and getting sponsors, she raised over \$1.6 million in 10 years to help 25,000 children. She recently received the International Children's Peace Prize for her work.

2. Start online

YouTube helped Gabrielle Jordan get her start. At age 7, she watched videos to learn how to create jewelry. Just two years later she launched [Jewelz of Jordan](#) online. Afterward she wrote *The Making of a Young Entrepreneur* and started the [ExCEL Youth Mentoring Institute](#) with her mom to inspire other kids to start their own businesses.

When Evan was 6 years old, he and his father launched [EvanTubeHD](#) on YouTube. Evan reviews toys and videogames, sometimes with cameos from his mom or sister. He's posted 400 videos since 2011 and has over 1.2 billion page views. According to an article in *Fast Company*, the channel is now making \$1.3 million per year.

3. Learn a skill

Robert Nay taught himself to program app games using a library book and at age 14, he launched Bubble Ball. Within two weeks he'd earned over \$2 million from its sales. The game has been downloaded over 16 million times, and Robert has gone on to launch three more apps through his company, [Nay Games](#).

4. Follow your passion

Moziah Bridges was disappointed by the lack of fun bow ties, which he loves to wear. At age 9, he decided to use his grandma's scrap fabric to make his own [Mo's Bows](#). Moziah sold over 2,000 handmade bow ties before appearing on *Shark Tank* in 2013 and getting a major investor. Since then, his bow ties have been sold online at Neiman Marcus and he has signed a 7-figure deal to make bow ties for the NBA.

5. Use your family knowledge

When she was only 4 years old, Mikaila Ulmer's family encouraged her to create a product for a children's business competition. She decided to use her great-grandma's flaxseed lemonade recipe for her product, [BeeSweet Lemonade](#), which she was inspired to create after being stung by a bee. Now Mikaila donates some of her profits to save honeybees, and her lemonade is for sale at Whole Foods.

IF YOU CAN DREAM IT YOU CAN DO IT!
— WALT DISNEY

Check It Out

Babson Memories Slideshow <https://vimeo.com/231610306>

The Babson Family Website <https://zalongo.com/group/babson>

Giving at a Glance



Valuing relationships and showing appreciation has always been an important element of the Babson legacy.

In January, Taylor invited farm company employees and their spouses, to Denver for a few days to celebrate the accomplishments and teamwork that has continued to make BFI successful. All employees were able to attend with the exception of Steve and Roger.

The celebration kicked off with a dinner downtown and was followed up by a visit the next day to the Denver office which houses a lot of Babson artifacts / history. The celebration finished with a bang at the National Western Stock Show, joined by Libby, to watch the Pro Bull Rodeo semi-finals.



unlock the secrets in the soil

Babson Farms Tile Drainage Case Study

By Eric Lawler - Babson Farms, DeKalb, IL



Most farms throughout northern Illinois have had some sort of random drainage installed over the past one hundred years to drain excess water from the soil for optimal crop growth. A majority of the business for HB Farm Services is still random drainage, whether that be new lines installed or replacement of existing old clay tile.

With the creation of HB Farm Services in 2013, the farm company has been able to complete some drain tile projects that had been under consideration. The Butler Farm had been identified as a leading candidate for additional drainage work. In 2015, a majority of the farm was system tiled. The following information is a comparison of production and rainfall amounts for the two years prior to 2015, and the two years after. In all of the years used in this summary, the farm was planted to corn.

Table 1 illustrates the differences in yield, pre and post additional drainage, on the Butler Farm. Yields for the farm are actual yields harvested for that farm. The Babson Farms corn yield is used as a benchmark for comparison purposes. These yields are the average of all corn yields from all corn acres on Babson Farms regardless of lease type or geography. The result has been a 14.63% change or a 29.3 bu./acre increase in production over that time period.

Table 1				
Year	Butler Farm Corn Yield	Babson Farms Corn Yield	Farm vs. Average	Percent +/- from Avg.
2017	221.70	212.30	9.40	4.43%
2016	<u>234.00</u>	<u>215.90</u>	<u>18.10</u>	<u>8.38%</u>
2 Year Avg.	227.85	214.10	13.75	6.41%
2015 Soybeans				
Tile Installed-System Drained				
2014	157.40	190.20	-32.80	-17.25%
2013	<u>202.70</u>	<u>201.10</u>	<u>1.60</u>	<u>0.80%</u>
2 Year Avg.	180.05	195.65	-15.60	-8.22%

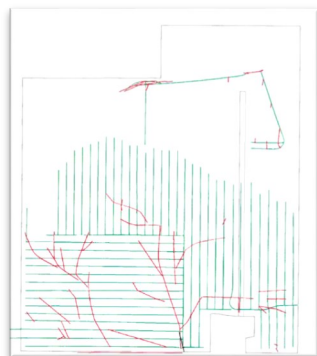
Table 2 shows the precipitation amounts by month for the years used in the comparison. All of the figures represent inches of rainfall. Three of the four years were above average precipitation for the growing season.

Table 2					
Month	2017*	2016*	2014*	2013*	DeKalb Avg.**
April	5.80	3.20	3.40	8.86	3.30
May	4.40	6.95	2.95	3.65	4.60
June	2.90	2.95	9.30	6.45	4.10
July	6.10	5.70	2.70	1.85	4.40
August	2.45	6.85	5.20	3.50	4.40
September	<u>0.05</u>	<u>2.10</u>	<u>3.10</u>	<u>1.10</u>	<u>3.30</u>
Total Rainfall	21.70	27.75	26.65	25.41	24.10

* Rainfall totals from the Babson Farms-DeKalb office location

** DeKalb average rainfall from City of DeKalb weather information

Butler Farm Tile 2015



(Left) The red lines on the map represent the old drainage system. The green lines reflect the installation of the grid system in the fall of 2015 following the harvesting of soybeans grown that year.

Family Spotlight

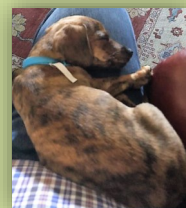
Mary Elizabeth is running track this season and her primary events are the 800 meters and 4 x 400. She will be going to an Ambassadors leadership camp this July at Harvard.

Sarah is working hard at school and is headed to Ft. Walton Beach in April for a regional competitive cheer competition. She will have a role in a Mark Wahlberg movie being released in 2019 called Instant Family.



Lucky is the Atlanta Kirkpatrick's new rabbit (pictured to the right with Sarah).

Henry is enjoying his new puppy and had fun in the sun during their family spring break vacation in California. This picture of him was taken at the school sock hop.



Chilly is Henry's new puppy.

JT placed 3rd in his flat class and 5th in his over fences at the College Preparatory Invitational in West Palm Beach in January.



Questions?

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