Katherine Thompson & Family

If you visit Primrose Farm on any given Sunday, you’ll probably see Katherine Thompson walking through the farmyard closely followed by Rosie, the Primrose barn cat. But Rosie isn’t the only animal at the farm that adores Katherine, they all do! Katherine and her children, Emily and Paden, ensure all the animals are fed, watered, and loved every Sunday – rain, snow or shine.

The animals are what first brought Katherine to Primrose. A kindergarten teacher at Wild Rose Elementary, she visited the farm in 2011 to buy eggs for hatching in her classroom. Rather than take the already picked ones from the farm office, Katherine ventured into the coop herself, selecting only the best specimens for her students. “Katherine’s passion for the animals and her love of teaching is what makes her such an asset to the farm,” commented Laura Johns, Manager of Farm Programs and Interpretive Services.

At the request of the Park District, she established the Primrose Farm Clovers 4-H Program in 2011 so that local children not living on farms would have the opportunity to show livestock at the Kane County Fair. The program has grown exponentially from twelve children in 2011 to over twenty in 2014. Each year in July, Katherine spends several days at the fairgrounds off Randall Road. She helps the Clovers show Primrose livestock in several events and educates the public about the various opportunities available through the Park District. You may even catch her sleeping next to the cows at night or walking a calf through the fair, talking with farmers and visitors alike about where their food comes from and why they should support local agriculture.